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Stunning installation flutters into abbey

AN awe-inspiring sky of heavenly angels is floating in Hexham Abbey as a moving tribute to all those affected by the Covid pandemic.

'On Angel Wings' is an illuminated aerial installation of 4,500 origami angels suspended 45 feet above the abbey's chancel, stretching from the high altar to the old choir stalls.

An army of volunteers, including school children, abbey staff and members of the public constructed each paper angel by hand.

Inspired by Ripon Cathedral's 2020 'On a Wing and a Prayer' installation, 'On Angel Wings' honours those who have served relentlessly throughout the pandemic, those who have lost their lives, and those whose lives have been disrupted by this challenging period.

Each angel represents an individual or group of people precious and cared about by someone else, with the names of those honoured written on the angels' wings as a symbolic gesture.

The angels are high enough that dedications can't be read from the ground, keeping those memories and thoughts private but still present - much like a prayer.

Cath Newson, Hexham Abbey's fundraising manager, said: "We wanted to create a space that allowed members of the community to commemorate individuals affected by the pandemic, providing an opportunity to reflect on the recent past and celebrate the values that have sustained us during difficult times.

"I am delighted with the engagement from the community, including local schools, community groups and visitors to the abbey. The response to our installation has been overwhelmingly positive and we

look forward to welcoming more visitors over the coming weeks."

Some origami angels are still available in the abbey for dedication and these will be suspended with the other angels as often as possible by the vergers.

There is no charge to visit or dedicate an angel, but donations are welcome for the project's partner charities **Tynedale Hospice at Home** and **Great North Air Ambulance Service**.

Donations can be made online or via the contactless donation point in the abbey by selecting the 'On Angel Wings' option.

Revd David Glover, Rector of Hexham Abbey, said: "I am so delighted that our 'On Angel Wings' installation has proved to be so helpful and inspiring to so many people who visit the abbey.

"So many of the angels hanging above the abbey's chancel represent people's sadness, thanksgiving and hope after such a traumatic 18 months and I hope that the installation is a reminder that God is with each of us as we emerge from these dark days.

"As part of the installation we are inviting people to give generously to the work of two wonderful local charities as a way of expressing our gratitude to everyone who has given so much to support others during this long pandemic.

"I am hugely grateful to Cath Newson, and her team at the abbey, for all the hard work they have done to enable this installation and to Ripon Cathedral who inspired us to do this."

'On Angel Wings' is on display until the end of the school summer holidays and is open Monday to Saturday, 10am-4pm and Sundays, 11am-3pm.

The installation has been funded by a government grant via its Cultural Recovery Fund.



► A view of the angels from the organ loft, taken by the abbey's music director, Michael Haynes

Bishops' Diaries *August/September*

This is not a full list of the Bishops' engagements, but includes the items we think might be of particular interest to you.

Bishop of Newcastle**August**

- 1st** Sunday Eucharist, Allendale Benefice, St Mark's Church, Ninebanks
15th 140th Anniversary Fishermen's Mission, Christ Church North Shields
17th Senior Leadership Safeguarding Training Course
22nd Sunday Eucharist and Baptism, Holy Trinity, Widdrington
26th Inclusive Economy Board, Agenda Planning

September

- 1st** Pre-Synod Planning Meeting
5th Sunday Eucharist, Felton and Longframlington Licensing and Installation of Archdeacon of Northumberland, Installation of Director for Mission and Ministry, Archdeacon of Lindisfarne and Bishop of Berwick, Newcastle Cathedral
6th Meeting of Bishops and Archdeacons
Garden Party, Bishop's House
7th Mission, Pastoral and Church Property Committee
Garden Party, Bishop's House
Bishop's Council and Standing Committee
8th Bishop's Staff Meeting
Garden Party, Bishop's House
Licensing, Christ the King Team Ministry
10th North of Tyne Combined Authority, Inclusive Economy Board
SCP Supper
13th Quarterly Finance Meeting
14th Curates and IME2 Meeting
Senior Leadership Safeguarding Training Course
15th Meeting of Area Deans and Bishop's Staff Team
Dame Allen's Speech Day
16th Church Commissioners Board of Governors
NE Chamber Dinner
18th Diocesan Synod Forum
16th-19th College of Bishops
22nd Newbiggin, St Bartholomew - Confirmation
30th Warkworth Licensing

Bishop of Berwick**August**

- 8th** Confirmation Service, Stamfordham
9th Visit to Alnwick St Michael's to see the new bells before installation
17th Senior Leadership Safeguarding Training Course
22nd Eucharist Service, Preach and Preside at Chapel House Holy Nativity

September

- 1st** Meeting with Director of Initial Ministerial Education, Newcastle Diocese
4th Preside at Induction Day Service, Lindisfarne College of Theology
5th Confirmation Service at All Saint's, Gosforth
Cathedral Installation Service
7th Bishop's Council and Standing Committee
9th NECAT Trustees Meeting
10th Preach and Preside at Eucharist Service, at St John the Devine, Acklington
12th Preach and Preside at Thanksgiving Service, at St Nicholas, Cramlington
13th Shortlisting for Priest in Charge post at Allendale and Whitfield School Visit (tba) with Diocesan Director of Education
14th Senior Leadership Safeguarding Training Course
Meeting with Diocesan Director of Mission and Ministry
15th Meeting of Area Deans and Bishop's Staff Team
16th Meeting with CEO and Housing Manager, YMCA North Shields
18th Diocesan Synod Forum
Memorial Service at Humshaugh
19th Confirmation Service at St Mary, Stannington
20th-23rd Meeting of the College of Bishops, Oxford
26th Patronal Service with Confirmations, St Gabriel Heaton
Confirmations Service, Cowgate St Peter
29th Preach at St Michael's Alnwick in a Blessing Service for the new bells
30th Interviews for Priest in Charge at Allendale and Whitfield
Licensing Service for new Priest in Charge, Chapel House Holy Nativity

Living in Love and Faith

THE Church is embracing the 'unique opportunity' to learn and reflect across differences, through Living in Love and Faith (LLF).

LLF is a set of resources exploring questions of human identity, sexuality, relationships, and marriage, launched on 9 November 2020.

The Diocese of Newcastle has appointed Izzy McDonald-Booth as our LLF Advocate as well as a dedicated LLF Chaplaincy, led by Revd Lesley Chapman, who has a team of people happy to support anyone embarking on this process.

In June, our Diocese held an Open Synod Forum introducing LLF and the range of resources available – and now deaneries and parishes have been asked to engage with the five-session course in their own way.

The LLF resources are designed to facilitate open, honest, and gracious learning and discussion among churchgoers across the country.

LLF draws together the Bible, theology, science, and history with powerful real-life stories, in what is understood to be the most extensive undertaking of any church to hear and articulate as wide a range of voices, lived experiences and theological understandings as possible in this area.

LLF Enabling Officer, Dr Eeva John, who took part in our Open Synod Forum, said: "It has been a privilege to have offered facilitation training for over 350 people.



LIVING IN LOVE & FAITH

"Learning about and sharing good practice is giving people the confidence to lead small groups in a way that deepens understanding and relationships even across disagreement about such sensitive and personal matters.

"A number of groups have engaged already online, while others plan to engage in the autumn when restrictions are lifted."

Visit our diocesan website to read some **Frequently Asked Questions** which have been answered by our LLF Advocate.

Find out more about 'Living in Love and Faith' on the **Church of England website** - take a learning journey through the full range of resources including the LLF course, films, podcasts and an online library.

■ Izzy will be running LLF facilitation training sessions in August. The dates and booking information will be announced in our weekly Covid round-up sent to all post holders in the Diocese and also the eBulletin which you can sign-up to **here**.

Comings & Goings

Appointments

Revd Gerard Rundell, currently Assistant Curate, Alnwick, is going to be Priest in Charge (Team Rector) in the Christ the King Team Ministry

Revd Rachel Scheffer, Priest in Charge of Matfen and Stamfordham, is also going to be Priest in Charge of Heddon on the Wall

Revd Thomas Birch, Priest in Charge of Ovingham and Wylam, is also going to be Associate Priest of Heddon on the Wall

Revd Jonathan Canessa, Lantern Initiative Lead, Newcastle Cathedral Church of St Nicholas, is also going to be Hon Associate Priest, Newcastle Cathedral Church of St Nicholas

Retirements

Revd Joanna Dobson, Priest in Charge at Ulgham and Widdrington, will retire on 31 August

Revd Patricia Craighead, Vicar of Longbenton St Mary, will retire on 30 September

Revd Philip Hughes, Incumbent of the Parish of Seghill, will retire on 1 December
 nt of the Parish of Delaval, will retire on 1 September 2021.

Resignations

Revd Thomas Sharp, Assistant Curate (HFD) at Newcastle Cathedral Church of St Nicholas, has resigned with effect from 23 June

Please see **page 12** for the August and September Gospel Readings >>>

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For advertising rates and deadlines see www.newcastle.anglican.org/link.
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Once in a lifetime chance to see rare peal of bells

A RING of ten bells will soon be chiming at St Michael's Alnwick - making it only the second church in Northumberland to house such an impressive collection.

Six of the bells have been secured from the Keltek Trust after they were removed from St James's Newton Hall, near Corbridge, and refurbished, and a further four bells have been specially commissioned.

Hexham Abbey is the only other church to boast a ring of ten bells in Northumberland, which has in the past been described as 'bell barren'.

The bells will be unveiled on Monday 9 August and for one day only they will be on display in the 15th century church before they are lifted into the belfry and installed by Whites of Appleton bellhangers.

On this special day, the bells should be available for public viewing by midday and at 7pm they will be blessed by Bishop Mark at a short service attended by Her Grace the Duchess of Northumberland, who is patron of the project.

This will be followed by light refreshments and a further opportunity to see the new bells.

Jean Darby, St Michael's PCC



► Jean Darby, Revd Canon Paul Scott, and churchwardens Pat Taylor and Anne Blades with the old bells

project rep, said: "We are looking forward to welcoming all who want to take advantage of this once in a lifetime chance to see this magnificent ring of ten bells."

Up until recently the church tower was home to three unringable bells - two of which date back to the 16th century, and a third which was recast in 1764.

The two older bells will be cleaned and returned to the church where they will be put on display, and the third - a cracked tenor bell - will be scrapped to help finance one of the new bells.

Funding for the new bells has been achieved through sponsorship of each ring - thanks to a number of individuals and

organisations.

This scheme is part of the church's wider Tower Project which was launched three years ago and also includes plans for a new roof for the tower which was last replaced in 1746 and the preservation and display of interesting 'graffiti' - some of which is considered to be quite rare.



With Bishop Mark Wroe

It was a real joy and delight to be part of ordaining our latest cohort of deacons and priests recently. As Bishop of Berwick it was a personal joy to be able to ordain people in Berwick itself. Our ordination weekend in July was a brilliant opportunity for us to celebrate ordained ministry and the extraordinary value of our deacons and priests who are such an important and essential part of our shared life as the Body of Christ. As we see them come from many different walks of life and be ordained in Jesmond, Newsham and Berwick, it causes me much rejoicing and offers me deep hope for our future.

There's been much made of the state of the Church of England recently with all sorts of reports, arguments, quotes and (no doubt) misquotes flying around about what the future of the Church will or won't look like. To me there often seems to be a degree of misunderstanding or mis-hearing on every side. In the Church, perhaps especially in the Church, we very much require the 'needful gifts of grace'.

As we discern our Next Steps in Newcastle Diocese, we are clear that ordained clergy are a vital part of how we envisage parish mission and ministry moving forward. As the Ordination Service reminds us, bishops, priests or presbyters, and deacons, are all part of the way we are ordered as the whole Church. And of course, we hold these ministries in joyful balance with the wonderful gifts we see bubbling up in lay ministry, licensed or authorised, as well as the rich variety of so many other volunteers contributing to the vibrancy of our life together. As the Ordination Service puts it, we are all being formed, lay and ordained, into a 'royal priesthood, a holy nation.'

No doubt all of us continue to have things to learn about the way we love and value one another, and the way we navigate our differences. But we must learn to value and love one another and work with our differences, for as one wise leader recently put it: 'we win and lose together as a team' (Gareth Southgate).

In Newcastle Diocese, like elsewhere, we face a mountain range of challenges, not least the ongoing Covid pandemic. This continues to generate a range of anxieties in all of us about the future. This fear and anxiety can be crippling, draining and all too often make us a brittle people. But this shouldn't turn us in on ourselves, but turn us back to the God who 'moves mountains' and who calls us together as a team. Or as the Ordination Service declares at the start:

'God calls his people to follow Christ, and forms us into a royal priesthood, a holy nation, to declare the wonderful deeds of him who has called us out of darkness into his marvellous light.'

May we know God's grace and love as we respond to the call to follow Christ from darkness into light.

Stories of Generosity in our Diocese

IN just two months from now, we will be embarking on our first ever Newcastle Diocese Generosity Week!

The idea, which originated from extensive parish consultation in 2019 and 2020, is to spend a period of time collectively focusing on nurturing and encouraging generosity; exploring how we can live more generously in our daily lives and celebrating how generous giving enables mission and ministry to flourish in our Diocese.

It is also a wonderful opportunity to live out our diocesan vision, values and priorities as part of our commitment to putting mission at the centre of all that we do.

By setting aside some dedicated space and time, we hope to grow our ability to be generous with God's transforming gifts.

In preparation for Newcastle Diocese Generosity Week, the Generous Giving Team have been running virtual sessions for our clergy and churchwarden communities, to help guide them through what to expect.

One of the great joys we had doing this, was the opportunity it gave us to swap accounts of inspirational generosity from within our own parishes. The stories we heard, and continue to hear on a regular basis, cover many forms of generosity; the

By Joanne Christie,
Generous Giving Adviser
@JoanneCTweets



the homeless man who offered to wash all the windows of his parish church, the eight-year-old boy who donated his pocket money to the church and the café owner struggling through lockdown who donated cakes to her local Open the Book Team.

We hope that the more we all share stories of generosity, the more we can celebrate what is already happening, and encourage thinking not from a perception of scarcity but from an awareness of God's abundant generosity to us, that we may be inspired to share with others all that He has given us.

Along with the stories of generosity, resources for Newcastle Diocese Generosity Week are also now available on our website. They include; worship materials, guidance showing how to engage the wider community, a series of podcasts, daily reflections on a generosity theme and a daily generosity activity to complete for each of the eight days. You will also find a social media and marketing toolkit to help you promote the week at your church.

To find out more and to help you make the most of the resources, you can sign up to attend one of the webinars being run over the summer or visit our dedicated web page: [Newcastle Diocese Generosity Week](#).


NEWCASTLE DIOCESE
GENEROSITY WEEK
26 SEP - 3 OCT 2021

giving of time, talents, possessions and money. Generosity can, and indeed should, take a range of forms.

Everyone needs inspiration to live generously and to be given hope that we can grow in generosity to become more Christ like, so we thought it would be a good idea to capture some of these stories. You can now visit [Stories of Generosity](#) on our website to find out more about



**NEWCASTLE
CATHEDRAL**

*View
from the
Lantern*

*With Revd Canon Clare MacLaren,
Newcastle Cathedral's Canon for Music and Liturgy*

NEW MUSICAL COMMISSION TO MARK OUR REOPENING

ABOUT 1,300 years ago, when the Kingdom of Northumbria stretched from the River Forth in present-day Scotland, as far south as the Humber and the Mersey, legend has it that an illiterate animal herder, by the name of Caedmon (kad-mon), worked at St Hilda's great monastery at Whitby. Embarrassed by his lack of musical skill, he would always 'pass' when folk took it in turns to sing or play around the hearth – or leave the room to avoid his sense of shame. The story goes that one night, Caedmon had a dream in which a divine presence commanded that he sing 'of the beginning of creation'. At first, in terror, he refused – but then, miraculously, he gave voice to a song in completeness – a hymn of praise to God, the Creator of the World.

The words of Caedmon's Hymn – and his story – were recorded in Latin by the famous monk of Jarrow, the Venerable Bede, in his Ecclesiastical History of the English People.

In a number of surviving manuscripts, Bede's contemporaries have pencilled notes into the margin, copying down the text, not in Latin but in either West Saxon or Old Northumbrian – the languages of the common people of the time. With the encouragement of St Hilda, Caedmon is said to have produced many other poems and songs. This hymn, however, is the only one to survive. It is the oldest example that we have of poetry in Old English and the oldest example of poetry in the Germanic alliterative style in which similar word sounds repeat and repeat, tumbling over one another to create a very distinctive rhythm and tone.

CAEDMON'S HYMN

*Nu uue sciulun herga
hefunricaes uueard,
metudaes mechti,
and his modgedanc,
uueerc uuldurfadur –
suae he uundra gihuaes,
eci drichtin,
or astalde.*

*He aerist scoop
eordu bearnum
hefen to hrofe,
halig sceppend;
tha middungeard,
moncinnes uard,
eci drichtin,
aefter tiade
firum on foldu,
frea allmechtig.*

*Now must we praise
protector of heavenrealm:
the measurer's might
and method of mind;
works of wonder-father
wrought beyond number –
aeons' weaver
origins' author.*

*First did sacred shaper,
craft heav'n-raftered roof
as earth-bairns' bourn.
Then did soul shepherd mould
field, farm and fold
the middle earth
for fowk to tend
and fend and hold:
Lord, loaf-ward*,
all might untold.*

* loaf-keeper (hlaf-ward) = Lord

Back to 2021. And to mark the completion of the refurbishment and transformation of the cathedral after its redevelopment, our Director of Music, Ian Roberts, and I thought it would be wonderful to commission a short piece of music for the occasion, to be sung by the gifted Newcastle Cathedral Choir. Keen to use local talent, we approached a Northumbrian composer, **John Casken**, based near Wooler. John is a gifted and versatile composer who has written for choirs, orchestras, opera and ensemble instruments. He describes his musical 'style' as 'windswept, dreamy, turbulent, melancholic and painterly' – inspired by the landscape in which he lives. We were delighted when he agreed to take on the commission, and I set about identifying a text for him to set.

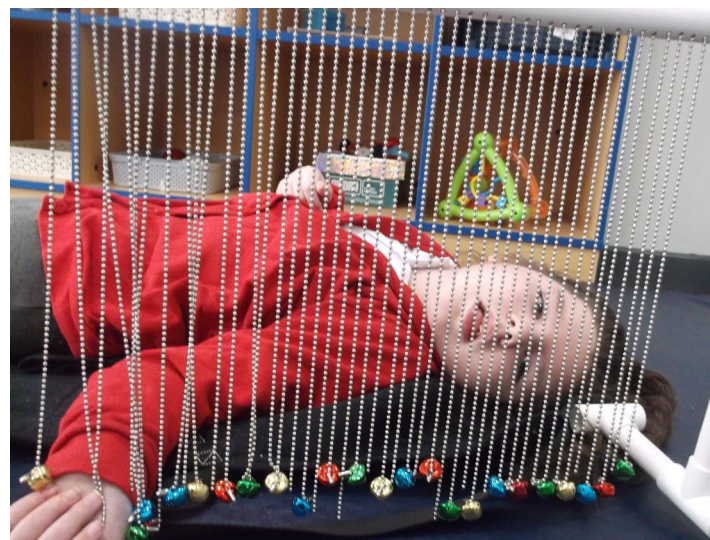
It wasn't long before I settled on Caedmon's Hymn – a truly Northumbrian piece which has not, to our knowledge, been professionally set to music before – and a wonderful reminder of God's ongoing providence and creativity, to mark the 'new creation' that will be our beautiful new building! I decided to translate what is probably the oldest version of the text – in Old Northumbrian of the eighth century – and then try to render it in poetic form. A creative collaboration with the composer followed, as the English translation gradually took shape.

Two members of the Cathedral Chapter have very generously offered to pay for this commission and have it bound and printed. We are very excited indeed now to have received the final piece so that Ian Roberts can begin rehearsing it with the choir. It will receive its premiere at the cathedral's formal rededication ceremony in the summer and we can't wait to hear it!

Teacher's creativity provides new lease of life for pupils



➤ 'Active Learning' gives a sense of freedom back to the pupils



➤ The waterfall curtain is one of many new sensory items in Gillian's classroom

A PRIMARY teacher at a church school in Northumberland for children and young people with profound and multiple learning disabilities (PMLD) is helping pupils to take miraculous steps towards a better, more independent way of living by getting creative with items typically found around the house.

Gillian Robinson, a teacher at Castle School – part of the Northumberland Church of England Academy Trust – has introduced the concept of 'Active Learning' into her classroom to help give a sense of freedom back to pupils who are typically dependent on those around them to support their needs.

Using everyday items such as buckets, A-frames, Tupperware boxes, blackout curtains and plumber's piping, Gillian has created a sensory paradise for her learners to support their mobility and cognitive skill development, alongside their emotional and social wellbeing.

"Many children with profound and complex needs develop 'learnt helplessness' – the idea that they have no control over their environment, so they learn to wait patiently and that eventually, someone will provide them with what they need. Over time, this kind of behaviour can lead to passiveness where children stop communicating altogether," Gillian said.

"Active Learning is designed to encourage the children to do things for themselves, it teaches children how to interact with their environment and explore their immediate space with confidence and shows them how their actions can affect the things around them."

Click [here](#) to read more about the success of the programme and how it is making a positive impact on Gillian's pupils and the entire school.

Beach celebrations mark mixed ecology graduation

**By Revd Beth Rookwood, Bishop's
Advisor for Pioneer Ministry**

HAVE you ever asked an archdeacon to peel a grape? Or a director of mission and ministry to build a sandcastle? No?!

Well these were among the invitations issued by the cohort of our Mixed Ecology Learning Pathway on a warm and sunny evening at Cresswell Parish Church and beach this week.

As part of the celebration of their completion of the course – which will see all members authorised as pioneers by the diocese in a service in October – participants shared their 'golden nugget' of learning, led us through a creative activity, and spoke about three questions from their hearts to those listening.

The course has involved theological reflection and learning into ways of being church, into what it might mean to walk in step with the Spirit within a community who may never enter a traditional church setting,

and what it might mean to develop a mixed ecology within a parish – that is, a way in which there can be many different 'flavours' of Christian community belonging within a church family.

Each of the contexts represented just happened to be from the Morpeth deanery, and it has been wonderful to see how 'pioneer projects' have begun, been developed and are becoming embedded in parishes – a tea-time church reaching over 30 families weekly, a community lockdown banner, prayer-flag bunting which will reach between Cresswell and Lynemouth, a debt-support project beginning in Widdrington Station.

Watch this space for what these pioneers do next as they listen and respond to God's call to build Christian community in new ways and spaces!

Keep your eyes open for ways that you might be able to take your parish on the mixed ecology journey in the future!



Pioneer
Ministry



➤ Top, Revd Mina Munns and Anne Baxter with the Ellington, Cresswell and Lynemouth banner made by members of their community, and above, Anne Baxter and Rosemary participating in the 'chaordic beach activity'

Incredible feat of cycling!

Completion of inaugural bike route linking all CofE cathedrals



> The riders were greeted by a cheering crowd. Photo credit: Robert Wassell



> The cyclists including Shaun Cutler, Bishop Christine and Revd Canon Clare MacLaren on the last leg of the route. Photo credit: Robert Wassell



> Shaun hands the baton to the Dean of Newcastle

Faith and violence against women explored in new video

AN insightful video reflecting on the relationships between religion and violence against women has been released by Voices of Faith.

The YouTube video, which includes an introduction from Bishop Christine, explores this subject from the point of view of three female speakers.

Brenda Dinsdale, a member of the Jewish community in Newcastle, Nabeela Ali, a member of the Muslim community in Newcastle and Revd Gemma Sampson, a Church of England priest based in Hartlepool, all give their own personal reflections in this 20-minute video.

In her introduction, Bishop Christine said: "It cannot be right for any woman to live in fear, to not be able to be the person God has created her to be - with great joy

and a sense of safety and security and honour within the place of the family.

"When this doesn't happen, God is greatly grieved. It is really a great opportunity to bring this into the light because so often domestic violence is hidden and the more powerless a woman feels, the less able she feels, the less able to talk about what is happening."

Voices of Faith, based in Newcastle, is a multi-faith group representing a number of religions in our society including Christianity, Islam, and Judaism as well as many of the smaller faith groups like Bahai and Zoroastrian. The group works together to create a forum where people can get involved in deeper dialogue with those from different faiths and beliefs. Voices of Faith promote strong links between people of different faiths.

THE intrepid creator of the newly-launched Cathedrals Cycle Route (CCR) has made it back to base after an incredible 2,000-mile bike ride taking in 42 cathedrals in 42 days.

PhD student Shaun Cutler was flanked by Bishop Christine and a small group of riders for the last leg of the epic relay route which ended at Newcastle Cathedral on 10 July, exactly 42 days after it was launched from the same spot.

Shaun, Bishop Christine, Revd Canon Clare MacLaren, the cathedral's Cycle Champion, and the other cyclists were greeted by a cheering crowd and celebratory bells ringing out from the cathedral - and they were treated to some Greggs pasties and Champagne!

A ceremonial baton - which had travelled the entire route, symbolically being passed Olympic-style between every cathedral along the way - was handed to the Very Revd Geoff Miller, Dean of Newcastle by Shaun to mark the inaugural completion of the CCR.

The route is a unique partnership between the Association of

English Cathedrals, the British Pilgrimage Trust, Cycling UK and Sustrans that links all 42 Church of England Cathedrals in a new initiative to promote greener travel and mental and physical wellbeing.

It is one of the outcomes of Shaun's PhD research programme involving Newcastle Cathedral, Northumbria University and The National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Shaun said: "It is great to have Newcastle Cathedral at the heart of the CCR which is a magnificent route with such diversity, and using our historic cathedrals as the start and end point provides a great feeling of purpose and achievement."

The relay - the first of its kind in the country - left Newcastle Cathedral on May 30 and has seen over 250 cyclists riding different legs of the route between each cathedral and raised more than £5,000 for various charities, including Cycling UK's Break the Cycle.

In the course of their travels, they have been joined by a cathedral cat, an elephant, three bishops, 20 cathedral canons, entertainer Timmy Mallet, and

welcomed by a host of dedicated cathedral cycle champions. They suffered one wheel blow out and ten punctures.

Shaun said: "This relay has been an amazing collective achievement by so many people who have helped keep the baton moving over the last 42 days.

"It has been an absolute privilege to have been involved in such a fabulous route. And as Covid restrictions in this country open up more and more, I urge everyone to get on their bikes, enjoy our amazing cathedrals and the spaces between them."

It is hoped that the CCR relay ride will become an annual event and that the route, with its opportunities for short and longer rides, will encourage more and more people to get on their bikes this year and beyond.

Most cathedrals now have a dedicated cycle champion to improve the cycle-readiness of their buildings, ensure a warm welcome for visiting cyclists and increase the number that arrive on two wheels - currently around five per cent.

■ For more information on the route, [click here.](#)

Will you stand for the Church of England General Synod Elections?

Standing for General Synod, the legislative body of the Church of England, is an opportunity to represent the concerns of your community and your diocese at a national level. As an elected member of Synod, you will have a say in national legislation that affects all parts of the Church of England. Together with Westminster Parliament, it is the only body in the land which is entitled to make national law for England. In addition to legislation, you can also raise issues and contribute to debates on a wide range of social and policy matters - of national and international significance.

⊕ THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
General Synod is made up of three Houses: Bishops, Clergy, and Laity. For more information about how you can stand for the Synod Elections, please visit:
www.churchofengland.org/synodelections

2021 Ordination celebrations



CONGRATULATIONS to our 17 new deacons and priests who were ordained this summer! The Petertide Ordinations took place on the weekend of Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 July at four separate services across the Diocese. Despite limited numbers due to Covid restrictions, the services brought much-needed hope and joy after a tumultuous year for us all. Please keep our new deacons and priests in your prayers as they begin their new ministries.

> Bishop Christine, Revd Sion Hughes Carew with his nephew, and Bishop Glyn Webster, Bishop of Beverley

Continues on page 7



> Bishop Mark with Revd Thomas Sample



> Bishop Mark with newly-ordained priests Revd Phyllis Carruthers, Revd Thomas Sample, Revd Samantha Quilty, Revd John Storey and Revd Paul Rusby



> Bishop Mark with Revd Samantha Quilty



> The Venerable Dr Catherine Sourbut Groves, Archdeacon of Lindisfarne with Revd Samantha Quilty



> Revd John Storey and his family after his ordination at Holy Trinity Berwick

2021 Ordination celebrations



► Revd Oliver Dempsey, Revd Samuel Lohead, Revd Alan White, Revd Yvette Daniel and Rosemary Harrison with Bishop Christine and Bishop Mark ahead of the ordination retreat



► Bishop Christine, Revd Sion Hughes Carew, Bishop Glyn Webster and Revd Canon Ian Flintoft



► Bishop Christine with newly-ordained priests Revd Yvette Daniel, Revd Oliver Dempsey, Revd Samuel Lohead, Revd Rosemary Harrison, Revd Alan White and Revd Kim Wears



► Revd Adam Smith, Revd Henry Hope, Revd Sion Hughes Carew, Revd Miriam Jones, Revd Alison McCarthy and Revd Lynne Dean with Bishop Christine and Bishop Mark ahead of the ordination retreat



► Revd John Storey, Revd Thomas Sample, Revd Paul Rusby, Revd Phyllis Carruthers, Revd Samantha Quilty with Bishop Christine and Bishop Mark ahead of the ordination retreat



► Newly-ordained deacons Revd Adam Smith, Revd Alison McCarthy, Revd Miriam Jones, Revd Henry Hope and Revd Lynne Dean

'You never know what you've got till it's gone'

By Canon Alan Hughes,
Sheriff of Berwick

THE first Vicar of Berwick was John de Soules in 1291, a soldier, diplomat and Sheriff of Berwick and Berwickshire since 1288.

I had the privilege of being the 50th Vicar of Berwick and now to follow John as Sheriff of Berwick.

John's church stood a few yards south of the present church, built by the forebears of my Regiment the Coldstream Guards in 1650.

Berwickers have handed me a wealth of documents about our town's complex history, some make terrifying reading.

Recent acquisitions include reports and sermons from the closing year of my immediate predecessor's tenure, recording tensions over day to day finance, backlog of church repairs and an inability to engage with the young some 30 years ago. I wish I had had sight of them before I was appointed! It was like being sent into battle without any 'intelligence' of the mission challenge.

The Spectator magazine recently ran an article 'The Church of England plans to create 10,000 new lay-led churches in the next ten years.'

The article stated: 'Lay-led churches release the Church from key limiting factors,' said Canon John McGinley. 'When you don't need a building and a stipend and long, costly college-based training for every leader of church... then actually we can release new people to lead and new churches to form.' Well, maybe. But once you've ditched the buildings, the clergy and theological education, you don't have very much of a church left.'

What do you think?

Were our shared ministry legacy over almost 50 years to be considered a 'key limiting factor' my wife and I would be deeply saddened.

The early Church grew through folk being attracted to and by its members, as they moved around communities serving in prayer and deed in a highly visible way, not shut behind closed doors.

Just so today, there is no great mystery, church organisation began when groups of Christians called leaders from their number, supporting them financially, later leading to professional clergy.

Our local churches belong, in a broad sense, to



> Sheriff of Berwick Canon Alan Hughes and the Sheriff's Lady Susan Hughes pictured in the Mayor's Parlour of Berwick Guildhall after their installation

the people surrounding and inhabiting them. We have a say, whether as churchgoers or simply someone who appreciates church architecture and its context in our history.

What can we do? We are makers of our own history. Regular worshippers give according to their means and also of their time to maintain a visible local servant ministry.

Whether worshippers or not, some give directly or leave bequests in wills to local church trusts such as Berwick Parish Church Trust, or beg grants from funding bodies for their trusts, as many have done down the years.

Such trust's purposes are to ensure our historic building remains in good repair as they age and repair costs increase. Christian Churches of all denominations do not receive regular government support nor income from Council Tax as some still think.

I have witnessed a sad reduction in clergy numbers and the closure of local churches, recently Berwick Methodist Church and two United Reform churches.

The late Elreda Elford once told me the names of 28 Church of England clergy and curates in our region during her father's time as vicar of Holy

Island.

Now there are just four full time, one part time, two curates and some retired clergy. It doesn't need an actuary to prophecy a future of diminishing resources as retired clergy age and fewer join their ranks.

I recently conducted a funeral in a village church attended by ten times its usual number of regular worshippers.

The mourners were grateful that the building was open and in good repair to welcome them at that important moment in their lives, to a service conducted by a priest who had supported the family over the intervening week. I reminded them of the lyrics to an old Joni Mitchell song 'you never know what you've got till its gone.'

The Motto of Berwick is 'FLOREAT BERWICUM SUPER TWEDAM' - May Berwick-upon-Tweed flourish.

Local Christian congregations need to be generous, open and engaged in order that our local churches may flourish, as we choose to fund the provision of local clergy or take over their duties ourselves on a voluntary basis or not, the choice is ours and decision time is fast approaching.

Help is out there

AT a time when the pandemic has caused rising levels of stress and anxiety, Sycamore Counselling Service is there to offer professional counselling for any adult who needs it.

Believing that excellent counselling should be available to all, a group of counsellors formed the charity, based in Hexham, covering the West Northumberland area.

For clients unable to get to appointments, telephone counselling

is available.

A registered charity run and staffed by Christians, Sycamore offers help to those of all faiths and none.

All Sycamore's counsellors are highly qualified, professional, experienced, and committed to promoting good mental health. There are no set fees - donations are welcome.

More information can be found [here](#) or on the charity's [Facebook page](#).



THE Religious Resources Centre has an exciting programme of events and talks planned over the next few months.

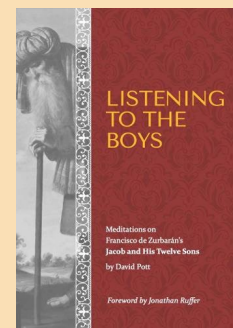
Newly-added listings are below, and remember to visit the [RRC's website](#) for the full schedule of upcoming events.

Zoom event: 'Zurbarán and The Boys', A Conversation@theRRC with David Pott on the connections between Faith and Art Tuesday 14 September, 6-7pm

'The Boys' is an affectionate term sometimes used to describe the outstanding portraits of Jacob and his twelve sons by the Spanish artist Francisco de Zurbarán, housed at Auckland Castle in Bishop Auckland.

Join local author David Pott who will be discussing his book *Listening to the Boys: Meditations on Francisco de Zurbarán's Jacob and His Twelve Sons* by David Pott

- Why did he write this book?
- Is there anything about these works (or the artist) that he thinks anyone encountering these paintings should know or be aware of?
- Which of 'the boys' is he most fond of and why?
- Which of the paintings does he find the most perplexing?
- If art is an expression of faith what does he think these paintings are telling us about the faith of Zurbarán?



Re-imagining children's work in this season and beyond

kitchen table project
Inspire a faith that lasts



Zoom event: Be Inspired! Family Ministry, Growing faith Thursday 23 September 7-9.30pm

A free online session for Church leaders and Parents led by the Kitchen Table Project.

How can we develop family ministry? How might we support and accompany children as they grow in faith?

Inspire is a free, easy-to-run, small group, discussion resource from Kitchen Table Project at Care for the Family. It's a fun, relaxed and interactive way for church leaders and parents to support children and build faith in the home.

This online session will enable participants to engage with the Inspire resource, build confidence, share ideas and experiences.

Join us and explore how we can equip and empower parents in your church to nurture the faith of their children.

■ Book your place at enquiries@resourcescentreonline.co.uk or 0191 375 0586.

Eco Conference

THE North East Churches Ecumenical Environment group is holding a free online conference looking at how we can work together to tackle the issues of climate change.

If you are interested in Care for Creation and the impacts of climate change, or your church is looking for environmental ideas and inspiration, this conference will help to explore these issues.

Taking place over Zoom on Saturday 4 September from 9.30am - 1.30pm, the sessions with guest speakers and group discussion will look at the biblical imperative for us to Care for Creation and the effects that climate change is having on us.

There will be opportunities to share stories and practical advice from others, including on how to become an Eco Church and joining the North East Climate Coalition.

Keynote Speakers include Sir Paul Ennals, founder of the North East of England Climate Coalition, Ben Niblett, from Tearfund, Rachie Ross from Operation Noah, and Pam Martin, on behalf of A Rocha.

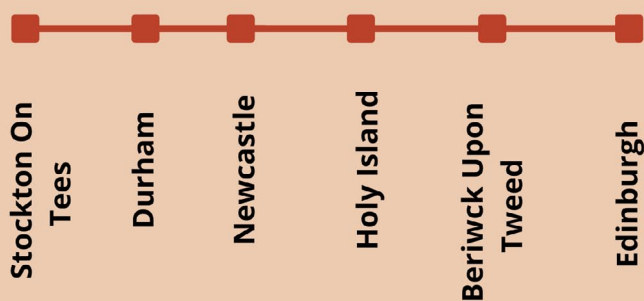
Book your place through [Eventbrite](#) or for more information, contact the Regional Officer at [North East Churches Acting Together](#).



Appeal for volunteers in our Diocese to support climate relay

CHURCHES' RELAY TO COP26: NORTH EAST

Stockton-on-Tees to Edinburgh
26th September - 20th October



Join our pilgrimage. Stand for climate justice.
Info, sign up, and Q+A sessions at [yccn.uk](#).



INDIVIDUALS and churches are being called upon to show their support for the Young Christian Climate Network relay to COP26.

The relay will pass through our Diocese from 4-15 October as part of a 750-mile pilgrimage from Cornwall to Glasgow.

The pilgrims will arrive in the Scottish city on 31 October where they will call on world leaders – gathering for the 2021 United Nations climate change conference – to address the Climate Emergency.

Churches in our Diocese are being encouraged to sign-up to host events or assemble groups of walkers to join a section of the relay. People of all faiths and ages are welcome to take part.

Newcastle is one of ten Residency Hubs at main cities along the route where additional events advocating for climate justice are encouraged.

■ If you would like to get involved, contact [Hannah Malcolm](#), YCCN North East representative or sign up on the [YCCN website](#).

JOIN US ON THE ROUTE

- Lead Walkers
- On Call Support
- Meet + Greet
- Overnight Host
- Boat Transport

HELP WITH EVENTS

Get involved in events in Stockton on Tees, Durham, Newcastle, and more!

No event in your area yet? Help us set one up!

TIME TO GIVE?

Help with admin, comms, and more!

AS A CHURCH

🏠 HOST

Host walkers overnight, hold a service, prayer vigil, or other event!

🚶 WALK

Join as a group if you're on the route.

📢 CAMPAIGN

Use our Local Celebration Guide to hold events or campaign politically.



SIGN UP

We need as many people involved as possible to join us

and our boat of hope on its journey to COP26! Sign up and find out more information at [yccn.uk](#). You can also email [Hannah Malcolm](#) at [yccnnortheast@gmail.com](#).



HAVE YOUR SAY

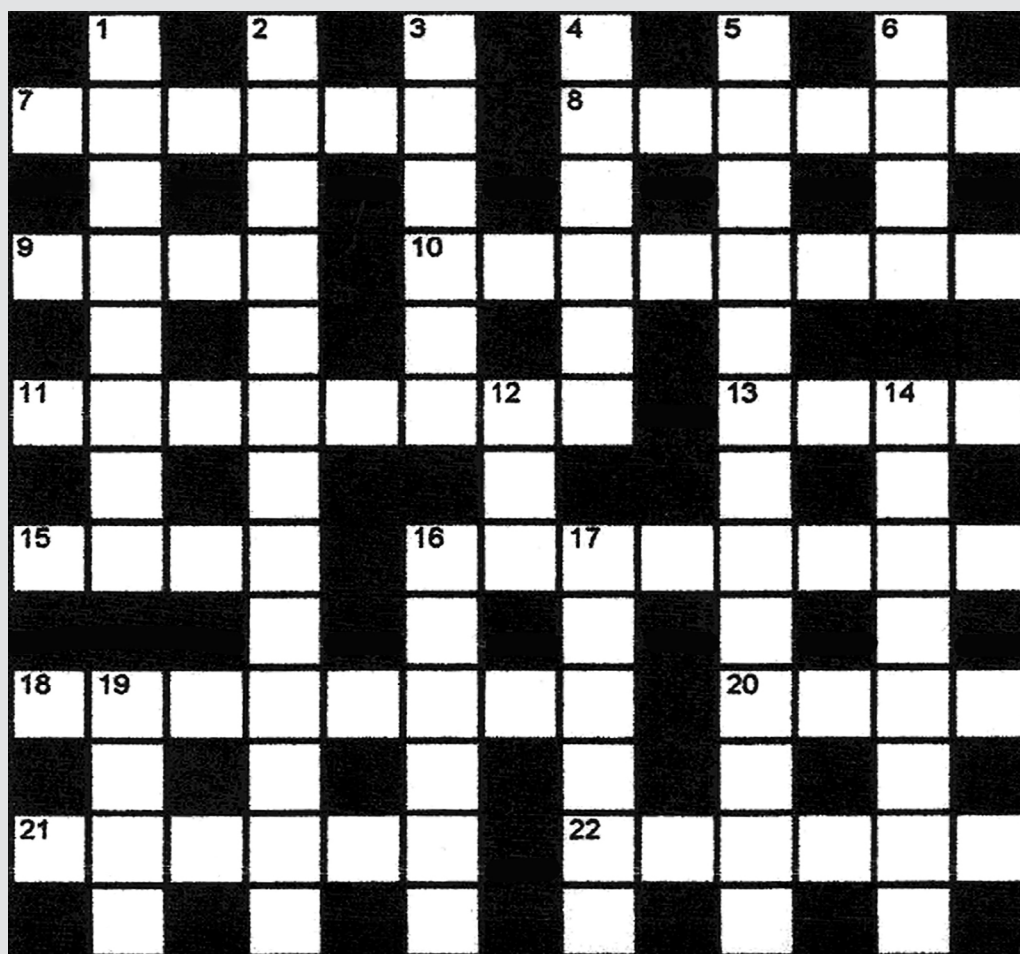
Anything catch your eye in this month's LINK? Something on your mind? Or in your prayers? Send an e-mail, message or letter to LINK and we'll publish the best of them:

Have your say. LINK, Church House, St John's Terrace, North Shields NE29 6HS. Email us: communications@newcastle.anglican.org



Link Crossword 175 *Compiled by Mary Sutton*

This month we are including the crossword for anyone looking for something to keep them occupied during lockdown but just for fun (sorry, no prize this month). Please DO NOT submit crosswords to Church House.



ACROSS

7. Senior member of the clergy – one seen in British store (6)
8. The man spoiling choral composition (6)
9. Just light (4)
10. Directions followed when it's involved (8)
11. Composer with new role for unmarried man (8)
13. Trees seen in Chelmsford (4)
15. Stake found by a Greek character (4)
16. Royal always seen before finale with member of the clergy (8)
18. Rector I'd upset – one owed money (8)
20. Primate going round southern part of church (4)
21. Wrongdoer, small, inside (6)
22. Number using the Spanish flat (6)

DOWN

1. Residence of priest with six means of transport, mature (8)
2. Lay officers needing new churn drew cash (13)
3. Plead for a ring, say (6)
4. Minister, quiet, with a shortened tale (6)
5. Blackleg with clout taking holiday with hesitation (13)
6. Part of buffet earmarked for fair (4)
12. Poem found in good editions (3)
14. Member of the clergy – one seen in large church in York? (8)
16. Give back profit (6)
17. Church official from Dover – German (6)
19. One in race to find wreck (4)

ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD 174

- ACROSS: 1. Evensong 5. Scab 9. Ratio 10. Castles 11. Old Testament 13. Impair 15. Bottle 17. Clothes horse 20. Precede 21. Image 22. Eats 23. Stitches
- DOWN: 1. Earl 2. Extol 3. Short-sighted 4. Nicest 6. Collect 7. Besotted 8. Escapologist 12. Disciple 14. Protest 16. Assent 18. Stash 19. News

LIVING 'AS IF'

IN lockdown many of us kept going on a mix of adrenaline and willpower. A heady mix! We have not been able to rely on the relationships and social bonds that were usually there to soothe and support us through difficult times.

Now that lockdown is going to ease, that mix is not just going to disappear. It will be with us for a while until we re-establish our natural balance and rhythm and we may notice that we are feeling more anxious than we expected.

Through all the stresses and strains of lockdown and the uncertainties of how we get back to normal (and what is normal anyway?) Now is the time to be kind to ourselves as well as to others.

How often do you take time to feel pleased and satisfied with a task you have taken time and effort to complete, for a job well done or for accomplishing something that had to be done?

Do you measure yourself against what you have achieved or by what you have not done? Do you measure your worth against what others have done and conveniently discount everything you have achieved?

And how graciously do you accept the thanks or praise offered to you by somebody else?

Wellbeing

by **Patty Everitt**,
Counselling
Advisor
(Interim)



When we say thank you to someone else for their help, or to congratulate them on their success it feels good to us as well as to them.

We would not feel so good if our thanks or congratulations were met with indifference or pushed away with a 'yes, but...' or 'it was rubbish'. It is as if our gift is unworthy to be received. If it keeps happening, we stop bothering and that does not feel so good either, does it?

So how do we feel when we do that to ourselves: discount our own efforts or intentions or accomplishments as rubbish, unworthy of a thank you or even of being noticed at all?

If we feel that we can never do enough or do well enough that attitude is usually so ingrained, so part of the way we think

and act toward ourselves, that we believe it is true. Henry Ford (allegedly) said "whether you think you can or whether you think you can't you are right". This comes back to haunt me every so often and I am pleased it does!

My invitation to you is to live, for one day, 'as if' you can. Live for one day as if your intentions, efforts, and accomplishments are worthy of recognition and praise.

Just as an experiment, a bit of a game, start tomorrow with the intention of going through the day holding the thought 'today I am well pleased with my efforts'. Feel free to tailor the thought. Keep it short, stated in the positive and in the present tense.

At the end of the day, take stock of what you did during the day and the effort you put in and give yourself credit. If you keep a gratitude diary you can add it into your diary as another dimension of gratitude.

Notice how that simple thought affected your day, your spirits, your sense of self and may be even notice how holding that thought affected the way you treated others and were treated in return.

Too selfish? Too big headed? Simply as an experiment, a bit of fun, try it out just to see what happens.

I expect you will be pleasantly surprised.

Firm Roots cancer support retreat day

A CHRISTIAN cancer support charity is hosting its first virtual retreat day at the end of July.

Firm Roots is organising the free remote event which takes place via Zoom on Saturday 31 July from 10am-4pm.

The theme of the day is 'On the Road to Emmaus' and will allow participants to think about how Jesus joins us on the journey of our lives.

The retreat will include four sessions spread out during the day, to allow for a walk or some quiet, personal space with God.



Each session will include a chance to listen to some reflections and music, to take part in an optional

share and prayer session, an afternoon meditation and a final session and reflection.

Anyone whose lives have been affected by cancer is very welcome to join the online retreat day.

This is an ecumenical Christian retreat, open to people from different denominations and for those not part of a church, but wondering about faith.

To book a place at the retreat day, please complete this [form](#) or for more information, contact Helen Jones at Helen.Jones@firmroots.co.uk or 07936 186028.

Did you miss the Digital Labs Conference?

Is your church ready to bring more people to faith, grow their belief and share Good News by harnessing digital and social media?

The Digital Labs conference was organised by the Church of England's Digital Team and took place in June.

However, people who missed the conference can access the recorded webinars at a cost of £6 [here](#).

The recordings will enable you to:

- Be inspired by the opportunity that digital gives for rural and urban churches
- Learn how to keep both online and onsite services and events going



- Discover how to support and engage online communities
- Explore the resources, tools and software available for your church
- Hear from church leaders sharing first-hand experiences



PHOTO CREDIT: DALE HALL

THE Civic Party of Berwick were asked by the community to attend a service marking the centenary of Spittal War Memorial led by Revd Rachel Hudson, Vicar of Scremerston, Spittal and Tweedmouth benefice.

Pictured from left to right are the Sheriff of Berwick Canon Alan Hughes, the Sheriff's Lady Susan Hughes, Councillor Georgina Hill, Revd Rachel Hudson, the Mayor and the Mayoress of Berwick Councillor Alan and Mrs Jo Bowlas, the Mace Bearer of Berwick Joyce Benton, the Civic Heads of Northumberland, and Piper Laura Robertson.

Noticeboard

Saturday 7 August, 11.15am-4pm. St Oswald's Heavenfield Pilgrimage 2021 (Covid restrictions permitting)

The opening worship will begin at Hexham Abbey on the cloister lawn at 11.15am. We shall then walk via St John Lee, where there will be a short act of worship and

time to have a picnic, to St Oswald's Heavenfield arriving for the closing act of worship at 4pm followed by tea. As Covid infections are high please book a place with Christine Bull bull.christine4@gmail.com / 01434 672303 or Sarah Lunn sarahlunn63@gmail.com / 01434 681721.

The AGM of the Friends of St

Oswald's will take place this year by Zoom on 5 August at 6pm.

Tuesday 14 September, 6-7pm. Zoom Event: 'Zurbaran and The Boys', A Conversation@theRRC with David Pott on the connections between Faith and Art

Join local author David Pott

who will be discussing his book 'Listening to the Boys: Meditations on Francisco de Zurbaran's Jacob and His Twelve Sons', and answering questions. Bookings: enquiries@resourcescentreonline.co.uk or 0191 375 0586.

Thursday 23 September, 6-7.30pm. Zoom Event: Be Inspired! Family Ministry, Growing faith

A free online session for church leaders and parents led by the Kitchen Table Project. Bookings: enquiries@resourcescentreonline.co.uk or 0191 375 0586.

LIKE A METAPHOR

Tim Hardy (formerly of the Religious Resources Centre) writes at www.timbo-baggins.co.uk and is looking forward to his current house move being a thing of the past.



PICTURES OF THE WAY WE WERE

I really should get around to updating my photo-ID badge for work.

It's not simply that I'm older now than when I started or that it's not a particularly flattering picture (it's a thousand times better than the picture in my passport) - it's more that I don't recognise myself in the picture; the chubby-faced, extra-chinned, massive-necked person smiling slightly awkwardly at the iPad that was used to take the picture, doesn't exist any more. Since it was taken, I have lost a healthy amount of weight, my face is leaner, the extra chin has receded and my neck is narrower than my head. I've also lived through the past 18 months of the pandemic and find myself mentally changed since that January day when I tried to smile naturally for the photograph.

Holding up this picture as a representation of myself is not only misleading to others, it reminds me of a time I didn't like the physical face I presented to the world, and is a sign of how different I have become in the intervening time.

Which is strange because one of the things that has dropped away of late is the feeling that I haven't changed since I arrived in Newcastle at the tender age of 18. Obviously, I'm now quite a bit older but, until fairly recently, I'd have honestly said, "Inside, I feel like I'm still 17."

I came to university very sure of the way the universe worked, certain that God had standards, that we'd gone against them and put ourselves in the very justifiable danger of terrible judgement unless we either had enough faith or got our personal relationships with God sorted out. The rules existed and people had to fit into them. Or else. Of course, the 'or else' was couched in terms of our having brought it upon ourselves and being what we all really deserved. I hadn't yet learned the truth of "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath." or "Christ came into the world, not to judge the world but to save it." My development of that theology has left me a very different, kinder man.

My daughter has just turned five and her big birthday present (thank you Granny and Grandad) is a new scooter. The old one has done good service and been loved and ridden for half her life but is looking a bit small and tatty. It will be a wrench for her to leave it behind but the new one is more suited to her size and needs, has glowing wheels like the last one, and should last her well into the future.

Paul claimed to have left childish things behind him, and expected his churches to develop a taste for spiritual meat, chiding them for still relying on the milk of their youth, "Now that I am a man..." I wouldn't go so far as to say that I'd put all childish things behind me but I'm a lot more grown up than I ever was and perhaps it's time my mental ID card had a fresh picture.

Thank You for the Rain

By Helen Cunningham, Church Engagement & Fundraising Officer (North East & Cumbria) **christian aid**

"We were crying 'no rain, no rain, no rain', and really there was no rain. Now we are talking flood. Everything is being contradicted."
- Kisilu Musya, farmer and activist, Kenya.

Film showing:
Monday 13 September, 7pm

THANK You for the Rain tells the story of Kisilu, a smallholder farmer in Kenya who has used his camera to capture the life of his family, and the human costs of climate change.

Campaigner, Jess said: "When I first watched this film, I couldn't speak for a good 10 minutes afterwards. I felt rage and I felt sadness. But I also had a profound sense of hope, I wanted to stand in solidarity with Kisilu, I needed to act."

The film is a rare and personal insight into the realities of the climate crisis and it is a call to action to all who care about God's creation.

Helen Cunningham and Tim Burdon, Church Engagement and Fundraising Officers, invite you to join them for an online viewing of this beautiful film and intimate story on Monday 13 September 2021 at 7pm. There will be an opportunity for a short discussion afterwards.

Bring along a colleague or friend, or arrange to join us in your small group. Email hello@christian-aid.org or ring 01925 573769 to sign up



► Thank You For the Rain

and request the Zoom link.

Would you like to host your own community viewing or an online watch party in your own church? Let us know - we would be delighted to help you do that! Find out more [here!](#)

In 2021, the year when the UK hosted the G7 and will host the COP26, a year when every moment matters, and every action counts, we want to invite you to watch and share Kisilu's story with your church, your friends and your family. By bearing witness to his life, his struggle and his hope we can stand with him in calling for climate justice.

During the pandemic we've found ourselves in and out of lockdown. The great thing about watching this film is that it's an experience we can share together from home, or in person when we're allowed to safely gather.

Many churches, home groups, friends and families have already watched Thank You for the Rain. Just like Jess they raged, reacted and were compelled to act. They wrote to their MPs, they signed petitions and they prayed. This film is a great way to share the bigger justice story of the climate crisis with your community.

Christian Aid's Harvest Appeal resources are now available [here!](#)

Gospel Readings

August

1st	John 6.24-35
2nd	Matthew 14.13-21 or 14.22-end
3rd	Matthew 14.22-end or 15.1-2, 10-14
4th	Matthew 15.21-28
5th	Matthew 16.13-23
6th	Luke 9.28-36
7th	Matthew 17.14-20
8th	John 6.35, 41-51
9th	Matthew 17.22-end
10th	Matthew 18.1-5, 10, 12-14
11th	Matthew 18.15-20
12th	Matthew 18.21-19.1
13th	Matthew 19.3-12
14th	Matthew 19.13-15
15th	John 6.51-58
16th	Luke 1.46-55
17th	Matthew 19.23-end
18th	Matthew 20.1-16
19th	Matthew 22.1-14
20th	Matthew 22.34-40
21st	Matthew 21.1-12
22nd	John 6.56-69
23rd	Matthew 23.13-22
24th	Luke 22.24-30
25th	Matthew 23.27-32
26th	Matthew 24.42-end
27th	Matthew 25.1-13
28th	Matthew 25.14-30
29th	Mark 7.1-8, 14, 15, 21-23
30th	Luke 4.16-30
31st	Luke 4.31-37

September

1st	Luke 4.38-end
2nd	Luke 5.1-11
3rd	Luke 5.33-end
4th	Luke 6.1-5
5th	Mark 7.24-end
6th	Luke 6.6-11
7th	Luke 6.12-19
8th	Luke 6.20-26
9th	Luke 6.27-38
10th	Luke 6.39-42
11th	Luke 6.43-end
12th	Mark 8.27-end
13th	Luke 7.1-10
14th	John 3.13-17
15th	Luke 7.31-35
16th	Luke 7.36-end
17th	Luke 8.1-3
18th	Luke 8.4-15
19th	Mark 9.30-37
20th	Luke 8.16-18
21st	Matthew 9.9-13
22nd	Luke 9.1-6
23rd	Luke 9.7-9
24th	Luke 9.18-22
25th	Luke 9.43b-45
26th	Mark 9.38-end
27th	Luke 9.46-50
28th	Luke 9.51-56
29th	John 1.47-end
30th	Luke 10.1-12

Safeguarding Sunday

Supported by
thirtyone: eight
thirtyoneeight.org

This Safeguarding Sunday
find out what we're doing to make our church a safer place for everyone.

Join the conversation
#SafeguardingSunday

We're marking Safeguarding Sunday on:
Safeguarding Sunday 2021

Ask us for more information

THE Diocese of Newcastle is supporting this year's Safeguarding Sunday on 10 October 2021.

We are encouraging 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.

The ecumenical initiative from specialist safeguarding charity thirtyone: eight provides bespoke resources including films and animations, prayers, preaching notes, children's activity sheets, hymns and songs and a safeguarding pledge.

There are already more churches signed up at this stage than all participants last year and General Synod members have been encouraged at the July Synod meeting to promote the dedicated day in their dioceses.

A short sermon for use on the day will be provided by Bishop Jonathan Gibbs, the Church of England's lead safeguarding bishop.

He said: "Whether churches can give just a few minutes or dedicate their whole service, Safeguarding Sunday is a really helpful and important way of focusing on all the work that goes on 365 days a year in our churches to make them safe places.

"From our children's and young people's activities to clubs for the elderly and foodbanks, our churches are involved in every community. Protecting vulnerable people is at the heart of the Christian message.

"Safeguarding Sunday is all about creating an opportunity for churches to show their communities that they take this responsibility seriously."

For more information and resources, click [here](#).

MONTHLY E-BULLETIN

HAVE you signed up to our monthly Diocesan e-Bulletin? Delivered straight to your inbox on the last Friday of each month, the e-Bulletin features the latest news, information, upcoming events and resources for the Diocese as well as our monthly Prayer Diary.

You can sign-up at www.bit.ly/ebulletin-resub or via our Facebook page [@nddiocese](https://www.facebook.com/nddiocese)