

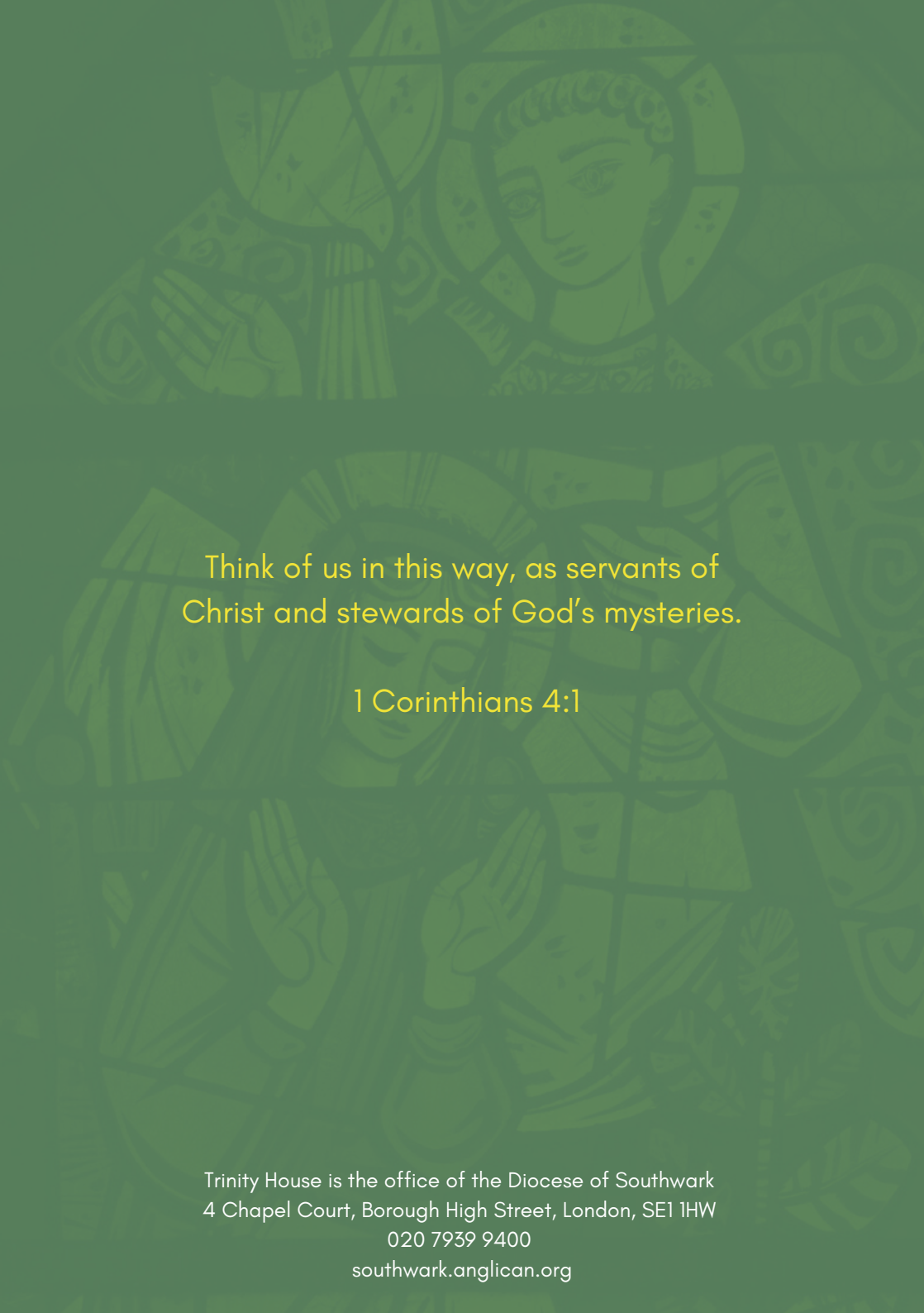


The Diocese of  
Southwark

# Spring

2025

**Discipleship and Ministry**  
Events and Courses

The background is a green-tinted stained glass window. It features a central figure, likely a woman, with a halo, surrounded by intricate floral and geometric patterns. The overall style is traditional and religious.

Think of us in this way, as servants of  
Christ and stewards of God's mysteries.

1 Corinthians 4:1

Trinity House is the office of the Diocese of Southwark  
4 Chapel Court, Borough High Street, London, SE1 1HW  
020 7939 9400  
[southwark.anglican.org](http://southwark.anglican.org)

## Welcome to our new-look Discipleship and Ministry brochure!

Spring means new life and a hopeful anticipation of the joys of Eastertide, and with it a chance to grow in faith. We are delighted to share our January-April programme of events and courses.

If you're interested in exploring whether God might be calling you – or someone you know – to Lay Ministry in 2025, join us for our Lay Ministry Taster Day on 25 January at Trinity House. We're looking forward to welcoming our guest speaker the Revd Canon Derek Walmsley, author of *God Calls Everyone!*

Our popular series of Ground Floor Guides continues with an introduction to the Psalms. There are also talks and workshops exploring Ignatian spirituality, using your voice in leading worship, social justice, interfaith engagement, and much more. These free events are open to everyone, and are easy to book.

If you're feeling called to deepen your faith or explore ministry, consider joining our 'life-changing' Bishop's Certificate course beginning in September 2025. The Bishop's Certificate is a ten-month course covering the Bible, Christian belief, church history, and living out your faith every day. It is open to anyone who wants to learn more about faith and enjoy fellowship with a diverse community of participants from Southwark and beyond.

Discipleship News is our free monthly email newsletter filled with events and training opportunities from Southwark and beyond to interest, inspire, challenge, and equip you for Christian life and ministry. To subscribe, go to <https://mailchi.mp/southwark/discipleship-news>.

### **The Revd Canon Wendy Robins**

*Director of Discipleship, Lay Ministry and Continuing Ministerial Education*  
[wendy.robins@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:wendy.robins@southwark.anglican.org)

### **Reg Amoah**

*Racial Justice Training and Resources Officer*  
[reginald.amoah@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:reginald.amoah@southwark.anglican.org)

### **The Venerable Carol Coslett**

*Assistant Director – Lay Ministry*  
[carol.coslett@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:carol.coslett@southwark.anglican.org)

### **Helen Medland and David Woods**

*Discipleship and Lay Ministry Administrators*  
[helen.medland@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:helen.medland@southwark.anglican.org)  
[david.woods@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:david.woods@southwark.anglican.org)

### **Dr Charlotte Gauthier**

*Assistant Director – Discipleship*  
[charlotte.gauthier@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:charlotte.gauthier@southwark.anglican.org)



September onwards

## The Bishop's Certificate in Discipleship

The Bishop's Certificate is a 'life-changing' ten-month course exploring the Christian faith, taking place between September 2025 and June 2026. It has six modules covering the Bible, church history, what Christians believe, living as a follower of Jesus Christ, and putting your future into God's hands. Those who complete the course are awarded the Bishop's Certificate in Discipleship.

The course is for anybody who wants to be more informed and confident in their faith, read the Bible with more understanding, and reflect on their journey as a Christian. No prior knowledge is assumed, and no essay-writing is required (unless you want to!)

People exploring whether God might be calling them to ordination as a priest or deacon, or to be a Reader or Licensed Lay Minister often take the course. For Commissioned Pastoral Lay Ministers (SPAs), Pioneers, or Commissioned Children and Youth Leaders, the Bishop's Certificate is their first year of training.

However, anybody who wants to love and serve the Lord faithfully will benefit from this course. Most people do it for the joy of growing in faith alongside a friendly and supportive group of fellow Christians.

You can take the course either online or in person at Trinity House, and there are evening or morning groups. The cost is £220, and bursaries and payment plans are available. No one is ever prevented from taking the course because of the expense.

For more details, precise dates, and an application form, e-mail [bishopscertificate@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:bishopscertificate@southwark.anglican.org)

It's not too early to register your interest for 2025.

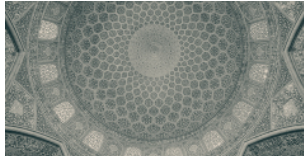


### Lay Ministry Taster Day

Sat 25 Jan, 10am-2pm  
Trinity House, free

If you are thinking about using your gifts and would like to find out more about how to begin exploring a vocation to Lay Ministry, then this day is for you! You'll have a chance to meet people involved in Lay Ministry and ask questions, whether your interest is in Reader, SPA/Pastoral, Pioneer, Evangelist, or Children and Young People (CYP) ministry.

Our guest speaker, the Revd Canon Derek Walmsley - former Diocesan Director of Ordinands for the Diocese of Leeds and author of the book *God Calls Everyone* - will talk about Christian vocation.



### Mission and Engagement with Islam

Tue 28 Jan, 7-8pm  
Zoom, free

In this online seminar, Revd Dr Yazid Said - senior lecturer in Islam at Liverpool Hope University - will explore some of the underlying theological and historical issues which shape Christian engagement with Muslims in Britain today, as well as considering some of the practical challenges posed by recent world events.

This seminar will provide participants with renewed confidence in this important aspect of our public square ministry and help us in building relationships across our parishes and communities.



### Godly Play Training Day

Sat 8 Feb, 10am-1pm  
Trinity House, free

Godly Play is a movement that encourages the spiritual nurture of children and adults in our churches. Children's leaders and preachers alike are welcome to join the Revd Mary Hawes, as she introduces Godly Play - storytelling and theological reflection for all ages - and helps us understand what a powerful and creative technique it can be.

To book your place, go to <https://forms.office.com/e/wBYPwnRH0q>

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



## **Ignatian Spirituality Workshop**

Wed 12th Feb, 6:30-8pm

Trinity House, free

An opportunity to find some stillness and deepen your practice of prayer, using imaginative ways of praying in the Ignatian Tradition, led by the Revd Steffan Mathias.

Ignatian prayer is open to anyone, whether they feel a beginner at prayer or want to find new ways to deepen their prayer life, and uses Scripture, imagination, and reflection on the events of the day to discover where God is in the day to day.

To book email [learning@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:learning@southwark.anglican.org)



## **Finding Your Voice: Using your voice in leading worship**

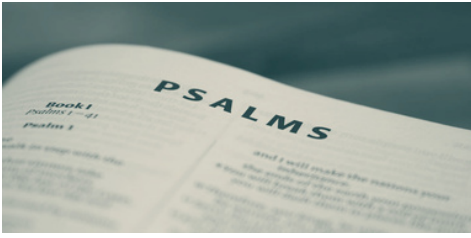
Sat 15 Feb, 10am-12:30pm

Trinity House, free

A course for those who speak or sing in the public. The voice is one of our most valuable resources that we are born with. If nurtured and used wisely it will last a lifetime, and be one of your greatest assets.

Come along to learn some techniques for massaging those vocal chords, improve your projection and confidence when speaking or singing when leading worship or preaching to congregations.

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



## Ground Floor Guide to the Psalms

Sat 18 Feb, 7:30-8:30pm  
Zoom, free

Across our Diocese and around the Christian world, we read psalms in worship every day. This session, led by the Revd Bethany Austin, Assistant Curate of St. Bartholomew, Sydenham, will introduce the psalter and consider the nature of these poems, why they were written and why we use them day by day.

In the session, we will take look at particular psalms that will help to shed new light on a familiar book.

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

## Lay Ministry Taster Evening

Wed 19 Feb, 7:30-9:30pm, Zoom, free or  
Wed 9 Apr, 7:30-9:30pm, Zoom, free

If you are thinking about how to use the gifts God has given you, then come find out more about Lay Ministry. At this taster session you can ask commitment-free questions about the different ministries, including Reader (teaching) ministry, Pastoral ministry, Pioneer (missional) ministry, ministry with Children and Young People, and Evangelist (outreach) ministry. This is a chance to hear some stories of people who have experienced these roles and been through training, and how you might begin exploring your own vocation.

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

If you don't want to wait to ask your questions, you can get in touch with the Venerable Carol Coslett, Assistant Director of Lay Ministry, on  
[carol.coslett@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:carol.coslett@southwark.anglican.org)

*"First time I've fully understood why the Oxford Movement began, and that's entirely due to the high level of detail that was included...it was a brilliant session." - Ground Floor Guide to The Oxford Movement*



### **Spidir Open Quiet Day: Healing, wholeness, and holiness**

Sat 2 Feb, 10:30am-4:30pm

Sisters of St Andrew (SE13 5DY)

Free (donations accepted)

People sometimes find that the desire for healing of the diseases of body and soul provides an entry point to a new awareness of dependence on God, not just for healing but also for an entirely new outlook on life where wholeness and balance are restored. The unfolding experience of healing and wholeness may lead us to the discovery of holiness where our entire being is drawn into transformation in Christ.

This Quiet Day will provide opportunities for creative focus, reflection and space on the themes of healing, wholeness and holiness. It will be led by Paul Stevens, a spiritual director and retired counsellor and coach. Paul is an associate of an Anglican monastic community and has been a leader of Quiet Days and courses in spirituality in Rochester and London dioceses since 2010.

To book your place, email Revd John Philpott-Howard at [philpottHoward@aol.com](mailto:philpottHoward@aol.com) before 10 February.

### **Open Doors - The Persecuted Church**

Wed 26 Feb, 12:30-2pm

Trinity House, free

Over 365 million Christians face persecution and discrimination - that's one in seven believers worldwide. Come and find more about how we can pray and respond on behalf of those being persecuted for their faith. Open Doors will share about their work and about the persecutes church.

To book your place, go to <https://jpic-awareness-session-with-open-doors-tickets.eventbrite.co.uk>





## Living Generously – Encouraging a Life of Generous Giving in Your Parish

Wed 26 Feb, 12-1pm or 7:30-8:30pm  
Zoom, free

How can you inspire a spirit of generous living in your church which reaches out into your community? Generosity transforms lives, deepens faith, and enriches our relationships with our communities. Our presentation will share case studies and practical ways for you to cultivate generosity, embracing God's call to share his blessings. Let us help make living generously a defining characteristic of your church's mission.

To book your place, go to  
<https://bit.ly/LivingGenerously-AM>  
(noon-1pm session) or  
<https://bit.ly/LivingGenerously-PM>  
(7:30-8:30pm session)

## 'Sing Unto the Lord a New Song': Choosing music for worship, part 2

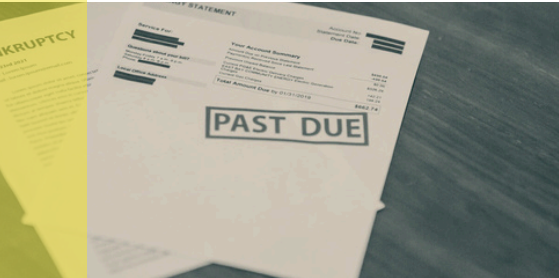
Sat 8 Mar, 10am-12:30pm  
Trinity House, free

This workshop explores more new music from a wide repertoire of different styles, as well as how you would introduce a new hymn to a congregation. You will have another chance to look at new resources and music publications, and plan for different service options.

The session is open to all who would like to explore further how well-chosen hymns and songs deliver good worship – clergy, lay ministers, musicians, directors of music, choir leaders, wardens, worship leaders, anyone who might have an input in the musical life of parish worship – whether you attended part 1 last October or not.

Led by the Venerable Carol Coslett (Assistant Director of Lay Ministry), Melvin Hughes (Organist and Director of Music St Matthew's, Redhill) and Geoff Mussard (Organist and Director of Music at St Francis of Assisi and St Mary of Nazareth Churches, West Wickham).

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



### **Act on Poverty**

Tue 11 Mar, 7-9pm

Zoom, free

This two-hour introductory course, led by Natalie Walters, head of JPIC, to help individuals and churches gain a deeper understanding of experiences of poverty. This can be done on an individual basis, or explored before seeking to run the course in your local church.

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



### **Energy Footprint Tool Training Session**

Wed 12 Mar, 12-1pm

or 6:30-7:30pm

Zoom, free

These sessions, led by Sophie Roberts, Diocesan Environmental Officer, are a chance for churches to learn about the Energy Footprint Tool, its purpose, and have a walk-through explaining how to fill it out. The tool is important for measuring church carbon footprints, helping us on the path to Net Zero Carbon by 2030. It is also an important pre-requisite for any funding for eco projects.

We encourage anyone from churches who may take part in filling out the tool to join a session if they are unsure or haven't used the tool before. There will also be opportunity for questions.

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



### **What is Pastoral Lay Ministry?**

Thu 13 Mar, 7-9pm  
Trinity House, free

Clergy and church communities value the ministerial support and expertise of trained pastoral lay ministers. This session, led by Wendy Stephens and Michael Brockett, offers the opportunity to find out more about Pastoral Lay Ministry and how it can help your parish and community.

Come and find out more about affirmed, commissioned, and licensed pastoral ministries and what they offer; what training opportunities are available; and how what they can offer to your community.



### **Ground Floor Guide to Confession**

Mon 24 Mar, 7:30-8:30pm  
Zoom, free

For many Christians the sacrament of confession or reconciliation is a profoundly nurturing part of a life of deepening faith. Confession is an opportunity to encounter the forgiveness offered by God in a unique and powerful way. It is especially appropriate to make your confession during the season of Lent.

This session, led by The Venerable Jonathan Sedgwick, Archdeacon of Southwark, will explore a little of the history of confession in the Church of England and seek to explain and demystify its practice. It will also provide some pointers to how confession relates to our vital work in building a strong culture of safeguarding in the Church.



### **Managing Difficult Conversations**

Mon 31 Mar, 6:30-8:30pm  
Trinity House, free

Have you experienced difficult conversations in ministry? How do you manage challenging situations? When is that conversation difficult, how do you communicate what you want or need to say, and what strategies can you use to resolve a tricky situation?

This session will be led by Michael Brockett, Diocesan Lay Ministry Consultant who is a Licensed Pastoral Lay Minister and has extensive experience in leadership and management.

This session is open to anyone involved in ministry, both lay and ordained.

To book your place on any of these courses email [learning@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:learning@southwark.anglican.org)



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 or 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.

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

### **Diversity Training**

Tue 1 Apr, 2-4:30pm or  
Thu 1 May, 2-4:30pm  
Trinity House, free

### **Clergy Quiet Day at Southwark Cathedral**

Tue 1 Apr, 9am-6pm  
Southwark Cathedral, free

Lent has been called a 'snowfall in the soul', a time for quiet reflection and refreshed commitment. Taking this image as his guide, Mark Oakley will offer two reflections during a Quiet Day for clergy.

The talks will explore the inner life of being a deacon or priest in the Church at the moment, pointing us to some wells from which to draw when souls feel parched, so that we might be able to serve the people we are called to live amongst with integrity, honesty, and an inspiring faith.

The day begins with Morning Prayer at 9am and finishes with Evening Prayer.

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



## 'Thy Kingdom Come' Woolwich Area Lay Conference

Sat 5 Apr,  
Ark All Saints  
Academy (SE5 0UB)  
Free (including lunch)

The 6th Woolwich Area Lay Conference offers great opportunity for established and emerging leaders from across the Woolwich Episcopal Area to meet with each other in fellowship for the building up and equipping of the Body of Christ.

This year's keynote speakers will be Kemi Bamgbose, National Lead Officer for Thy Kingdom Come (the season of prayer between Ascension & Pentecost) and Natalie Walters, Head of JPIC at the Diocese of Southwark.

Between the two keynote sessions there will be an opportunity to attend a variety of workshops covering a range of topics including reading the Bible, everyday discipleship, church history, modern slavery, environment and net zero, debt and social cohesion, affirmed lay ministries, estates ministry, and dedicated work with older people and with children and young people.

There will also be market stalls offering helpful information and opportunities to share ideas and find out what works and what's on offer. And an opportunity to talk further over lunch together.

Tickets available from w/c 13 January from the Woolwich Area Office. Contact Richard Coe at [richard.coe@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:richard.coe@southwark.anglican.org)





**Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation: What does it mean and what part can you play? For anyone involved in Lay Ministry**

Sat 12 April, 10am-1pm  
Trinity House, free.

Marks of Mission 3,4 and 5 look at Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation, but what does it all mean? It is sometimes overwhelming when we look at the brokenness we face in our world to know how we can respond.

Come to this session, led by Natalie Walters, head of JPIC, and discuss themes such as poverty, the environment, and modern slavery, and hear what that looks like in the Diocese of Southwark. We will then reflect on how we as lay ministers can respond to God's mandate in this area.

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



**Save the date:**

**Bereavement Care Awareness  
(for Lay Ministers)**

Sat 28 Jun, 10am-1:30pm  
Trinity House, free.

The Bereavement Care Awareness training has been produced as part of Care for the Family's bereavement training for churches. It is useful for any Pastoral Minister or Reader interested in supporting bereaved people - whether they are already engaged in bereavement support or are considering the possibility of developing it.

The workshop is interactive and is designed to equip and empower people and churches in supporting those who have been bereaved. There will be PowerPoint presentations, teaching, and group work.

Booking information will be included in the Summer 2025 brochure, or sign up to Discipleship News to receive the link as soon as it is available.

## Index

### Discipleship and Ministry

The Bishop's Certificate in Discipleship	Sept onwards	4
Lay Ministry Taster Day	25 Jan	5
Finding Your Voice: Using your voice in leading worship	15 Feb	6
Ground Floor Guide to The Psalms	18 Feb	7
Lay Ministry Taster Evening	19 Feb/9 Apr	7
'Sing Unto The Lord A New Song': Choosing music for worship, part 2	8 Mar	9
Diversity Training	1 Apr/1 May	12
Clergy Quiet Day at Southwark Cathedral	1 Apr	12
'Thy Kingdom Come' Woolwich Area Lay Conference	5 Apr	13

### Justice Peace and the Integrity of Creation

Open Doors - The Persecuted Church	26 Feb	8
Act on Poverty	11 Mar	10
Energy Footprint Tool Training Session	12 Mar	10
Justice, Peace, and Integrity of Creation: What does it mean and what part can you play? For anyone involved in Lay Ministry	12 Apr	14

### Children and Young People

Godly Play Training Day	8 Feb	5
-------------------------	-------	---

### Pastoral Ministry

What is Pastoral Lay Ministry?	13 Mar	11
Managing Difficult Conversations	31 Mar	11
Bereavement Care Awareness (for Lay Ministers)	28 Jun	14

### Spirituality

Ignatian Spirituality Workshop	12 Feb	6
Spidir Open Quiet Day: Healing, wholeness, and holiness	22 Feb	8

### Generosity

Living Generously - Encouraging a Life of Generous Giving in Your Parish	26 Feb	9
--	--------	---

### Interfaith

Mission and Engagement with Islam	28 Jan	5
-----------------------------------	--------	---



Christ Centred | Outward Focused