

*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 **24 September 2021 (Number 74)**

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 some 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](mailto: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](mailto: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 14 September**

<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: Wednesday 22 September, 10:20**

**New FAQ:**

- **What guidance is there for pastoral visiting now to individuals homes and care homes?**

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

### **PETER SCHOFIELD RIP**

Peter Schofield, who was the face of Christian Aid in the North East from 1976 to 1997, died in the early hours of 15 September. The funeral is private but there will be a memorial

service at Christ Church, North Shields at 2 pm on Saturday 13 November where his many friends can celebrate his life with affection and thanksgiving. Please remember his wife Karen and Martin, Alison, Daniel and Shahab in your prayers.

**NEW: DIOCESAN SYNOD, PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS**

A meeting of the Newcastle Diocesan Synod was held on Saturday 18th September. The meeting was hosted using Zoom Video Conferencing. You can watch video of the address [here](#).

**NEW: CofE webinar - Changing faith journeys: the impact of church building closure during the pandemic**

Tuesday 28 September, 3-4pm

We know that churchgoing changed due to the restrictions of the pandemic. You may know how that affected church leadership, services, and other church activities – but do you know how the changes affected church participation? [Register here](#).

**NEW: CofE webinar - Step-by-step guide to online and onsite services**

Wednesday 29 September, 11am-12.15pm

Join this interactive webinar with a panel discussion on missional and digital wisdom to inform churches planning for the post-Covid online world. The panel will be sharing a new resource from the Church of England, providing a one-stop shop, to help you see the wood for the trees. [Register here](#).

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

**NEW: Our latest Ebulletin is available to [read here](#)**

**NEW: 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 is now open until 23:59hrs on Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October. Please pray for the candidates now standing for election to serve on the General Synod and for those eligible to vote, please vote!

**House of Clergy**

**House of Laity**

*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

*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](http://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](mailto:elections@newcastle.anglican.org)

### **NEW: Healthwatch North Tyneside**

Healthwatch North Tyneside is keen to speak with clergy and lay ministers to discuss how best to engage with parishioners about their experiences of North Tyneside's health and care services.

The organisation is the independent voice for people using local health and social care services in North Tyneside and is here to:

- Provide information and signposting so that people get the support they need
- Listen to views and gather feedback about health and social care services
- Improve the quality of services by making sure service providers and decision makers listen to feedback and make services better
- Encourage people running services to involve local people in changes to care

If you are happy to be contacted by a Healthwatch volunteer, please get in touch with Amanda Graydon, Healthwatch North Tyneside Volunteer and Engagement Coordinator, at [A.Graydon@hwnt.co.uk](mailto:A.Graydon@hwnt.co.uk) or 0191 263 5321 or 07434 719492.

### **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 10<sup>th</sup> 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 in October. 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

### **REMINDER: New Appointment for Generous Giving**

We are delighted to announce the appointment of Leanne Conway-Wilcox as Generous Giving Adviser. Working alongside Generous Giving Team Leader Joanne Christie, Leanne will take a lead in encouraging, enabling and supporting parishes to live and give generously. For more, [click here](#).

### **REMINDER: Additional resources added for Newcastle Diocese Generosity Week (Parish Giving Scheme)**

Our friends at the Parish Giving Scheme have just created a new range of resources which can be used during Newcastle Diocese Generosity week. They include; social media content, and a [short film](#) for parishes planning to introduce the Parish Giving Scheme as part of their Generosity Week. Parishes already registered on PGS, can also download our new [promotional poster](#) to encourage further donors to join PGS during Newcastle Diocese Generosity Week. The poster can be edited to add contact details for your own PGS administrator.

Visit the [Newcastle Diocese Generosity Week Resource Hub](#) for more information.

### **REMINDER: PGS Quarterly Summary**

The latest PGS quarterly data for our diocese is now available on the [Quarterly PGS data](#) page.

### **REMINDER: Funding Opportunity**

The [Asda Foundation - Bringing Communities Back Together](#) Grant Phase 2 (UK) is now open for applications until 5<sup>th</sup> November 2021.

Grants of between £500-£1,000 are available under three themes;

- a) *Celebration Event*; e.g. if you wanted to host a celebration event to welcome back elderly/vulnerable members of your community
- b) *Getting Back on Track*; e.g. if your church is looking to re-launch Messy Church and wishes to purchase new art and craft supplies and healthy snacks for children attending
- c) *Essential Support*; e.g. if your church is co-ordinating supplies for homeless shelters, delivering food or hygiene packs to those in need

All applications must be made via a local Community Champion. Click [here](#) for more information.

### **REMINDER: Discipling Generosity web page**

We now have a new [Discipling Generosity](#) web page which brings together all current resources for teaching Generosity and growing generous disciples.

## DIOCESAN VACANCIES

[Secretary to the Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committee \(DMPC\)](#) – deadline 30 September 2021

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

[Interim Minister, Breamish and Till](#) – deadline 6 October 2021

[Priest in Charge to the Benefice of North Tyne and Redesdale](#) – deadline 7 October 2021

## **OTHER VACANCIES**

[Pioneer Community Worker: The Presence Project - Pottery Bank](#) – Extended deadline 24 September 2021

[Newcastle Cathedral Technical Verger](#) – deadline 5 October 2021

[Newcastle Cathedral Marketing Intern](#) – deadline 30 September 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](mailto:p.askew@newcastle.anglican.org)

Canon Lesley Towers

PA to the Bishop of Newcastle

[l.towers@newcastle.anglican.org](mailto:l.towers@newcastle.anglican.org)

Elena Rose

PA to the Bishop of Berwick

[pa.bishopofberwick@newcastle.anglican.org](mailto:pa.bishopofberwick@newcastle.anglican.org)

Kathryn Beale

Administration Assistant

[admin.bishopofnewcastle@newcastle.anglican.org](mailto: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: 'Take Time': An RRC Workshop with Helen Connell - Wednesday 6th October 2:00-3:15**

Interested in developing your spiritual life? Leading a group for whom in-person meetings are still difficult? Come along and learn about Take Time Meditations – a FREE online resource that anyone can access for personal growth and enrichment.

This introduction to Take Time will be delivered via Zoom and last about an hour on Wednesday, 6th October at 2.00 pm. Session leader, Helen Connell, will introduce you to the concept of Take Time and how it can be used in your church, school or community. It will include a twenty-minute meditation (one of a series for use in the season of Advent), information about how you can become a practitioner in your own context and an opportunity to find out what happens during a Take Time Together Group. Questions are encouraged and Helen will also give you details of coming training events and how you can access the resource online.

Helen Connell is a qualified teacher, counsellor and a practitioner for Take Time meditations. Helen first engaged with Take Time through a friend, began using the website and in 2021 became a member of a Take Time group online. Helen's enthusiasm for the Take Time process and meditation gives her a wonderful practical insight into how you can make this free online resource work for you in your own context.

To book contact the RRC: 0191 375 0586  
or [enquiries@resourcescentreonline.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@resourcescentreonline.co.uk)

### **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](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLnUh_ZGnZNfUIV8HEyppRlv8FLBtyEY65)

*PEARLS OF GREAT PRICE: Parables (31 videos)*

[https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLnUh\\_ZGnZNfX6RDi4XU7o7MpziPkdBxIV&pbjreload=102](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLnUh_ZGnZNfX6RDi4XU7o7MpziPkdBxIV&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](http://AChurchNearYou.com) editors can access the music, recorded by singers from [St Martin-in-the-Fields](http://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](http://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](http://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**