

Events and training

More details for all these events at gloucester.anglican.org/events

Churches across the Diocese of Gloucester will be worshipping together for Easter, whether online or in person. If you want to find out the latest information from your local church, visit www.achurchnearlyou.com

Maundy Thursday Eucharist (Live stream only from Gloucester Cathedral)

Thursday 1 April, 11am

Open to all. This service will see members of the clergy from across the Diocese of Gloucester renew their ordination vows. The oils for use in services will also be blessed for the coming year. Got to gloucestercathedral.org.uk/worship/services/services-live-stream/ to join.

Easter Day Eucharist (Live stream from Gloucester Cathedral)

Sunday 4 April, 10.15am

This is a traditional Easter morning service with Bishop Rachel, the

Bishop of Gloucester. All are welcome via Zoom.

EcoChurch Zoom Seminars – The Next Steps

Thursday 22 April, 11am to 12:30pm and again at 7pm to 8pm

If you're working on your EcoChurch award, either Bronze or Silver and are not quite sure how to progress things, this seminar will be helpful to you. Visit shorturl.at/bxK39 to book.

The Language of Spirituality Saturday 15 May, 10am to 12 noon

The disciples understood there was something in Jesus' relationship with God that they couldn't grasp. They needed a new language, a new approach and so they asked Jesus how to pray. Debbie Helme and Jo Wetherall have developed a language of Spirituality to help describe our understanding of who God is and how that effects our everyday lives – to people who don't have an experience of faith. Book at gloucester.anglican.org/event/the-language-of-spirituality

Have your say

Visit Facebook **f/Diocese.of.Gloucester**, email Katherine at kclamp@glosdioc.org.uk, follow us on Twitter **@glosdioc**, view videos on YouTube **Diocese of Gloucester** or visit our website gloucester.anglican.org

April 2021



Happy Easter

With the promise of warmer weather in the air and the gradual lifting of lockdown restrictions, this Easter feels like it is heralding in dramatic change.

Stories of how Christian generosity and initiative is making a difference in the world are everywhere. Over

1,200 Easter meals were sponsored and delivered to people across the Diocese through our Comfort and Joy Easter project. Delicious shepherd's pies or gardener's pies cooked by The Long Table, with a freshly baked hot cross bun were delivered to doorsteps across the area, as a way of showing our neighbours that they are cared for and loved.

Huge amounts of money are being donated to Christian Aid in thankfulness for vaccinations—at the time of writing, in early March, over £7,000 had been given in this Diocese, in collaboration with the local Methodist Circuit. This money will be used to support those for whom Covid restrictions have had other significant impacts.

In this month's edition we're including an extract from a special edition of Growing Together which you can share with your worshipping community. To download the full edition and lots more family friendly resources to share locally, please visit www.gloucester.anglican.org/your-ministry/children-youth-and-families/growing-together

Courageous Advocacy

Have a go at making the world better – for bees. Could you make a bee hotel or plant a bee friendly flower or shrub in a tub or a part of your garden? Find out where it's possible to buy local, sustainable honey and share the information with your friends and family. For further ideas go to www.wwf.org.uk/updates/how-bee-friendly



Family Fun

Go for a 'honey' hunt. You could search the kitchen and see how many food items you can find that include honey. You could walk in the garden/park and see how many bees on flowers you can count. You could even do a web engine search and hunt to see how many things you can discover that are made using beeswax.



Prayer Ideas

Kind words are like honey—sweet to the taste and good for your health.
(Proverbs 16:24 GNT)

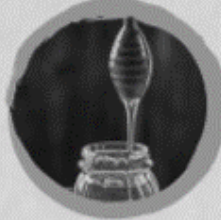
For this prayer space activity you will need something sweet to slowly eat, perhaps a piece of honeycomb, a milk and honey cookie or even an Easter egg.

Find a quiet moment and a quiet place to enjoy your sweet snack and see how slowly you can eat it and how long you can make it last.

As you do this consider the words of Proverbs 16:24. Think about how kind words could be like honey. Did you know honey has been used as a medicine for over 5,000 years and is particularly good for healing wounds? Do you think kind words can heal?

Savour the taste of your sweet snack. How good does it taste? Think again about those kind words. Can you think of any times when someone has said something kind to you?

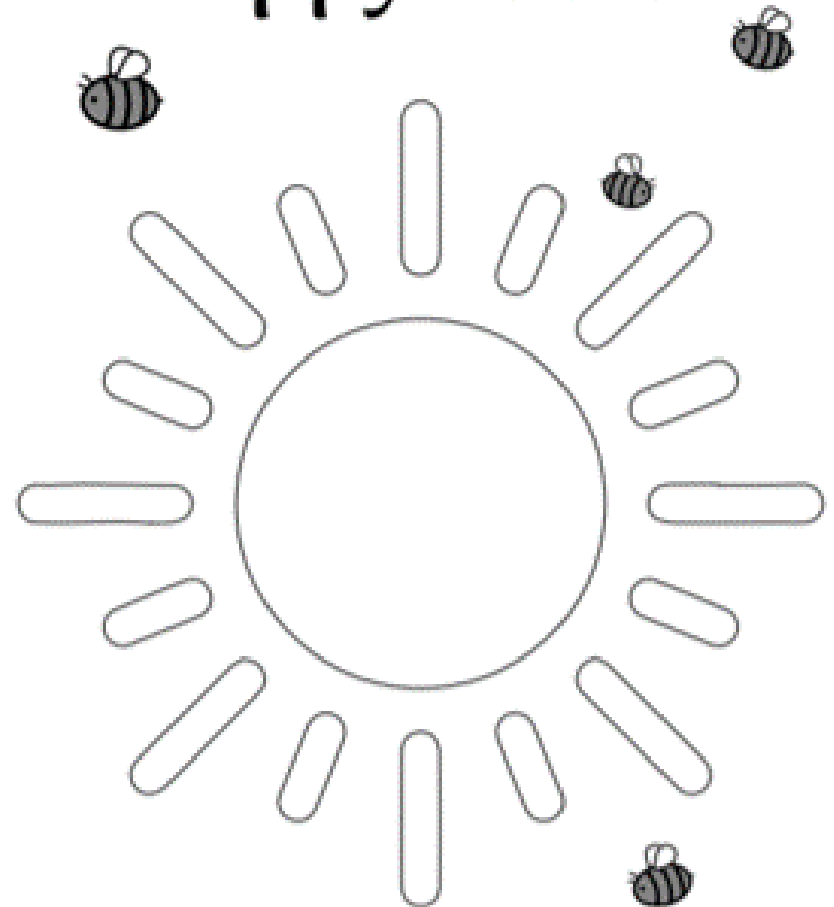
Pray that you will make the most of any opportunity you have to say kind words to people and your words will be like honey – able to bring sweetness and healing.



You are my Sunshine

Sunrise on Easter Morning is the time when lots of Christians celebrate Jesus rising. Bees and flowers need the sun to bring warmth and long days so they can grow and thrive – perhaps you could give a sunshine to someone this Easter to say thank you for the way they have made your community work really well and brought sunshine into your life, especially during lockdown.

Happy Easter



You are my sunshine