



A Better Story

EQUIPPING CHURCHES, SCHOOLS AND
LEADERS FOR THE COMMON GOOD

IMPACT REPORT 2025



t4cg.substack.com

Welcome



Welcome to our 2025 impact report. It's a privilege to share this with you. I want to thank you – whether you are a donor, friend, sponsor, partner, subscriber, volunteer, supporter or participant – Together for the Common Good is what it is today because of you.

A new, volatile era

The UK is in the midst of a deep crisis. Trust in the state is collapsing, people are angry and the country is fragmented.

Our work aims to help people across the churches respond. In the words of one admirer, our work is “a Spirit-led response to the fractures in our current social order.”

The renewal of our moral, social, cultural and economic life requires decisive action, but not only in terms of political economy.

The new era is more religious, and more in need of the wisdom and love that Christians can offer.

The response of the Church

The Church needs to be the leading moral force for the restoration of our nation. But – and this is a leftover of the liberal era – much of the Christian family has suffered a loss of confidence.

Churches can too easily fall into mission-drift, whether by internalising the dominant secular culture, or by being misled by the progressive left or the nationalist right. The prayer of St John Paul II seems powerfully resonant today: “Lord, Restore Your Church on Earth With the Gifts of Penance and Reconciliation.”

This is a time to turn back to God and neighbour, to bear witness to a generous and capacious national story of solidarity, grounded in Christian anthropology, that balances rights with responsibilities.

The antidote to division is as much spiritual as it is social and political. The need now is for an outward-facing, Christ-centred, relational spirituality to restore the bonds of family and community life.

A better story

We offer the Common Good to shape that story – an inclusive, ethical vision full of energy and hope, capable of inspiring action across all levels of society. Rooted in the Catholic Social Thought tradition, our work helps leaders, churches, schools and charities to play their part.

Growth

2025 has been a dynamic year. 4,200 young people from 30 schools engaged in our Common Good Schools programme and 31 teachers were trained.

We published 24 episodes of our *Leaving Egypt* podcast which were downloaded 33,000 times, a 101% increase on last year.

We held seven events. More than 925 leaders attended our talks and gatherings. Overall, we engaged at least 3,630 people in person, and countless more indirectly. Our 2,943 subscribers received seven editions of the T4CG Newsletter and 43 new online resources.

I want to thank Plough Quarterly, Caritas Westminster, Church Urban Fund, CARE and the Catholic Union for partnering with us on events – and especially CCLA for underwriting the hospitality which is so vital for building relationships.



We define the COMMON GOOD as “the **shared life** of a society in which everyone can flourish - as we act together freely in different ways that all contribute towards that goal, each taking responsibility according to calling and ability, enabled by social conditions that mean everyone can participate.”

I’m truly honoured to lead this mission. It is remarkable what our dedicated team has achieved with such limited resources. My sincere hope is that this report will move you to stand with us as we help churches, schools and charities respond in these testing times.

Jenny Sinclair Founder Director



Forming young people

As the UK faces an uncertain future, our young people need to be equipped with the confidence to play their part with a sense of meaning and purpose.

The **Common Good Schools** programme trains teachers to help young people take responsibility and build local relationships in school and neighbourhood. Delivered through classroom-based learning and community-based experience, the resource works in any school.

Rooted in Catholic Social Teaching principles, it enhances Catholic Life and Mission, meets CSI and SIAMS inspection requirements, and contributes to the Christian Distinctiveness of a school.

www.commongoodschools.co.uk

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code to
learn
more



“Over 3,360 young people in our secondary partner schools benefited from the KS3/4 resource this year and 80% of our partners repeated the programme. An Italian diocesan group joined too.

I’m delighted to extend the programme to KS2 children: this year we developed and piloted a new resource with 20 primary schools across the country. We’re excited to be launching in Lent 2026.

Word is getting around and we’re increasingly being asked to address groups of leaders, influencing schools beyond the programme.”



Jo Stow, Project Leader



“We use the *Common Good Schools* programme as part of our after-school ‘Our Community Matters Forum’ to generate neighbourhood pride.”

Peter Bull, Alsop High School, Liverpool

in classroom and community

"The programme brings alive an enthusiasm in children to help others, a real understanding of what it means to 'serve' in the community and for living out Jesus's mission."

*Angela Filarowski, Teacher
Ss Peter and Paul, Yeadon*

"Over the last two years we have run the Common Good Schools course 12 times for our Year 9 students. It has created the space for them to recognise their responsibility for the good of society and work together on initiatives in the wider community. The resources are excellent and easy to use."

Chris Wyles, Worth School

"The children love the sessions."

*Jude Ryan, Headteacher
St Joseph the Worker, Kirkby*

"I am LOVING delivering the weekly assemblies."

*Anna Madden, Headteacher
Our Lady of Victories,
Wandsworth*

4.2K

**Young people
involved overall**
(up from 2.8K last year)

31

**Teachers
trained**
(up from 8 last year)

30

**School
partners**
(up from 10 last year)

36

**Community
organizations
engaged**
(up from 19 last year)

Connecting leaders



Our relationships across the Christian traditions allow us to convene and facilitate unique in-person gatherings for leaders.

T4CG events enable guests to focus on the big issues of our time through the lens of Catholic social thought.

A group of 60-70 leaders is invited, 30 of whom also attend a roundtable dinner. Events centre around an expert speaker whose lecture is released as a podcast.

We intentionally assemble a good mix, across doctrine, sector and opinion, from charities, churches, and para-church bodies in key diocesan, academic, educational, media, policy and political roles.

This year we launched our *Staying Human* series with four lectures. Our speakers were Luke Bretherton on *Reimagining the Spirit of the Commons*, Lord Maurice Glasman and Jon Cruddas on *Statecraft for the Common Good*, Susannah Black Roberts on *Being a Person in the Age of AI*, and Dan Hitchens on *Useful Lives*.

In addition, as part of our ongoing effort to address mission drift in Christian social action, we convened an *Advent Retreat* for 36 senior charity leaders to discern ways forward, and published a report.

"Highly relevant to those in positions of Christian leadership. You're doing amazing work."

*Nicola Brady
General Secretary, Churches
Together Britain & Ireland*



around a better story

"Thank you for the important role
you have played and are playing."

Penny Carballo-Smith, Future Think

"Thank you for an outstanding
Lenten reflection. I have read and
reread it. The searing clarity of
your writing and your depth of
insight are truly exceptional."

Rob Stewart, Melbourne

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Scan to explore

3.6K 925

Audience
(in-person; not
including online)

Leaders
(directly
engaged)

"How should we discern the 'good way' in these volatile times? For me, listening to the Spirit in the local, reading beyond mainstream news, frank and honest conversation – and the tradition of Catholic Social Thought – all are vital to hear God's story today.

It's been a privilege to speak and write for so many organizations this year, as diverse as *Word on Fire UK*, *Proximity* and *Together Liverpool*, as well as to advise leaders in education, politics, charities and churches.

Highlights include hosting three events at the *WeBelieve Festival* – on *The New Era*, *Justice and Peace*, and *The Relational Church*; I was honoured to give the *Liverpool Cathedral Annual Micah Lecture*, contribute a chapter to a book on *Faith in the City*, and was more than a little embarrassed that the *Josephine Butler Memorial Trust* chose me as their 2025 Woman of the Year."



*Jenny
Sinclair*



Inspiring the local church



This year we celebrated year two of our ***Leaving Egypt*** podcast, the fruit of a transatlantic partnership between **Jenny Sinclair** in the UK, and **Alan Roxburgh** in Canada. Our fortnightly episodes explore what it means to be God's people in a time of unravelling.



Alan and Jenny welcome both well-known and everyday guests from across the Christian traditions. Together, they do two things: interpret the signs of the times with leading thinkers, and listen to stories of hope from Christians who sense the Holy Spirit calling them into the reweaving of life in their local communities.



This year we published 24 episodes. Guests include Angie Allgood, Luigino Bruni, Avril Baigent, Jo Gilbert, John Milbank, Samuel Luak, Jide Ehizele, Sally Gaze, Bejoy Pal, +Philip North, Susannah Black Roberts, Adrian Pabst, Tim Dickau, Reuben Slife, Luke Bretherton - and many more.



"Leaving Egypt has become my go-to podcast. Simply put, it's the most relevant thing I listen to. As a Christian, listening to Al, Jenny and their guests - and hearing their ideas and the ways people are thinking locally, taking risks - it gives me courage and hope on my morning commute."

Tim Duncan, Toronto



Now in 129 countries
(up from 87 last year)



in uncertain times

"Just listened to the episode with +Philip North - brilliant, helpful insights, really well articulated. Should be required listening for people working in deprived communities."

*James Green, CEO
Together Liverpool*

"These conversations about the moment facing the church in the West are among the most realistic, helpful and hopeful I have found."

Chris James, Dubuque University, Iowa

"*Leaving Egypt* has become such a powerful podcast. The way the layers build up week by week is extraordinary."

*Mary Publicover
Rowheath Place of Welcome
Birmingham*

"The latest episodes were amazing and so inspiring. I'm loving the depth and clarity of your analysis and reflection."

*Rob Stewart, Co-Chair
Collective Power Co-op
Melbourne*

33K **1K**

Downloads
(101% up
on last year)

Listens
per episode
(average)



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leavingegypt.com



How you can help - now

Demand for this work is increasing. We are ambitious to grow – but to continue, we need a secure financial base. T4CG has been operating on a shoestring budget: around £90K per year pays for all our work – all costs including the salaries of our small team of four (1.9 FTE).

Our team achieves far more than would be expected of such a small charity. This is because we work very hard, always in partnership, our many associates give their time pro bono, and we often secure sponsorship for our events. We work virtually so there are no office costs.

Our small band of loyal donors are the lifeline of this mission, but without significantly increasing the number of supporters, we cannot sustain this work. We urgently need more people to join this vital community to help us serve churches, schools and charities in these testing times.

We must raise a minimum of £60K to secure this work for next year.

"Together for the Common Good brings Catholic Social Teaching to the foreground of discussion and debate in these challenging times."

*Richard Collyer-Hamlin
Chair, Catholic Union of GB*

"Thanks so much for a resource that allows Muslim, Christian and atheist children to feel excited about working together for the common good." *Miles Rimmer-Tagoe
Chaplain, St Francis of Assisi*

"T4CG's challenge to the partisan silos and the superficiality of polarised argument is incredibly important. Jenny inspires me to pursue a more faithful path in the pursuit of the Common Good." *Jon Kuhrt, CEO, Hope into Action*



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www.togetherforthecommongood.co.uk/donate

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Join us from only £5/month
or £50/year, or as a Founding
Member at £150/year.

→ t4cg.substack.com

What people say

You're on my regular intercession list because I think your mission/work is really important. Thanks for all you're doing to serve God and the Church!

*Jo Gilbert, Young Adults Coordinator,
East Brighton Catholic Church*

Extremely stimulating – the event covered significant ground across a range of disciplines - politics, philosophy and theology - excellently chaired, with real care having been taken to guide the conversations.

Chine McDonald, Director, Theos

A really excellent event on AI: a very fruitful discussion and Bishop Paul found it stimulating and helpful towards our work in the area.

Naoise Grenham, Catholic Bishops

Our Trust values the Worlock-Sheppard Legacy which had significant repercussions for Church, nation and globally. Your work challenges Christians to pray, think and act on social justice. Grow and flourish!

Ultan Russell, Josephine Butler Trust

I find the T4CG initiative incomparably inspiring. I have been looking for a religiously-inspired mission that blends deep theological seriousness with social change - and have not come across a platform anything like yours.

*Dr. Matthew Gordon, Peacebuilding and
Humanitarian Policy Specialist*

Thank you for the opportunity to take time out to think about the bigger things. *Kate Nightingale, CEO
St Vincent De Paul Society*

You are speaking about something of great importance, re-articulating our mission as a commitment to the common good as the Church understands it - that our schools could play their part in redeeming society. It seems to me to be a Spirit led movement that precisely speaks to the fractures in our current social order.

*Philip Robinson, Chief Inspector
Catholic Schools Inspectorate*

I really appreciated the challenge and provocation. I am inspired to bring leaders together to explore our understanding of justice from a theological perspective.

James Green, CEO Together Liverpool

A magnificent evening, put together so well and the discussion was very stimulating. Good to reconnect with old friends and make new ones.

Paul Woolley, Chief Executive, LICC

There is a tendency for Catholic Social Teaching to remain at a level of such abstraction that it becomes toothless. What T4CG does is to look at these principles in the particular circumstances of modern life, encouraging fruitful and realistic discussion of what it might look like to live differently in accord with these principles. T4CG gives CST its bite back! *Fr Toby Lees*

Priest Director, Radio Maria England

Thank you for hosting these important and developmental discussions.

*Shannon Preston, Succentor
Southwark Cathedral*

Common Good Schools is a resource every school should consider. It is joyful, interactive and relevant. My class have become more 'neighbourly'.

Cheryl Beesley, Teacher

The *Leaving Egypt* podcast has brilliant, helpful insights. Should be required listening for people working in deprived communities.

*James Green,
CEO Together Liverpool*

Thank you for providing the space for us to talk to each other about things that matter in this volatile moment.

Lord Maurice Glasman

Presentations of Catholic Social Teaching can often be stale and uninteresting but you were a breath of fresh air.

*Fr Nicholas Crowe, Prior Provincial of the
Dominican Friars, English Province*