



Dear Headteacher

At Masses this weekend a pastoral letter from Archbishops Vincent Nichols and Peter Smith will be read out on behalf of the Catholic Bishops' Conference. It is a statement of our Catholic faith about marriage and is issued in the light of the forthcoming Government consultation on changing the legal definition of marriage. A copy of the pastoral letter is attached and you are asked to consider:

- Asking staff and pupils to consider signing the Coalition for Marriage's online petition, found at www.C4M.org.uk, which reads: "I support the legal definition of marriage which is the voluntary union for life of one man and one woman to the exclusion of all others. I oppose any attempt to redefine it."
- Reading the pastoral letter out at school or class assemblies.
- Using the pastoral letter in appropriate classes.

With best wishes

Gregory Pope

Catholic Education Service

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