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ARCHESGOB CAERDYDD



BISHOP *of* MENEVIA
—
ESGOB MYNYW

**Message for Teachers of Bl Carlo Acutis School for INSET Day,
4th September 2023**

Dear Teachers,

My warmest greetings to you as you begin this new school year. I am sorry that I cannot join you today. I would firstly like to thank you for the work that you do in forming the pupils of Bl Carlo Acutis School. You play a very important role, not only in supporting their parents and families, but in helping these young people to develop into mature, rounded human beings, who have a deep relationship with Jesus Christ. The witness you give is very powerful in guiding them as they journey through life. As Pope St Paul VI said, people today 'listen more willingly to witnesses than to teachers, and if they do listen to teachers, it is because they are witnesses.'

Bl Carlo was a true witness to following Jesus Christ, and inspiring others to do so, making Jesus the centre of one's life. The set of relationships between faith, families and future are vital in the formation of young people. Indeed, the three cannot be separated if young people are to develop into the people that God has created and called them to be. These relationships become even more effective when we put Jesus at the centre. Bl Carlo shows us this, inspiring us 'to always be close to Jesus', and to make the Eucharist the 'source and summit' of our life, our 'highway to Heaven', as he has said. He shows us that the true way to happiness and fulfilment - which is what we want for our young people - is in following Jesus Christ. In his own life, he inspired many of his young friends to follow Jesus more closely, and to be

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witnesses themselves to love for him. I encourage you to aim to be similar witnesses to the young people that you serve.

As you begin this new school year, please know that I hold you and the entire school community in my prayers. Please, also, pray for me.

Yours devotedly,



Archbishop Mark O'Toole,
Archbishop of Cardiff - Bishop of Menevia