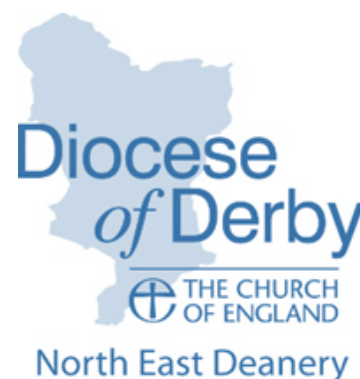


Inbetween



Issue 16 January 2022



Karen writes....



Welcome to the first edition of Inbetween in 2022!



'Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you'
Isaiah 60:1



It's good to reflect on these words and take them to heart as we step into a new calendar year during uncertain and challenging times, reminding ourselves again of the constancy and certainty of God's life and light-giving presence.



As you read through Inbetween I hope you will be struck, as I was, by the hope that is threaded through so much of what is here. There is encouragement, incentive and faith in the ideas, stories and events that should inspire us and lead us into prayer and where possible, activity in order to see God's Kingdom come.



There is challenge too – challenge to change and grow as we follow our eternally creative God in order to reach more people with the good news of his love for them.

None of this ignores the uncertainty that surrounds us or the anxiety within us as we consider just what this year might look like for us, our families, friends, congregations and communities, but wasn't it ever thus? And hasn't God always been at work 'in the midst'?



Some verses from Philippians that I frequently reference for myself are: 'Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus'
Phil 4: 6-7



My prayer is that we will grow as people who shine with the light and glory of God, living for him in every way possible in order to see his Kingdom come. And if that prayer requires me to be part of the answer by changing in any way – then so be it!



Happy New Year!



Changing the Menu!

In between this coming year, at Deanery Synods and also through some form of targeted Deanery Training events (still in planning!) we're going to be referencing 'Changing the Menu'.

As a Deanery Leadership Team we've talked and prayed about both the opportunities and challenges that the last 18 months have brought to the Church. It's a conversation that is happening nationally, across the Diocese and locally – how can we best be the Church, proclaiming and demonstrating the Kingdom of God, in such challenging times ... and any answers lead inexorably to the need for change. But change what and how? What to continue, what to tweek, what to stop, what to start?

Some of that consideration will happen as churches engage with the Mission Action Toolkit during this year, other thinking and praying can happen in response to what we offer in 'Changing the Menu' – stories of change already happening in and through local churches looking to see transformed lives through growing church and building community. So here is the first example, from Barlborough and Clowne. We'll give progress reports on this and introduce some other examples. Our hope is that this will spark conversation, prayer and encouragement where you are!

Changing the pattern of worship – or 'Expanding our menu'

The pandemic gave us all the rare opportunity to press 'pause' for quite a long period of time on all the things we usually do. We had an opportunity to think about our service pattern and think 'does this work and why do we do it like this?'



We made a decision to trial a change to our service pattern in response to both covid and thinking of our future as worshipping communities in Barlborough and Clowne.

To describe this change, I used the metaphor of a menu. Change always brings insecurity and anxiety and what I was keen to communicate was that although we were changing the *pattern* of worship, the menu hadn't changed.

For years there has been only one option on the menu – albeit the most important one of course – and that is the Sunday morning Eucharist. This is an item on the menu that will never be taken off. However, the changes we are making are designed to appeal to more people.

Just as many restaurants have begun to cater for vegan diets, we can think 'what else might we offer that might attract newcomers who might not readily want to attend on Sunday mornings?'

So we have 'expanded the menu' and in time will have introduced a monthly choral evensong, a monthly family service, and a new fresh expression called Great Outdoors.

The important 'dish' of the Eucharist is still on the menu but we have provided some other options. The hope is that this might not only attract new people but that the current congregation might like to try something different too.

I hope that if you're thinking of making similar changes to the way you do things that this metaphor of a menu might be helpful. What's currently on offer where you are? What new dishes could you offer? Might there be the occasional 'special'?

Perhaps you could use this metaphor to start a conversation at a PCC meeting?

Rev Bryony Taylor, Rector of Barlborough and Clowne

New Mission Action Toolkit

The Mission Action Toolkit is a set of resources that can help any church, of whatever tradition, size, context or type, to join in with responding to the missional aims of the Diocesan Vision. If you would like to know more about the Diocesan Vision and its missional aims, you can do so [here](#).

The Toolkit is based on **Mission Action Planning for Derby Diocese**, which we have been using since 2010 to help churches grow as healthy, worshipping communities that engage in God's mission in the world. However, it is a more focused, streamlined toolkit that is flexible and light-touch enough for any church to use. Churches can use the Toolkit in many different ways and adapt it to suit their own context and style.

The Toolkit isn't another thing to do or an extra initiative. It is a process to help with that which has always been central to the identity, calling and purpose of every single expression of church - to engage in God's mission in the world. It can help churches to acknowledge and celebrate what God is already doing in and through them in mission, and to hear God's call to grow and develop in their mission further.

The Toolkit consists of six core resources, which are all downloadable below. More resources will be added in the future, and all the resources of the existing full MAP process, found in these pages, are also available to use with the Mission Action Toolkit.

[Quick Start Guide](#) - an accessible introduction to the Mission Action Toolkit, suitable for anyone in the church

[Introduction for Church Leaders](#) - a more detailed guide intended for use by any church leader, lay or ordained.

[Missional Aims Summary](#) - a single-sheet overview of the different aspects of each missional aim.

[Resource Sheets](#) - a rich set of theological reflections, discussion questions, prayers and ideas for actions for every aspect of our missional aims.

[Questionnaire](#) - one way in which to gather information from the church as a part of the Mission Action Toolkit process.

[Action Sheet](#) - a way of recording and tracking the actions a church decides to undertake.

The Mission Action Toolkit is designed to be adapted and used independently by any church. However, help and support is available to help churches as they use the Toolkit. To find help, please contact:

Jason Kennedy Diocesan Missioner

e jason.kennedy@derby.anglican.org

t 07539 483733

Derby Church House, Full Street, Derby DE1 3DR

For further information and helpful resources follow this link to the Diocesan Website:-

[Mission Action Plans \(MAP\) - Diocese of Derby \(anglican.org\)](#)

Welcome to Kate Godfrey—Diocesan Secretary

Kate, our new Diocesan Secretary, started in post on 1st December 2021; she is hoping to spend some time in different parts of the diocese in the months to come, getting to know the area.

Derbyshire born and bred, Kate is the daughter of a local teacher and GP. Following university, she moved to Kenya as a research trainee working for The Guardian, before transferring to work in research and advisory with international organisations including the United Nations Development Programme and UNESCO, focussing on education and multi-lateral infrastructure development. Married to David – an enthusiastic gritstone climber - Kate is mum to two-year-old Fred, and babies Harry and Tilly. She relaxes by writing mostly unpublished mystery novels under a pseudonym. On her



appointment, Kate said: "I am honoured to have been appointed as diocesan secretary; and moved by the trust that Bishop Libby and her colleagues on the appointment committee have shown in me. "It is particularly meaningful to be able to join the diocese at this special time of year, and I look forward to working with my new colleagues across the diocese and in Derby Church House." Bishop Libby said: "Kate is wholeheartedly committed to our Vision of 'the Kingdom of God: Good News for all', and to working with us as we proclaim that good news afresh in this generation in transformed lives, growing church and building community. "Please join with me in welcoming Kate to her new role and hold her in your prayers.

Kate - in her own words...

Tell us about your professional experience. What do you bring from your professional background to the work of the diocese?

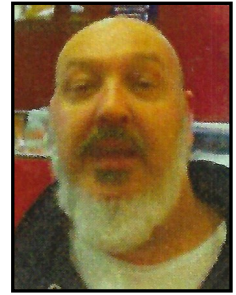
I started my career overseas, working first in Sub-Saharan Africa and then across the Middle East, Africa and Asia. I worked for international organisations leading the research behind major development projects, including in infrastructure and education, and developed a focus on women and girls' democratic and economic participation. In development terms, funding women's empowerment is smart economics, reducing inequality and increasing productivity. It is pragmatic and it works. Twenty years later, I am still trying to find answers that are pragmatic and that work – although more recently my focus has been on charities and trust leadership, working with community organisations and campaign groups in London and the East Midlands.

Why the Church? And what does the work of the diocesan secretary involve?

For something that has rapidly become a calling, I can honestly say that the post came as a surprise. Having had twins Harry and Tilly this year, I wasn't expecting to be working in December 2021, let alone stepping into something so significant in terms of stewardship and leadership. And I have joked that if I expected to join the Church formally at any point, it would have been either twenty years ago or twenty years in the future. That said, I was in a role which seemed to me to be a good parallel for the work of a diocesan secretary, working with an outstanding local education trust specialised in working in areas of complex and multiple deprivation across Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire. I'm not a teacher – I led operational work including governance, professional administration and learning and development, and establishing the trust as a delivery partner for government in everything from apprenticeships to mental health. I was lucky to work with an outstanding executive team, and to receive a thorough grounding in safeguarding; to build on my knowledge of charities and trust law and management, and above all, to have been responsible for our community relationships, with our schools talking every day to 100,000 people across the East Midlands. Academically, I have legal training and am increasingly pleased that my first degree is in history, particularly ecclesiastical history. My university college is unique in having its own cathedral, and I studied at one point under church historian Diarmaid MacCulloch – I hardly expected that to turn out to be vocational training. Lastly, I would say that joining the diocese from maternity leave has been a gift. I have been able to spend significant amounts of time at Church House over the last weeks and months, and to thoroughly understand my responsibilities and the work of the Parish Support Office before formally taking up my position. To find out more about Kate, follow this link to the diocesan website:

[Kate Godfrey is new diocesan secretary - Diocese of Derby \(anglican.org\)](https://www.derbydiocese.org.uk/kate-godfrey-is-new-diocesan-secretary)

Everyday Faith - Everyday Stories - Greg



Can you tell us a little about yourself?

I have resided and worked in Chesterfield for the past 20 years; I have three grown-up daughters and a granddaughter aged 6 months. I attend and am a church member at Chesterfield Parish Church and also at HRBC Baptist church in Sussex. I have a long-term neurological condition known as dystonia. I am self-employed and have worked mainly in the antiques trade as a market trader, auctioneer and valuer - locally, regionally and abroad. I am part of a care creation prayer group relating to environment issues. I am fluent in Spanish, play mouth organ and am currently learning to sing and play guitar. Other interests are visiting museums and art galleries.

What does a typical day in your life look like?

My days can be quite a mixture really and depend on how my neurological condition affects me. Generally, I wake early and start with daily prayer. I attend and view auction houses, buy and sell, do online research and valuations, and attend markets and antique fairs. I share caring for my elderly parents, serve and worship at church, and do outreach work for the homeless. I attend online bible study meetings and online care creation meetings with church family, and prayer walks. I spend time socializing with family and friends.

How does your faith impact your daily life?

My faith has had a dramatic impact on my life. Having recently been baptized, church and worship have become part of my everyday life. I have much more of a sense of belonging and a more productive life, not just at church, with the church family and communities, but also with the wider community. I feel God's presence, or that of the Holy Trinity, in my life, during and through prayer and worship. I feel I have someone to turn to, a connection as such, which brings me joy and inner peace and a sense of fulfilment.

Through Jesus I can lift my prayers for the world, my family and others, in times of trouble or life's daily struggles. I can ask for forgiveness, and receive answers and guidance, through scripture and bible study - through the presence of the Holy Spirit.

I use my spiritual gifts to help others through street outreach. I serve the homeless on a practical team on Mondays. I go on prayer walks with my pastor and other church family. I have become part of a bible study group with church elders and pray with two other community groups. In general, faith is guiding me down a totally different path in life and has given me the privilege of serving my church and others in a different light. Faith in my life gives me strength, warmth and meaning.

How does your church help in this?

Church helps in my life immensely - being part of a church family/congregation is like having an extended family and helps me to grow in faith and provides me with a platform to worship and to serve. To be part of living and sharing Christian belief and life. My church provides a spiritual and holy place to think, worship and connect with Jesus and others, and to learn through the teachings of the ministry and sermons. My church also provides a peaceful place to worship and take holy communion, and inspires me to push forward in faith and service. Above all, I can spend precious time with God, Jesus and my congregation.

Church on the Bus - Winter Provision

for the homeless in Chesterfield



In partnership with Derbyshire Local Authorities and Derby City Mission we will be providing “winter provision” for the homeless in Chesterfield and surrounding areas and there are opportunities for the church community to get involved with the project from 1st December to 31st March.

The last time we were able to run a Chesterfield Nightshelter was in 2019/20, as in 2020/21 Covid prevented us repeating the project and instead the Derbyshire Local Authorities set up provision at Mount Cook Activity Centre. That was a success and this year, as we are again prevented nationally from running communal sleeping provision, and because businesses are now operating as normally as possible, there are no facilities like Mount Cook. Therefore, the Local Authorities are providing Bed & Breakfast accommodation across the County from 1st December until 31st March to provide individual sleeping facilities, including around 10 spaces in Chesterfield.

The opportunity before us this year is to run a “Winter Provision” in Chesterfield. This involves providing a meal as we did every evening during the previous Nightshelters, but without any of the arrangements to sleep or have breakfast the following morning. This would provide our homeless guests with one hot and healthy meal a day and the opportunity to relax and build relationships with us before they return to their accommodation.

The evening meals (6:30pm-9:30pm TBC) will be held in Grace Chapel every day except Saturday when it will be held at Holy Trinity, and we will need volunteers every evening to cook and help in the kitchen, to serve, to clean, and to welcome and befriend. There will also be a lunchtime session at Holy Trinity on Thursdays (11am – 1pm). We would also value Prayer for the project. To express interest, please contact Ian Macleod using the email: churchonthebus@gmail.com or phone 07368 331219.

As you read this we will have started on 1st December so if you want regular updates for your church families please contact Ian Macleod, giving the email address they should be sent to.

Finally, just a note of explanation about the role of Church on the Bus in this project: Derby City Mission, who are overseeing the operational support across the County, have asked Church on the Bus to take a lead role in the practical arrangements as we have an all-year-round ministry to the Homeless and Disadvantaged and can provide the overall support to coordinate this project. The management team for this project has been formed from some of the management team from the 2019/20 project and some of the Trustees from Church on the Bus.

Do you have any news, ideas, events, interesting information to share with the Deanery?

Send items to include in the next edition of Inbetween to:-

Kathy Crawshaw-Moore

kathy.crawshaw-moore@derby.anglican.org

07852 324885

The life of a School Governor...

Many of our church members act as School Governors and find it both challenging and rewarding; their work is greatly appreciated. Here are some thoughts from Sheila Cotton, Churchwarden at St. Peter's, Calow.

The Highs and Lows of a School Governor

I am currently the Chair of Governors at Calow C of E Controlled Primary School.

I joined the Governing body of this school as a church Foundation Governor in 2017. The current Foundation Governor's term of office had come to an end and she wasn't wanting to be re-elected. Our Parish

Priest asked if I would consider taking on the role as I was newly retired. I had been a primary school teacher before my retirement. People taking on the role of governor do not have to come from an education background, it is useful to have a broad skills set amongst the governors.

We attend a full Governors meeting each term and any sub committee meetings that you are involved in. The sub committees are usually Teaching & Learning and a Finance committee. These committees deal with issues which are then taken to the full governors' meetings for approval. It works out at around six meetings per school year.

Each governor is assigned a particular area of the school curriculum, you then meet with the teacher who has special responsibility for this area, you will do book scrutinies and learning walks around school.

The full Governing Body meetings always have a full agenda, dealing with such matters as finance, staffing, updated policies to approve, monitoring progress against the School Improvement Plan, looking at progress data and a Head Teachers report.

I enjoy working with the Head and his staff supporting them in their roles. There are times when they need to know they have your full support, especially when they are facing OFSTED visits and the added stress this places on them.

I find my role fulfilling and rewarding, knowing that I am making a difference in helping to shape the future of young minds.

I would say if you are ever given the opportunity to take on the role of school governor, take it you won't regret it.



Sheila Cotton, St. Peter's Church, Calow

Work of our Street and School Pastors

Chesterfield Street Pastors

Street Pastors are a network of trained Christian volunteers working to keep people safe as they enjoy a night out in villages, towns and cities across the UK and beyond. The umbrella organisation that governs our work is Ascension Trust (AT), a facilitator for many charities. AT centrally provide our training modules, governance and safeguarding advice, provision of uniform, insurance package and facilitate meetings between churches to get initiatives started. They also provide the most wonderful support network.



All initiatives require at least four churches of different traditions to work together to start with. In Chesterfield in 2010 we had seven churches happily throw their hats into the ring and by the time we had trained our volunteers in 2011 seventeen local churches were represented in our team. It is rare for anyone to refer to their denomination, we see ourselves as 'the church' out on the streets to demonstrate the love of God.

Here in Chesterfield, we have been patrolling for over 10 years and some of the original team love it so much that they are still with us. So, what do we do? We patrol in teams of three or four around the town centre from 10pm until we are no longer needed or 4am whichever comes first. Pre-pandemic our teams were regularly out until 2am in the winter and later during the summer months.

Our remit is to 'care, listen and help' in a non-judgemental way. Sometimes what people need is a listening ear and we have the time to let them pour out their troubles or their joy. We meet soldiers, home between deployments, who need to talk about their feelings. Or it may be a father who is not being allowed to see his child, a young woman who has just been unceremoniously dumped, someone recently bereaved, a troubled teenager... all have come out to drown their sorrows but maybe we can help by listening to what is going on with them.

We collect glass bottles and glasses that have been left on the street and dispose of them safely. Why? Easily kicked over broken glass becomes a hazard to anyone who might stumble into it but also later in the evening, as tempers fray, a glass bottle can become a dangerous weapon.

Sometimes the issue is 'killer heels', those beautiful shoes that looked great initially but now are hurting her feet so much she is walking around barefoot and carrying them. Apart from the broken glass, I wouldn't like to tell you what you might step in on the pavements at that time of night! We offer bright pink flip flops to try and reduce the risk of an accident.

Should there be an accident or medical emergency, we are first aid trained by St John's and will do our best to help. With more serious incidents our priority would be to call an ambulance and then look after the casualty until the paramedics arrive and can take over.

What do the local police make of us? To be honest we are bowled over by their response to us. With services stretched to such an extent the fact that we can take over a simple time-consuming incident means that officers are released to deal with the more serious ones. If needed, we can spend all night with one person if the only problem is excessive drinking or a lost phone. We might give them bottled water to help them become more lucid. Negotiate with the taxi firm to get them home or help them find a relative to come and collect them.



Do we preach the gospel? Primarily we demonstrate the unconditional love of God by loving and serving unconditionally. Our help is not given in order to bible bash the incoherent, but we do take every opportunity to give the reason for our faith. We are regularly asked why we do what we do and how much we get paid? When we say that we are volunteers the response is usually – you must be mad! We simply explain that as a Christian we have experienced the amazing love of God and we want to show everyone else a little bit of what it is like.



The fallout of the pandemic has hit our organisation as it has many others. We are working hard to increase our income so that we can continue to buy the things we give away. More importantly we need to increase our number of volunteers so that we can get back to patrolling regularly every Saturday. We are always happy to provide presentations and speakers to churches and organisations about the work that we do.

Jacky Kendrew

07834 821067

chesterfield@streetpastors.org.uk

Chesterfield School Pastors

Also, under the umbrella of Ascension Trust, School Pastors have been operating in Chesterfield for over eight years, we are a group (currently 10) of Christians who work with students and staff at Parkside Community School, Chesterfield. Parkside is situated on four of the poorest areas in Chesterfield, (Birdholme, Boythorpe, St Augustine's and Grangewood) and this brings a wide range of problems that we have to deal with which are well documented in the media. We see students coping with issues that no child should have to face. Our goal is to build a caring relationship with them built on trust, a relationship that is non-judgmental. This is from the Parkside School website under the section on Pupil Support titled "What do School Pastors do?"



"Parkside School Pastors began by patrolling an area of the school community. Over time, they have become an integral part of the educational process for pupils and staff members alike. We are proud to say that we cannot imagine Parkside without them.

Initiatives work to match the needs of the pupils and the local community with the skills of the School Pastors. Current initiatives include: one to one mentoring for young people to support emotional well-being, Gardening Club, Lunch Club and Chess Club. Our Pastors attend all our school and community events and are represented on our Governing Body "

When we started at Parkside it was struggling in all areas, it was the last resort school with all 400 pupils coming from within its catchment area. Over the last ten years the governors, headteachers, teachers, staff and students have worked so hard to turn that around, taking us on board in the process. Recently it was rated the 'most improved school in Derbyshire' with numbers increased to 600 and students coming from all areas of Chesterfield. We have played a small part in that journey and believe that God is blessing our school for putting their trust in us. Maybe you could join forces with your local school and enjoy a similar journey? How do we measure our success? Is it when we turn tears into smiles, or when a student says 'you are the only person I trust'. We pray on every visit that the light of Jesus will shine through in everything we do .

I am available to meet with your church council, school or both and give more examples of some of the students we have worked with over the years.

John Kelly

Coordinator School Pastors

chesterfield@schoolpastors.org.uk



With many thanks to Sarah Brown, Diocesan Children's Adviser, for permission to reproduce these pages of very helpful ideas. Please note that, unfortunately, the links reproduced here will not work.

WHERE ARE THE CHILDREN?

Is your church facing a bit of a struggle to engage or re-engage with children and their families/carers? Be reassured – you are certainly not alone...

Whether you are a tiny or large congregation, and whatever style of worship you prefer, it DOES matter if you have no children. Here are just a few reasons:

- Jesus welcomed children into the midst of his teaching times and said that they were a model for the way we all should approach God.
- Children declared God's praises loudly in the temple (Matt 21:15) and Jesus reminded the indignant leaders that God, in the Psalms, had promised that children and infants would declare God's praises

But it can seem a tall order to start some children's work when it feels like a struggle just to keep Sunday services going. So, I've put together this flow chart which might help you start to think about what you might do. The first section is essential!

PRAY!

Pray for: local families and children you know, local schools (I can give you a list), families who have recently had a Baptism, families in your daily life. Of course, you might know very little about these families, but ask for God's blessings on them and ask that you'll find a way to get to know some of them.

MAKE YOUR CHURCH MORE CHILD FRIENDLY!

Churches sometimes seem a bit gloomy! Could you add some pictures or bright cushions? Could you create a small collection of lovely new Christian books? Don't go for donations of books which look old and dusty – find some new ones! There are some suggestions at the end of this document. Could someone create some Bible Bags with interesting and good quality books and games in. The bag on the left is one made by church members at St Mark's Brampton – amazing knitting was involved! If a child or two comes to their church an adult can read the book with them and they can recreate the story with the toys. ASK SARAH ABOUT EXAMPLES OF BIBLE BAGS



IS THIS LIKE YOUR CHURCH?

FOLLOW THE

ARROWS FOR SOME IDEAS!

1. We are a small and mostly retired congregation. We almost never have any children and only have our church building – no hall or other place to meet. Money is very tight.

THINK ABOUT LOW COST, EASY TO ORGANISE EVENTS – MAYBE OUTSIDE!

a) Invite (posters, leaflets, word of mouth) local families to come for a ramble! First thing on a Saturday or Sunday morning is often a good time. First check that the route is safe and do a risk assessment (Sarah can help) Maybe you could give everyone a challenge – find the biggest leaf or four blue things etc. When everyone gets back to church offer a drink and snack with a two minute "thought for the day". Make sure you invite everyone back for the next one!

b) Go for an evening event – a church recently invited all their families plus baptism families to come and have fish and chips in the churchyard. 70 people came! You could extend an idea like this maybe with some torches/glo-sticks and help everyone think about Jesus coming to us at Christmas.

Worried about the weather? Obviously don't expect frail people to be out in the cold/wet, but for most of us we need to remember the words of the great walker Alfred Wainwright, "there is no bad weather only inappropriate clothing"!

2. We are a small and mostly retired congregation, one or two of our congregation have worked with children in the past. We occasionally get a couple of children joining us and aim to provide some things for them to do.

HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT CONTACTING LOCAL SCHOOLS?

a) Sarah can provide a list of local schools. Ensure you comply with school Safeguarding requirements. The first step should be to ASK if there is anything you could offer to help the school.

Anything practical? Helping in a library, school garden, helping staff prepare resources. When you are known as someone helpful and reliable, maybe then you could offer help with Assemblies/Collective Worship, or other lessons.

b) OPEN THE BOOK – watch the introductory video <https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/open-the-book/> – this is a fantastic resource. You will need around 4 or 5 people in your group and some basic props. It is appropriate for children of all religions (or no religion) If you are interested in starting a team, please contact Sarah, who will be running training in the New Year.

3. Our church is within walking distance of a local school. We have some members of the church who are good at setting up displays, and some who would feel able to talk to a small group of children when given a script to use.

HAVE A LOOK AT THE EXPERIENCE JOURNEYS

<https://jumpingfishpublications.co.uk/product-category/experience-journeys/>

There are four to choose from: Christmas, Easter, Pentecost and Harvest. The Diocese can lend you all the resources you need at no cost. You set up 6 "stations" in your church and children visit, a class at a time. At every station there is something to think about and something to do.

HAVE A LOOK AT PRAYER SPACES IN SCHOOLS

<https://prayerspacesinschools.com/>

Great for all ages, perhaps especially good for secondary schools. You would need to have some training. I am planning to organise this so please let me know if you're interested.

OR, HOW ABOUT A DROP OFF COFFEE FOR THOSE WHO HAVE JUST DELIVERED CHILDREN TO SCHOOL? Supply some toys for small brothers and sisters and let the parents/carers/grandparents etc. have a quiet sit down and chat after the rush of getting to school. A great way to start getting to know families...

4. We get a few children in church, but before the pandemic, our real success was our Toddler Group.

We used to have around 40 carers and pre-schoolers and they're starting to come back now.

We do Christian teaching and songs, but once the children go to school we rarely see the families again.

TALK TO CARERS SOMETIME BEFORE THEIR CHILD LEAVES AND ASK...

What would help you as parents/grandparents/carers? Look on the **CARE FOR THE FAMILY** website <https://www.careforthefamily.org.uk/> There are lots of resources to support family life.

What would your child/children like to do now they are too big for Toddlers? What about an occasional **MESSY CHURCH** <https://www.messychurch.org.uk/> There is lots of support available if you'd like to do this. Sarah can advise you.

Finally have a look at the **"KITCHEN TABLE PROJECT"** <https://kitchentable.org.uk/> which has lots of things to try out at home.

5. We used to have a good group of children, but we are now just getting a few, of mixed ages.

In the past we have run Sunday school (or another name) groups, but some of our leaders want to step down.

TRY FLEXIBLE ACTIVITIES AND GAMES

You can borrow one of the Bible Boxes (there are 3 – Water, Fields and Deserts) Each box has 10 planned sessions with all the resources you need for a group or mixed age and variable numbers. They use, games, drama, discussion and NO writing or colouring!

BITESIZE TRAINING

<https://derby.anglican.org/en/training/learning-in-faith.html> Select **CHILDREN AND YOUTH**, and then **RUNNING A CHILDREN'S GROUP AT CHURCH** for a quick look at some of the things you could do.

MORE TRAINING

If your team would like a longer training time, with lots of activities set out to try, please contact me. I can usually arrange to visit you within a month or so. There is no charge for this.

6. We have some established groups of children who attend fairly regularly, but we are looking for some more exciting material to use.

HAVE A LOOK AT SOME RESOURCES

YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S WORK

<https://www.youthandchildrens.work/Resources> Register online to get access to lots of resources

ENERGIZE URBAN SAINTS <https://www.energize.uk.net/about> Subscription needed

ROOTS ON THE WEB (Fits with Lectionary) also involves a subscription <https://www.rootsontheweb.com/>

RAISE UP FAITH – <https://www.raiseupfaith.com/> by far the most appealing, adaptable and easy to use, but at a cost. You can do a 14 day trial for free. If you do this and would like to subscribe please can you let me know? It's possible that we might negotiate so a contract deals with them.

THERE ARE LOTS OF LOVELY BOOKS!

<https://www.thegoodbook.co.uk/children/>

<https://www.eden.co.uk/christian-books-for->



Rectangular Sign

Is your situation not here?

Let me know and I will aim to make some recommendations for you



And, if you are lucky enough to have some outdoor space near your church – have a look at this book, “Outdoor Church” by Sally Welch

Some churches have been running Outdoor Worship times especially since Covid– they are especially popular with families.

Courtesy of Sarah Brown, Diocesan Children’s Adviser: Sarah.Brown@derby.anglican.org



Learning in Faith

Bitesize

Learning in Faith Bitesize is a new way for you to learn from the Diocese of Derby at home.

These bitesize courses and videos can typically be done in half an hour or less using nothing more than your computer, tablet or phone.

You can chose your learning category:-

- Churchwardens and Officers
- Mission, Evangelism and Discipleship
- Children’s and Youth Work
- Spirituality and Prayer
- Community
- Communication

Explore this opportunity via link below:-

[Learning in Faith Bitesize - Diocese of Derby \(anglican.org\)](https://www.derby.anglican.org/learning-in-faith-bitesize)

COP26/Eco News....

For many people COP26 crystallised their concerns about climate change and how we as a church can respond. Recent news stories show that many young people feel these concerns very strongly and are taking a lead in moving thinking forward. There are many ways to consider our response as Christians. Below are some ideas for further reading and the following pages give headlines of the Church of England's response to date.

Why not sign up to the Church of England Environment bulletin? this will keep you up to date with latest news and links to training as well as recordings of recent webinars:-



[Environment programme news | The Church of England](#)

The logo for Tearfund, featuring the word 'tearfund' in white lowercase letters on a teal rectangular background.

A response to the COP26 summit from Tearfund can be found by following this link: [COP26 climate summit - Tearfund](#)

And from Christian Aid following the link below:-

[What happened at COP26? And what next? - Christian Aid](#)



There are many news items, articles and ideas spanning climate change and other environmental issues on the Diocesan website—please see the link below:-

[Environment: caring for God's creation - Diocese of Derby \(anglican.org\)](#)

And for anyone interested in a film about Eco church there is this short on training listed under 'Community' :-

[Learning in Faith Bitesize - Diocese of Derby \(anglican.org\)](#)



THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Environment Programme





5550

Big Church Switch Campaign resulted in more than 5500 churches transferring to green energy. The Parish Buying energy basket is 100% green.

37

Diocesan
Environment
Officers



850+

Eco churches



"Reducing the causes of climate change is essential to the life of faith. It is a way to love our neighbour and to steward the gift of creation."

Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury




18+

Eco Dioceses...



Season for Creation

1 Sept - 4th Oct
celebrated across the
Anglican Communion



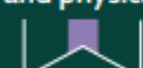
Letters for Creation

project will bring together
young people in the global
Church to pray, speak and
act on climate change



Green Health Awards

celebrated use of church
land to promote spiritual,
mental and physical health





THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Environment Programme



The New York Times BBC Global

Plastic-less Lent campaign

received widespread parish support and global media coverage including pick up by the New York times, BBC and Canadian Global Network.

34,704



people engaged in just one tweet

Bishops Environment Group growth
from 5 to 76 over 5 years

Year 1

Year 5

5

76

£10.1
trillion

Transition Pathway Initiative
supported globally by investors
with over £10.1 trillion
combined assets under
management and growing

Advocacy
on issues of climate
change and environment
including the drive for
zero emissions
by 2050

Support
and resources
provided for parishes
ranging from advice
on solar panels to
tree care



3.8m



Funding secured for the ground-breaking Bats in Churches partnership project with Natural England, Historic England, Churches Conservation Trust and Bats Conservation Trust.

Deanery Prayer Dates 2022:-

All at 7.15 pm via Zoom



Wednesday 12th January

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81798575108?pwd=MzQ0S0NjRFo2TGFrRjRjYXhrZ0plUT09>

Tuesday 15th February

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85373550164?pwd=TU9GdHF1ckdxVUExYnBOZ2JU0zdJZz09>

Wednesday 9th March

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87432284859?pwd=dWZyZmthKzJhVUg2Q3F1WVU2L09zUT09>

Tuesday 5th April

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85724455427?pwd=NDd5L1R2VU1CS0crR0hXSDVBNWZtQT09>

**Wednesday 4th May, Tuesday 7th June, Wednesday 6th July, Tuesday 6th September,
Wednesday 5th October, Tuesday 8th November**

Deanery Synod Dates 2022

Tuesday 8th February

7.15 pm, via zoom

Wednesday 13th July

7.30 pm, St. Swithin's, Main Road, Holmesfield, Dronfield S18 7WT

Wednesday 2nd November

7.30 pm, St Michael and All Angels, Church Street, Brimington S43 1JG



Statistics for Mission

A reminder
that your
online



Statistics for Mission

Return is due by 31st
January 2022

Natasha's Law

On 1 October 2021, Natasha's Law came into effect for all foods produced and prepacked for direct sale with food labelling changing in the UK. This new labelling will provide potentially life-saving allergen information on packaging for consumers. A full list of ingredients will be required by law to be stated on the label, along with the name of the food.

Please be aware that **parishes are subject to the general law in relation to the sale and supply of food and drink.**

>> [Natasha's Law information on Diocese of Derby website.](#)