

# Discipleship and Ministry

Events and Courses from  
Southwark Diocese

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Autumn 2022

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*Teach me your way, O LORD,  
that I may walk in your truth;  
give me an undivided heart to revere your name.*  
*Psalm 86:11 (NRSV)*

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## The Autumn 2022 events and courses brochure

Artist Debra Malley is a member of St John's Church, Blackheath. Her illustration, commissioned for this brochure, responds to the four themes of Advent.



Trinity House is the office of the Diocese of Southwark and can be found at  
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## Welcome

We are pleased to be able to share with you the Discipleship and Ministry brochure for Autumn 2022. We hope you enjoy turning the pages and discovering the extensive range of events in store for you between now and Christmas. This term we are planning in-person events and online events, and nearly all of them are free. They are open to anyone, lay or ordained, so we hope you will find several that interest you.

We are offering prayerful evenings, and times for art lovers. There are introductions to interfaith issues and global theology. The range of our popular Ground Floor Guides is as broad as ever - the theologian John Calvin, the Letter to the Philippians, the Gospel of John, and an intriguing exploration of the different ways Christians have thought about Hell through the ages.

For those who have a ministry of pastoral care, there are workshops about how to manage a difficult conversation, and how to give better support to those in our congregations who are carers. The number of events concerning the environment and climate change grows every term. And there are important gatherings to address the issues of modern slavery and serious youth violence. Booking for all of them is now open.

Every month, new events are being added to the schedule. For the latest information, join the mailing list to receive Discipleship News, our monthly email with prayers, events, news and entertainment. Email [learning@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:learning@southwark.anglican.org) with the words 'Subscribe to Discipleship News' in the subject line.

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## The Bishop's Certificate in Discipleship

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With its introductory sessions beginning in mid-September, the Bishop's Certificate is Southwark Diocese's 10-month course exploring the Christian faith.

The course covers the New Testament, the Old Testament, being Anglican, Christian doctrine and discipleship. This year there are four groups - two online and two in-person. The online groups are on Wednesday and Thursday evenings, and the live groups are taught in Trinity House on a Tuesday evening or a Saturday morning. It culminates in a residential weekend at Wychcroft, the Diocesan Retreat Centre near Godstone, Surrey, and then a celebratory service in Southwark Cathedral.

The cost is £220. However, we do not want anyone to be prevented from taking the course because of the cost, and grants are readily available.

To enquire further, and for precise dates, email [bishopscertificate@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:bishopscertificate@southwark.anglican.org)



## The Aurora Children's Ministry Course

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The new, nine-month Aurora course is for those who are training to be commissioned by Southwark Diocese as leaders of children, young people or families. It covers the spirituality and theology of childhood, faith and physical development, the practice of ministry, and the place of children of various ages in the church.

Parts of the course are taught in-person and others online. Students can follow either a reflective portfolio or more academic level. The cost is covered by Southwark Diocese and a similar course for leaders of young people will begin in September 2023.

If you are interested in pursuing commissioned ministry which includes this formal training in ministry to children or young people, contact the Children and Youth Team by emailing [keli.bolton@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:keli.bolton@southwark.anglican.org)

Saturday  
17 Sept

## Vocations forum

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What is God calling you to do with your life? All of us are called to live out our journeys of faith by being faithful disciples in our families, our workplaces, and our social and leisure circles. But for some it involves exercising a form of recognised ministry in the Church. It might be a lay ministry or it might be an ordained ministry. It might be full-time or it might be alongside other responsibilities.

A vocations forum is an opportunity to reflect, pray and discuss with others about what type of ministry God is calling you into. It may be that it is right to enter a process of discernment during which you can talk to an adviser about what is going on in your life. Attending a vocations forum is the first step in that process. You need your incumbent or chaplain to sponsor you to attend, so start with a conversation with him or her. There will be further vocations forums on 19 November and throughout 2023.

*Saturday 17 September, 9.00am-1.00pm, Southwark Cathedral and Trinity House, free. Your incumbent can book your place by emailing [sue.stewart@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:sue.stewart@southwark.anglican.org)*

Monday  
19 Sept

## Leading in evangelism (whatever your tradition)

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The Evangelism Focus Group invites you to an evening of learning and sharing about enabling a culture of evangelism that suits your particular church tradition. It is led by the Revd Sue Cooke, who is the incumbent of St Thomas with St Stephen Church, Telford Park.

Sue has been involved in the development of a new online resource for church leaders, lay and ordained. The course gives confidence to church leaders about how to train others in evangelism, and is designed to support different church traditions and contexts. As such, it is well suited to Southwark Diocese and its great diversity. For a film previewing Sue's course, visit <https://bit.ly/30GNYZ>

*Monday 19 September, 8.00-9.30pm, Zoom, free.  
To book your place, email [mission@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:mission@southwark.anglican.org)*

Monday  
19 Sept

## Introduction to the Eco Church awards scheme

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A Rocha's Eco Church scheme leads you through a series of questionnaires allowing you to examine where care for creation is at work in and around your church. It covers worship and teaching, management of church property, community and global engagement, and lifestyle. More than 140 churches in Southwark Diocese have already engaged with the scheme, and this is a chance for you to learn more and find answers to your questions.

The evening will bust commonly-held myths such as 'listed buildings can never win awards' and 'it's all about changing our building'. With the Diocesan Synod aiming for carbon net zero by 2035, this is the time to start a conversation about what that will look like in your community. The evening is led by Jack Edwards, who is the Diocesan Environmental Officer.

*Monday 19 September, 7.00-8.00pm, Zoom, free.*

*To book your place, email [jpicadmin@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:jpicadmin@southwark.anglican.org)*



Monday  
26 Sept

## Environment drop-in

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A regular, informal, online session for any questions you may have about sustainability, reducing your church's carbon footprint, or the Eco Church award scheme. It's also a place to share good or bad news stories about local environmental work.

Southwark Diocese has recently achieved Bronze Eco Diocese status and nearly a third of parishes are engaging with the issues. Jack Edwards, the Diocesan Environment Officer, invites you to chat while you're eating your lunch. It's an opportunity for sharing what you've learnt, listening to your experience, and putting you in touch with other communities going through the same process.

*Monday 26 September and every final Monday of the month, 1.00-1.45pm, Zoom, free. No need to book, just drop in at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9369432195>*

Tuesday  
27 Sept

## How can churches support carers?

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Informal carers who are looking after a loved one can often feel they are 'out of sight; out of mind'. It can be an isolating, hidden and exhausting role. Carers need the support of their church family, but what does that support look like?

SAGE (Southwark and Ageing) has invited Tina English from the charity Embracing Age to outline some guiding principles for churches in supporting carers, including those who care for older people, within their congregation and local community. (This session was postponed earlier this year, and we are grateful to Tina for reorganising it.)

*Tuesday 27 September, 7.30-8.45pm, Zoom, free.  
To book your place, email [learning@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:learning@southwark.anglican.org)*



Saturday  
1 Oct

## For what has been, thanks; for what will be, yes!

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A gathering of Southwark Diocese SPAs (commissioned pastoral workers). This is an opportunity to look at what we value most in our SPA ministry. What aspects of our pastoral ministry haven't we used and what we would we like more of? It will include a workshop on self-awareness and well-being.

The morning will be led by Wendy Stephens, who is the Diocesan SPA, and her colleagues who lead and inspire the pastoral work of Southwark Diocese.

*Saturday 1 October, 10.00am-1.00pm, Trinity House, free and limited to 24 places. To book your place, email [learning@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:learning@southwark.anglican.org)*



Saturday  
1 Oct

## Black History Month celebration

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A day to celebrate the contribution of UK Minority Ethnic people to the life of Southwark Diocese. This year's theme is 'Welcome'. Full details will become available at [southwark.anglican.org/news-events/events/whats-on](https://southwark.anglican.org/news-events/events/whats-on).

*Saturday 1 October, 11.00am-1.30pm, Southwark Cathedral, free, no need to book.*



Wednesday  
5 Oct

## Working to tackle serious youth violence

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The Synergy Network is a growing coalition of churches, para-church groups and Christian agencies working to end serious youth violence. Southwark Diocese is in partnership with them to offer an opportunity to meet and network with those who support young people and their families. It will feature a presentation by the West Midlands Violence Reduction Partnership Faith Alliance about their experience.

*Wednesday 5 October, 11.30am-2.00pm, St Mark's Church, Kennington Park Road, London SE11 4PW, free. To book your place, email [JPICAdmin@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:JPICAdmin@southwark.anglican.org)*

Monday  
17 Oct

## Ground Floor Guide to Philippians

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An introduction to the letter that St Paul wrote to the church at Philippi. It is a letter of optimism and thanksgiving, even in the most difficult of circumstances. It praises Jesus Christ exultantly and then challenges the church to be like him. What is its message for those who read it twenty centuries after it was written?

Our Ground Floor Guides give short and basic introductions to subjects that every churchgoer has heard of, and most people feel they would like to know a bit more about. They don't require any previous knowledge, and they give you just enough information to make you eager to find out more, all in the space of one hour.

The Revd Hugh Balfour is our guide to this uplifting book of the Bible. Hugh is the vicar of Christ Church, Peckham.

*Monday 17 October, 7.30-8.30pm, Zoom, free.  
To book your place, email [learning@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:learning@southwark.anglican.org)*

Tuesday  
18 Oct

## Ground Floor Guide to Christianity through Asian eyes

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The next in our series of small introductions to big ideas is designed to open up an interest in global theology. It invites us to hold to one side all the preconceptions we have because we live in the

south-east of England, and spend an hour looking at the Gospel of Jesus Christ through the eyes of someone living in Asia. What new insights come when we explore the Bible in the company of those with experience of a different culture?

We will be led on this fascinating journey by the Revd Premraj Dhanaraj. Prem is the priest in charge of St Edward's Church, New Addington. He trained at the United Theological College in Bangalore, and has been the presbyter of three churches in Chennai, India, so he is the ideal host for this Ground Floor Guide.

*Tuesday 18 October, 7.30-8.30pm, Zoom, free.  
To book your place, email [learning@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:learning@southwark.anglican.org)*

Tuesday  
18 Oct

## Spirituality, environment and climate change

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Spidir, the network promoting spiritual direction in the area which includes Southwark Diocese, extends an invitation to an event which it is hosting. Awareness of the threat we face from climate change is relentlessly at the front of our minds, and so the impact on us is not only physical, but also mental and spiritual.

Judith Russenberger, who is both a spiritual director and a third-order Franciscan, has a special interest in this field. She will be leading a study day which addresses the spiritual aspects of the way we face up to environmental crisis.

*Tuesday 18 October, 10.30am-2.00pm, St Hugh's Church, Crosby Row, Bermondsey, SE1 3PT (near Trinity House), free but with a collection in aid of environmental charities. To book your place, email [susanjcharles@aol.com](mailto:susanjcharles@aol.com)*

Tuesday  
25 Oct

## Ground Floor Guide to being a Christian in a multifaith world

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What should be the impact on our lives from day to day of the fact that Southwark Diocese is home to people of so many different religions? How can we have constructive and positive interaction with people with different and sincere beliefs? What are the most helpful things we can do to promote understanding of other religions and acceptance of our neighbours?

Siriol Davies lives in Southwark Diocese and is the National Programme Coordinator for the Presence and Engagement programme of the Church of England. She supports the mission and ministry of parishes in England which are situated in multi-religious contexts. We couldn't ask for a better host for an evening which introduces interfaith issues.

*Tuesday 25 October, 7.30-8.30pm, Zoom, free.  
To book your place, email [learning@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:learning@southwark.anglican.org)*

Tuesday  
25 Oct

## Diversity training

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Diversity training helps individuals and churches address the issues of unconscious bias which arise in diverse communities. Everyone in a position of leadership, whether lay and ordained, needs to consider these matters. This includes clergy, Readers, SPAs, pioneers, leaders of children's and young people's groups, and PCC members.

The facilitators for these events are drawn from a team led by the Rt Revd Dr Rosemarie Mallett, Bishop of Croydon, and the Revd Canon Wendy Robins, Director of Discipleship, Lay Ministry and Continuing Ministerial Education. Demand is high and so the course will be repeated on 15 November and 6 December.

*Tuesday 25 October, 2.00-4.30pm, Trinity House, free.  
To book your place, email [learning@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:learning@southwark.anglican.org)*



Monday  
31 Oct

## Praying with Habakkuk

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650 years before Jesus, the prophet Habakkuk prayed, 'How long, O Lord, must I call for help but you do not listen? Or cry out to you, 'Violence!' but you do not save.' His prayer echoes down the centuries, and the answers he received were decisive but shocking. Tonight we take up his prayer for a world in conflict and make it our own.

Susan Patterson, who is a Reader at St Stephen's Church, South Dulwich, introduces Habakkuk using lectio divina, prayer and silence. This will be an evening of prayerful longing.

*Monday 31 October, 7.30-9.00pm, Zoom, free.  
To book your place, email [learning@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:learning@southwark.anglican.org)*

Monday  
7 Nov

## Praying with Piero della Francesca

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In the 15th century the Italian artist Piero della Francesca painted some of the most sublime images of the life of Jesus in history. They are suffused with calm, and for five hundred years they have moved people into quiet contemplation. This evening, after a short introduction to the great master of both paint and spirituality, we will use his pictures as he intended them - to lead us into worship.

Peter Graystone, the Lay Training Officer, will introduce his favourite artist, explore why the works draw people into stillness, and lead us into prayer.

*Monday 7 November, 7.30-9.00pm, Zoom, free. To book your place, email [learning@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:learning@southwark.anglican.org)*

Saturday  
12 Nov

## Resourcing you in your pastoral role

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A morning for SPAs (Southwark Pastoral Auxiliaries) to introduce the Christian charity Care for the Family. It will look at how their wide range of resources and training can help you impact the lives of those you are supporting.

The session will be led by Kate Duroux, who is Care for the Family's Community Engagement Coordinator for London. Kate worships at St Barnabas' Church, Clapham Common.

*Saturday 12 November, 10.00am-1.00pm, Trinity House, free and limited to 24 places. To book your place, email [learning@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:learning@southwark.anglican.org)*

Monday  
14 Nov

## Ground Floor Guide to the Gospel of John

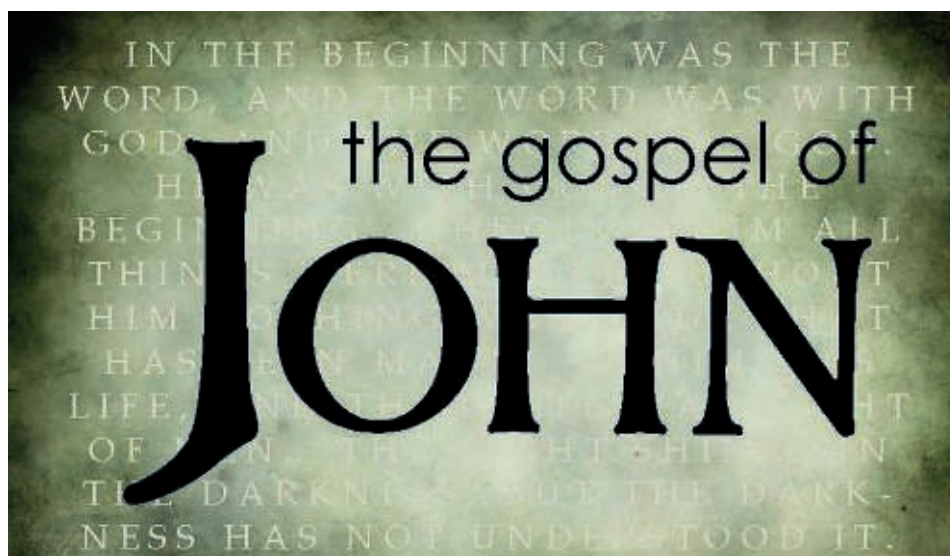
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An introduction to the Gospel which many people hold as their favourite. What makes it different from the other Gospels? When and why was it written? What are the things to look out for when we read it? What does it teach us about Jesus?

This Ground Floor Guide will test the format to its limit because there is so much that is fascinating to discover about John's Gospel in just one hour. It is led by the Revd Esther Foss, who is the vicar of St Andrew's Church, Coulsdon.

*Monday 14 November, 7.30-8.30pm, Zoom, free.*

*To book your place, email [learning@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:learning@southwark.anglican.org)*



Tuesday  
15 Nov

## Diversity training

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Another opportunity to take part in diversity training, designed to help individuals and churches address the issues of unconscious bias which arise in diverse communities.

The facilitators for these events are drawn from a team led by the Rt Revd Dr Rosemarie Mallett, Bishop of Croydon, and the Revd Canon Wendy Robins, Director of Discipleship, Lay Ministry and Continuing Ministerial Education. This course also runs on 25 October and 6 December.

*Tuesday 15 November, 2.00-4.30pm, Trinity House, free.*

*To book your place, email [learning@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:learning@southwark.anglican.org)*

Tuesday  
15 Nov

## Nurturing the spirituality of those who are housebound

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How can those who have difficulty attending events in church be encouraged in their spiritual journey? How can older and housebound members of our congregations continue to experience spiritual support and fellowship? What resources are appropriate? And what materials are available for those with particular needs or without internet access?

This session is presented by SAGE (Southwark and Ageing) and it will draw on the experience of the SAGE team and participants - sharing information, ideas and resources.

*Tuesday 15 November, 7.30-9.00pm, Zoom, free.  
To book your place, email [learning@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:learning@southwark.anglican.org)*



Saturday  
19 Nov

## Vocations forum

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Another opportunity to explore any sense of God's calling to a lay or ordained ministry that you might be experiencing. That might be as a Reader, a SPA, a Pioneer, a Children, Youth and Family worker, an Evangelist or a Priest. For more details and other dates see page 6. We are committed to encouraging vocations in people who represent the full diversity of our Diocese and so everyone is welcome.

*Saturday 19 November, 9.00am-1.00pm, Southwark Cathedral and Trinity House, free. You need your incumbent or chaplain to sponsor you to attend. Please ask him or her to book your place by e-mailing [sue.stewart@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:sue.stewart@southwark.anglican.org)*

Monday  
21 Nov

## Ground Floor Guide to John Calvin

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This Ground Floor Guide introduces one of the most important figures in Christian history. In 16th century Geneva, John Calvin emerged as a key theologian of the Reformation. Central to his theology, now known as Calvinism, is the principle that God is absolutely sovereign in the salvation of a human soul from eternal death. His beliefs were controversial at the time and still are now, but his influence on the way we think about the Protestant faith is enormous.

Telling the story of this towering figure and explaining why his theology is important to understand is the Revd Jack O'Grady, who is a curate at All Saints Church with Holy Trinity, Wandsworth.

*Monday 21 November, 7.30-8.30pm, Zoom, free.  
To book your place, email [learning@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:learning@southwark.anglican.org)*

Saturday  
26 Nov

## Modern Slavery - right here, right now!

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Right here, right now! You can stop it; find out how! This is a morning highlighting modern slavery in our own Diocese and what can be done to stop it. Speakers include DCI Kerry Loveless of Surrey Police, and members of the Reigate Archdeaconry Social Justice Forum, as well as a marketplace and a place for prayer. All are welcome and parishes are encouraged to attend as a group.

*Saturday 26 November, 10.00am-1.00pm, Southwark Cathedral, free.  
To book a place for you or a group, email [JPICAdmin@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:JPICAdmin@southwark.anglican.org).  
But you can also turn up on the day.*



Wednesday  
30 Nov

## Managing difficult conversations

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An evening that is designed to help anyone who has a pastoral role in a church, anyone who needs to address an issue in which there is the potential for conflict, and anyone who needs to tell a member of their congregation something they don't want to hear.

Michael Brockett, after a career in education and teacher training, is a Pastoral Minister in the South Croydon Benefice. He will lead a practical and sensitive workshop that is not only designed for SPAs and those with a pastoral role, but for anyone in leadership in church or society. This event is being held in person.

*Wednesday 30 November, 6.30-8.30pm, Trinity House, free.  
To book your place, email [learning@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:learning@southwark.anglican.org)*

Monday  
5 Dec

## Ground Floor Guide to Hell

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Advent is a time when Christians think about the four last things - death, judgment, Heaven and Hell. This Ground Floor Guide dares to address the one that is talked about least. Peter Graystone, the Lay Training Officer for Southwark Diocese, will take a insistently impartial approach as he presents the various ways Christians and Jews have thought about Hell down the centuries.

Where have the associated images of fire and torment come from? How have Christians come to different opinions about whether such a state exists and what it involves? And if Christians really believe Hell exists and is so terrifying, how can they do anything else day-in-day-out but try to rescue people from it?

*Monday 5 December, 7.30-8.30pm, Zoom, free.  
To book your place, email [learning@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:learning@southwark.anglican.org)*

Tuesday  
6 Dec

## Diversity training

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A repeat of the course offered on 25 October and 15 November to help those in positions of leadership think about the way unconscious bias can undermine work done in diverse communities. For more details, see page 12.

*Tuesday 6 December, 2.00-4.30pm, Trinity House, free.  
To book your place, email [learning@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:learning@southwark.anglican.org)*

Wednesday  
26 Apr

## Looking ahead to next year

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Save the date for an important event allowing churches to reflect on this year's Winter Night Shelter programme. The session is jointly hosted by Southwark Diocese and London Diocese. Over lunch, there will be sharing of experience by churches which have given hospitality to homeless people during the winter months. The organisers would particularly welcome the thoughts and views of churches which used to be part of the Winter Night Shelter initiative but are now trying to reimagine ways in which to engage with and support the homeless in the new landscape.

*Wednesday 26 April 2023, 10.00am-1.00pm, St Mark's Church, Kennington Park Road, Kennington, SE11 4PP. To receive further information or to book your place, email [JPICAdmin@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:JPICAdmin@southwark.anglican.org)*



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Walking | Welcoming | Growing



The Diocese of  
**Southwark**