



Pope John Paul II Award

www.thepopejohnpauliiaward.com

Pope John Paul II Award



This Award has been created to commemorate the late Pope John Paul II who had a great love for young people.

When John Paul visited Galway in 1979 he said to the Young people of Ireland, *'I believe in Youth'*

It is with this sentiment that the Award has been initiated. The Church **believes** in you, our young people and in your ability, talent and desire to play an active and valuable part in the Christian community.



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The Launch

The Award was launched in the Derry Diocese by the Papal Nuncio to Ireland, His Excellency Most Rev Dr Giuseppe Lazzarotto, on 7th November 2006.



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The Purpose

The Bishop of Derry Most Rev Seamus Hegarty said *“The purpose of this initiative, is to enable young people to live their faith and to witness to that faith... in the parish community.”*

“The youth of today will be the leaders in the church and in society in the future.”

“I invite you, the young people of the diocese, to participate in this initiative”.



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What is the Award About?

Through the Award, young people are enabled to take an active part in the life of their Church, in the life of their community and society.

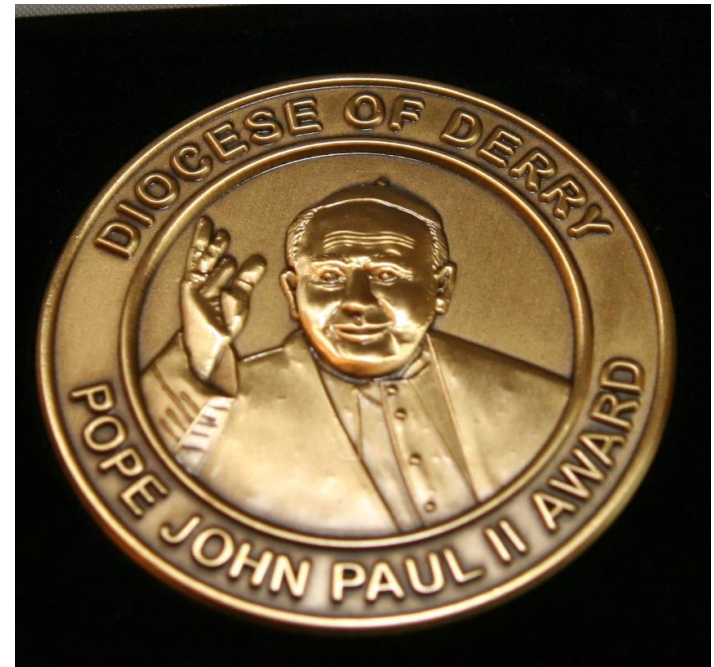
It helps participants to become aware of the teaching and role of the Catholic Church in the world.

It allows young people to understand that religion is not just for learning, nor is it a list of rules, but that it is for living.

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Who is the award for?

- Students in Year 13
- Students in full-time education who have completed GCSE's
- Anyone between the age of 16 and 18, not in post-primary education



The award is non-competitive, flexible and voluntary and requires an ongoing commitment

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What does the Award Involve?

The award has 3 strands:

Parish Involvement



Social Awareness

Presentation



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Parish Involvement

When we are baptised we become members of the Body of Christ. We live out this belonging in our parish. The Body of Christ is the Church and for it to be fully alive **everybody** needs to be actively involved.

Examples of activities in the parish that can be done for the Award are:

- Reading at Mass
- Altar Server
- Eucharistic Minister
- Member of choir/folk group
- Church decoration/cleaning
- Collector
- Composing prayers of the faithful
- Preparing articles for the parish bulletin
- Assisting with children's liturgy
- Other

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Social Awareness

As members of the Body of Christ, we make Christ present by the way we treat others. Our faith is lived out most fully in our actions, therefore it is important to be aware of the needs of others and to minister to their needs. That is why 'Social Awareness' is such an important aspect of this Award.

Examples of activities in the area of Social Awareness that young people can do for the Award are:

- Member of St. Vincent de Paul
- Volunteering in Youth Clubs
- Children in Crossfire
- Spred
- Faith and Light
- Ongoing fundraising
- Regular visitation of residential homes
- Faith Friends
- Other

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The Presentation

This presentation may be written or given by interview. The Presentation is to include:

- ✓ A personal reflection and evaluation on some or all of the activities carried out for the Award.
- ✓ The teaching of Christ that is relevant to your activities (e.g. visiting a residential home – (teaching of the Church in relation to the care of the elderly and vulnerable such as “when I was sick you visited me” Mt 25: 31
- ✓ An answer to the question - What does it mean to be a baptised member of the Church?

Guidelines and templates are provided for the presentation and it is hoped many will complete it during school hours.

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How many Awards are there?

There are FOUR Awards:

Papal Cross - 1 hour a week x 26 weeks – plus an added project

Gold – 1 hour a week x 20 weeks

Silver - 1 hour a week x 14 weeks

Bronze - 1 hour a week x 8 weeks

Is there an enrolment fee? Yes, to enroll in the Award it costs £10.

What is the completion time? 16 months from enrolment to completion.

What exactly do you have to do to earn an Award?

To earn your Award you simply have to enroll, chose and complete activities for Parish Involvement and Social Awareness, and then prepare a Presentation.

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Award Top-Ups

Award Top-Ups are given in recognition of the extra activities that young people are already involved in. Top-Ups will go towards the total number of hours an individual has to complete to achieve an award.

Top-Ups can be achieved in a number of ways, for example - helping with the sick pilgrims at Lourdes, representing their school on the Diocesan Youth Forum, or working on behalf of Children in Crossfire. These activities will gain participants Award Top-Ups.

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Children in Crossfire website. At the top is the organization's logo, which features a stylized globe with a star and the text "Children in Crossfire" and "GIVING CHILDREN THE CHANCE TO CHOOSE". To the right of the logo are two small images: one of a smiling young girl and another of a young boy. Below the logo is a navigation menu with links: "HOME", "ABOUT US", "WHERE WE WORK", "DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION", "I HAVE A DREAM", "GET INVOLVED", "DONATE", and "CONTACT".

The main content area is divided into several sections:

- NEW POSITION AVAILABLE:** A purple box with a photo of a person in a field, titled "Development Education Project Officer" with a "read more >>" link.
- 2015 Millennium Development Goals for Infants 2015:** A purple box with a photo of a young child and the year "2015", with a "read more >>" link.
- I HAVE A DREAM:** A green box with the text "I HAVE A DREAM" and "BuddyRockers" logo.
- Focus on Colombia:** A dark red box with the text "Focus on Colombia" and a photo of four children.
- RAINFORESTS AND WATERFALLS:** A purple box with a photo of a waterfall and the text "The Brazil trek October 2007" with a "visit site >>" link.
- DONATE:** A red box with a "DONATE" button, a "HELP" can, and text: "There are different ways to donate to Children in Crossfire. To make a one off donation, CLICK HERE. To give gradually, CLICK HERE."

At the bottom right, there is a "DOWNLOADS" section with icons for a folder, a document, and a PDF file.

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[The Award](#) | [Enrol](#) | [Downloads](#) | [Code of Ethics](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Home](#)

How do I find out more or enroll for the Award?

Simply log on to the Pope John Paul II Award Website and download an application form.

You should then return the completed form with the enrolment fee to your Award leader in your school/parish.

www.thepopejohnpauliiaward.com



Welcome to The Pope John Paul II Award

The Pope John Paul II Award is dedicated to the memory of the late Pope John Paul II whose love of young people was so profound. The Award was launched by the Papal Nuncio to Ireland His Excellency Most Rev Dr Giuseppe Lazzarotto on 7th November 2006.

If you are aged between 16 and 18 and living or going to school in the Diocese of Derry, The Pope John Paul II Award will enable you to become more actively involved in the life of your parish and community. Religion is not just for learning, nor a list of rules designed to stop you doing what you want. Religion is for living and through taking an active part in your church and community you will experience the contentment and fulfilment that comes from serving others, especially those in great need... [>> Read More](#)

Who is the Award for?

How do I enrol?

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The Award was created to commemorate the late Pope John Paul II who was so committed to young people and who had such belief and confidence in them...

[>> Read More](#)



Message from the Bishop of Derry

The purpose of this initiative, 'The Pope John Paul II Award' in this diocese is to enable young people to live their faith and to witness to that faith lived out in the parish community...[>> Read More](#)

PDF Downloads

[Download the Award Handbook](#)

[Download pdf of the Application Form](#)

[Download pdf of the Record Card](#)

Contact Us

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APPLICATION FORM

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Participant

Name

Address

RECORD CARD-GOLD AWARD

Pope John Paul II Award

Name

Award Leader

Parish Involvement - 20 Weeks

Social Awareness - 20 Weeks

Date

Activity to complete

Facilitator

Date

Activity to complete

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What happens next?

When your enrolment is processed you will receive your Record Card from your Award leader. You will decide with your Award leader what activity or activities you intend to carry out under the sections 'Parish Involvement' and 'Social Awareness'. The named facilitator signs your Record Card each time you complete an activity. The presentation is to be completed at the end of the tasks.

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Claiming the Award

On completion of the hours and the presentation, the young person returns their Record Card and presentation to the Award leader. These are ratified by the school principal and forwarded to the Pope John Paul II Award Committee.

The Diocese will then host an Award Ceremony to present medals and certificates and congratulate all successful applicants.



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What are the benefits of participating in this award?

You will receive a Bronze, Silver or Gold medal and certificate.

Papal Cross awardees receive a pencil drawing of Pope John Paul II and a certificate.

An accreditation in this award will be of tremendous value for prospective employers and for Completion of UCAS forms and CV's.

This is a wonderful opportunity to:

- Develop and improve personal skills in communication and social interaction.
- To grow in knowledge and confidence as a young Catholic.
- To use your gifts and talents for the glory of God and the benefit of those in your parish, community and society.

This award is a prestigious award. It requires ongoing commitment and dedicated service in faith and good works by the participant.

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What is the response from the young people?

To date in the Derry Diocese **1421** young people received the award.

This year in the Derry Diocese 726 young people are enrolled in the award.

Many young people are keen to get involved and are enjoying contributing in a very positive way to the life of their parish and community.

Young people appreciate being acknowledged and rewarded for their good work which in many cases was happening prior to the award. They now also have a greater sense of their role and the contribution they can make to the church and their community.

This award gives young people that something extra or different to add to their CV. An award of this nature provides great credibility for the young person and helps potential employers assess the character of the young people.



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