

Little Way Catholic Educational Trust

We are thrilled to announce that on 1st January 2024, six Catholic schools from Gloucestershire will be joining the Little Way Catholic Educational Trust (LWCET). We are really proud to be one of the founding schools of the Trust.

The schools joining on 1st January are: St Catharine’s, Chipping Campden; [St Gregory’s, Cheltenham; St Thomas Moore, Cheltenham; St Peter’s Primary, Gloucester; St Joseph’s, Nympsfield; Rosary, Stroud.



Our schools have been working closely together for over a year to share ideas, support one another and ensure the children within our Catholic schools are supported to be the best they can be while still maintaining the unique character of each of the schools. The launch of LWCET in January formalises this Partnership.

The name of the Trust comes from our Patron, St Therese of Lisieux. Therese lived in France in the 19th Century and joined the Carmelite Nuns. She was often poorly and she died quite young, at the age of 24. In her short life she showed us all how we can change the world with kindness. Therese decided that everything she did each day – even the small boring tasks like washing up – she would do with great love. Thérèse would complete her daily tasks willingly and cheerfully, and she would show great love to all she met. She called this her ‘Little Way’.



The Little Way is a very simple idea, but it is not as easy as it sounds! It can be quite a challenge! Can you imagine not complaining when you are asked to wash-up? Or not complaining when somebody cooks you a meal you don’t like. Or being kind to someone who isn’t kind to you. Thérèse wrote about her ‘Little Way’ in notebooks. She explained how the ‘Little Way’ taught her to be patient and humble, and how Jesus helped her to see how love and kindness can change the world!

In living out this ‘Little Way’, Therese saw herself as “the Little Flower of Jesus” because she was just like the simple wild flowers in forests and fields, unnoticed by the greater population, yet growing and giving glory to God. Therese did not see herself as a brilliant rose or an elegant lily, but simply as a small wildflower. She can sometimes be known as ‘The Little Flower’.

As we form the Little Way Catholic Educational Trust, we do so aiming to live out the Little Way like St Therese did: by doing **SMALL ACTS WITH GREAT LOVE TO MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE.**

Moving closer to our Trust launch day, we ask you to keep our school and all of the LWCET schools in your prayers as we begin our next steps on the journey. These are exciting times!



St. Therese, help me to always believe as you did in God's great love for me, so that I might imitate your "Little Way" each day.

Amen.

St Therese of Lisieux: Pray for Us