



Diocese of Hereford Mission and Ministry Spring 2025

25th March, 2025

Welcome to the Spring mailing from the Mission and Ministry Team. We're excited to bring you news of activities and events across the Diocese organised by the team, information about courses and opportunities from beyond the Shire, and to tell you a little about two new members funded in partnership with the Archbishops' Council.

If the format looks a little different it's because we're getting used to using MailChimp rather than sending a pdf. If you want to update your preferences just scroll to the end past all the delightful invitations.

Please contact the team using the links below. You can meet (some of) us here: <https://www.hereford.anglican.org/mission-and-ministry-team/>

On behalf of the Mission and Ministry Team
Mark Godson - Ministry Development Officer

Bishop's Teaching and Study Days

Bishop's Teaching Days

Saturdays 9:30-13:00:

- **31st May** at St George's Church, **Pontesbury**
- **19th July** at St Michael's Parish Church, **Madeley**, Telford
- **13th September** at St Michael's and All Angels Church, **Ledbury**

teaching on mission and evangelism by Bishop Richard, and seminars exploring the Five Marks of Mission featuring stories of engagement from around the diocese.

Please contact stephen.hollinghurst@hereford.anglican.org if you have a story of engagement from your church or community to share.

More details, and bookings here:

<https://www.hereford.anglican.org/calendar/832>

Bishop's Study Days

- **Tuesday 24th June 9:00-15:00**

Community Centre in Craven Arms

With input from Steve Hollinghurst, Mission Enabler Environment and Mother Charlotte Gibson, (Anglo-Catholic) Missioner from Birmingham Diocese. Exploring the theology and practice of evangelism across the breadth of the church's traditions. Lunch will be provided.

- **Wednesday 22nd October 9:00-15:00**

St Peter's Church, Hereford

Input will be from Dr Krish Kandiah (www.krishk.com) Founder of the Sanctuary Foundation. Exploring the church's mission to wider community across different church traditions. Lunch will be provided.

Visit www.hereford.anglican.org/year-of-engagement for more information and to book onto the events above.

Growing Good

The Growing Good Toolkit is a free six session course for churches.

Each session includes reflection on scripture, time for discussion, inspiring stories and simple next steps.

For further information and to sign up for the course click [here](#)



Click on the image above to watch the Growing Good Video

Networks and Learning Communities

Intergenerational Mission Learning Community

- Monday 28th April, 11:00-13:00, Sutton Hill Church, Telford
- Wednesday 28th May, 11:00 – 13:00, Cradley
- Monday 30th June 11:00-12:30 via zoom
- Tuesday 22nd July 11:00-13:00 venue TBC
- Thursday 28th August 11:00-13:00 venue TBC

For further information and zoom links contact Lizzie Hackney:

e.hackney@hereford.anglican.org

Messy Church Meet Ups

Messy Church Meet Ups for Messy Church leaders and others exploring Messy Church online or in person

- May 2nd at 12-1pm
- June 25th 12-1pm
- July 14th 7-8pm

Contact Kathy Bland for more information: k.bland@hereford.anglican.org

In our context, **Oversight Ministry** is a way of describing the cure of souls (incumbent/priest in charge/rural dean) exercised across multiple parishes and/or congregations. There are no experts, no one model or economy that fits all.

A group of parish clergy in the Diocese of Hereford has been finding encouragement and sharing wisdom through a termly conversation on a Wednesday afternoon in Ludlow.

On the last occasion Luci Morris gathered us in prayer and then the group shared something that has helped or is helping them develop in building up the whole people of God in mission and ministry.

If you'd like to know more, contact Mark Godson: mark.godson@hereford.anglican.org

Intergenerational Mission



Engaging with children, families and people of all ages

- May 12th 7.30pm - 8pm on Zoom: Getting started with Messy Church (Taster Session)
- June 3rd - 7.30pm - 8pm on Zoom: Missional ideas and resources. An opportunity to share ideas and connect with other people.

More details from Kathy Bland: k.bland@hereford.anglican.org



Out of the Box Essentials

Training

7th-8th May 2025

During this two day training we playfully and creatively relax into stories together. The learning model is action-reflection with time to experience the approach, reflect on the experiences and to practise the art of [OutoftheBox](#). The Out of the Box approach will also be modelled in the learning process, drawing out the wisdom of the group to enable peer learning.

For more information click [here](#).

If you are interested in this course please contact Lizzie: e.hackney@hereford.anglican.org



Infuse Youth Events

Online creative worship and prayer for young people

Details from Lizzie Hackney: e.hackney@hereford.anglican.org



- Thursday 10th April 19:00 via zoom
- Saturday 10th May 14:00 - Leominster
- Thursday 26th June 19:00 via zoom
- Saturday 19th July 17:00 - Sutton Hill
- Thursday 21st August 19:00 via zoom

Vocations



Vocations Gathering

Saturday 24th May 11:00-13:00

The Mascall Centre, Ludlow

Time to explore our different vocational journeys. For more information contact:

elizabeth.wild@hereford.anglican.org

Christians are called to serve God in all sorts of ways, in their work and voluntary activities, in their relationships and through the church. In the Diocese of Hereford, there are a range of ways that people can be called to minister:

- Local Ministry
- Licensed Lay Ministers / Workers
- Intergenerational Missioners and Children, Families and Youth Workers
- Anna Chaplains (Older People)
- Agricultural Chaplains, Education and Healthcare Chaplains
- Pioneer Ministers
- Priests
- Distinctive Deacons
- Spiritual Directors

Vocations Leaflet

Chaplains Required - LLM or Ordained

The Royal Three Counties Show

June 13th-15th 2025

<https://royalthreecounties.co.uk/>

Chaplains required!

We're hoping to recruit lay (Reader/LLM) and ordained ministers to the team of chaplains for this three County, three Dioceses event that showcases the best of British farming, food and the countryside attracting over 90,000 visitors each year.

If you can offer a day, or more, in exchange for free entry and time to look around the show

Please get in touch with questions or to express your willingness to serve in this way.

Revd Bob Bates

01432 487485

frbobbates@gmail.com

Chaplain - Borderlands Rural Chaplaincy

The Diocese of Hereford, & Shropshire and Marches Methodist Circuit

For Clergy

recovery

riˈk(æ)v-riː noun

- a. An act or process of recovering.
- b. The restoration of something that was lost.
- c. The most important decision you will ever make.

Responding to God's Call: Reflection, Reconnection,

Recovery

Tuesday 6th to Wednesday 7th May 2025

Stratford Manor, Warwick Rd, Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 0PY

If you've found yourself thinking or saying, "I wasn't ordained to do this" perhaps this opportunity to reconnect to God's call is for you.

Maybe all the change in church and culture is leaving you wondering what God is calling you to be and do now as the patterns and practice of ministry change faster than a Formula 1 racing team change tyres.

Responding to God's Call is a process and a journey for **licensed clergy**, rather than an event. In this overnight residential, led by Roger Latham (Vicar, Great Malvern) and John Fitzmaurice (DDO Worcester), you'll reflect upon your journey of vocation, listen for God's call in a changing world and church, and seek a direction towards God's future.

Participants will share experiences and explore the example of characters from Scripture whose journeys took them to places they did not expect.

The cost may be covered by CMD funds, leaving you only the cost of travel to cover.

Limited places. Please contact [Mark Godson](mailto:Mark.Godson@hereford.anglican.org) asap for details

mark.godson@hereford.anglican.org

Celebrating Wisdom

Renewing Ministry for a Changing Church

West Midlands Ministry Development Partnership

A course for Clergy and Ministers of the West Midlands who want to reflect on their vision for Ministry

This programme is more of a workshop/retreat that aims to encourage those with longer experience of ministry to step back and reflect on their journey, recognise and celebrate of the wisdom acquired. More than this it aims to enable the discernment of continuing vocation and gifts, to release energy and set free imagination for the discerning of God's lead into the next stage of their journey as Ministers in Christ's Church.

The programme involves:

- a regular rhythm of prayer and worship: Offices, Eucharist and Lectio Divina;
- personal reflection activities and exercises;
- facilitated group work - 'Wisdom Groups';
- space for rest and recreation.

The Wisdom Groups are central to the course, learning from experience and critical reflection upon life and our ministerial journey.

The course will be hosted by the Revd Kate Stacey (Collaborative Ministry Lead, Gloucester Diocese) with a highly experienced team of facilitators.

Who is it for?

The programme is for those in ministry with more than 10 years of ordained experience. It is particularly valuable for those wanting to 'take stock' and ponder the next phase of their ministry - whether its time to move posts, shift gear, or keep on keeping on. It provides a process for reflecting on vocation and discern the future. We have a maximum of 12 Participants on the course.

Outcomes:

By the end of the course, we hope you will have gained:

- renewal of energy for your ministry and discipleship;
- re-envisioning of your ministry in a changing Church;
- encouragement to offer your skills and experience beyond your context;
- (and perhaps, greater clarity about whether to stay, or to go!).

Upcoming dates:

This course runs annually.

The next opportunity to participate is 9 - 13 June 2025

The programme begins with lunch (1pm) on Monday 9 June and ends after lunch on Friday 13 June. It is vital for participation in the programme that all are present at the beginning

venue: Holland House, Croptonme, Pershore WR10 3ND

Cost: The cost of the programme is borne by the Diocese.

Interested? Contact Mark Godson (Ministry Development Officer)

mark.godson@hereford.anglican.org

Courses and Conferences

The Faraday Institute

for Science and Religion

The Institute offers a range of events which will be of interest to those in the Diocese of Hereford.

<https://www.faraday.cam.ac.uk/>

Focussed channels for churches and church leaders, including resources, events and training. Email, WhatsApp, & social media options. Sign up here:

<https://www.faraday.cam.ac.uk/connect/>

This year's summer course will explore 'Science, Religion and Justice', 30th June – 4th July in Cambridge.

<https://www.faraday.cam.ac.uk/events/overview/> to find out more.

Being Missional Today

Disruption, Liminality and Reconciliation Conference

Tuesday 10th June at Coventry Cathedral

A festival of ideas on missional thinking, offered by published authors, developed in conversation with participants.

Experiential learning opportunities are woven into the gathering.

For more information and to book click [here](#)

Rural Mission and Ministry Course

[Royal Agricultural University, Cirencester, Gloucestershire. GL7 6JS](#)

September 24th-25th

Venue: [Wydale Hall, Wydale Lane, Scarborough YO13 9DF](#)

The Rural Mission and Ministry Course offered by the Arthur Rank Centre is designed for lay and ordained church leaders across the denominations entering a rural appointment,

The two-day programme employs a variety of approaches including practical sessions, group work and workshops led by practitioners, and includes sessions on understanding rural contexts, mission and growth, leadership, farming and work with children and young people in the countryside.

For more information click [here](#)

Sarum College, Salisbury

Autumn Programme 2025-2026

Learning to Nourish the Human Spirit

Sarum College is a centre for study and research - an inclusive and welcoming space for reflection and human development. The course programme includes online and onsite learning.

<https://www.sarum.ac.uk/short-courses/>

New Team Members



Suzanne Gurney

Having been involved with children's, schools, uniformed groups, and church children's & youth work for more than 20 years I feel so blessed that God has guided us as a family to Hereford Diocese. I'm excited to be taking on the role of the first Youth & Community Worker with the Hub Project at Bishop's Castle. With a love of the outdoors, I'm looking forward to exploring, and supporting, the places and people in and around the Clun deanery area and using my creative & craft skills, too.

Ed Ceney

I started in January as the Youth Pioneer for the Leominster Youth Hub. I'll be working with churches in the Leominster, Kington and Weobley areas developing worshipping communities for, by and with young people. When not at work, I enjoy volunteering for the [Morning Star Trust](#), a charity which takes disadvantaged young people sailing all over the British Isles. Morning Star on [TikTok](#)





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