

On Saturday 19th March 2011, the Diocesan Evangelisation Team hosted an evangelisation day at St Edwards Primary School, Kettering attended by 70-80 people.

The title for the day was “**The Hope of God’s Call**” and was a reflection on a passage from St Paul’s letter to the Ephesians (Ch 1:18-19).

After the initial welcome, the theme for the day was outlined by Alex Heath as he spoke about being ‘ENLIGHTENED’ by Jesus Christ. This theme was expanded on by Fr Simon Penhalagan whose talk was entitled ‘CALLED’ and later in the afternoon by Fr Andrew Richardson who talked about being ‘EMPOWERED’.

The talks centred on the need to listen and be guided at all times by the Holy Spirit. To always keep our hearts open and uncluttered by external distractions and the stubborn pursuit of our own ideas. The speakers interspersed the talks with some entertaining and amusing insights to their own experiences relevant to theme of the day.

In between the talks, Henry Worthy, of the Diocesan Evangelisation Team, led a short prayerful session based on the traditional Catholic practice of Lectio Divina, which was followed by the exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

The evangelisation theme continued with some shared personal stories demonstrating the many varied ways in which evangelisation occurs, such as through music, through the work in our Parish communities and through our own faith stories.

As the day drew to a close some time was set aside for guided prayer and to give people the opportunity to receive prayer ministry. The event concluded with a prayer and a closing hymn.

Throughout the day there was the chance to browse and purchase some excellent Christian resources provided by Good News Books, and to meet new friends and exchange views.

A wonderful and inspiring day, not least because the weather was so good that most of us took the opportunity to eat our lunches ‘Al Fresco’ on the school playing field.