

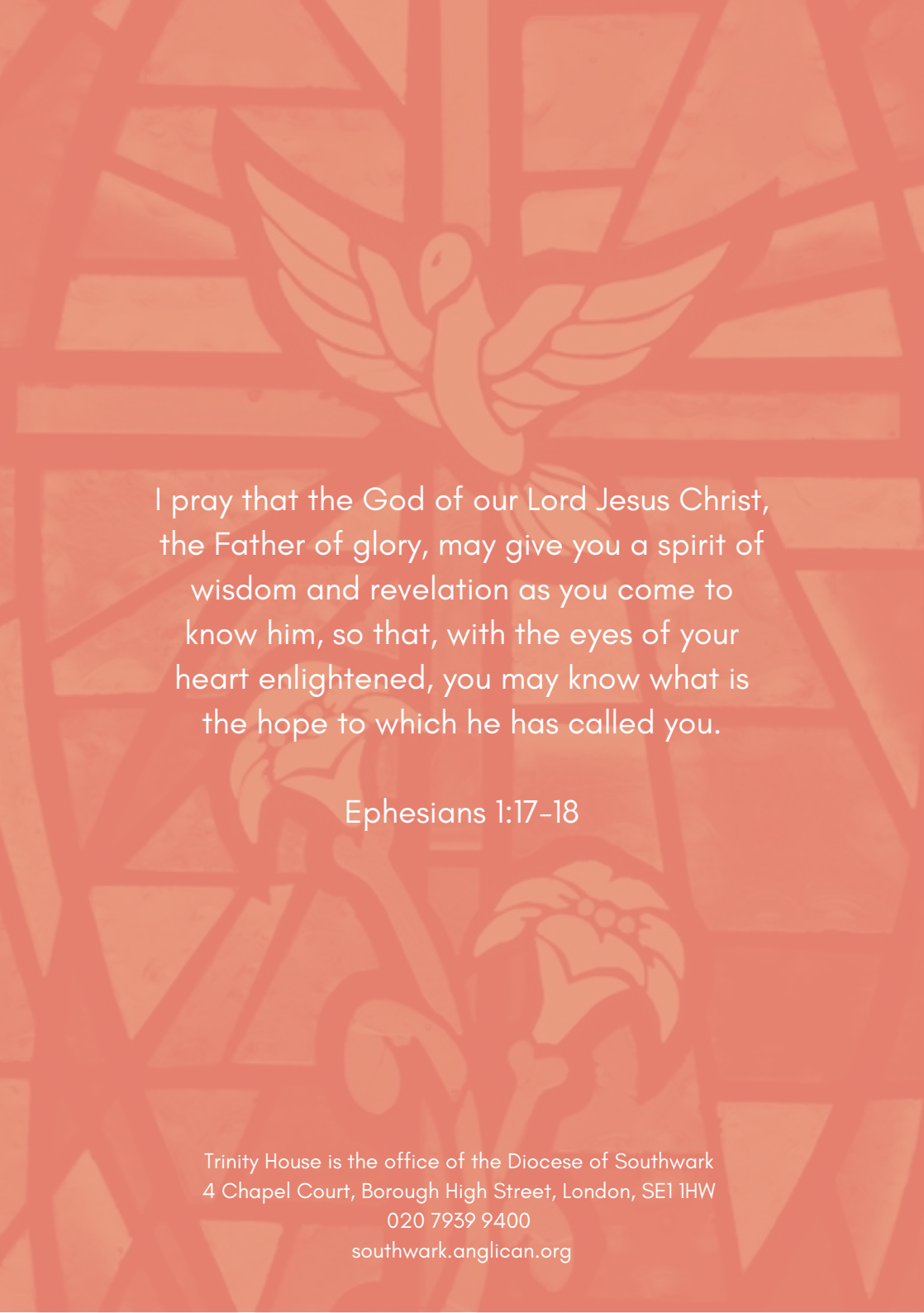


The Diocese of
Southwark

Summer

2026

Discipleship and Ministry
Events and Courses



I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of
wisdom and revelation as you come to
know him, so that, with the eyes of your
heart enlightened, you may know what is
the hope to which he has called you.

Ephesians 1:17-18

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

Welcome to our Summer 2026 Discipleship and Ministry brochure!

Summer is here! We are delighted to share with you our latest programme of events and courses to enrich, uplift, and inspire you from May to August. We hope you will find plenty here to help you grow in faith and wisdom.

Our popular Ground Floor Guides series goes in new directions this term, with introductions to music theology (p.9) and faith and humanitarian work (p.11). We also have a diverse programme of courses and talks about starting new things, planning a parish discipleship programme, working with volunteers, children's spirituality, bereavement ministry, creation care, and much, much more. These free events are open to everyone, and are easy to book.

Enrolment is now open for the 2026/27 Bishop's Certificate. By God's grace – and through the evangelism of former participants who have loved the course and told everyone they know about it! – the programme has grown tremendously over the past few years. This means that the course now fills up very quickly. If you're interested, don't delay signing up! More details on the next page.

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

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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 2026 and June 2027. 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 of all ages, backgrounds, and traditions enjoy the Bishop's Certificate every year, including many who don't consider themselves at all 'academic'.

People exploring whether God might be calling them to ordination as a deacon or priest, or to be a Reader or Licensed Lay Minister often take the course. For Commissioned Pastoral Lay Ministers (CPLM), Pioneers, or Commissioned Children and Youth Ministers, 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, diverse, 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



Occasional Preachers Course

Starts Sep 2026, Zoom and in-person, free

Lay Council has recently approved the instigation of a new course for those who may be asked to in preach or lead a reflection occasionally in their parishes. This course will consist of six sessions taking place on zoom and in person over a period of six months - four evening sessions on Zoom and two full days in person at Trinity House (dates below). Topics will include interpreting the Bible, discipleship and spiritual development, the art of preaching and practical application for preaching.

Your Incumbent and PCC will need to support your attendance. Attendees who go on to preach will be required to undergo a DBS check and attend Safeguarding training.

- 9 Sep, 7pm, Zoom
- 30 Sep, 7pm, Zoom
- 24 Oct, 9:30am-3pm, in person at Trinity House (SE1 1HW)
- 11 Nov, 7pm, Zoom
- 13 Jan, 7pm, Zoom
- 20 Feb, 9:30am-3pm, in person at Trinity House

For more information, email carol.coslett@southwark.anglican.org

SPIDIR Spiritual Direction Training Course

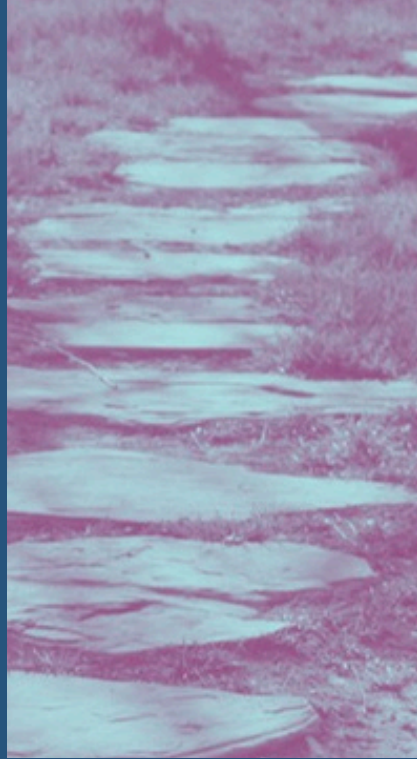
Sep 2026–Jun 2028

Online and in-person (Central London)

£500–600

Spiritual direction provides a valuable opportunity for people to talk about their faith in private with a trained Director. Spidir is commencing a Formation Course for those who would like to become a Spiritual Director, in September 2026. The course will be ecumenical but focused on Christian practice and doctrine.

Please visit <https://spidir.org.uk/> for the online & in-person course dates, and the application form. You will need to name two referees, and submit the form by 31 May 2026; there will be an interview on Zoom. For any queries, please email the Revd John Philpott-Howard at philpottHoward@aol.com



CYP Foundations Training

Are you involved in children, youth, or families ministry or thinking about it? Whether you're a volunteer, a leader, or simply exploring the role, this one-day course is designed for you. Join us to gain practical strategies, valuable resources, and peer support. You'll have the chance to connect, share, and learn alongside others passionate about CYP ministry. We'll cover essential topics like setting vision, planning, safeguarding, behaviour management, and much more to help you build a strong, sustainable foundation for your ministry.

- 2 May – St Mildred, Addiscombe
- 20 Jun – St Mary Magdalene, Peckham
- 4 Jul – St Michael, Southfields
- 26 Sep – St Thomas with St Stephen, Telford Park
- 17 Oct – St Alfege, Greenwich

Please note: Lunch is not provided, so do bring a packed meal. Tea and coffee will be available throughout the day.

To book, go to <https://tinyurl.com/FoundationsTrainingCYP>



Churches Tackling Homelessness: Identity and Lived Experience

Thu 7 May, 9:30am-3pm
London Diocesan House,
36 Causton Street (SW1P
4AU), free

Are you part of a church community working to address homelessness? Join us for a day dedicated to exploring how we can continue to better support and empower those who are experiencing homelessness.

This event is a chance to connect with others, gain new insights, share wisdom, and explore how we can create church spaces and support pathways that are more responsive, inclusive, and effective for everyone who comes through our doors.

To book, go to <https://cth2026.eventbrite.co.uk>



Starting New Things

Various dates, 7:30-9:30pm
Zoom, free

Do you feel called to pioneer new things but don't know where to start? Would you like to give your mission or outreach activity a boost, or would you like to develop your fresh expression further and want to learn more?

This two hour foundation-level training session will help you explore simple, effective and practical ways to pioneer Fresh Expressions and new worshipping communities amongst your friends, family and neighbours.

- Tue 12 May
- Tue 30 Jun
- Tue 22 Sep
- Tue 17 Nov

To book, go to <https://tinyurl.com/52kyxj3d>



Croydon Area Estate Network Meeting

Wed 13 May, 12:30-2:30pm
St Mildred's Church,
Addiscombe (CR0 7HR), free

Anyone working in estates ministry is welcome to this lunchtime meeting designed to foster the sharing of ideas and mutual encouragement.

To book, go to <https://tinyurl.com/2p3s5dpg>



Lay Taster Sessions

Tue 26 May, 7:30pm

Zoom, free

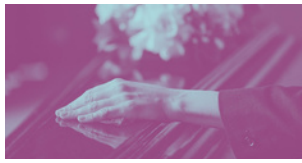
Sat 17 Sep, 10am-12:30pm

St Paul's Wimbledon

Parkside, Augustus Road
(SW19 6EW), free

If you are thinking about how to use the gifts God has given you, then come along and find out more about the different pathways into lay ministry in the Diocese of Southwark. This is a chance to discover what lay ministry entails and learn how you might begin exploring your own vocation.

To book, email learning@southwark.anglican.org



Bereavement Care Awareness

Sat 30 May, 10am-1:30pm

Trinity House, free

This workshop has been produced as part of Care for the Family's bereavement training for churches. It is useful for anyone involved or interested in supporting bereaved people.

This interactive session 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.

We recommend that you arrive for registration at least 15 minutes before the training, as we will be starting promptly at the advertised time.

To book, go to <https://tinyurl.com/ymxbbudc>



Energy Footprint Tool Training Sessions

Tue 5 May, 12:30-1:30pm

or 6:30-7:30pm

Zoom, free

Join us for this online training session to help your church complete this year's Energy Footprint Tool (EFT). Completing the EFT is a simple but essential step in understanding your church's energy use, gaining greater access to carbon-reducing grants and support, and playing your part in the Church of England's commitment to caring for God's creation.

We'll guide you through filling in the tool using your 2025 energy bills. This training is suitable for treasurers, churchwardens, clergy, administrators, and anyone supporting energy reporting.

To book, email your name, church, and preferred session time to JPICadmin@southwark.anglican.org



Transform your church's future in just one hour! Mission Action Planning (MAP) Foundations training provides the tools to lead with confidence. The Mission Department runs monthly training sessions to equip and enable you to run a MAP away day with your church.

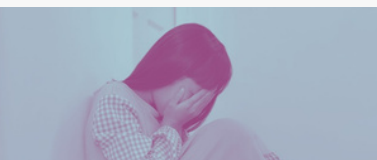
Mission Action Planning (MAP) Foundation Training

Various dates/times

Zoom, free

- Tue 12 May, 2-3pm
- Tue 30 Jun, 2-3pm
- Thu 16 Jul, 7:30-8:30pm

To book, go to <https://tinyurl.com/5f9ydm45>



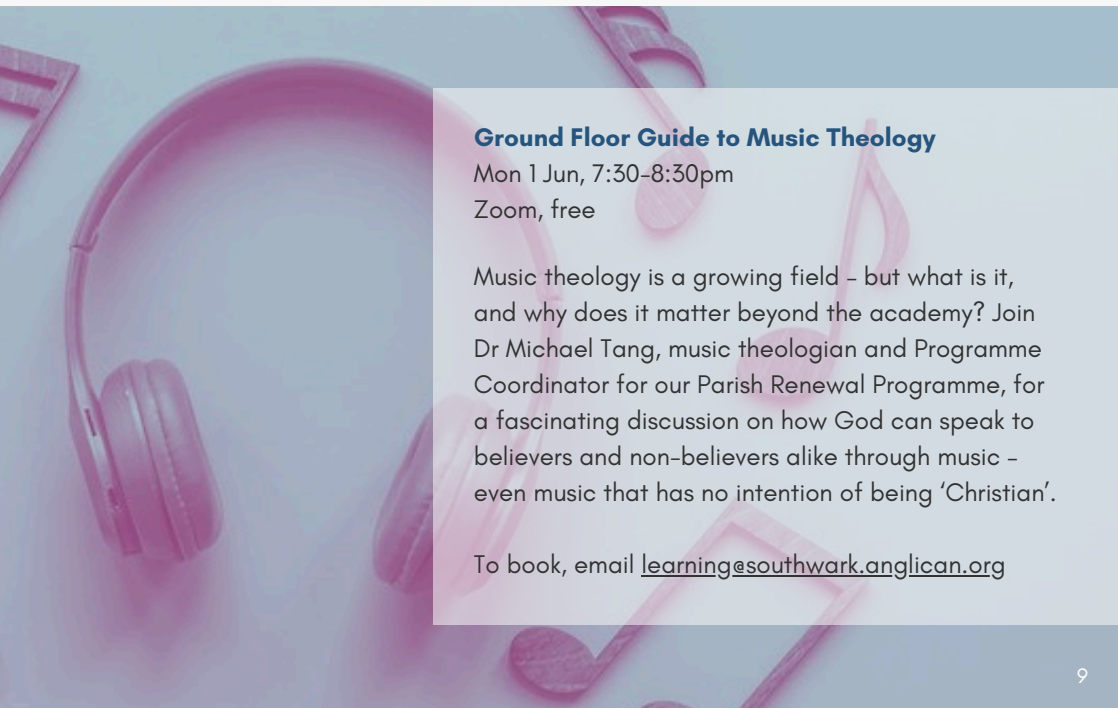
Youth Affected by Violence: How Youth and Children's Workers might respond

Thu 28 May, 7-8:30pm

Zoom, free

This session is to support those working with children and young people to understand the effects of youth violence on young people and how churches can respond; as well as highlighting the power of youth and children's work in relation to youth affected by violence. This session is for children and young people's workers. If you are another leader in the church do get in touch.

To book, email jjpicadminesouthwark.anglican.org



Ground Floor Guide to Music Theology

Mon 1 Jun, 7:30-8:30pm

Zoom, free

Music theology is a growing field - but what is it, and why does it matter beyond the academy? Join Dr Michael Tang, music theologian and Programme Coordinator for our Parish Renewal Programme, for a fascinating discussion on how God can speak to believers and non-believers alike through music - even music that has no intention of being 'Christian'.

To book, email learning@southwark.anglican.org



Spiritual Development in Schools

Tue 2 Jun, 9:30am-3pm

Southwark Diocesan Board Of Education,
48 Union Street (SE1 1TD), free

Spirituality is a key area for nurturing and developing within everyone. It can impact deeply on an individual's life, character, faith and beliefs. In the church school context it can and should also make a powerful contribution to the school's Christian distinctiveness. For spiritual development to be the most meaningful and effective, it needs to be part of a pupil's holistic education.

This day will include discussion of models of spiritual development; how spiritual development links with Religious Education (RE), other curriculum areas and Collective Worship; and how spiritual development links with other areas of school life. There will also be a look at Spirituality in the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Framework.

This day is suitable for Clergy, School Leaders, Governors, Children. Youth and Family Lay Ministers, or other lay members who support school ministry. To book, email learning@southwark.anglican.org



Personal Safety & Lone Working Training

Wed 3 Jun, 1:30-4:30pm

Zoom, free

This course, delivered by the Suzy Lamplugh Trust, is ideal for anyone who frequently works alone in their church or undertakes pastoral home visits and would like to learn how to assess, mitigate, and manage risk. Topics covered include:

- Lone working: What is it and what is the law relating to lone working?
- Risk assessment: Including identifying risks related to all aspects of work
- Tracing systems: Ensuring staff are traceable in case of an emergency
- Home visits: Best practice for staying safe while conducting a home visit
- Travelling safely: Tips for safety on various methods of transport

Places are limited, so please book early to avoid disappointment. To book, email learning@southwark.anglican.org



Foundations for Creation Care

Thu 4 Jun, 6:30-8pm
Zoom, free

Creation care – what’s it all about? In this foundation level training session – led by our Diocesan Environmental Officer, Sophie Roberts – we’ll explore why our faith calls us to care for God’s world, and how churches can take both big and small steps to make a difference.

Join us to learn how creation care can be woven into church life and everyday discipleship. Together, we’ll consider how churches can faithfully respond to the climate and nature crisis, why climate justice matters for Christians today, and how we can take practical, hopeful action.

To book, go to <https://tinyurl.com/foundationscreationcare>



Ground Floor Guide to Faith and Development

Mon 8 Jun, 7:30-8:30pm
Zoom, free

Christian Aid. Tearfund. CAFOD. There are a lot of aid and development organisations that have Christian identities and principles. But have you ever wondered how faith might shape how we understand the work of international development and humanitarian aid, and how this work is done in practice?

Join us for this informative Ground Floor Guide to explore how Christian theology, values, and lived discipleship relate to the vital work of global poverty alleviation, development and disaster response. Led by theologian and historian, the Rev Dr Hannah Swithinbank.

To book, learning@southwark.anglican.org



Discipleship Planning

Wed 10 Jun, 2-4:30pm
Trinity House, free

Have you ever wondered how to get exactly the right course for your congregation? A course that deals with the issues that you want to address as a parish, and pitched at just the right level?

In this session, Wendy Robins (Director of Discipleship, Lay Ministry and Continuing Ministerial Education) will offer some practical hints and tips on how to work out what your congregation would like to study and how to make it happen. She will also offer practical advice on choosing or designing materials and on how to publicise and run the group.

To book, learning@southwark.anglican.org



Retreat for Those Involved in Social Action Ministries

Mon 15 Jun, 10:30am-2pm

St Clement's, Dulwich (SE22 0AY), free

Social action work is an incredible privilege, but it is not without its challenges. This retreat is a chance to pause and remember that the work is ultimately God's, not ours. In this half-day retreat, we will make intentional space amid the busyness of ministry to offer our labour back to God. Together, we will listen for His voice, reflect on what He is stirring in us, and reflect on what God has put on our hearts for the communities we serve.

To book, email JPICAdmin@southwark.anglican.org



How to Share your Faith

Tue 16 Jun or Tue 21 Jul, 1-2pm

Zoom, free

This session is for both clergy and lay people at every level of parish life. Facilitated by the Mission department's Dean of Revitalisation, we welcome ecumenical mission trainer, Revd Terry Quick, to lead us in thinking through how to share our faith, and why we might wish to. To book, go to <https://tinyurl.com/3dfyendd>



Managing Volunteers

Tue 16 Jun, 10:30-11:30am

Zoom, free

This session aims to help clergy and those who manage volunteers in parishes think through common issues such as dealing with conflicts, setting expectations and boundaries, and how to provide feedback.

To make the session as helpful as possible, attendees are asked to share their concerns or those of their parish about working with volunteers. Please email these when booking. To book, email learning@southwark.anglican.org

Foundations for Social Action

Wed 17 Jun, 6:30–8:00pm, Zoom, free

In this interactive online workshop, we'll breakdown concepts that can seem challenging, and explore how they are biblically rooted and relevant to current social issues. We'll discover how daily practices like praying or making friends with neighbours, and actions like donating our time and money, can all be part of a life shaped by justice. To book, go to <https://EDJ1706.eventbrite.co.uk>



More than Money – Poverty and Meeting Community Needs (Building Effective Social Action)

Mon 22 Jun, 12:30–1:30pm, online, free

Poverty means more than a lack of financial resources. The latest data on the causes and effects of poverty reveal that many different types of community engagement ministries can have a role to play in tackling poverty, from church coffee mornings to specific support. To book, go to <https://BESAPoverty.eventbrite.co.uk>

Meet the Team

Wed 24 Jun, 10am–1pm, Trinity House, free

This session is especially for clergy who are new to incumbency or the Diocese or both, and who want the opportunity of seeing Trinity House and meeting some of the Team. There will be the chance to hear about the work of our Safeguarding and Property Teams, members of other Teams, and to look around Trinity House. Clergy who have been in the Diocese for longer but who would like another chance to meet the staff of the Diocesan Office are also very welcome.

The Parish as a Charity

Wed 24 Jun, 2–4pm, Trinity House, free

This session will provide an opportunity to find out more about what is required to make sure that our parishes are compliant with charity law and the financial aspects that are the responsibility of a PCC. You'll find out about looking after the parish, serious incident reporting, and GDPR compliance, and make sure that you are up to date on all things trustee-related. Diocesan staff and other experts will be on hand to guide you through what you need to know. *To get the most out of this session, it is recommended to be familiar with your PCC accounts and come with any finance questions you may have.*

Why not make a day of it and come to both session which fit nicely together.

To book for one or both sessions, email learning@southwark.anglican.org



Pilgrimage Reflections From Rome to Assisi

Mon 13 Jul, 7-8:30pm,
Trinity House, free

What does Pilgrimage mean to you? Have you ever been on one? Come along and share in this time to hear reflections and experiences of Pilgrimage, view some of the amazing photographs, and follow in the footsteps of St Peter, St Paul, St Francis and St Clare. The session will close with a short act of worship. Refreshments will be served.

To book, email
learning@southwark.anglican.org

Unconscious Bias Training

Wed 17 Jun or Wed 8 Jul, 10am-1pm
Trinity House, free

Open to everyone, these sessions help individuals and churches address issues of unconscious bias which may arise in diverse communities.

The facilitators 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, email
learning@southwark.anglican.org

Partnering with Other Organisations

Mon 27 Jul, 12:30-1:30pm
Online, free

How do we build effective partnerships with local councillors, external organisations, and other groups? How do we use these partnerships to better share God's love with people in our local communities? This webinar will hear from people within the Diocese who have experience in working alongside external agencies and local authorities.

To book, go to
<https://BESAPartnering.eventbrite.co.uk>

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