

NOTICEBOARD



News and Events from the Diocese of Southwark
FEBRUARY 2022

Bishop Jonathan invites you to his farewell service

Thursday 24 February, 5.30pm, Croydon Minster

As Bishop Jonathan's last day in post approaches, he would like to extend a warm invitation to his farewell evensong and reception to celebrate his ministry. The evensong will be held at 5.30pm on Thursday 24 February at Croydon Minster, with his farewell reception following at 7.30pm at Croydon Minster Hall.

Please register for the service on EventBrite here: bit.ly/3r5QsaD and for the reception here: bit.ly/3o3dBZp. Booking will close once capacity is reached so you are advised to register early.

A Diocesan farewell evensong will also take place at Southwark Cathedral on **Tuesday 8 March at 5.30pm (no booking necessary)**.

Bishop's Lent Call 2022 launches

The Bishop's Lent Call 2022 has now launched. The theme is "home", we will be raising money for projects in Southwark and in our Link Dioceses in Zimbabwe and Jerusalem to help those in our communities in need of shelter, security and a place to call home.

You can download information on the projects and a poster at southwark.anglican.org/lentcall, where you will also find blogs, videos and details on how to donate.

A fundraising pack and ideas for school assemblies will follow in February, while reflections to share in church and with Home Groups will be released during Lent.

The projects in the **Diocese of Southwark** are: Nightwatch; Renewed Hope; Redhill; Glass Door; Robes; Greenwich Winter Night Shelter.

In **Zimbabwe** the money raised will go towards initiatives supporting people dispossessed by poverty, environmental disasters and the pandemic in our Link Dioceses of Central Zimbabwe, Matabeleland, Masvingo and Manicaland.

In the **Diocese of Jerusalem** the money raised will help All Saints Church in Beirut to feed 100 families displaced by ongoing humanitarian crises.

PERSONNEL

CLERGY APPOINTMENTS

The Revd Benjamin Strain, presently Assistant Curate of Ealing, St Paul, in the Diocese of London, was licensed as Priest-in-Charge of Sydenham, Holy Trinity & Forest Hill, on 23 January 2022 by the Bishop of Southwark.

The Revd Joseph Moore, presently Assistant Curate of Walworth, St Christopher, was licensed as Assistant Curate of Battersea, St Mary, on 24 January 2022 by the Bishop of Kingston.

The Revd Samuel Whittington, presently Vicar of the Benefice of Brixton, St Paul w St Saviour, was licensed as Associate Vicar of Kennington, St Mark, on 30 January 2022 by the Archdeacon of Lambeth.

The Revd Jonathan Featherstone, presently Curate at Enfield, Christ Church in the Diocese of London, is to be licensed as Associate Vicar of Croydon, Emmanuel on 1 February 2022 (the service will take place on 15 February) by the Bishop of Croydon.

The Revd Kate Daymond, presently holder of the Bishop of St Alban's Permission to Officiate in the Diocese of St Alban's, is to be licensed as Associate Vicar (House for Duty; 0.5 locally funded) of Petersham, St Peter, on 2 February 2022 by the Bishop of Kingston.

The Revd Elliot Swatridge, presently Curate of Hereford, St Peter w St Owen & St James in the Diocese of Hereford, is to be licensed as Associate Minister (SSM) of Croydon, Emmanuel on 15 February 2022 by the Bishop of Croydon.

The Revd Tracy Margaret Marlow, presently Priest-in-Charge and Lead Evangelist of St Helier, St Peter, is to be collated as Vicar in the same parish, on 17 February 2022 by the Bishop of Croydon.

The Revd Rachele Evie Vernon, presently non-stipendiary Minister of Croydon, Christ Church (Broad Green), is to be licensed as Assistant Curate at Addiscombe, St Mildred, on 20 February 2022 by the Bishop of Croydon.

RESIGNATION/RETIREMENTS

The Revd Thomas Collins, presently Curate of Balham Hill, Ascension, is to resign on 6 March 2022, and take up the post of Chaplain to the Lee Abbey, Devon Community, in the Diocese of Exeter.

The Revd Andrew Cunnington, presently Vicar of Redhill, St Matthew, is to resign (date to be confirmed), to take up a post in the parish of All Saints, Findon Valley with St Peter, High Salvington, in the Diocese of Chichester.

The Revd Mark Stafford, presently Team Vicar of Kingston Team Ministry, is to resign on 21 February 2022, and take up the post of Vicar of Ewell, St Mary the Virgin in the Diocese of Guildford.

PERMISSION TO OFFICIATE

The Revd Dr David Lee, formerly Associate Vicar of Fulham, St Peter in the Diocese of London, was granted the Bishop of Southwark's Permission to Officiate on 30 November 2021 (Wandsworth Deanery).

PERSONNEL

The Revd Thomas Tom Sharp, presently Curate of Cathedral Church of St Nicholas, Newcastle, was granted the Bishop of Southwark's Permission to Officiate on 30 November 2021 (ministry mainly in the Cathedral, Southwark and Newington Deanery).

OTHER VACANCIES

Director of Music

St Paul, Herne Hill is seeking to recruit a Director of Music to oversee music worship. Salary £8,100 per annum and 45 hours per month. To apply and find out more visit www.hernehillparish.org.uk/vacancies

NOTICES

NECN London Regional Conference 2022: Well-being

Thursday, 24 February 2022, St James the Less, SW1V 2PS

NECN (National Estates Churches Network) has organised this conference which will focus on exhausted clergy and laity finding well-being post-COVID.

To book tickets go to: <https://necnlondon2022.eventbrite.co.uk>

For more details contact: sarah.martell@estatechurches.org

LLF morning cancelled!

Many individuals, parishes and Deaneries have already offered feedback to the national LLF process, and LLF will be an agenda item on the Diocesan Synod to take place on Saturday 12 March. Given this level of engagement elsewhere, and limited take-up so far, we have decided that there is no need also to run the Living in Love and Faith morning on Saturday 5 February. That event is therefore cancelled.

Online Parish Returns

The Church of England's Online Parish Return system which is used for capturing church membership data (also known as 'Statistics for Mission' or 'congregational count') and parish finance information, is still open for you to input your information.

Given the difficult times that we are continuing to experience, the data asked for through the 2021 Statistics for Mission form remains similar to that asked for in the 2020 return, and some questions may continue to be more difficult to answer.

We are still keen to find out anything you can tell us, and your best approximation is fine.

The online system will close on 20 March for mission statistics, and on 28 June for your financial information.

The online system can be accessed here <https://parishreturns.churchofengland.org>

Please do contact us at data@southwark.anglican.org if you have any queries or need help accessing the online system.

DIOCESAN EVENTS & NOTICES

A pilgrimage to Tur Abdin, Eastern Turkey with Bishop Christopher

17-25 September 2022

McCabe Pilgrimages has organised a nine-day pilgrimage to Tur Abdin, Eastern Turkey led by Bishop Christopher & Mar Polycarpus, Syriac Orthodox Archbishop of the Netherlands.

There will be stops to holy places, to pray and to reflect, listening both to the voice of history and to the people we encounter along the way. There will be formal times of worship, but also space to be still.

The cost is £2,195 p/p sharing a twin/double room with ensuite bathroom. To reserve and for more details go to: <https://bit.ly/3lStxW2>

There will be an open evening with speakers from the Tur Abdin for anyone interested at St John Notting Hill, Lansdowne Crescent, W11 2NN on Thursday 24 February 7.30-9.00pm.

Mark Racial Justice Sunday

Join us in marking Racial Justice Sunday on 13 February. Find out more at: <https://bit.ly/3udWsju>

Say a prayer for Racial Justice Sunday: <https://bit.ly/3occVRy>

Download the Diocese of Southwark Anti-Racism Charter: <https://bit.ly/3ohVkaC>

Church Army Discovery Evening: Could this be for you?

Monday 28 February, 7.30-9.30pm, online

Find out more and book a place at churcharmy.org/discover

Are you called to ministry with children, youth or families?

Thursday 3 March, 7.30pm, Zoom

Contact Keli Bolton at keli.bolton@southwark.anglican.org for more information.

Life as a Franciscan Sister or Brother... could this be for me..?

Thursday 19 March, 9.30am-1.00pm, Zoom

To book contact Sister Maureen CSF noviceguardiancsf@franciscans.org.uk

Storytelling in Ministry workshop

Wednesday 16 March, 7.00-9.00pm, in person and online

Join the Dioceses of London and Southwark for a fun, interactive workshop about how to use storytelling to engage the whole church family playfully and effectively. This is open to all and for all. To book: <https://bit.ly/3GcuLtO>

DIOCESAN EVENTS

Southwark Cathedral does Messy Science

**Saturday 14 May, 2.00-4.00pm,
Southwark Cathedral**

Join Bishop Richard and Dr Dave for crafts, science experiments, music and Bible story-telling to help us think about God's creation and climate justice. Activities for all ages, followed by a time of celebration together. Children, bring your adults! Please <https://bit.ly/3gjHIN2> so we have an idea of numbers for activities and for covid purposes.

DATE CHANGE - Woolwich Youth Forum: Together Event

**26 February, 1.30-4.00pm,
Salmon Centre, 43 Old Jamaica Road, SE16 4TE**

All young people aged 13+ from churches in the Woolwich Episcopal Area are invited to join us for this in- person event starting with pizza from 1.30pm. There will be three streams available on the day: football, street art and music. A youth leader should attend with them. Please contact Keli at keli.bolton@southwark.anglican.org if this is an issue. All leaders and young people should be signed up on Eventbrite at <https://bit.ly/3H9OZWa>. Young people who are new to the youth forum need to have a parent/guardian permission form: <https://bit.ly/3ud7aH2>

Working Effectively with Volunteers

**Wednesday 23 February 2022,
10.30am-12.00noon, online**

Have you tried and sometimes failed to get people onboard to help with new initiatives and even existing activities in your parish? Join us at this event and hear from people in the Diocese who will talk about their experience of finding and working with volunteers, what has worked and what has not worked.

To book sign up here <https://bit.ly/Workingwithvolunteers> or e-mail JPICAdmin@southwark.anglican.org

Join CofE webinars on environmental fundraising

The National Church is running three webinars on Tuesdays in March about fundraising for environmental projects:

Tuesday 8 March: What Opportunities Exist in the Environmental Fundraising Landscape

Tuesday 15 March: How To Start Your Environmental Fundraising

Tuesday 22 March: Environmental Fundraising for More Experienced Fundraisers

Find out more and sign up here: bit.ly/3H8CqdS

DIOCESAN TRAINING

Witness without walls

**Monday 14 March, 7.30-9.00pm,
Zoom, free**

Over the last couple of years churches have been compelled, willingly or not, to develop an online offering. In the future many of us will be in a position to use technology in our mission because we choose to, not because we have to. How can we effectively witness to our faith, actively engage with people, and build discipling communities? The event will reflect on the theology of access, and take specialist advice on how to use technology in our witness. It will be facilitated by Jay Colwill and Peter Graystone, introducing experienced practitioners.

To book your place, e-mail mission@southwark.anglican.org

Diversity training

Tuesday 22 March, 10.00am-12.30pm, Trinity House, free

A programme to help individuals, churches and communities address issues of unconscious bias which arise in diverse communities. The training is important for all in positions of leadership. This includes clergy, Readers, SPAs, Pioneers, CYP leaders, and PCC members. It is led by the Venerable Dr Rosemarie Mallett, Archdeacon of Croydon, and the Revd Canon Wendy Robins, Director of Discipleship, Lay Ministry and Continuing Ministerial Education.

To book your place, e-mail ministryandtraining@southwark.anglican.org

Ground Floor Guide to St Benedict

**Wednesday 23 March, 8.00-9.00pm,
Zoom, free**

An introduction to the life and enduring influence of St Benedict, who wrote one of the most influential Christian texts of all time. There is an immense amount that Christians today can learn from him.

The session is led by the Revd Jeremy Clark-King, IME2 Lead.

To book your place, e-mail ministryandtraining@southwark.anglican.org

The Christian art of Edward Burne-Jones

**Monday 28 March, 7.30-9.00pm,
Zoom, free**

Sir Edward Burne-Jones trained as a priest, he revived the neglected tradition of stained glass, he was knighted for his services to the arts, and he painted some of the most sublime religious pictures of the 19th century. Led by Revd Jeremy Groombridge, assistant priest at All Saints Church, Sanderstead.

Jeremy will reflect on insights into God from Burne-Jones' Pre-Raphaelite art, showing us many of his works, including *Days of Creation* and *Star of Bethlehem*.

To book your place, e-mail ministryandtraining@southwark.anglican.org

DIOCESAN TRAINING

And it was very good: Preaching and the environment

Tuesday 29 March, 10.00am-12.00noon, Zoom, free

Tuesday 29 March, 7.30-9.30pm, Zoom, free

The Revd Dr Raewynne Whiteley, Deputy Director of Discipleship and Lay Ministry, will lead a workshop to help us think about how issues of climate crisis, pollution and the integrity of creation can and must inform the way we preach the Christian good news. This session is being offered twice so that as many preachers as possible, both lay and ordained, can attend.

To book your place, e-mail ministryandtraining@southwark.anglican.org. State whether you wish to attend the morning or evening session.

Ground Floor Guide to Proverbs

Monday 4 April, 8.00-9.00pm, Zoom, free

An introduction to the wisest, most practical and funniest book of the Bible. There will be an opportunity to explore the maxims, jokes and riddles of Israel's wise men and women a thousand years before Jesus. Together we will work out how to make them mean something life-enhancing for 21st-century life. Led by Peter Graystone, Lay Training Officer.

To book your place, e-mail ministryandtraining@southwark.anglican.org

Three cheers for our SPAs

Saturday 2 April, 10.00am-1.00pm, Trinity House, free

A summit for all SPAs in which to reflect, share and pray. The first cheer: a vote of thanks to SPAs for all they have done during two years in which so much has happened and changed. The second cheer: an opportunity to look back and look forward, so that shared experience can inform how SPA ministries grow as a result of what we have learnt. The third cheer: a chance to contribute to plans for the courses, workshops and other ways of developing the ministry of the SPAs.

To book your place, e-mail ministryandtraining@southwark.anglican.org

Challenging funerals

Tuesday 5 April, 7.30-9.30pm, Zoom, free

Funerals of a child, a violent death, or someone who has taken their own life are challenging. They require particular skills and sensitivities. This session is for clergy and Readers who take funerals, and will also be appropriate for SPAs and those who offer pastoral support to bereaved families. The Revd Hilary Fife, former Senior Chaplain of Croydon Health Services NHS Trust, will share her experience and lead a discussion about the most helpful way to approach such sad circumstances. To book your place, e-mail ministryandtraining@southwark.anglican.org

Bishop Richard writes...

The month of February can be seen as a pivotal one in the liturgical calendar. On 2 February we celebrate the presentation of Christ in the Temple with the powerful image of the elderly Simeon holding the infant Christ in his arms. The story both looks back to the birth of Christ and the idea of incarnation (Emmanuel - God with us) and also forward to the death and resurrection of Christ and the salvation it will bring for all. Just after the end of February we move into Lent - the time of examination of our lives, repentance and preparation for a deeper understanding of the salvation which comes from God's self-giving love expressed in Christ's death and resurrection.

In some ways the month of February might also be a pivotal one in our journey through the pandemic, which has had such a profound impact on all of our lives and world. It has raised substantial fears and anxieties, and many people both in the church and the wider world have a deep sense of both loss and exhaustion. The heroic efforts of those in the health and care sectors, and many others, combined with the extraordinary success of science in developing effective vaccines and treatments have brought us to a place where we might dare to hope that the worst effects are now receding, although we must have a clear eye on the global picture where there is huge work still to be done.

In our journey through the pandemic so far most of our energy has been used up in simply surviving from day-to-day amidst the many changes and adaptations we've had to make both to daily life and the whole way we run our churches. There have, of course, been many theological and spiritual questions which our experience of the pandemic has raised, but so

far we have not really had the time or energy to enter into these deeply as we cope with the loss and exhaustion we have experienced.

Perhaps we might use the month of February as we look back to the presentation of Christ in the Temple and forwards to Lent, Holy Week and Easter, as a pivotal time to explore how God might be calling us to live and be as the Church in the world in the light of our experience of the pandemic. In the declaration of assent made by those beginning new ministries we are encouraged to "proclaim the Gospel afresh in each generation". In many ways the pandemic has so changed our world that it might be seen as a generational shift in a very short space of time. So we have some fresh thinking to do.

In our own Diocesan Vision thinking, the five Anglican Marks of mission have played an important role as they have in both the national Church of England vision and also the wider Anglican Communion. They are a very helpful way of thinking about mission in a holistic manner if we can thoroughly intertwine them in our understanding of God's salvation in Christ for all of creation. The Lambeth conference in the summer has an overarching theme of "God's Church for God's World". It will aim to engage the Gospel deeply with major and pressing issues of the pandemic response, our care for the planet, our engagement with science, work for peace and justice across the world.

I hope and pray that as we move through February and this year we will find it to be a pivotal time in our growing understanding of how God is speaking to us about the deep hope for all creation, made known in Christ.

+ Richard Kingston