

Approaching Coursework Titles: St. Finian's College – Mullingar

Thank you very much to Mr Ray Mc Hugh, teacher at St. Finian's College, Mullingar, for the following overview of how the 2009 Coursework titles were approached by his class

Section F

F2: An exploration of the relationship between justice and peace that is evident in the teaching of one of the following world religions: Christianity, Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism.

- All of the students taking this title chose Christianity as the world religion
- One class a week is dedicated to Coursework
- The first class students brainstormed on the various methods we could use in completing our Coursework
- We decided that we would visit Maynooth library to research topics on our chosen titles. I arranged with one of the librarians a suitable time for a visit. It's best practice to book early in September before students return to college. Students can access the library via the internet and have their books and catalogue numbers researched before they visit the library
- I got the students to investigate the possibility of a Guest Speaker on the chosen title above. Finally I contacted the Jesuit Centre for Faith and Justice in Dublin. Fr. Tony O' Riordan (Director of the Centre) came to speak to my students. He tailored his talk to the chosen title which had been emailed to him
- The internet has proven to be of great benefit – especially the CORI website, the Jesuit Faith and Justice site, and the www.ress.ie site

Section I

I1 Compare the main trends in young peoples' religious practice in one locality today with the pattern of religious practice in Ireland as a whole

- Same approach as previous title
- I got the Bishop's secretary, Fr. Paul Crosbie, to come and give a presentation to the class from his perspective. This proved to be excellent. The priest was extremely articulate and has plenty of pastoral experience. He also interacted very well with the students
- We carried out a survey within the school to ascertain the main trends in young peoples' religious practice today
- 'Contemporary Catholicism in Ireland – A Critical Appraisal', edited by Eamon Maher and John Littleton: We found this book to be very useful for the above title
- Students have commented that some articles in previous editions of 'The Furrow' and 'Doctrine and Life' have also been quite useful in the research on the above title
- www.cso.ie is excellent for looking at some trends in religious worship