

This mailing is going to all Clergy (including PTO), Honorary Assistant Bishops, Former PTO, Licensed Lay Ministers, Churchwardens, Readers (including PTO), Deanery Lay Chairs, Deanery Synod Secretaries, Deanery Finance Officers, Lay Canon, PCC Secretaries, PCC Treasurers, Family and Community Missioners, Authorised Lay Ministers, Parish Safeguarding Advisers, Diocesan Director of Education, Assistant Director of Education, Diocesan Secretary, Diocesan Registrar and Deputy, Bishop's Council, Chancellor and Vice Chancellor, Church House staff.

Diocese of Newcastle

Information round-up for week ending **8 October 2021 (Number 76)**

We hope you find this email useful. It will be issued each week summarising much of the information circulated by the Diocese and the National Church over the previous days relating to COVID 19, as well as other important news. Some information will be repeated from previous weeks if it remains relevant.

MEDIA ENQUIRIES AND COMMUNICATIONS

If you receive any media approaches about the Church's response to the coronavirus situation, please let our Diocesan Director of Communications, Roderick Stuart know. This ensures a joined up and consistent response.

r.stuart@newcastle.anglican.org or tel: 07825 777386

Please continue to send us your stories highlighting the important work you are doing in the communities you serve. Please send to communications@newcastle.anglican.org

COVID 19

The latest Government guidance on the safe use of places of worship, last updated on **16 July**. [Click here](#)

The latest general Government guidance on the current restrictions in place in England can be found here, last updated **4 October**

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-coronavirus-restrictions-what-you-can-and-cannot-do>

Please continue to check the Church of England website for the latest COVID updates relating to Places of Worship. **Last updated: Monday 4 October**

New FAQs added:

- Are there specific restrictions for Remembrance Sunday services?
- Will churches use vaccine certification / vaccines passports?
- How do I get a flu vaccine?

<https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches>

NEW: Church of England's one day conference – 'Simpler, Humbler, Bolder: Life Events in the Mixed Ecology'

Thursday 3 February 2022 at the Ramada Solihull
Clergy and church leaders are warmly invited to the first onsite Life Events conference since 2019, focusing on how life events ministry will have a renewed focus in the outworking of the Church's Vision and Strategy.
Cost £55 (includes lunch and refreshments)/ early bird £45 until 30 November.
For more information and to book, click [here](#).

NEW: Safeguarding Leadership Learning 2022

Dates for our 2022 diocesan Safeguarding Leadership Learning events have now been released and are available to [book here](#).

NEW: Call for Evidence: Archbishops' Commission on Families and Households

The Archbishops' Commission on Families and Households is launching its public engagement phase, and this is your opportunity to have your say about how the Church and society can support families and households to flourish. For the next six weeks, the Commission is inviting responses about family and household life from individuals, organisations and churches through its Call for Evidence, beginning on **Monday 11 October**. The Commission, chaired by Professor Janet Walker, hopes to hear from a wide range of voices and would be very grateful for your involvement. To contribute to the Call for Evidence using the online form (from Monday), please visit the website: [Archbishops' Commission on Families and Households | The Archbishop of Canterbury](#).

NEW: Allergen labelling

A new allergen labelling law came into effect on 1 October which requires organisations, including churches, to label all food that is prepacked for direct sale with a full list of ingredients, with the [14 major allergens](#) emphasised in the list. The new law applies to foods packaged on the same site at which they are sold before being ordered; foods pre-packaged elsewhere already require full ingredients labelling, with allergens emphasised in the list. [Click here for Food Standards Agency guidance](#).

REMINDER: Anti-Slavery Day

Anti-Slavery Day is Monday 18 October. If you are planning to organise an Anti-Slavery Day service for Sunday 17 October, The Clewer Initiative has produced a [new resource pack for churches](#) containing liturgy, prayers, suggested Bible readings, hymns and a bespoke session for house groups.

REMINDER: Introduction to Workplace Chaplaincy course

[This online six-week course](#), run by Workplace Chaplaincy Mission UK, begins on Tuesday 12 October, 7-8.30pm. It is open to anyone based in the UK (lay or ordained), who may be thinking of becoming a workplace chaplain and who wishes to know more about this important ministry.

REMINDER: CofE webinar - Advent and Christmas 2021

Wednesday 13 October, 10-11am
'At the Heart of Christmas - Making the most of your church's digital presence at Christmas time' – Learn more about the national Christmas campaign, discover the

invitational resources available for your church, and hear ideas for maximising your digital presence at Christmas time. [Register here](#).

REMINDER: Sign-up to our eBulletin

Did you know we send out a monthly digital newsletter featuring all of the latest news, events, resources and information from the Diocese, as well as our diocesan Prayer Diary?

The eBulletin is delivered directly into your inbox on the last Friday of every month, and it's a great way to keep up to speed with everything happening in the Diocese (and beyond!) [Click here to sign-up](#).

REMINDER: The latest edition of LINK is available to [read here](#)

REMINDER: The latest Prayer Diary can be downloaded [here](#)

REMINDER: PRAYING FOR NEXT STEPS – AUTUMN 2021

You are warmly invited to join + Mark and other members of Bishop's Staff in praying for the life of our diocese and our *next steps* in *growing church bringing hope*. Every Monday morning, we will pray at 9.00am via Zoom during the Autumn until Advent. We will be using a shortened version of Morning Prayer and will be finished before 9.30am. You are welcome to join in whenever you can.

Please use this Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84666034174?pwd=VWpoNzBNVTQ2UkxXcHF1aW5NbDVKQT09>

Meeting ID: 846 6603 4174

Passcode: 347511

Other gatherings and opportunities for prayer will be shared in due course.

REMINDER: ELECTIONS TO THE GENERAL SYNOD

The voting period for elections to General Synod closes tonight (Friday 8th October) at 23:59hrs. May we encourage all who are eligible to vote to do so by responding to the e-mail issued on 17 September from General Synod Elections.

Please continue to pray for the candidates standing for election to serve on the General Synod and for those eligible to vote, please vote!

House of Clergy

three places and seven candidates

The Revd Canon Ian Flintoft

The Revd Canon Adrian Hughes

The Revd Robert Lawrance

The Revd Claire Robson

The Revd Canon John Sinclair

The Ven Catherine Sourbut Groves

The Revd Louise Taylor-Kenyon

House of Laity

three places and six candidates

Dr John Appleby

Lt Gen Robin Brims

Mrs Nicola Denyer

Mr Sheffield Exham

Canon Izzy McDonald Booth

Mrs Jill Swaile

Election addresses are available at www.newcastle.anglican.org/generalsynod

Who to contact about the elections? The Presiding Officer is Canon Shane Waddle who can be contacted on 0191 270 4114 or by e-mail to elections@newcastle.anglican.org

REMINDER: Safeguarding Sunday: 10th October 2021

‘Safeguarding Sunday’ is an ecumenical initiative supported by the Church of England, and this year will be marked on 10th October 2021.

This is the chance for local churches to use their regular Sunday service to explore together what safer places look like, and to thank all those working behind the scenes to make our churches safer for all. For more, [click here](#)

REMINDER: Lay ministry celebration

A celebratory service honouring lay ministry in our Diocese will take place this Sunday. The aim of the service is to affirm, commission, pray for and send out all lay ministers including Authorised Lay Ministers, Anna Chaplains, Pioneers, Readers, Children and Youth workers, Church Wardens, and anyone else who recognises their call to discipleship, both inside and outside church buildings and in their everyday lives. The service, led by Bishop Mark and Nic Denyer, the Diocese’s Lay Ministry Development Officer, will be joyful, truly collaborative and informal, with lay people across the Diocese telling their stories, reading Scripture and leading prayers – no robing is required. There will be refreshments after the service, as well as a chance to connect with each other.

The service will take place at Newcastle Cathedral on Sunday 10 October at 6.30pm and will also be live streamed via the cathedral’s [Youtube channel](#)

GENEROUS GIVING UPDATE

NEW: Contactless Donations

If you have yet to use contactless donation equipment in your church, please get in touch with the [Generous Giving Team](#). We can take you through an easy and inexpensive set-up process or give advice about other suppliers you may wish to consider. We also have a small amount of equipment available to loan for a trial period. Visit our [contactless donations](#) page to find out more.

REMINDER: Upcoming Easyfundraising Webinar

[easyfundraising](#) will be holding an information session online, exclusively for our diocese at **1pm on Wednesday 13th October**, where they will share lots of hints and tips on how you can make the most of this type of fundraising in the coming months. The session is free and one lucky attendee will win a **£25 donation** for their church! Please register using this link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_9Ca1i5uYTcWR4y5yBib1Wg

DIOCESAN VACANCIES

[Assistant Priest \(HfD\), parishes of Cornhill with Carham and Branxton](#)

[Priest in Charge of Haltwhistle and Greenhead and Assistant Curate of Beltingham with Henshaw](#) – deadline 5 November 2021

OTHER VACANCIES

Children and Families Worker, St Thomas' Newcastle – deadline 18 October 2021

CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Facebook

Please 'like' Newcastle Diocese's Young People Facebook page (@newcastledioceseyoungpeople) to find out about the huge amount happening to help people with children's and youth ministry in the COVID restrictions or new normal. Visit and 'like': <https://www.facebook.com/newcastledioceseyoungpeople/>

OFFICE ARRANGEMENTS FOR BISHOP'S HOUSE

All staff at Bishop's House have returned to the office and are available in the usual way. Phone 0191 285 2220.

Revd Canon Pete Askew

Chaplain to the Bishop of Newcastle

p.askew@newcastle.anglican.org

Canon Lesley Towers

PA to the Bishop of Newcastle

l.towers@newcastle.anglican.org

Elena Rose

PA to the Bishop of Berwick

pa.bishopofberwick@newcastle.anglican.org

Kathryn Beale

Administration Assistant

admin.bishopofnewcastle@newcastle.anglican.org

OFFICE ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHURCH HOUSE, NORTH SHIELDS

Church House reception is open from 8.30am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday.

Use this link for staff contact information: [click here](#).

WELLBEING AND COUNSELLING

Patty Everitt is our Diocesan Counselling Service. [Click here](#) to see our updated Counselling pages on our website.

SAFEGUARDING

National safeguarding and Covid-19 advice can be found here: <https://bit.ly/34HKXnc>

NORTH EAST RELIGIOUS LEARNING RESOURCES CENTRE

You can find full details on opening hours and safety measures in place [here](#)

They have a range of new resources now available for churches and schools. Please feel free to pop in unannounced, or book a visit, by calling 0191 2704161. They would be delighted to welcome you back into the Centre.

In addition to their physical resources the RRC has a range of online materials available including some exciting new Conversations on art, Christianity and developing faith in the family. For more information and the online booking forms please [click here](#).

Zoom Event: Finding God in Threads and Patches with Claire Cullingworth 4th November 6:00-7:00

Mending clothes uses a set of very traditional skills that have largely gone out of favour in the last few decades. In this session, Claire will tell the story of how simple and seemingly mundane acts such as patching jeans and darning socks have helped her to see God with fresh eyes, and to find hope when things seemed dark.

Visible mending is a modern creative twist on traditional mending, making a creative feature out of repairs, rather than treating them as something to be hidden away discretely. (You could think of it as a fabric parallel to the Japanese art of Kintsugi, repairing pottery with gold) With fast fashion making clothing increasingly cheap and disposable, visible repair can be a revolutionary act. We'll spend some time in this session thinking about how this creative practice can change our relationship with our clothes, with ourselves and with our environment. Is it possible to have a spirituality of mending?

You can find examples of Claire's mending on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter by searching for [Rag Bag Mending](#)

To book please contact the RRC: 0191 3750586

or enquiries@resourcescentreonline.co.uk

Please note bookings close at midday the day of the event

If you're preparing for All Saints Day we have a wonderful collection on Saints and materials for dealing with Halloween. Search our online catalogue to find out what we have: <https://uk.accessit.online/nrt14/#!dashboard>

DIGITAL RESOURCES

Sheila Hamil continues to offer 'free to use' videos for use on Zoom and online services:

LOCKDOWN LEGACY (72 videos)

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLnUh_ZGnZNfUIV8HEyppRlv8FLBtyEY65

PEARLS OF GREAT PRICE: Parables (31 videos)

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLnUh_ZGnZNfX6RD4XU7o7MpzlPkdBxIV&pbjreload=102

KALEIDOSCOPE OF CHARACTERS: Bible Stories (48 videos)

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL0200C4ABFE5E08E5>

Sheila's radio programme 'New Day Dawning' is broadcast on Radio Tyneside, hospital and community radio on 93.6 FM: Hospedia Channel 1 and online, at 8.00 am each Sunday morning.

Music: The National Church releases up to five hymns and songs each week for use in virtual services. AChurchNearYou.com editors can access the music, recorded by singers from [St Martin-in-the-Fields](#), to use in their livestreamed and pre-recorded Sunday services during the coronavirus pandemic. Find out more at cofe.io/Hymns

Free webinars: <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/church-resources/digital-labs/labs-learning-webinars>

ONGOING COVID-19 INFORMATION

Diocese: The Coronavirus pages of the Diocesan website are regularly updated to include links to video streams in parishes, local resources and downloads which may

prove useful, local safeguarding updates and other information. Please continue to update us www.newcastle.anglican.org/coronavirus

Church of England: Please regularly check for the latest national guidance and updates on the Coronavirus

pandemic: <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/media-centre/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-churches>

Ends