



## CATHOLIC BISHOPS' CONFERENCE OF ENGLAND AND WALES

Department for Christian Responsibility and Citizenship

To Whom it May Concern

June 19<sup>th</sup> 2007

### Re The Wednesday Word

In 2004 the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales invited families to talk about their lives, at home, in church and in the world around them. We discovered that the greatest blessing of family life is the time spent together. We also discovered that gospel values, such as love, selflessness and forgiveness really do help families survive the ups and downs of their daily lives. But we also heard it confirmed that one of the biggest challenges that families face is that of juggling their many commitments and managing their time together.

It seems to me that the Wednesday Word could be a very good and simple way for schools and parishes to support the 15,000 families we heard from - and also, possibly, those who didn't take part in *Listening 2004*. In just a few minutes each week, the Wednesday Word encourages families to stop, look and listen - to their own lives and to the gospel of Jesus Christ. Helping families to make time and space to realize the many ways in which they are already living the gospel of Jesus is one of the objectives of *Home is a Holy Place*. Supporting parents and grandparents in talking to each other and their children about God is one of the objectives of *Passing on the Faith*. I'm very happy to give my support to the Wednesday Word as a useful resource for the Catholic Bishops' of England and Wales current initiatives in support of marriage and family life.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elizabeth Davies".

Elizabeth Davies  
Marriage and Family Life Project Officer  
[www.homeisaholyplace.org.uk](http://www.homeisaholyplace.org.uk)