

**Seek the peace of the city  
to which I have carried you into exile  
and pray to the LORD on its behalf  
for in its peace you will find peace**

*Jeremiah 29.7*



TOGETHER FOR THE  
**COMMON GOOD**



# greetings

Over ten years ago I saw signs of a cultural and political malaise beginning, with mission drift in the Church and Christian leaders struggling to respond. I had a prompting of the Spirit and set up *Together for the Common Good* to discern a way forward.

The challenges facing us today are immense, but God is at work, inviting us to join in the reweaving of our broken social fabric by bringing covenantal thinking into our common life.

Drawing on Catholic Social Thought, our work goes to the heart of the big issues facing the Church and society.

We resource Christians of all traditions to navigate this age of unravelling and to discover their calling for the common good in the places where they live and work.

We do this through influencing, resources and public conversations,, in the formation of young people, by accompanying leaders, by building confidence in the local church.

*Together for the Common Good* is a small national UK charity, independent and nonpartisan.

We are dedicated to spiritual and civic renewal in a deeply confused society in urgent need of healing and hope.

Welcome to this brief report giving a taste of our work in 2023.

Jenny Sinclair  
Founder and Director  
*Together for the Common Good*

# dedicated to spiritual and civic renewal

In these dark times, our aim is to strengthen communities, bridge divides and enable human flourishing. Our approach is to seed and support "Common Good thinking" in churches, schools, politics and wider society.

We hold national conversations, advise Christian leaders and organisations, support church leaders through talks, sessions and resources, and through our schools programme, we equip young people to be ready for an uncertain future.



## Our approach

**Multiple  
working  
partnerships**



**Staff team  
of 4 (1.9 FTE)**



**Significant  
help-in-kind**



**Scalable  
resources**



**30+ *pro bono*  
associates  
at any one time**







Each year we bring the common good to life through public conversations to show how Catholic Social Thought can be a blessing to public life.

In 2023, we convened senior leaders from across the churches to hear our speakers address economic reform, the dignity of work, the natural world and social peace.

We also launched **Leaving Egypt**, a transatlantic, fortnightly podcast exploring what it means to be God's people in an age of unravelling.

“Such a thoughtful, reflective and insightful podcast - a real message of hope for those of faith in the public square. Reflections like this are long overdue.

Richard Robinson, Vineyard Church



#### Public conversations

- 5 lectures
- 5 round tables
- 140 senior leaders
- 500+ online attendees



#### Published resources

- 45 stories & essays
- 6 editions of the T4CG Newsletter to 1,974 subscribers



#### Podcast

- 10 episodes
- 10 guests
- 3,670 listens

“What a rich blessing. I was blown away by the lecture. I have been endlessly talking about it to everyone.

Philip Powell, Tearfund





# building confidence in the local church

**Many people in the churches are struggling to respond to this time of upheaval.**

In 2023, we engaged across the UK and abroad, helping church leaders to read the signs of the times. We encouraged them to discern their calling in this period of deep change and to build covenantal relationships of solidarity with neighbours in poor communities.

In 2024, we plan to step up our investment in communications to meet increasing demand and reach a wider range of churches and leaders.



**33 keynotes  
sessions  
& talks**



**100+  
responses to  
requests for  
input, advice  
& coaching**



**1,500+  
leaders  
engaged**

“*The gratitude has been immense. Engaging, thoughtful and practical – you have offered new ways forward in realistic, imaginative ways.*

Sarah Adams, Clifton Diocese

“*A practical - even prophetic - commentary on living out our mission as church.*

Greg A Ryan, University of Durham

# forming young people

**Common Good Schools teaches young people the importance of relationships and responsibility. In unstable times, it positions schools as a force for the common good in the neighbourhood.**

Designed for 11-16 year olds, the 10-week programme immerses young people in the Common Good principles through classroom lessons and practical community engagement.

We work on a small scale, prioritising relationships, to develop a range of exemplars.

In 2023 we partnered with schools in Leeds, London and West Sussex, including a SEND school.



1,701 students involved



19 Teachers trained to deliver the programme



6 partner schools



12 community organisations

Our current projections are to scale to a minimum of 20 schools in 2024, including in Liverpool, Hampshire, Bradford, York and further afield.







“ It’s great to see the concern of students translate into action.

From litter picking to afternoon tea with the elderly and socialising with vulnerable residents in their neighbourhood, it makes a real difference to everyone involved.

*Jo Stow, Project Leader  
Common Good Schools*

# for the common good

“ **Common Good Schools** has enhanced our Personal Development curriculum for students, providing them with a deeper appreciation of Church social teaching and an authentic understanding of the human person. All of this has made a significant contribution to the Catholic life of the school.

*Paul Dunne, Headteacher  
St John Bosco College  
Battersea*

“ It has been a joy to be using the **Common Good Schools** programme and I would highly recommend it to other church schools. It supports our SIAMS requirements as a school to develop Christian Character and serve our local community.

*Rev Susy Dand, Chaplain  
Bishop Ramsey School, Ruislip*

“ **Common Good Schools** has made a space for students to be more virtuous and not feel shy about it.

*Chris Wyles, Teacher  
Worth School, West Sussex*



*Together for the Common Good* is exploring some of the most important themes in our society today: How do we build a more resilient sense of shared endeavour? What will bring about a common effort across our society? These challenges are so important as we face deep-seated changes in our way of life.

*Cardinal Vincent Nichols*

# inspiring and resourcing

We believe that spiritual and civic renewal will come through deeper listening to the Spirit of God and by building common good with our neighbours in the places where we live and work.

With more resources, we will inspire and equip more leaders across the Christian traditions, politics and society, and nurture more common good exemplars in churches and schools in grounded contexts. Part of our ambition is to be the go-to Christian thought leader on the common good.

Drawing on Catholic Social Thought and on Holy Scripture, our aim in 2024 is to continue to build leaders' confidence through accompaniment, advisory roles, creating content, convening public conversations, through our podcast, and by extending our schools programme to primary children and to young adults.

## Your support

We are looking for partners who share our vision  
Scan the QR code to learn more and lend your support  
Join us to work for spiritual and civic renewal

