

A Selection of Upcoming Events and Training

YEAR OF FAITH SPIRITUAL QUESTION TIME

Tuesday, 12th November

Stokesay Inn, Craven Arms

Book here: <https://bit.ly/488xAvf>

INFUSE YOUTH EVENTS

Thursday, 14th November, 7-8.30pm

Hereford Cathedral online via zoom

To book or for more details contact the Intergenerational Team:

e.hackney@hereford.anglican.org

DIOCESAN SYNOD

Tuesday, 19th November, 7pm

Cawley Hall

Further information: call the diocese main office on 01432 373300

INTERGENERATIONAL MISSION LEARNING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Thursday, 14th November: 11am-1pm

St John's Church, Bishop Castle

Wednesday, 11th December: 11am-

1pm St Martins Church, South Wye

For anyone involved with Intergenerational mission or who works with children, young people and/or families—info from

e.hackney@hereford.anglican.org

For more information about these and other diocesan events please visit our diocese Eventbrite page online at <https://bit.ly/4ebcnCL>

News from the Youth Hubs Project



The Youth Hubs project in Leominster and Bishop's Castle has sprung into action with the appointment of new team members Heather Martin, Youth Hubs Coordinator and Rev'd Nick Gurney, Bishop's Castle Youth Pioneer. In her recent blog, Heather said, "When you think about your own journey of faith, my guess is that you probably had some individuals who invested time and

prayer in you, who responded to the call of the Psalmist in Psalm 78 and opened their mouths with a parable, uttered hidden things, things from of old, things they had heard and known, things their ancestors told them....He commanded their ancestors to teach their children, so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children. If we want the church to grow and have a future, we need to take this call seriously. Therefore there is a need to reimagine ourselves as pioneers of something that might not even exist or have been thought about yet."

You can read Heather's full article on the blog pages of our website here:

<https://bit.ly/4dJrYsH>



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Parish News
November 2024

On Remembrance

by The Rt Rev'd Richard Jackson, Bishop of Hereford

Dear Friends,

A Christian poet once wrote, "History repeats itself; it has to, no-one listens!" These are words we do well to remember in our current international climate, with wars in the Middle East and Ukraine. As we remember the great conflicts of the 20th century and the political context that led to those wars, there has been some progress, in the West at least. A lot of the warlike rhetoric and posturing, the appeal to patriotism, and the sense of our individual identities being tied up with national ones seems strange and dated. At the time, these attitudes, combined with the arrogance of empire, were a toxic combination that led to the horrific conflict with the loss of so many lives. However, elements of these attitudes remain. We always prefer our own tribe. There is an alienation that has opened people to the rise of the far right with its attempt to blame all our ills on immigration. A knowledge of history shows where these things can end up.

Christians are instructed to pray for our political leaders and to live in peace

where we can, but one of the things that got the early Christians into trouble was their political subversion. There will always be elements of our culture and politics we want to affirm, but there will be others we want to challenge. Early Christian worship declared that Caesar wasn't Lord; Jesus was. That sort of talk could (and did) get them killed. The personal security that sustained this courage was a conviction that they were first and foremost citizens of heaven. In Jesus they had experienced the power of the other country breaking into their experience. We will remember our national tragedies and sacrifice on Remembrance Day. But every Sunday we remember a tragedy and sacrifice that turned into a glorious victory. Christ's death. It points us to the ultimate powerlessness of violence to achieve real change. It subverts the doctrine that might is right. Sadly, it may take a lot of bloodshed for that to come home to Hamas, Hezbollah, the Israeli government and the Russian army.

With best wishes

+Richard

www.hereford.anglican.org



Environment resources for your church

This year the diocese held two environment conferences in support of key national church initiatives: NetZero Carbon 2030 and Biodiversity. If we are to obey God's call to love our neighbour, then that must include tackling climate change which is so devastating for our global neighbours.

Below is a list of resources we have shared recently:

New Blog from Diocesan Mission Enabler for the Environment: <https://bit.ly/4dJnF0v>

Church of England Environment Newsletter sign-up: <https://bit.ly/3BSfXUs>

NetZero Church CofE guidance pages: <https://bit.ly/3DpwhYJ>

COP29 Climate Change 11th to 22nd November—join a daily prayer <https://bit.ly/3BGaYpP>

Hereford Diocese NetZero 2030 Small Grants for your Church or Church Hall — up to £10,000, first deadline 8th November: call Lorna Theophilus in the Property Team on 07514 494 683 or see <https://bit.ly/3U8aQpr>

We are hiring a Net Zero Carbon Project Manager for Schools (deadline for applications 11th November) <https://bit.ly/4dl4TXw>

Muddy Church and Forest Church Meet Up—9th November, Shropshire Hills Discovery Centre, Craven Arms—an opportunity to find out more about these eco-focused worship styles; email e.hackney@hereford.anglican.org for

Other resources for your church

The Church of England has launched an online Church Support Hub to share what's working to help grow congregations nationwide. The aim is to share learning from a range of churches for the benefit of the whole Church, based on what has been fruitful in nationally-funded projects. We recommend reading the ABOUT page first here: <https://bit.ly/3U8Lckm> to get the general gist of how to use this resource. There's an

introductory video on Youtube here <https://bit.ly/4f0X68b>.

For straightforward resources to help you run your parish day-to-day, don't forget about the super-informative A - Z Resources for Churches page on the national website, <https://bit.ly/4eGX1GP>

And don't forget our diocesan resource pages here <https://bit.ly/4dR6biO>

Diocese News

2024 Order of St Ethelbert Awardees



On Sunday afternoon, 6th October, Hereford Cathedral was packed with well-wishers as the Bishop of Hereford, the Rt Rev'd Richard Jackson, awarded the Order of St Ethelbert to this year's recipients at a special service of dedication. 28 people from parishes around the diocese were awarded the honour this year, with almost all of them attending the service. Each recipient receives a signed certificate from Bishop Richard, a St Ethelbert medal and ribbon and a copy of the book St Ethelbert, King and Martyr. The Cathedral was filled to the brim for the

occasion, with friends and family, Hereford Cathedral choir, the Bishop, Archdeacons, Dean and other Cathedral and diocesan senior clergy as well as local dignitaries.

The Order of St Ethelbert is awarded to those in the Diocese of Hereford who have given long and distinguished service to the diocese.

For the full list of recipients and citations, please see our website here: <https://bit.ly/3TRAC14>

