



Your monthly round-up of news and information from around the Diocese

newsletter

NEWS IN BRIEF

ANTI LOAN SHARK AWARD & CHARTER SIGNED

Civic and community representatives joined Bishop James in signing a charter committing to help foster a zero-tolerance attitude to illegal money lending in our communities.

The signing was organised in conjunction with the England Illegal Money Lending Team (IMLT) who also recognised the work of the Diocese so far with a highly commended award.



BISHOP'S CERTIFICATE RECEIVED BY 21 STUDENTS

A wonderful celebration of study and achievement took place in June, when 21 students received their Bishop's Certificate, after two-years of study.

The aim of the Bishop's Certificate course is to give people the knowledge and skills they need to express their faith and explore their Christian life and service; it can lead on to further opportunities such as Licensed Lay Ministry.

Anyone interested in attending an It's Your Calling day to explore a calling, or to find out more about the Bishop's Certificate, should contact Val Butler at the diocesan office on: training@rochester.anglican.org or call 01634 560 000.

BISHOP SIMON CONSECRATED!

The new Bishop of Tonbridge, Rt Rev Simon Burton-Jones, was consecrated by the Archbishop of Canterbury Justin Welby, at a service in St Paul's Cathedral on Tuesday 3 July.

Formerly the Archdeacon of Rochester, large numbers of people from across the Diocese travelled to London to support Simon and his family on this special occasion.

One of those who attended said: "It's been a lovely occasion and Bishop Simon is a fantastic choice for the Diocese. He's a fantastic carer of people and I'm looking forward to that continuing in his Bishop's ministry."

During the ceremony, Simon received three items to symbolise his office as bishop: an episcopal ring, a pastoral staff and a pectoral cross..

All were made by local craftsman Andrew Laphorn in Chatham. Two of the items were crafted from 4,500-year-old 'bog wood' and Simon was personally involved in their design. A full round-up of events and videos can be found on the Diocesan website.

Email: bishop.tonbridge@rochester.anglican.org



RIDE AND STRIDE 2018

This year, Ride and Stride for Churches will take place on Saturday 8 September between 10am-6pm.

This annual sponsored event is all about raising funds to help save historic churches, chapels and meeting houses for future generations, by helping to fund urgent repairs and the installation of modern facilities.

There are so many different ways people can take part, from walking, jogging, cycling or riding a horse. Age is no barrier either, young or old can get involved.

Please visit the Friends of Kent Churches website which gives information on sponsorship and planning routes. This will be essential as there will be over 700 churches open in Kent on the day.

Visit: www.friendsofkentchurches.co.uk

VISION AND AIMS: NEW AND REMISSIONED PLACES

Part of the Resource strand of Called Together, this is about how we establish and renew Christian presence in response to the significant predicted population growth over the next 30 years.

• Church in a nightclub?

While renovation work takes place at St. John's Church in Chatham, a new opportunity for 'church' has been found in the next door night club. A Sunday service takes place each week, with outreach also happening in one nightclub session!

TRAINING & EVENTS

Called Together - Bromley & Bexley Roadshow

Saturday 14 July, St. Olave's School, BR6 9SH Your chance to hear more about the five year Called Together vision for the Diocese and discover local stories of churches and organisations already Growing Disciples, Enriching Communities and Resourcing our Mission and Ministry. Booking not necessary.

How to change the church without doing anything

Tuesday 24 July, 7.30pm - Tonbridge Parish Church, TN9 1HD Sometimes simple things can have the highest impact on people's lives and perceptions. Led by the Rev Canon Mark Brown Vicar and Area Dean of Tonbridge. An evening to share some simple but very profound ways to change people's thinking and approach to faith and life. Booking not necessary.

PRAYER FESTIVAL

Saturday 22 September 2018 in Rochester Cathedral

The Diocesan Spirituality Network's Prayer Festival takes is about exploring the rich tradition of Christian prayer available today. With workshops on different ways of praying and how to help others pray. Book at: www.rochester.anglican.org/prayer-festival.php

Get in touch



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