

Big Brummie Campout

Friday 8th May 2020



Dear All

SIFA Fireside (homeless charity in Birmingham) was founded by a Catholic nun, Sister Sabina. There's lots of information about her online, for example:

<https://www.theirishworld.com/tributes-paid-to-mother-theresa-of-birmingham-sister-sabina/>

<https://www.birminghammail.co.uk/news/local-news/sister-sabina-staff-honoured-with-mbe-107136>

Next week they are holding the 'Big Brummie Campout' to raise funds. It might be a good activity for Catholic families to do at home for 'the common good' during the school closures - please find info below.

If you do decide to encourage families to use it, it might be appropriate to supplement it with a prayer moment - resources can be found online, including here:

<https://www.bethanychristiantrust.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/Prayers-for-Homeless-Sunday-7th-October-2018.pdf>

http://www.vinnies.org.au/icms_docs/167976_Mini_Vinnies_Little_Book_of_Prayers.pdf

Or even better, perhaps families could read Matthew 25:34-40 and then write or share their own prayers.

Pope Francis has been active on homelessness throughout his papacy, including during the coronavirus:

<https://www.americamagazine.org/faith/2020/04/27/amid-pandemic-pope-francis-supports-street-newspapers-published-homeless>

Students could research the various initiatives he's been involved in (including setting up showers for rough sleepers in the Vatican!).

A message from SIFA Fireside (Homeless charity)

'The Big Brummie Campout is happening next week and we are very excited for everyone to get involved.

On **Friday the 8th May** we are asking friends and families to set up camp in their back gardens, build make-shift dens on balcony's or cushion castles in their front rooms to raise money for SIFA Fireside.

To sign up as a 'camper' we are asking supporters to donate a minimum £5 to the appeal, in return for access to an exclusive Activity pack filled with fun activities including stargazing and leaf printing. The pack will have everything needed for an evening under the stars, including family-friendly recipes and craft activities. The evening will also help bring people together, with a hosted live stream, music performances, and the chance to share camping experiences on social media.

<https://www.sifafireside.co.uk/pages/181-big-brummie-camp-out-2020>

The campaign is being launched as part of our emergency #SIFASurvives appeal, launched in response to a reduction in support due to the Coronavirus epidemic. We're looking to raise £50,000 over the coming months so that we can continue providing homeless and vulnerable adults access to key services such as showers and health clinics, whilst also helping them to work towards a brighter future.

Thank you so much for your support to SIFA Fireside and the work that we do.

James Trewby

SIFA Fireside