



DIOCESE OF **Bath & Wells**

Living the story. Telling the story.



Diocesan Healing Advisory Group Newsletter Welcome to Early Spring 2022

Sing the praises of the Lord, you his faithful people;
praise his holy name.

For his anger lasts only a moment,
but his favour lasts a lifetime;
weeping may stay for the night,
but rejoicing comes in the morning.

(Psalm 30 v 4 - 5)

This Psalm may speak for many of us, as we begin to put the uncertainty and sadness of the last months behind us. We sense signs of new life all around us, as the buds pop and the chirping birds prepare to build their nests. The frosty nights become shorter, and we realise that we too are ready to look forward to 2022 in thankfulness and hope.

We long to be open to God, and hopeful for the future. The church's ministry of

healing and wholeness springs from this and the Diocesan Healing Advisory Group is here to encourage and resource everyone who longs for this, in discovering and developing God's gift of healing with sensitivity and respect.

Healing Forums

Following our series 'Healing in a World Turned Upside Down', we have an exciting new programme for 2022, which will follow a similar pattern. Meeting online via Zoom meant that more of you were able to join us. This year's Healing Forums will be:-

'Listening in Healing' on Tuesday 15 February, 7.30 – 9.00 pm

Our speaker, Preb Dr Alison Perham, will consider the vital importance of being heard. She has a background in the NHS, working in palliative care, and is now a trustee of St Margaret's Hospice.

If you wish to attend the Healing Forum on Tuesday 15 February, please register to receive the link to access the Zoom meeting.

'Healing at the end of life' on Tuesday 26 April, 7.30 – 9.00 pm

Revd Ann Fulton will speak and lead our discussion. She is Spiritual Care Coordinator at St Margaret's Hospice, which provides care to patients and families facing life-limiting illness.

'Healing through Families' on Tuesday 14 June, 7.30 – 9.00 pm Gabby North, from Safe Families, will speak and lead our session. Safe Families is an organisation which works with local councils to support children and their carers.

We also hope to return to the Cathedral for a Healing Service in the Autumn.

More information about all these will be available in due course.

Please keep in touch with the Healing Advisory Group, as we are here to resource you, and be assured that we pray regularly for you. Do please email us with any observations or queries if you wish to do so. Within the bounds of confidentiality, it is good to share something of our struggles and joys with each other and, with permission, with the wider community if it is appropriate.

Hear me, Lord and be merciful to me; Lord, be my help.

You turned my wailing into dancing;

you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,
that my heart may sing your praises and not be silent.

Lord my God, I will praise you forever.

(Psalm 30 v 10- 12)

Gilly Bunce and Justine North

Healing Adviser and Chair of Diocesan Healing Advisory Group

February 2022

