



The BRIDGE

Newspaper of the Anglican Diocese of Southwark

Walking Welcoming Growing

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November 2023



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laid to rest

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Going for Gold: Eco Church award for St John's Waterloo

The parish of St John, Waterloo has been awarded Gold Eco Church status from global conservation organisation A Rocha, ranking them 39th Gold Awarded Eco Church in England and Wales, and 26th Church of England church to be awarded.

There are currently 168 Eco Churches in the Southwark Diocese, and this award makes St John the first to be awarded gold. This is all part of deepening the Diocese's commitment to caring for God's creation in every way. This relates to the Church of England's fifth Mark of Mission: safeguarding the integrity of creation and sustaining and renewing the life of the earth.

A Rocha's award scheme enables churches to complete a free online survey and provides resources designed to help churches feel equipped to express care for God's world. These cover five key areas of church life – worship and teaching, management of church buildings, management of church land, community and global engagement and lifestyle.

During a building project of the whole church site, the community at St John created both warm and cool spaces, which included redesigning the crypt and a wild flower garden – a green oasis complete with hedges, a herb garden, pond and solar panels. After closing for 14 months, the church was rededicated on Sunday 2 October 2022 during a service



where the Most Revd and Rt Hon Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury presided.

A report following a visit from Eco Church examiners, said, "It is so clear that the principles of Eco Church are integral and woven into all that you do as a church and community, within your neighbourhood and across London. The team all shared how encouraged they are by all that you are doing and the stories you shared! Your church is already causing ripples across the country and we pray for more impact and influence as a result of this gold Eco Church award."

The report also described the church as being at the forefront of "national campaigning issues, profiling a more sustainable way of life through the various open events hosted at the church such as Great Big Green Week and others."

"We are thrilled to have been awarded Gold Eco Church status. It is a real credit to everyone at St John, Waterloo and their support and work for climate justice for many years."

The church community celebrated the award during a Sustainability Sunday service that took place on Sunday 15 October. Revd Giles Goddard, Vicar at St John said, "We are thrilled to have been awarded Gold Eco Church status. It is a real credit to everyone at St John's Waterloo and their support and work for climate justice for many years. This achievement is a celebration for all of us, including those who worked hard to make the



Above: Enthusiastic gardeners at the churchyard garden – a green oasis for people to enjoy. Below left: locals enjoying the garden. Below right: Revd Giles Goddard, Vicar at St John, alongside the roof-top solar panels.

building redevelopment so sustainable. We're grateful for all the encouragement received by our Eco Church examiners."

Jack Edwards, Diocesan Environmental Officer said, "Massive congratulations to the whole community at St John's! I know how much effort you have all put in to becoming the first Gold Eco Church in Southwark – the judges clearly found visiting St John's an enjoyable experience and all of the examples of best practice that they highlighted really show your commitment to care for creation."

The Rt Revd Christopher Chessun, Bishop of Southwark said, "This is a tremendous achievement and will give encouragement to other parishes. It is very easy to feel overwhelmed by the scale of the challenge of climate change – but there are simple things that every parish can do to make a difference and to honour our calling to care for God's wonderful creation."

Helen Stephens, Head of the Eco Church initiative, explained "Our huge congratulations

to St John's on their well deserved Gold Eco Church award. When we are reminded daily of the accelerating effects of climate change and biodiversity loss, it is a great encouragement to see this church in central London demonstrating so clearly what it means to love God's creation and work for its restoration. Whilst they have undertaken an inspiring building project, of no less importance is the care of their land, growing wild flowers and herbs and offering a green sanctuary for people and wildlife alike. As well as putting their own 'house' in order, they also work extensively with others in their neighbourhood and across London. How fitting that a catalyst for all of this was an eco chat over coffee between young people and the church leaders. May even more churches follow their lead."

More information

Find out about Eco Church here:
bit.ly/3LYAcIH



A view from The BRIDGE



I was recently in Zimbabwe for the 70th anniversary celebrations of the founding of the Diocese of Matabeleland, with which the Kingston Episcopal Area is linked. It was wonderful to get to know Bishop Cleophas and his wife, Soneni, who kindly hosted myself and Archdeacons John Kiddle and Simon Gates.

Things are not easy in Zimbabwe and haven't been for a long time. It's sad to see a country and people with so much potential nevertheless facing enormous challenges, sad to hear of the families struggling to feed their children. While many will be familiar with our cost of living crisis in the UK it's striking that the average per capita income in the UK is roughly 45 times that of Zimbabwe.

During my visit, I was acutely conscious of my prosperity – and yes the relative prosperity of the Church of England – not forgetting our challenges. And yet, we were richly blessed during our visit and felt we received far more than we were able to give.

Someone mentioned to me that when we visit Zimbabwe, their lives stop for us. At home in the UK, when visitors come to us, we often try to 'squeeze them in' around our other commitments. That has given me pause for thought: why is it that

we, blessed with relative comfort in terms of material wealth, find it so much harder to stop for our guests, to devote our time to them with a single-mindedness of heart and gaze?

After the 70th anniversary celebrations, we visited a number of rural development projects, where we saw first hand the impact of climate change. Access to water is a daily challenge. It was encouraging, therefore, to see some flourishing community gardens supported by newly-dug bore holes. These are powered by solar energy and fed via small-scale dams, which will fill when the rains come. These projects have received funding from the Episcopal Church in the USA, but there's plenty more to do. What was equally gratifying was the welcome we received from the villagers who broke into Spirit-filled song and dance for us. Once again, I felt humbled in the face of their generosity and trust in the goodness of God.

I have returned to Southwark refreshed and inspired by the beauty and importance of our Anglican Communion links and determined to do more to develop the relationship between Kingston and the Diocese of Matabeleland.

Bishop Martin



NEWS IN BRIEF

Prayers for Remembrance



As we approach Armistice Day (11 November) and Remembrance Sunday (12 November), you may want to commemorate those who have fallen in battle through prayer with poppies. The Church of England have a few prayers which may be helpful to you, at home or if you're praying in church.

You can access the prayers at: bit.ly/45seGN7

Follow the Star: Join the Song

The Church of England has launched a new campaign for Advent and Christmas to mark the beginning of the church year. This year's theme – Follow the Star: Join the Song – highlights how singing can help draw us closer to God and each other through the journey from Advent to Epiphany. Colleagues across the national Church have been working with dioceses and parishes to make a range of resources available to help communicate the Follow the Star theme. Along with some familiar elements, they have announced new strands to the campaign to help schools, churches and cathedrals to connect with this year's call to Join the Song.

Find out more at: bit.ly/3OZvHli



The Bishop's Lent Call

Each year, the Bishop's Lent Call raises funds for local community projects in Southwark and our Link Dioceses in Zimbabwe and Jerusalem, as well as calling parishes to a time of prayer and contemplation. The season of Lent begins on Wednesday 14 February and ends on Saturday 30 March. Look out for more information about next year's theme and chosen projects in the coming months. We hope that you will feel able to generously support our chosen as you keep a holy and prayerful Lent.

Information will become available here: bit.ly/46JPXES

Pietà: Helping churches respond to serious youth violence

This year Compassionate Communities, part of the Diocese of London hosted The Pietà Competition in church schools across Southwark and London. The competition took place during the spring term and young people in schools and academies across both Dioceses were asked to reflect on Michelangelo's Pietà sculpture, contemplate the themes around serious youth violence in our culture and then create their own 'Pietà' artwork. The Southwark Diocesan schools who took part included, St Bede's School, St Mary Magdalene C of E School and St Gabriel's College.

You can view the winning artwork and download the free Pietà Prayer Resource to help churches, schools and other chaplaincies respond when someone is lost in their communities to violence, or there are youth violence related incidents at: tinyurl.com/2x6fmzecz

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Next Issue: Submission deadline and guidance

The DECEMBER edition is due to be published online and in print on 8 December 2023. Material for that edition must be with Vernia Mengot by email by **MONDAY 13 NOVEMBER**.

Space limitations mean that we cannot guarantee to publish everything we receive and material may be edited. All photographs submitted for publication are assumed to have the necessary permission for printing. Please ensure that people are happy for their photographs to be submitted before you do so. Forms for permission for the use of photographs of children (Form 10) and adults who may be vulnerable (Form 11) can be found at southwark.anglican.org/safeguarding/diocesan-policies-procedures



IN FOCUS...

Southwark celebrates
black history

Embracing faith and legacy

Throughout the month of October, churches and schools across our Diocese have been taking part in a series of events to celebrate black history.

On Saturday 7 October people came together for the sixteenth annual Black History Month thanksgiving service at Southwark Cathedral.

The service was an opportunity to explore this year's theme, *Windrush 75*, embracing the faith and legacy of the Windrush generation and recognising the foundations they have laid to shape the cultural landscape of Britain, embedded in society today.

Bishop Christopher welcomed the congregation, leading the service with Revd Ivan Ibuno, Holy Trinity, Rotherhithe



and Revd Sandra Schloss, Vicar at St Luke, Peckham, Chair of the Woolwich Area Racial Justice Committee and Chair of the BHM planning group.

During a tribute, the congregation held a moments silence for the inspirational ministry of the late Bishop Karwei Dorgu – who, as well as being the first Nigerian Bishop within the Church of England, had a deep passion and support for Black History Month. Prayers were also said for all areas within the Diocese affected by serious youth violence and knife crime.

The Revd Samson Fan, Dean of All Saints Cathedral, Hong Kong read the first reading, from the letter of St Paul to the Romans and Revd Emma Lowth, Associate Vicar, Christ Church, Gipsy Hill read Psalm 145.

Alex Shoderu, Chaplain at St Cecilia's Church of England School, Southfields, gave his reflection on the importance of black history. Referring to his childhood he reflected on his understanding of the legacy of the Windrush generation – their faith and resilience. He particularly spoke about helping to rebuild the nation despite facing many trials and seeking God as their strength and refuge. Alex said, "The Windrush generation were invited here to rebuild" and referring to Isaiah 58:12 he read, 'Your people will rebuild the ancient ruins and will raise up the age-old foundations; you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with



Above: L-R: Revd Sandra, Jason O'Shea (Southwark Delivery Officer for Serious Youth Violence and Leader of Operation Forgiveness), Lena Norman, Revd Dorothy Penniecooke, Fola Adukeh, Sonia McFarlane (Headteacher at St James Hatcham CE Primary School) and Mr Eton Lloyd McFarlane, of the Windrush generation. Below: A creative poetry participant.

Dwellings' – there seems to be a calling for God's people to be rebuilders."

During the service, in partnership with the Southwark Diocesan Board of Education (SDBE), the congregation heard calypso music played by the steel band from St Gabriel's College and choral tributes by school children from the Croydon Minster Choir. Prayers were also led by Sixth Form students, AJ Koroma, Shinelle Williams, Glad Makumbu and Li Anh Nguyen from Bacon's College, Rotherhithe.

After the service, the congregation stayed on to join a poetry workshop followed by an interactive panel discussion titled *Windrush 75: faith, legacy and heritage* – taking up the baton, exploring how we, as a multicultural society, implement the lessons learned from the Windrush Generation.

The poetry workshop led by Fola Adukeh and Lena Norman, invited participants to get creative and write their own poetry during a session entitled: *The promise of a better life* – opening up discussions about a time that resonates with them and when they had hoped for something greater or a promise of more.

Questions during the panel discussion delved into the importance of celebrating Windrush 75, key lessons to take from the generation and their experience. As well as, how these lessons can be identified in our schools, churches and communities to understand what's missing in society and to continue learning from the experience of those who travelled to the UK from the Caribbean during 1948 and 1970.

Praying for the Holy Land

As this edition of *The Bridge* goes to print, Israel has declared war following a wave of devastating terrorist attacks by Palestinian militant group Hamas, with civilians urged to evacuate northern Gaza.



© Mahmud Hams AFP via Getty Images.
Palestinians evacuating following an Israeli air strike.

Speaking in the first week of the conflict, Archbishop Justin Welby joined international leaders in urging the Israeli government to exercise their right of defence in ways that seek to break the cycles of violence, "Amidst the chaos and confusion of war, and as much as is possible, I join the calls for Israel's military response to be proportional and to discriminate between civilians and Hamas."

Bishop Christopher called the Diocese to join Heads of Churches in Jerusalem and 'pray without ceasing for justice, reconciliation, peace, and an end to hatred and war' in the Holy Land and communities around the Anglican Communion marked a Global Day of Prayer and fasting on 17 October.

The Patriarchs and Heads of Churches in Jerusalem said, "Our beloved Holy Land has changed dramatically over the past week. We are witnessing a new cycle of

O God of all justice and peace,

We cry out to you in the midst of the pain and trauma of violence and fear which prevails in the Holy Land.

Be with those who need you in these days of suffering; we pray for people of all faiths – Jews, Muslims and Christians and for all people of the land.

While we pray to you, O Lord, for an end to violence and the establishment of peace, we also call for you to bring justice and equity to the peoples. Guide us into your kingdom where all people are treated with dignity and honour as your children – for to all of us you are our Heavenly Father.

In Jesus' name we pray,

Amen.

violence with an unjustifiable attack against all civilians."

crisis as soon as it is safe for them to do so. Details at: christianaid.org.uk

Christian Aid has launched an emergency appeal to enable their partners in Gaza to respond to the

NEWS FROM OUR PARISHES



Celebrating the African-Caribbean diaspora in Catford

Across the Diocese and over the past year a range of events have been taking place to commemorate Windrush 75, marking the arrival of hundreds of men and women from the Caribbean to the UK. In September, a celebration event took place at St Andrew, Catford.

The organising team – Allison Bishop, Norma Dixon, Jacqueline Joseph-Grotefeld and Brenda Henderson – shared the importance of putting together an action-packed Windrush celebration event at St Andrew's Hall for their church community. They said:

"It was important to us and our community to acknowledge and celebrate what the African-Caribbean community contributed to Britain, when they were invited to 'help make Britain Great again' 75 years ago. This was a feast of truly authentic visual and aural presentations, including a steel pan band, quadrille dancing, poetry, state-of-the-art Caribbean cooking, Gospel singing and many more surprises.

"The evening featured the première of a film created by church member, Tom Steadman, made in collaboration with local Caribbean elders and residents of nearby care homes. The film further documented and recorded the outstanding contributions and memories of the post-Windrush community to various areas including Catford and Lewisham Borough.



"The event, attended by Brenda Dacres, Deputy Mayor of Lewisham, and Mark Ingleby, local councillor of Hither Green, marked the first time in over 40 years that the African-Caribbean diaspora of the congregation has entirely organised and funded an event. It did not disappoint, putting a further crucial part of Lewisham's diverse and creative Borough on the map."



Top: Parishioners' lovingly-made banner, an ever-lasting reminder from the event and the work that went into it, featuring sponsored flags of the Caribbean. Above: Enjoying good company, with over 100 people attending.

All about the welcome at All Saints, Upper Norwood

Each year thousands of volunteers organise events to celebrate history, culture and architecture as part of Heritage Open Days and Open House Festival. These events take place in September and provide free access to explore a range of historic and significant buildings.

Revd Antonio Garcia Fuerte, Vicar at All Saints with St Margaret, Upper Norwood writes:

This is the second year we have taken part in the *Open House Festival* – it coincides with our Arts & Faith exhibition in church, which has been running for some years, and this year ran for two weeks. The exhibition – on the topic of Angels – was curated by Tim Wright, a member of our PCC, artist and NHS art therapist. It featured thirty pieces of artwork, paintings and sculptures produced by local artists which were chosen and displayed around the church.

All Saints has a surprisingly rich heritage to be explored: a Georgian building which already points towards the neo-gothic revival, the burial place of Vice-Admiral Fitzroy and the burial of the pauper children. The festival was set up by Mandy Harris, our Events Director.

It was an exciting opportunity to welcome local people into our spaces and to open our doors to people who may never have



L-R: Antonio Fuerte, Councillor Claire Bonham and Mandy Harris.

visited a church and we received a total of 250 visitors. They were greeted by a team of welcomers from the church, and the music from our organ, played by Michael Ball, a member of our congregation. With the help of the Croydon Area Office, we produced a guide for the exhibition, which was both a catalogue and some food-for-thought on the topic of Angels, and another guide to explore the church's heritage and the Christian meanings of the building and its elements.

The music and a 'cuppa' encouraged people to stay longer, look, listen, rest, and pray and we were pleased to welcome some of our new visitors to Sunday worship with us.

Zeal for Godly service

Last month Revd Olufunke (Funke) Ogbede, Lambeth North Deanery, was presented with a Lancelot Andrewes medal in recognition of her Godly service and zeal for the Gospel.

After receiving her medal, Funke said, "It was an honour and privilege to receive the Lancelot Andrewes medal from Bishop Christopher. I am humbled by the recognition and give thanks to God for his continued love and faithfulness. It was

wonderful to have my family with me to witness the occasion."

The presentation took place at Southwark Cathedral on the feast of the saintly Lancelot Andrewes (24 September).

Lancelot Andrewes, then Bishop of Winchester, was a theologian and court preacher who historically sought to defend and advance Anglican doctrines in the church. He died in 1626 and the tomb where Lancelot Andrewes lies at rest is by the High Altar at Southwark Cathedral.



Revd Funke pictured alongside Bishop Christopher and members of her family at Southwark Cathedral.

Church communities go green

The Kingston Episcopal Area is a richly varied part of London between Waterloo and Kingston-upon-Thames. In this edition of The Bridge we take a look at parishes on their eco journeys as they commit themselves to care for God's creation. From designing new eco initiatives and hosting big green events to pilgrimaging along the banks of the River Thames, here are some examples of how our church communities can learn about ways to make practical changes to care for the world around us and take action for climate justice.

All Saints on their eco journey

On Sunday 24 September, the congregation of All Saints, Kingston celebrated their Caring for Creation service, led by Revd Joe Moffatt. It was an opportunity to bless their new eco initiatives at the church and take action, pledging as a community to begin their eco journey together.

Joe writes:

The highlight of the service was undoubtedly the blessing and dedication of the *Bug Minster* (pictured), created by the All Saints children's church. The congregation gathered in the South Garden on a beautiful morning, and members of the children's church – who had also been surveying the other wildlife in the All Saints gardens before the service – were on hand to cut the ribbon, before blessing the *Bug Minster* and its inhabitants.



Once inside, the new LED lighting system was switched on as the Choir sang an anthem from Haydn's *The Creation*. And then, as they say, there was light! Particular thanks were given to members of the church community without whom the lighting project would not have come to fruition over the past few years.

This LED system is estimated to reduce electricity consumption for lighting by

70%. This change has been transformative for a church in active use from morning until night, seven days a week, and will result in a carbon saving at All Saints of eight tonnes per year going forward.

The focal point of the service was questions put to guest speaker Sarah Wiggins, Climate Advocacy Global Programme Lead for *Tearfund*. Sarah outlined her fears over the continued inaction on climate change, but also how she is encouraged by communities and their climate change initiatives, both in the Global South – where climate change is already at crisis point – and those such as the Eco Church work being undertaken within churches.

This service launched the Eco Church initiative within All Saints, which is integral to the recently adopted Mission Action Plan, and renewed the commitment of the community towards caring for creation. With an interim target of becoming Eco Church Bronze Award accredited by mid-2024, the programme aims to bring an environmental mindfulness to all aspects of the workings of All Saints – from how buildings and land are looked after, to the personal and collective choices of the congregation and wider community.

The prayers of intercession were led by members of the All Saints Eco Church Working Group. Members of the community were also invited to take part in climate actions within their own lives, and the Churchwardens read the climate and environmental crisis pledge on behalf of the Parish Church Council. The congregation were asked to affirm their support for this pledge as the community begin their eco-journey together. A collection was taken for the Libya Floods Emergency Appeal to help and support families affected by flooding in need of life saving supplies.

Let justice roll down like a river, righteousness like a never failing stream

Battersea churches joined together for a climate change pilgrimage organised by Christian Climate Action.



The five churches across the Battersea Deanery included All Saints, Battersea Fields; St Michael Wandsworth Common; St Barnabas, Clapham Common; St Mark, Battersea Rise and St Peters, Battersea. Starting at the Battersea Peace Pagoda, together they walked along the banks of the River Thames and prayed for the climate – making peace with the earth.

Big Green Day

On Sunday 24 September, St Paul, Clapham and Eden Nature Garden held their third annual Big Green Day (BGD) – a chance to get together in the local community and celebrate local action on climate change. The event was also an opportunity for people to learn and be inspired by what they could be doing individually and collectively to protect the climate and nature.

The BGD started with a Eucharist (held outdoors), led by Bishop Martin, to mark Creationtide, celebrating God as creator and sustainer of all life. Afterwards, visitors engaged in workshops and children's activities. Stallholders at the event included Repowering London;

Heathbrook Primary – a green school; Save Soil; Greenpeace; and Lambeth Recycling Outreach Team. Visitors created paintings in egg tempera with artist Lily Corbett Gale; learnt how to mend favourite clothing items; and to think about sustainable building practice. The Eden Nature Garden offered composting workshops, a seed swap and a children's nature quiz.

Guest speakers included Jack Ross, Manager of the Pig's Head, Clapham's first carbon neutral pub and representatives from the London Beekeepers' Association, Buglife, Swift Conservation, and Community TechAid. Others spoke about solar panels and sustainable interior design.

Children participated in activities including earning an eco-badge with the Girl Guides, building a bamboo bee hotel and enjoying sports and games with Olympian Andrea Lynch MBE.

Visitors enjoyed a bring and share lunch with entertainment provided by the Baked Bean Charity who performed a Zumba class including audience participation. Everything was free and there were prizes, seed bombs and compost doggy bags to take home. To reduce waste, the BGD team used ceramic plates and metal cutlery for the lunch and mugs for serving tea and coffee. A disposal workstation meant people could separate items for washing up, composting and food waste – resulting in an estimated 75% reduction in waste.



Cynthia Woodhouse and Allison Clark, BGD Organisers said, "It was a day filled with information, chatter and enjoyment that brought the community together to learn how we can protect our planet and all creation within it."

More information about the BGD programme is at:
tinyurl.com/446xe96c

World Mental Health Day

To mark #WorldMentalHealthDay (10 October) we visited the Eden Nature Garden at St Paul, Clapham and took some time to enjoy being outside in nature. The Vicar, Revd Canon Jonathan Boardman (pictured), showed us around and shared how

sustainability and biodiversity are at the heart of the garden, including how the rainwater from the roof of St Paul's Clapham is fed directly into the wildlife ponds and irrigates the garden. Last September the garden featured on BBC2's

Gardener's World. Studies suggest being in green space is good for mental and physical well-being. Watch this video on our YouTube channel and have a peaceful moment: bit.ly/STHWK

Find out more about the Eden Nature Garden at:
bit.ly/3rRdMMt.
If you need support with your mental health visit:
tinyurl.com/2wapv2d3





DISCIPLESHIP & MINISTRY

Season of Lay Ministries

The Season of Lay Ministries celebrates all that the laity do to share God's Good News and will especially focus on the Affirmed, Commissioned and Licensed Lay Ministries. During the season, which falls during Epiphany – celebrating Christ's birth and the journey to the magi, many parishes might also use this time to celebrate the work of their lay people both within their church and in their community

Wendy Robins, Director of Discipleship Lay Ministry and Continuing Ministerial Education, writes:

The weather at Wychcroft could not have been better for the retreat, led by Ruth Martin, (Lay Canon and Reader in the Diocese) for those who were to be licensed and commissioned at Southwark Cathedral on Sunday 8 October.

Listening to their stories, as they prepared for this momentous occasion, it was hard not to be struck by the way that the Holy Spirit has been at work in so many people's lives bringing them to this point.

Some of the stories they told reduced me to tears of laughter, others to tears of sadness as they shared profound moments that had helped to precipitate them beginning to explore lay ministry in a more formal way.

This year, for the first time, we were able to License and Commission a number of different ministries in the same service and were pleased to have three Licensed Lay Ministers who are Readers, three who are Lay Pioneers, two who are Church Army Evangelists and one who is a Licensed Pastoral Minister. There were

also five people Commissioned for Lay Ministry: three as Southwark Pastoral Auxiliaries (SPAs), one Children's and Family Worker and one Commissioned Lay Pioneer. They came from all parts of the Diocese and were supported by family and friends, their clergy, and other representatives from their parishes. The Cathedral was full to bursting and it was a wonderful occasion.

But, more than that those being Licensed and Commissioned represented ministries that we are hoping to grow in our Diocese, as we seek to encourage more people to think and pray about whether they might be called to a recognised form of Lay Ministry. Here in Southwark, we have three different types of Lay Ministry: Affirmed (which is encouraged, selected and trained within the parish). Commissioned (which is encouraged in the parish and selected and trained at Diocesan level and is transferable within the Diocese). We also have Licensed ministries which are encouraged in the parish and selected and trained in the Diocese. These ministries are transferable across the country if the person moves.

Lay ministry can lead people in so many different directions. Did you know that some of our Licensed and Commissioned



Lay Ministers (prior to licensing) on their retreat at Wychcroft, pictured with Bishop

Lay ministers volunteer as hospital and prison chaplains? Some are now in paid employment in these roles. Others are Street Pastors or help at Food Banks and shelters for the homeless. They also assist with Sunday School and youth groups as well as leading assemblies in schools and being involved in play schemes during the school holidays. Some are Spiritual Directors. The opportunities are vast and enable people to follow where God is prompting them to go.

It is exciting to celebrate the gifts of the whole people of God and to support and encourage their calling and training.

The Season of Lay Ministries, which runs between **Sunday 6 January and Sunday 28 January** is designed to encourage people to think about whether God might be calling them into new things. There will be sermon outlines, with

hymn suggestions and videoed sermons for use over the period and some resources for children and young people. Do look on the Diocesan website for these. They will be published before Advent.

We would also be pleased to offer a preacher during the Season, please email Helen Medland, Discipleship and Ministry Administrator: helen.medland@southwark.anglican.org

This year we want especially to encourage parishes to think about Affirmed Lay Ministries – that is those ministries which people are often already fulfilling in the parish. Do you celebrate your hospitality team who faithfully serve coffee every week? Have you affirmed the work of your Sunday School and youth leaders or of those who are in your pastoral visiting team? Doing this will help those who are undertaking these tasks to think about the fact that what they are doing is all part of ministry, to feel valued and possibly to begin to think about what else they might want to get involved in.

We are all called to be God's disciples and to serve those around us. Thinking about being involved in Lay Ministry is an exciting way in which we can explore God's will for us.



Left: During the celebration service at Southwark Cathedral. Right: Ray Wheeler, former Warden of Readers.



Explore your call

Find out about Lay Ministries at:
tinyurl.com/4pwmwj9s





Bishop Christopher.

Growing in faith alongside fellow Christians

Charlotte Gauthier, Assistant Director of Discipleship writes:

More than 250 people from across our Diocese gathered at the Cathedral on Saturday 30 September to celebrate the achievements of those who participated in the 2022–23 Bishop’s Certificate course.

Bishop Christopher presented scrolls to 56 participants from across the Diocese, representing a wide diversity of ages, ethnicities, educational backgrounds, and church traditions.

During the service, Peter Graystone, who retired as Lay Training Officer in August, interviewed Patricia Knight, who participated in the course in 2022–23 and is now training to be a Children’s and Youth Worker. Patricia joyfully encouraged anyone who is interested in growing in faith to take the Bishop’s Certificate course, saying how important it had been to her own discipleship and vocation to lay ministry.

Bishop’s Certificate participants enrol for a variety of reasons: to deepen a long-held faith, to better understand a faith that is still relatively new to them, to have something to keep them sharp during retirement, or just for the joy of growing in faith alongside their fellow Christians over the course of 10 months.



© All photos Eve Milner

Above: Patricia Knight, a keen advocate for the Bishop’s Certificate.

People exploring whether God might be calling them to lay or ordained ministry often undertake the course, and this year was no exception. Some of the recent Bishop’s Certificate recipients are now training to be Readers, SPAs, Children’s and Youth Workers, or Pioneer Ministers.

The Bishop’s Certificate covers the Old and New Testaments, what it means to be Anglican, what Christians believe, how to live out your Christian discipleship every day, and placing your future in God’s hands.

The next course begins in September 2024, and can be done in-person or online. Email: bishopscertificate@southwark.anglican.org for more information on how to enrol.

Lay Ministry resources

The Discipleship and Ministry department can arrange for you to receive leaflets on Reader Ministry, Pastoral Ministry (licensed and commissioned), Children’s, Youth and Family Ministry, Evangelistic Ministry, with the Church Army, Lay Pioneer Ministry and a general leaflet on Lay Ministry. The leaflets give all the information needed to explore the various lay ministries on offer in the Diocese. You can also contact Helen by email: helen.medland@southwark.anglican.org



Bishop’s Certificate Graduates delight in receiving their certificates.

Spirituality Day

This year’s Spirituality Day took place on Saturday 14 October at Southwark Cathedral. With the theme of Rest.

The day featured worship, music, Scripture, talks, prayer and silence, and culminated in a service of anointing for healing and wholeness. Natalia-Nana Lester-Bush (pictured), who consults with churches and charities on well-being, equality and belonging, spoke about the theme of rest for the whole person and led participants in meditation. The Revd Canon Dr Andrew Bishop, Priest-in-Charge of Croydon Minster, led thoughts on the subject of sleep.





IN FOCUS...

News from the Diocese

The Synergy Network – a strategy for change

On Thursday 5 October, following the tragic deaths of young people in London due to knife crime, the Synergy Network held an event around serious youth violence at St Mark's Kennington.

The Diocese of Southwark partners with the Synergy Network, which is a growing coalition of churches, para-church groups, Christian agencies, and organisations working to end serious youth violence in Britain and Ireland.

Several members of the Diocese were present to discuss how we can stand together as churches to tackle knife crime in our communities. Jason O'Shea, who serves as development officer for Serious Youth Violence in the Diocese and leads *Operation Forgiveness* under London City Mission, shared details of his work in schools around knife crime and the power of forgiveness. There was a presentation about trauma and gender-based violence by the Cassandra Centre.

Natalie Walters, Diocesan Head of Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation (JPIC) said, "It was a powerful and emotive meeting where various Christian leaders and members prayed, discussed, and looked at a strategy for change. We are continuing to work in fighting serious youth violence as well as seeking to work strategically and holistically to see God's transformational power around this issue whilst supporting better futures for all young people."

You can find out more about the work of the Synergy Network and their services at: wearesynergy.org.uk. *Operation Forgiveness* will be delivering a vision night on 6 November where you can experience the workshop first hand. To find out more or to engage with *Operation Forgiveness* via your church or school visit: tinyurl.com/yc4cf78w or contact Jason via the Southwark Diocese JPIC Team.

Did you get a chance to marvel at the Moon?



Luke Jerram's spectacular *Museum of the Moon* artwork was displayed in Southwark Cathedral during October.

Last month visitors to Southwark Cathedral had an opportunity to experience Luke Jerram's *Museum of the Moon* and join in a series of out of this world events. Measuring seven metres in diameter, the replica of the moon features high resolution NASA imagery

of the lunar surface and a specially composed soundtrack evoking memories of the history of humans in space.

If you missed the *Museum of the Moon* at the Cathedral, watch this video here: tinyurl.com/2juuuxb2

Socks for HMP Wandsworth Christmas Appeal 2023

The Chaplains at HMP Wandsworth led by Liz Bridge, the Quaker Chaplain are once again heading up a campaign to give a pair of socks (perhaps two) to each prisoner for Christmas. Socks are warm, cheerful and soft and they make a good Christmas present in an environment where people do not have very much.

The campaign, which last ran two years ago, targets to hand out 1,630 pairs of socks in the days running up to Christmas.

They would like socks of any size (not children's) and colour, short or long, wool, bamboo, cotton or mixed fibres.

Please drop off or send your socks to:

Visitors Centre Wandsworth Prison, 17 Heathfield Road, London SW18 3HR – please mark 'Socks appeal FAO Liz Bridge, Quaker Chaplain.'

Or:
13 Fawe Park Road, London SW15 2EB – please mark 'Socks appeal'.

Or:
11 Fieldhouse Road, London SW12 0HL – please mark 'Socks appeal'.

More information



Find out about the prison charity, 'Wandsworth Prison Welfare Trust' at wpwt.org.uk and if you would like to help beyond just socks you can give online via Givew at: tinyurl.com/4d8wjp62

Springfield church welcomes Pioneer Vicar

Springfield Church Wallington has been celebrating the licensing of their new Pioneer Vicar, Revd David Atkinson. The service led by Bishop Rosemarie Mallet, was attended by local community leaders and representatives from local schools.

Established as a Fresh Expression of Church 30 years ago, Springfield Church aims to connect with people who would not normally consider going to a traditional church. Having gone through a time of change during the COVID-19 pandemic,

the church relocated from Wallington Girls School to St Paul, Roundshaw.

Prior to joining Springfield, David was a Pioneer Curate at the church for three years, where he focused on connecting with the Roundshaw community. The licensing service was one of thanksgiving for the initiatives that have emerged over this time and a welcoming to him in his new role within the Church.

For more information about our church visit springfieldchurch.org.uk/



L-R: Mayoress and Mayor: Sue & Colin Stears, Revd David, Bishop Rosemarie, Elliott Colburn MP.

A remarkable soul – remembering Bishop Karowei as he is laid to rest

On Thursday 28 September the funeral eucharist of the Rt Revd Dr Woyin Karowei Dorgu, Bishop of Woolwich (who died on 8 September 2023) was held at Southwark Cathedral. Hundreds attended the service, which was one of the key moments taking place that week to mark his inspirational ministry.

The service was led by Bishop Christopher, with Archbishop Justin Welby giving the final blessing.

Bishop Karowei is survived by his wife Mosun, son Timi and his twin sister Collette. During the funeral service a family tribute was said by Timi who said, “My father, lived life as a wonderfully multifaceted individual, expressing his own culture alongside his Christianity” and described his father as “a man of principles, who relied on God for all his needs.” Timi also spoke of his father’s acts of service “his way of showing God’s love and kindness to all those around him.”

The first reading was taken from Revelation 21.1–7 and was read by Sophia Nzeribe Nascimento from St John the Evangelist, Upper Holloway, and a group of school children from Boucher School, Bermondsey, sung Psalm 23.

Next, the congregation heard from the Revd Dr Peniel Rajkumar, who was Bishop Karowei’s curate at St John the Evangelist, Upper Holloway, nearly 19 years ago – he talked about the four years he spent with him at the church. In his

homily, Dr Rajkumar spoke about Bishop Karowei’s heart being full of “compassion, commitment and courage – all of which made a gospel shaped impact on the lives of those whom Bishop Karowei touched with his life and love.”

This was followed by the prayers of intercession led by the Woolwich Minority Ethnic Anglican Concerns Committee.

Bishop Christopher read the commendation saying, “Let us commend our brother in Christ, Bishop Karowei to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer” after which the coffin was sprinkled with holy water and censed – the smoke rising towards heaven with the congregation’s prayers. The final hymn Great is Thy Faithfulness, O God my Father was sung, and Archbishop Justin said the blessing. The service concluded with the funeral procession and the burial took place in Islington.

Many across the Diocese opened their churches to allow people to come together and watch the livestream of the service.

You can watch this here: youtu.be/vb4tgSpv93k

A few days earlier, the Cathedral had also hosted a special Service of Songs in the Nigerian tradition on Saturday 23 September, where mourners gathered to give thanks for Bishop Karowei’s life and ministry. On the evening of 27 September, Bishop Karowei’s body was received into the Cathedral and people shared in a special service of prayer and silent reflection.

You can still share your tributes with the Dorgu family here: forevermissed.com/bishop-karowei-dorgu



© Diocese of Southwark



The coffin is carried out of the Cathedral, prior to a private burial.



© Photos Eve Milner (except top). Clockwise from top: Bishop Karowei; Timi Dorgu; Sophia Nzeribe Nascimento; schoolchildren from Boucher School; Archdeacon Alastair Cutting; Revd Dr Peniel Rajkumar; and Justin Welby, Archbishop of Canterbury, with Timi.



DISCIPLESHIP & MINISTRY

RISE UP...

Gender based violence (GBV) is one of the greatest threats to human life, affecting many individuals, families and communities across the world. GBV is violence and abuse carried out against women and girls because of their gender or which affects women and girls disproportionately.

As part of a global 16 days of activism (25 November – 11 December) Mothers' Union (MU) are taking an active role in promoting awareness of GBV – an international campaign coordinated by the Centre for Women's Global Leadership to which the MU seek to respond all year round.

This year the focus for the MU is their new campaign *RISE UP Against Domestic Abuse*. Through its 40,000 strong membership across Britain and Ireland, the MU aims to play its part in combating domestic abuse through awareness raising, resources, and support for those affected by domestic abuse, as well as fostering a culture of empathy and empowerment within our churches and communities.

RISE UP is an acronym for Respond, Inform, Support, Empower, Unite and Pray.

Domestic abuse is widespread, affecting individuals and families of all backgrounds. It can happen to anyone from any walk of life.

Here are some examples of how MU members across our Diocese are already Responding by:

Informing others and raising awareness with literature, posters, notices to signpost people to support sites. Stickers on toilet doors are a simple thing you can do.

Supporting women seeking refuge, providing gifts and provisions.

Empowering people through training, accessing safeguarding training offered by the Diocese.

Uniting with others through the MU Church Pledge: a call to action, and an opportunity to affirm your commitment to end domestic violence.

Prayer and reflection: through a global wave of prayer and 'The Red Chair' initiative. Southwark MU members will place a Red Chair in a public setting to help acknowledge and raise awareness of the impact of domestic abuse in our communities.

To find out more about the MU go to www.mothersunion.org

Aurora Children's Ministry course

The Aurora Children's Ministry course is an eight-month training course aimed at anyone aged 16 and above who works with children in church, community or school settings. It's suitable for those just beginning to work with children and for those who have done so for many years. The course is designed to empower you to discover the theory behind children's ministry through input, guided reading, sharing, activities and reflection on your own practice. It aims to help you to develop new skills and confidence in your work with children.

This year, Patricia Nielsen, Katy Robb, Jo Hales and Lindsay Ould completed the Aurora Children's Ministry Course. On Monday 25 September they were invited, along with their friends, family and supporting clergy to celebrate their achievements at Southwark Cathedral – taking the first step of their journey towards becoming Commissioned Children's Leaders in their parishes.

After attending a selection day run by the Lay Ministry department, with the support from their parishes, they began the course



L-R: Katy Robb, Gemma Curran, Ronni Lamont, Patricia Nielsen, Joanna Hales.

in September 2022 and completed it in May 2023.

Ronni Lamont, Course Tutor, said "It was a real learning community, where we bonded together, supported, listened and learned from each other. I appreciated the diversity that Southwark contains and that was lovely to hear about different communities coming with their children and their practices."

Course participants said:

"The Aurora Course challenged me to step back so that children can step forward." *Patricia Nielsen*

"I have reflected on my own work at school church and home, these are all part of my ministry." *Katy Robb*

"It's taught me to design sessions that cover all spiritual styles and change the focus from ministry to children to ministry with children." *Jo Hales*

"The course challenged me to reflect on our children's ministry and put the spiritual development of our young people at the centre of all that is now being offered." *Lindsay Ould*



LET US PRAY... NOVEMBER

The Venerable John Kiddle
Archdeacon of Wandsworth

Remembrance

As we prepare for the season of Advent marking the beginning of a new church year and looking forward to God's future, November invites us to pause and remember. That sense of slowing down and recollecting resonates richly with the season of autumn as the leaves of spring and summer fall gently to the ground.

The 5 November invites a remembrance of political instability and a revolutionary plot; perhaps, in the midst of bonfires and fireworks, an opportunity to thank God for the stability we know today and to pray for nations across the world

where political and economic life is uncertain and volatile.

More deeply, 11 November and Remembrance Sunday invite us to stand in silence and reflect, remembering those who gave their lives, and all who have died, in war. As we remember, so we hold before God the utter tragedy and anguish of current conflicts. As we stand, so we commit ourselves to play our full part to work for peace with justice.

At the start of the month, All Souls Day (2 November) offers a tender quiet moment to remember those we know and love who have died and commend



them, in Christ, to the loving generous embrace of God. Grief, however recent, can be raw and deep; it touches our hearts and souls in many ways. May God's love hold us in gentleness and healing; and embrace those who have died in peace and life and glory.

The words remember and recollect are fascinating. They speak also of remembering and re-collecting, drawing together again what has been scattered

or broken apart. May we find this month of remembrance and recollection, to be a time of healing and wholeness. May it prepare us to take hold of the God's good future for us and for the world.

*Loving God
In you is our beginning and our end
You hold all life with unbreakable gentleness
You embrace your world with eternal goodness
Bless our remembrance this month.
In our grief may we feel your deep comfort
In our fear and uncertainty may we know your sure hope
In our helplessness may we hear your joyful call;
That we, with all creation, may live more fully the life that is your unceasing gift.
Amen.*

WHAT'S ON

Please send details of your next events for DECEMBER ONWARDS to Trinity House **BY THURSDAY 9 NOVEMBER**

November

UNTIL 3 DECEMBER

* **WATERLOO** – *Exploring Spirit* – an interfaith season of arts, film, reflection, talks, worship, prayer and mediation. Taking place at St John's Church, 73 Waterloo Road, London SE1 8TY. The season is open to all. Free or donation. Details at: bit.ly/3ZNvJL

WEDNESDAY 8 NOVEMBER

🎧 **ONLINE** – Church Army 'Discovery Evening'. Discover how you can train as a Church Army Evangelist. 7–9.30pm. Free. Register: bit.ly/45nAVnj

THURSDAY 9 NOVEMBER

🎵 **CROYDON** – Organ recital with Herman Jordaan. 1.30pm at Fairfield Halls, Croydon CR9 1DG. £5, under-18s free. Tickets: tinyurl.com/2fr6ktyj

SATURDAY 11 NOVEMBER

🎵 **STREATHAM** – *Streatham Choral* performs Gioachino Rossini's choral masterpiece. Conductor, Calum Fraser. 7.30pm at St Peter's Church, Leigham Crt Rd, SW16 2SD. Tickets: £10 (£8.50 concessions), book at: bit.ly/3PgRDih

SATURDAY 11 NOVEMBER

🎵 **EAST DULWICH** – A concert sung by three choirs: St John's Church Choir, The Elms Singers and Beckenham Youth Voices. Sacred and secular music, including Fauré's Requiem. Bar and refreshments. 6.30pm at St John the Evangelist, East Dulwich, SE22 9AT. All welcome. Free/retiring collection.

SUNDAY 19 NOVEMBER

🎵 **STREATHAM** – Recital by Daniel Shao, Flautist. 1150am–1250pm at St Peter's Church, Leigham Crt Rd, SW16 2SD. Free entry with retiring collection. Details at: stpeters-streatham.org

🎵 Croydon Minster

Lunchtime recitals, Fridays 1.10pm

3 Nov Old Palace of John Whitgift School
10 Nov Giulia Toniolo, Piano
17 Nov James Gaughan, Baritone & David Hammond, Piano
24 Nov Sophie Garbisu, Soprano & Laetitia Federici, Piano
1 Dec Laine Theatre Arts Choir
Free but donations gratefully received. Details: croydonminster.org

🎵 Concerts at St John the Evangelist, Upper Norwood

Saturday 4 November, 11.30am: coffee concert for St John's At Risk Restoration Appeal. Alexander Karpeyev, piano. Coffee & cake 11am.
Saturday 2 December, 11.30am: coffee concert for St John's At Risk Restoration Appeal. Chiarina Piano Quartet. Coffee & cake 11am.
Venue: St John the Evangelist, Sylvan Road, Upper Norwood, SE19 2RX
Admission FREE, generous donations, please. Further details at: sjun.org.uk

FRIDAY 24 NOVEMBER

* **SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL** – *Robes SleepOut* fundraising for homelessness. An evening of entertainment before participants bed down for the night in the Cathedral grounds. Details & register at: tinyurl.com/5f32zavy

SATURDAY 25 NOVEMBER

* **BLACKFRIARS** – Southwark Diocese Pioneering team 'Towards a mixed ecology of Church' – explore what a mixed ecology of church could look like in your context. 10am–4pm at Christ Church, 27 Blackfriars Rd, SE1 8NY. £15 includes lunch. Book at: tinyurl.com/5yuvzh8p

SATURDAY 25 NOVEMBER

🎵 **SUTTON** – Sutton Symphony Orchestra concert, includes Prokofiev Symphony 5. 7.30pm at St Andrew's URC, Cheam SM2 7HF. Tickets £15 (under 18s free) at the door or from: bit.ly/48QJFVS

SUNDAY 26 NOVEMBER

🎵 **DULWICH** – organ recital: Makoto James (St Michael, Cornhill). 7.45–8.30pm at Christ's Chapel, 14 Gallery Rd, Dulwich Village SE21 7AD. Free, retiring collection.

December

SATURDAY 2 DECEMBER

🎵 **WIMBLEDON** – Concert: the Hill Singers Chamber Choir perform Haydn's St Nicholas Mass and seasonal music. 7.30pm at St Matthew's Church, Wimbledon SW20 0DE. Tickets on the door £14, £12 concessions, £5 (benefit recipients) cash only; children under 16 free. Details at: bit.ly/3QdkjKM

SUNDAY 3 DECEMBER

🎵 **STREATHAM** – Carol service. 6.30–7.30pm at St Peter's Church, Leigham Crt Rd, Streatham SW16 2SD. Free.

TUESDAY 5 DECEMBER

* **REDHILL** – A visit from St Nicholas. For all ages. Gifts for children in need. 6pm at St John, Church Road RH1 6QA. Please register: nicholasmyrabari@gmail.com

SATURDAY 9 DECEMBER

🎵 **EAST DULWICH** – 'Carols by The Green' – carols, mince pies, refreshments, home-made produce stall, brass group players and more. 11am–1pm St John the Evangelist, East Dulwich, SE22 9AT. All welcome. Free.

9–16 DECEMBER

* **WEST WICKHAM** – Community Christmas Tree Festival. Come and look at the trees, have some refreshments, listen to some music and get ready for Christmas. Raising money for *Welcare* in Bromley, a charity that provides support and advice to families in need. At St Francis of Assisi, Ravenswood Avenue, West Wickham BR4 0PA. Free. Times: Sat 9 10am–1pm, Sun 10 12–3pm, Wed 13 10.30am–1pm, Fri 15 10am–1pm, Sat

16 10am–1pm. Details from: Kate Dyer katedyer41@hotmail.com or Nicky Nightingale nicholanightingale@hotmail.co.uk

SUNDAY 10 DECEMBER 2023

🎵 **PETERSHAM** – Concert in aid of St Peter's music and The Vineyard Community Centre, Richmond. Handel's Messiah, selected highlights. The Elysian Singers and Players of London – conductor, Sam Laughton. 6pm at St Peter's Church, Church Lane, Petersham, Surrey TW10 7AB. Tickets £15 from: tinyurl.com/PetershamMessiah. Enquiries: avantectnatarenatarsham@gmail.com


SATURDAY 16 DECEMBER

🎵 **WIMBLEDON** – Wimbledon Chamber Choir concert – 'Christmas in Venice' music by Monteverdi and the Gabrielis, with period instruments. 7.30pm at St Matthew's Church, Durham Road, Wimbledon SW20 0DE. Tickets £16 (under 16s free) at the door or from: bit.ly/3tXQIA

SUNDAY 17 DECEMBER

🎵 **STREATHAM** – Christmas carol service sung by the church choir. 6.30pm–7.30pm at St Peter's Church, Leigham Court Road, Streatham SW16 2SD. Free.

Email your upcoming events to bridge@southwark.anglican.org

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IN FOCUS...
Glaziers education programme 2023

Picturing forgiveness

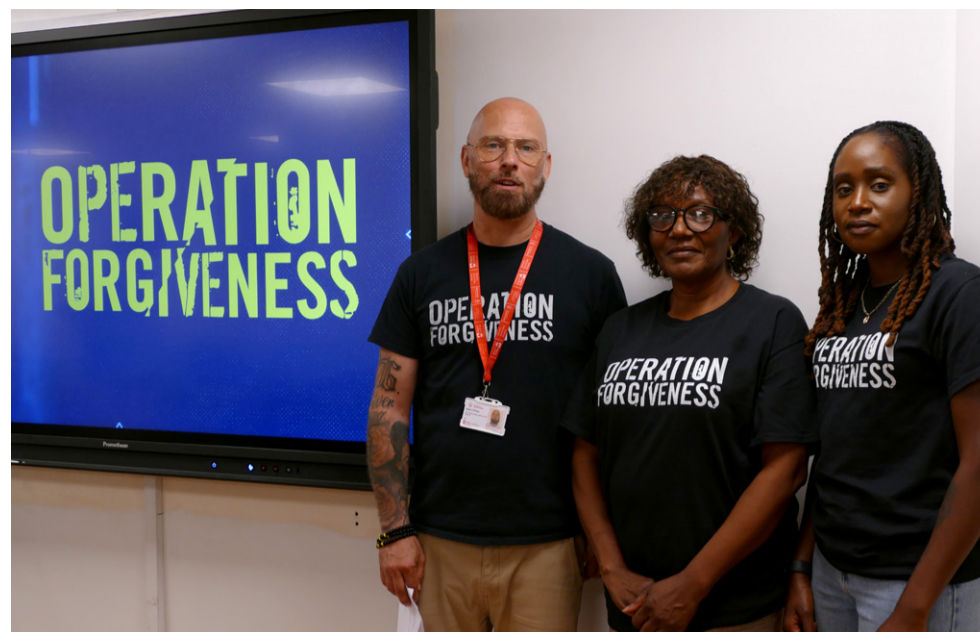
We're working with The Worshipful Company of Glaziers, Southwark Diocesan Board of Education and Operation Forgiveness to launch this year's stained glass art project around the theme of 'Serious Youth Violence – education and reconciliation.'

Following the success of the 2022 stained glass panel 'We See You', which focused on Modern Day Slavery, students from Bacon's College and Christ's School are taking part in a programme to design a glass panel around this year's theme. The new stained glass panel will be publicly displayed in November, with last year's panel currently on display in the Chapel of Reconciliation in Southwark Cathedral.

This year's cohort of schoolchildren visited Southwark Cathedral in September to learn about the history of stained glass and take part in workshops run by local Southwark-based charitable organisation *Operation Forgiveness*. The

children explored the devastating impact that youth violence has on a whole community, learning the story of a boy called Zac, who at aged 15 was stabbed to death outside his school by a group of boys he didn't know.

Across the sessions, Zac's family shared their personal experiences, including how they each came to forgive the boys who murdered him. They describe the impact of their Christian faith in their two very different journeys to forgiveness – and that although forgiveness can be difficult, it is ultimately liberating. By hearing their powerful stories, the children are encouraged to explore what it means to



L-R: Jason, Sarah (Zac's mother) and Tayo (Zac's sister).

forgive and how forgiveness can resolve anger towards others before it spirals out of control. Jason said, "The children learn about the ripple effects of youth violence, the dangers of carrying knives and the power of forgiveness and living with a forgiving attitude. After such a roller-coaster ride of emotions and intrinsic learning they get to work together with their creative response, normally this is creating posters on paper – however, this time their work is made into stain glass windows for all to see. This has been such

an amazing opportunity for them and a message to the world that youth violence is preventable and not acceptable."

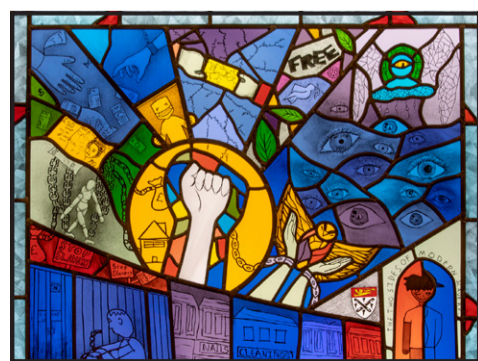
The programme includes visits to the Victoria and Albert Museum's stained glass collection and to glass working studios, as well as time in their schools supporting the children as their creative, personal responses are brought together in the form of a stained glass panel. The glass artists will create a glass artwork based on the students' designs.



School children on a visit to the glass working studio displaying a first glimpse of their creative designs.

Right here, Right now

Slavery is often something that we lament over in our history classes or films, but the great sadness is that the fight against slavery has not ended. Slavery is very much 'in our faces' and present and whilst people continue to profit from it, urgent work is needed.



Stained glass panel designed by school children around the theme of modern day slavery as part of our Glaziers Education Programme 2022.

On Modern Day Slavery Awareness Day (Wednesday 18 October) we shared a range of resources from *Stop the Traffik* to support our parishes to spot the signs in a person who may be a victim of human trafficking. There are also helpful indicators on what you can do, including joining in prayer – praying for justice as well as vigilance and courage, signposting your church community to information on how to report Modern Day Slavery. Read the blog at: tinyurl.com/mrphjxsh

Some churches held awareness events to mark the day, including Reigate

Archdeaconry and St Mary's Church, Guildford, through the Surrey Anti Slavery Partnership.

Report it: If you are concerned that someone you know or have seen may be a victim of Modern Day Slavery, seek help.

To report a suspicion or get advice you can contact the Modern Slavery Helpline confidentially on 08000 121 700. This is open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

If you want to remain anonymous, you can contact Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.