

## Press Release

### The Apostleship of the Sea



## School Cycling Pilgrimage to raise money for the Apostleship of the Sea

**Bishop Vaughan Catholic Comprehensive School in Swansea raises money for the Apostleship of the Sea (AoS) with a cycling pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela.**

A group of 21 students and staff made a pilgrimage from Swansea to Santiago de Compostela to raise funds for AoS. This fundraising event was the brainchild of Eugene Scourfield, Assistant Head teacher of the school. He comments

“There were a few reasons why we all chose to support AoS. We wanted to support an organisation that had a local and overseas dimension, and Swansea being a port town has strong links with the seafaring community. The work of the charity appealed to the students and they appreciated the nature and vision of the charity, and we have been aware of their work as two of our former chaplains, Fr. John Dermody and Fr. Teyrnon Williams work with seafarers in conjunction with AoS.”

Each student who took part paid for their own participation in the pilgrimage and in addition secured sponsorship from family and friends, of which all proceedings went to AoS. The group also had support from P&O Ferries who kindly sponsored their passage by allowing the group, plus their vehicles and equipment, a free crossing from Portsmouth to Bilbao in Spain. All in all the group raised £2,066.46, an amazing amount that will allow AoS to continue its vital support to the seafaring community.



*The group taking a well earned break from cycling, holding flags to represent the Apostleship of the Sea and their native Wales. (Higher quality version attached separately)*

Ends

### **Further information for Editors**

The Apostleship of the Sea, AoS, is an agency of the Catholic Bishops' Conferences of England & Wales and Scotland. It is also an independent charity wholly reliant on voluntary donations to continue its ministry.

Ninety percent of world trade is carried by ship, and some 100,000 seafarers visit British ports each year. They are commonly away from home for nine to 12 months at a time, suffering loneliness, depression and even exploitation. They also have to work in gruelling and often dangerous conditions. AoS chaplains and ship visitors welcome seafarers to our shores - regardless of their colour, race or creed (if any) and provide them with pastoral and practical assistance. They recognise them as brothers with an intrinsic human dignity which can be overlooked in the modern globalised maritime industry. For more information visit [www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk](http://www.apostleshipofthesea.org.uk)

For further information about the work and vision of AoS please contact Sheila Bailey Director of Fundraising and Communications, Tel: 0771 286 4747  
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