

DEVELOPING MINISTRIES

DIOCESE OF CHICHESTER



Year of Faith: The Gospel of Matthew



Sep 25–Sep 26

2025

17-Sep	Parish Advice Training for new PCC treasurers	OPEN TO ALL
18-Sep	Parish Advice Training for new PCC secretaries	OPEN TO ALL
23-Sep	Parish Advice Legacy Webinar	OPEN TO ALL
24-Sep	Parish Advice Training for anyone who is a new PCC trustee	OPEN TO ALL
25-Sep	Early Christians Witness to Contemplative Prayer, Revd Canon Dr Earl Collins	OPEN TO ALL
27-Sep	Renewing Hope in Smaller Churches - ReSource	OPEN TO ALL
03-Oct	Spiritual Direction for Those in Later Life, LCSd	OPEN TO ALL
03-Oct	Preaching Matthew's Gospel, The College of Preachers	CLERGY
04-Oct	Come & Sing!– with RSCM Voices South	OPEN TO ALL
05-Oct	Celebrating Black History Month	OPEN TO ALL
07-Oct	Dean's Lectures: Nicea 1700 meets Chichester 950, The Very Revd Dr Edward Dowler	OPEN TO ALL
11-Oct	Young Voices Workshop and Networking RSCM	OPEN TO ALL
14-Oct	2025 Chichester Rural Conference	OPEN TO ALL
18-Oct	Renewing Hope in Smaller Churches - ReSource	OPEN TO ALL
21-Oct	Dean's Lectures: The Hidden Treasures of Chichester Cathedral, Revd Vanessa Baron	OPEN TO ALL
23-Oct	Technology for the Marginalised, Faraday	OPEN TO ALL
25-Oct	Be Still: 'The life and works of Charles de Foucauld'	OPEN TO ALL
08-Nov	Neurodiversity and the Church, Faraday	OPEN TO ALL
13-Nov	Relevant Climate Crisis Learning for Everyone	OPEN TO ALL
20-Nov	Introducing the Year of Matthew (1 of 2), Peter Sills	OPEN TO ALL
26-Nov	Parish Advice working with 'Cornerstone'	OPEN TO ALL
7-9 Dec	Contemplating art in a Sacred Space, Winter Residential Retreat	OPEN TO ALL

2026

12-Jan	Preaching at Wedding,, College of Preachers	CLERGY
22-Jan	The Theology of Hymns, The Revd Thomas Pelham	OPEN TO ALL
26-Jan	Preaching in Lent, College of Preachers	CLERGY
29-Jan	Eco Theology Day, Rev Buff Forbes Stone & Rev Jules Middleton	OPEN TO ALL
03-Feb	The Perplexing Logic of the Matthean Cross , Revd Dr Olga Fabrikant-Burke	OPEN TO ALL
05-Feb	Faith and Political Discipleship, The Very Revd Dr Edward Dowler	OPEN TO ALL
07-Feb	Preaching Easter to Pentecost, College of Preachers	OPEN TO ALL
10-13 Feb	Stepping into the Bible, 3 day course, Peter Sills	OPEN TO ALL
01-Mar	Holy Week: Rituals and Traditions, The Revd Catriona Cumming	OPEN TO ALL
10-Apr	Ignatian Wisdom for the Journey, LCSd Dr Jason Clark	OPEN TO ALL
23-Apr	Introducing the Year of Matthew (2 of 2), Peter Sills	OPEN TO ALL
19-May	Matthew seminar, Ian Boxall zoom still tbc	OPEN TO ALL



Celebrating Faith

Celebrations to mark 950 years of the Diocese of Chichester and Chichester Cathedral

2025 marks the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea which resulted in the Nicene Creed emerging - a document still recited by Christians summarising the essence of what they believe.

To celebrate 950 years of religious, cultural and civic life across the City, District and Counties, the Diocese and Cathedral have curated a diverse programme of events taking place in 2025.

With regards to the events marking the anniversary of the Creed, the Bishop said: *"The programme in 2025 will explore how the Creed unites us in what we believe about God, who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit."*

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To find out more and book:

<https://www.chichestercathedral.org.uk/news/celebrations-announced-mark-950-years-diocese-chichester-and-chichester-cathedral>

17, 18, 24, 25 Sep 2025



Sean Lamberger, Flickr

Parish Advice (Finance, Stewardship and Governance)

17, 18, 24, 25 Sep. Free. Online. Apostolic Life.

We are so grateful for the number of people who have stepped up this year to serve in their PCC. This may be the first time people have served in this way, so to help you feel equipped in your role we are providing training for new PCC secretaries, treasurers and trustees. These training sessions will be done via zoom and you will have the opportunity to ask any questions you may have about your role. The aim is to give you the knowledge to feel empowered as a valued member of the PCC.

Training for new PCC treasurers :

17 Sep 25, Wed, 19-20.00: <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/FCTI>

Training for new PCC secretaries :

18 Sep 25, Thu, 19-20.00: <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/FCTJ>

Legacy Webinar:

23 Sep 25, Tue, 13-14.00: <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/FCKT>

Training for anyone who is a new PCC trustee :

24 Sep 25, Wed, 19-20.00: <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/FCTH>

To find out more about Parish Advice and Support please contact:



Parish Advice working with 'Cornerstone'

26 Nov 25, 10.00-12.30, Church House, Hove
Free. In person.

Cornerstone is an online platform that helps show areas where you can focus your resources to get the best results when it comes to increasing the culture of generosity in your church. The platform has easy to follow step-by-step actions which are called Pathways. It also has an extensive grants database which talks you through how to write an application.

We will be running our second workshop for Cornerstone in November 2025. If your church would be interested in coming along to the workshop to understand how to use the Cornerstone platform which will involve looking at your parish's generosity profile, **please do let Molly Reuter know.**

If you would like access to the Cornerstone platform to access the grants database or to explore the pathways, please contact Molly Reuter (molly.reuter@chichester.anglican.org) who would be happy to set you up with a log in.

The Parish Advice team:

Sarah Rogers and Molly Reuter.



25/26 EVENTS FOR YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S LEADERS

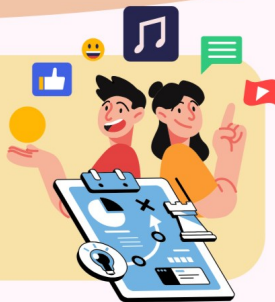
Mon
29
SEPT

Vision and Strategy - Linkup

Church House, Hove - Burrows

A session looking at setting vision and building strategy.

Led by Dan Jenkins



Eco Environment - Linkup

Church House, Hove - Burrows

Young people and the Climate Crisis- where we are and what we can do to enable young people to thrive and take action.

Led by Rev Buff Stone and Steve Collins

TUE
21
OCT

THUR
27
NOV

Building healthy teams - Linkup

Church House, Hove - Burrows

...and recruiting volunteers.



Away day

Bishop's Palace, Canon Lane, Chichester

Youth and Children's leader wellbeing - Gathering at the palace in Chichester town centre.

MON
12
JAN

**FRI
27
FEB**

Mini

St Andrew's, Furnace Green, Crawley

Our annual one night Maycamp reunion and opportunity to get a taste of Maycamp.

£2 entry with discounted Maycamp tickets available!



Line management - Linkup

Church House, Hove - Burrows

Bring your line manager to this session!

We'll be talking about our best and worst line management experience and what we can do make our management and supervision the most effective it can be!

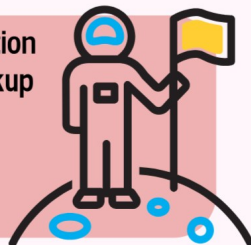
**WED
18
MAR**

**TUE
21
APR**

Cultural and Contextual innovation - Linkup

Church House, Hove - Wilson

Mission shaped by culture and your context. See where God is moving and join in.



Plumpton Racecourse

Maycamp 2026 - Breathe

To find out more and to book tickets head to: www.maycamp.org

**22-25
MAY**

Linkup Sessions

Arrival from 9:30 for a 10am start. Pastries and drinks provided. Each morning consists of some training input and loads of discussion.

We have a soft finish at 1pm with lunch provided and final departure at 2pm.

There is some parking available at church house and Portslade station is a short walk away.



Early Christian Witnesses to Contemplative Prayer

Free. 10.00-12.00. Zoom

Led by The Revd Canon Dr Earl Collins

As part of the Diocese of Chichester's 'Year of Faith'.

The Niceno-Constantinopolitan Creed massively clarified the Church's understanding of God's revelation but was also often under attack.

Some of its chief defenders were monks, who recognised that its teaching about God has profound implications for a Christian vision of contemplative prayer.

We will look at several traditions of monastic prayer (Evagrius, Pseudo-Macarius, and Augustine), to demonstrate how the monks contemplated the mystery of God expressed in the Creed.

Photo sourced from [freepik.com/free-photos-vectors/praying](https://www.freepik.com/free-photos-vectors/praying)

To find out more and book:

<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/DSKU>

27 Sep 2025 Sat, & 18 Oct 25 Sat

OPEN TO ALL



RESOURCE

Renewing Hope in Smaller Churches

ReSource Regional Gatherings in the Southeast this Autumn

£15.00, lunch included. 2 days option, 10.00-16.00

Led by Revd Jolyon Trickey and others

Both of these days are aimed particularly at leaders and worshippers in smaller local churches (with usual attendance of perhaps 55 or less). Facilitated by Revd Jolyon Trickey and others, we look to encounter God in fresh ways and renew our confidence in the inextinguishable power of biblical hope. We will also worship, reflect and wrestle together with the practicalities of living hopefully in our 'little, local and ordinary' churches. For further information and to book a ticket:

Christ Church, Tunbridge Wells

27 Sep 25, 10.00 – 16.00,

<https://www.resourcingrenewal.org/events/68/renewing-hope-in-smaller-churches-se-tunbridge-wells>

All Saints, Marlow

18 Oct 25, 10.00 – 16.00

<https://www.resourcingrenewal.org/events/68/renewing-hope-in-smaller-churches-marlow>

To find out more:

<https://www.resourcingrenewal.org/contact>



Spiritual Direction for Those in Later Life

£50 / £40 for Members. 10.00-15.00. Online

Led by Úna Agnew, a religious sister of the St Louis Community

Longevity in our western world can be seen as a gift or a burden. This lengthy post-retirement stage must have a purpose, or why else do we live so long? It can be welcomed as an opportunity to uncover more fully the meaning of our lives and the depth of our spirituality. Theologian Karl Rahner, who lived into his eighties, tells us, “old age is a gift and a mission not given to everyone”. Nevertheless, the world is in need of elders who can share wisdom with others

For Spiritual Directors, this workshop offers tools to companion people through a sacred season of transformation. Drawing from theology, psychology, mysticism, and poetry, we will consider how best to support directees facing the transitions of ageing, including loss, generativity, and the shift from doing to being.

This workshop will invite sharing of experience, insight, and honest questions. We hope participants leave with a greater awareness of the spiritual dynamics of ageing and feel more equipped to offer direction that honours the sacred terrain of later life.

To find out more and book:

<https://www.lcsd.org.uk/events/aging>



Preaching Matthew's Gospel

£12, ministry student: £10. 10.30-13.00. Online

Led by A.K.M. Adam

Matthew brings a very specific perspective to his gospel, including some unique narratives, such as the visit of the Wise Men to Bethlehem, and frequent references to Old Testament prophecies. This workshop will examine Matthew's Gospel and how preachers can use its unique perspective to bring the gospel message to life in new ways.

This workshop will be led by the Revd Dr A.K.M. Adam. Dr Adam is a lecturer in New Testament at Oxford University and a Church of England parish priest in the Oxford Diocese.

Check out their other events

To find out more and book:

<https://www.collegeofpreachers.co.uk/events/>



Come & Sing!– with RSCM Voices South

St John's Church, Burgess Hill RH15 9AA

£15 (RSCM Members), £20 (non-members), £5 (under 18s)

Led by Event Director: Hilary Punnett

This is a fun, friendly, and open event for singers to prepare and learn music for a service of Choral Evensong under professional directorship and the accompaniment of a superbly restored organ. No prior knowledge of the repertoire is required, and scores will be available for all singers to borrow for the day.

All singers, members and non-members of the RSCM, are warmly invited to attend. Singers under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent, guardian, or responsible adult at all times. St John's has full range of accessible toilet and changing facilities available, and is within walking distance of several cafes, shops, and the Burgess Hill railway station. Rehearsals will commence at 11am, followed by a lunch break at 12:30.

Returning at 14:00, singers will continue rehearsing through to a refreshment break at 15:15. Singers can bring their own choir robes if they wish, and will have plenty of time and space to get robed before Choral Evensong at 16:00 – with the service concluding by 17:00.

To find out more and book:

<https://www.rscm.org.uk/events/come-sing-with-rscm-voices-south/>



Celebrating Black History Month

Chichester Cathedral, Chichester PO19 1PX

Free. 15.00-16.00

Led by Bishop Will Hazelwood

The Diocese and the Cathedral will be marking Black History Month in October with Choral Evensong on Sunday 5 October at 3pm in the Cathedral, followed by light refreshments. Preacher is Bishop Will.

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To find out more and book: <https://www.chichester.anglican.org/events/2025/10/05/black-history-month/>



Dean's Lectures 2025: **Nicaea 1700 meets Chichester 950 - How the Cathedral Illustrates the Creed**

Vicar's Hall, Chichester Cathedral, Chichester PO19 1PX

£10 per person (includes glass of wine or soft drink) 18.30, Lecture 19.00

Led by The Very Revd Dr Edward Dowler

As part of the celebrations of our 950th anniversary, these lectures will reflect on aspects of the artistic and cultural heritage of Chichester Cathedral, the ways in which these speak to us amid the challenges and opportunities of our current time, and their relevance for future generations.

In common with other Christians around the world, this year we are celebrating the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea from which the Nicene Creed that we say week by week is (largely) derived, expressing the faith of the Church in the one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. In this illustrated lecture, the Dean of Chichester, The Very Revd Dr Edward Dowler will bring this anniversary together with Chichester 950, reflecting on the way in which different aspects and art works in the Cathedral, both ancient and modern, reflect and illuminate the words of the Creed and the faith it expresses.

This lecture will combine, in different measure, reflection on art, culture, history, theology and spirituality. All are welcome and no prior knowledge of the Cathedral or subject area is expected.

To find out more and book: <https://www.chichestercathedral.org.uk/events/deans-lectures-2025-nicaea-1700-meets-chichester-950-how-cathedral-illustrates-creed>

11 Oct 2025, Sat

OPEN TO ALL

YOUNG VOICES TOOLKIT

Young Voices Workshop and Networking

St James the Greater, Leicester LE2 1NE

£25 Members; £50 Non-members

An in-person day offering the opportunity to explore some of the themes of the Young Voices Toolkit and to enable peer to peer networking.

The £25 discount for RSCM Members applies automatically to logged in Individual Members and Group Member correspondents.

Please contact events@rscm.com if you have any issues.

Booking Deadline: 08-Oct-2025

Age Restriction: Over-18s Only

Contact Tel: 01722 424848



To find out more and book: <https://www.rscm.org.uk/events/young-voices-workshop-and-networking-leicester/>



2025 Chichester Rural Conference

£30..10.00-15.30. Ashburnham Place, near Battle, TN33 9NF

Led by Revd Gary Cregeen, Rural Officer For East Sussex

Building on the success of previous similar events this year's Diocesan Rural Conference promises to be equally encouraging, inspiring and relevant to all who have a heart for rural mission and ministry (lay or ordained).

This year, as we are 'CELEBRATING FAITH' across the Diocese of Chichester, a variety of rural practitioners, as well as a keynote speaker, will share their experience, wisdom and encouragement in areas relevant to our rural churches and communities.

Six workshop/discussion groups will give an opportunity to discover and celebrate what God is doing in villages and small communities across the Diocese, to share one's experience, ask questions, and to consider the challenges and opportunities of being the Rural Church.

To find out more and book:

<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/FASM>



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Dean's Lectures 2025: The Hidden Treasures of Chichester Cathedral with Reverend Vanessa Baron

Vicar's Hall, Chichester Cathedral, Chichester PO19 1PX

£10 per person (includes glass of wine or soft drink) 18.30, Lecture 19.00

Led by Reverend Vanessa Baron

As part of the celebrations of our 950th anniversary, these lectures will reflect on aspects of the artistic and cultural heritage of Chichester Cathedral, the ways in which these speak to us amid the challenges and opportunities of our current time, and their relevance for future generations.

Reverend Vanessa Baron has strategic responsibility for the care and interpretation of the Cathedral's fabric and treasures as Canon Treasurer. She read philosophy at London City University and has an MA in Mediaeval History. She was among the very first cohort of women to be ordained priest in the Diocese of London in 1994.

This lecture will combine, in different measure, reflection on art, culture, history, theology and spirituality. All are welcome and no prior knowledge of the Cathedral or subject area is expected.

To find out more and book: <https://www.chichestercathedral.org.uk/events/deans-lectures-2025-hidden-treasures-chichester-cathedral-reverend-vanessa-baron>

23 Oct 2025, Thu + following 4 sessions

OPEN TO ALL



Course: Technology for the Marginalised

Online, 19.30-21.00

£88 for all five sessions

How does the church fulfil its calling to have concern for people with whom technological development is unconcerned? We will help church leaders and their congregations engage with the theological, technological, practical, and pastoral issues raised by this question.

Thursdays
19.30-21.00

**23 Oct 25,
27 Nov 25
29 Jan 26
26 Feb 26
26 Mar 26**



CHRISTIANS · IN · SCIENCE



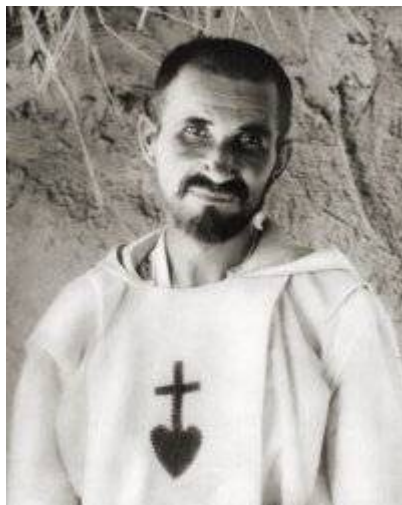
The Methodist Church



faraday.institute/Technology

To find out more and book:

<https://www.faraday.cam.ac.uk/event/neurodiversity-and-the-church/>



Be Still - The Chichester Contemplative Prayer Group Study Day

Vicar's Hall, Chichester Cathedral, 10.30-12.30

£10, payable at the door.

Led by Canon Dr Earl Collins

The new Chancellor of Chichester Cathedral will speak on:

'The life and works of Charles de Foucauld',

a Catholic priest and hermit who lived among the Tuareg people in the Sahara in Algeria.

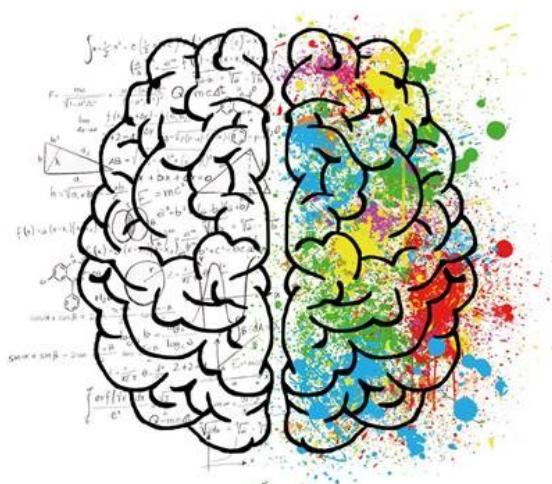
His inspiration and writings led to the founding of a number of religious communities.

Gather from 10:00 am for coffee or tea.

Image: By Edsdet - Own work, Public Domain, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=1757881>

To find out more and book:

Contact David Browning at bestill-chichester@btinternet.com



Neurodiversity and the Church

Westminster College, Cambridge and Online

£25 in person; £37 student in person, £26 online

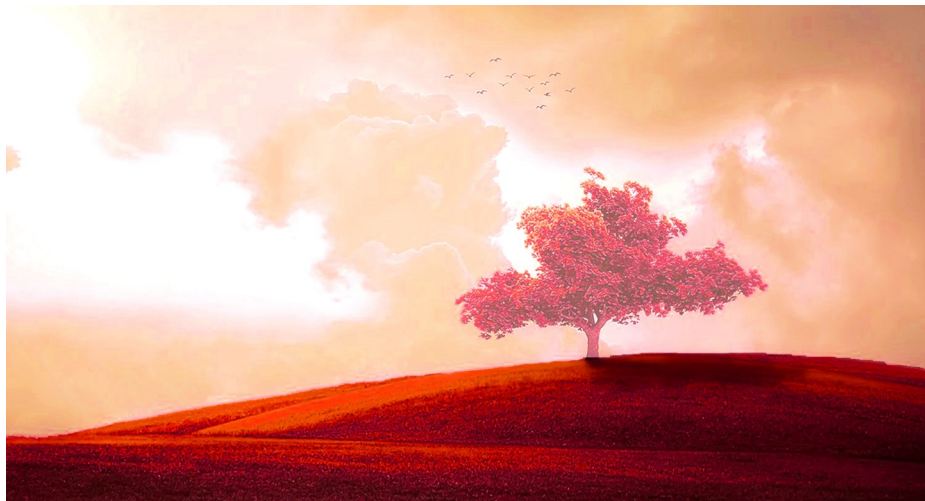
Explore the challenges of living with neurodivergent conditions in church life, and how we can make our activities more accessible and inclusive.

What are the challenges of living with neurodivergent conditions such as autism or ADHD in the context of Church life – both for leaders and congregations? How can we recognise and appreciate people's diverse giftings in church life? How can we live out our lives together as a community

Image Elisa Riva

To find out more and book:

<https://www.faraday.cam.ac.uk/event/neurodiversity-and-the-church/>



Relevant Climate Crisis Learning for Everyone

Free. 9.00-17.00, 211 New Church Rd, Brighton and Hove, Hove BN3 4ED

Led by The Revd Buff Stone, Diocesan Environment Officer

A day to bring awareness of the carbon costs and impacts of everyday activities and the ability and motivation to reduce emissions, on an individual, community and organisational basis.



To find out more and book:

<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/FIER>



image © Pinterest: St Matthew depicted in the Book of Kells.

Introducing...The Year of Matthew (1st of 2 seminars)

Free. 10.00-12.00, online

Led by Canon Peter Sills

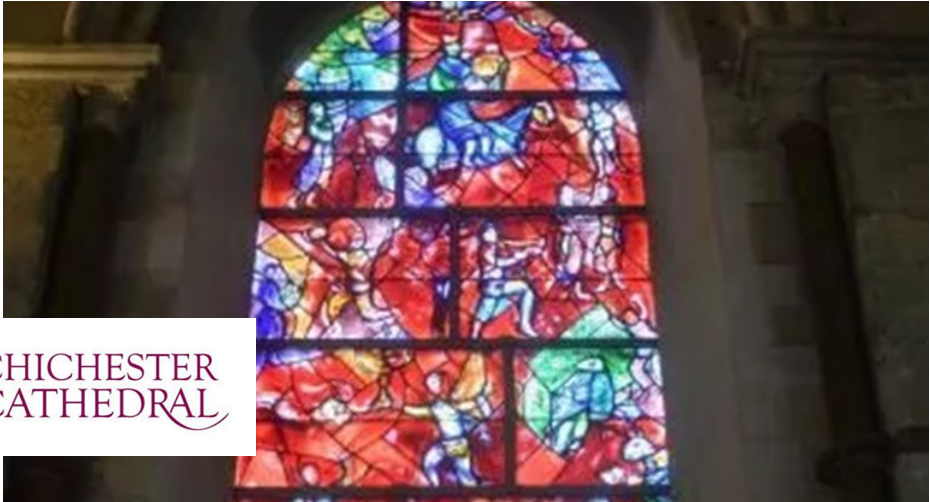
Although placed first in the New Testament, Matthew's Gospel was the second to be written. Composed around AD70 for a Jewish Christian community, possibly situated in Syria, it has a distinctive style and layout. This Zoom seminar, the first of two, explores when, why and by whom the Gospel was written, the sources on which it is based, its distinctive features, and its major themes.

The second seminar (April 23, 2026), will look more closely at Matthew's teaching and his picture of Jesus.

Canon Peter Sills, formerly Vice-Dean of Ely, is a retired priest and pilgrimage guide attached to the Beacon Parish of Ditchling, Streat & Westmeston. He is the author of several books, including *Six Steps Into The Bible*, written for those who want to get under the skin of the Bible and deepen their understanding of the scriptures: www.peter-sills.co.uk/courses. If this seminar whets your appetite why not come along to *Stepping Into The Bible*, the study retreat at Ashburnham Place: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/stepping-into-the-bible-tickets-1345429639269?aff=oddttdtcreator>

To find out more and book:

<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/FKSF>



Winter Residential Retreat
Contemplating art in a Sacred Space -
An exploration of the art in Chichester Cathedral

George Bell House, 4 Canon Lane, Chichester PO19 1PX

£190.00 per person, £160.00 per person to share a twin/double room,
£55.00 day attendance on 8th & 9th December only (supper not included)
Led by The Reverend Earl Collins, Canon Chancellor

Following an introduction, each session will involve some comments on the artwork followed by a period of contemplation before a time for comment and questions.

The retreat will be guided by John Workman, an art history postgraduate researcher and member of the Cathedral congregation and the Reverend Earl Collins, Canon Chancellor. There are opportunities for individual spiritual conversation with the Canon Chancellor alongside the sessions. is expected.

To find out more and book: <https://www.chichestercathedral.org.uk/events/winter-residential-retreat-contemplating-art-sacred-space-exploration-art-chichester>



Preaching at Weddings

£12, ministry student: £10. 10.30-13.00. Online

Led by Jennifer Brown

This workshop will consider the Christian theology of marriage, what preachers hope to achieve through the sermons preached at weddings, biblical texts suitable for weddings, and how to craft a wedding sermon.

This workshop is ideal for those starting out in their preaching ministry, and is also suitable for experienced preachers who want to refresh their preaching at weddings.

The workshop will be led by the Revd Jennifer Brown. Jennifer is Rector-designate of the parish of Abingdon-on-Thames and former Director of Training for the College of Preachers. She is also an experienced theological educator.

Check out their other events

To find out more and book:

<https://www.collegeofpreachers.co.uk/events/>

[illegible]

The Theology of Hymns

Free. 19.00-20.45. Online

Led by The Revd Thomas Pelham

Join Revd Thomas Pelham for an online talk and discussion on the Theology of Hymns.

Hymns are more than musical expressions—they are theological declarations woven into melody. Rooted in Scripture and tradition, hymns articulate the beliefs, hopes, and praises of the Christian faith.

They serve as communal prayers, doctrinal affirmations, and spiritual reflections, often encapsulating profound truths in poetic form.

To find out more and book:
<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/FOJC>



Preaching in Lent

£12, ministry student: £10. 14.00-16.30. Online

Led by A.K.M. Adam

In this workshop, we'll explore some of the Lenten themes found in the gospels of Matthew and John, and the ways in which they point us through Lent, toward the resurrection, and how we can effectively communicate these in our preaching in the season of Lent.

This workshop will be led by the Revd Dr A.K.M. Adam. Dr Adam is a lecturer in New Testament at Oxford University and a Church of England parish priest in the Oxford Diocese.

Check out their other events

To find out more and book:

<https://www.collegeofpreachers.co.uk/events/>



Eco theology Day: 2 Sessions:

An Introduction to the Climate Crisis and Eco Trauma and the Wounds of Christ
Free. 2 sessions day; 10-12 noon and 13-15:00 at Church House Hove.

Led by Rev Buff Forbes Stone Diocesan Environment Officer & Rev Jules Middleton

Session 1: Carbon Confidence in an Hour- Rev Buff Forbes Stone

The Climate and Environment crisis is the issue of our time. Often we are concerned but don't know what to do. Carbon Confidence helps us start the process of understanding the science of the climate crisis and how as Christians our faith compels us to respond. There is a one hour presentation with time for worship, questions, and working out our next practical steps together.

Session 2: Eco Trauma and the Wounds of Christ – Rev Jules Middleton

Taking an eco theological view we will look at how we might consider the bodily trauma of Christ at the crucifixion, within the context of planetary wounding (ie: human-caused damage to the earth or climate change). Within this we will explore the concepts of 'deep time' and 'deep incarnation' and the earth being in a place of Holy Saturday.

To find out more and book:

Session 1: <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/FNZG>

Session 2: <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/FNZK>



The Perplexing Logic of the Matthean Cross

Free. 10.00-12.00. Zoom

Led by The Revd Dr Olga Fabrikant-Burke,
Tutor in Old Testament, Ridley Hall, Cambridge

As part of
Diocese of Chichester's
'Year of Faith:
The Gospel of Matthew'

At the heart of the Gospel of Matthew lies a startling paradox. The Gospel opens with the bold proclamation that Jesus is 'the Messiah, the son of David.' And yet, at the end of the story, this anointed Davidic king dies a shameful death on a cross, a horrific Roman torture device.

To square the messianic circle, Matthew appeals to the Old Testament, supremely the story of King David as well as the psalms of lament. Strange as it may sound, for Matthew, it is supremely in his humiliation that Jesus is 'the Messiah, the son of David.' And it is the Old Testament that provides sanction for the perplexing logic of the Matthean cross.



Image by Chil Vera from Pixabay

To find out more and book:
<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/FIEU>

5 Feb 2026, Thu

OPEN TO ALL

**CHICHESTER
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Faith and Political Discipleship

Free. 10.00-12.00. Zoom

Led by The Very Revd Dr Edward Dowler, Dean of Chichester.

Join online for an informative talk and discussion about engaging public life through the lens of the Gospel, seeking justice, peace, and the common good.

Grounded in scripture and with attention to writing in the early centuries of the Church as well as more modern sources, it calls believers to act with compassion, uphold human dignity, and participate in civic life as an expression of love for neighbour and obedience to Christ

To find out more and book:

<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/FOJE>



Preaching Easter to Pentecost

£12, ministry student: £10. 10.30-13.00. Online

Led by Martin Little

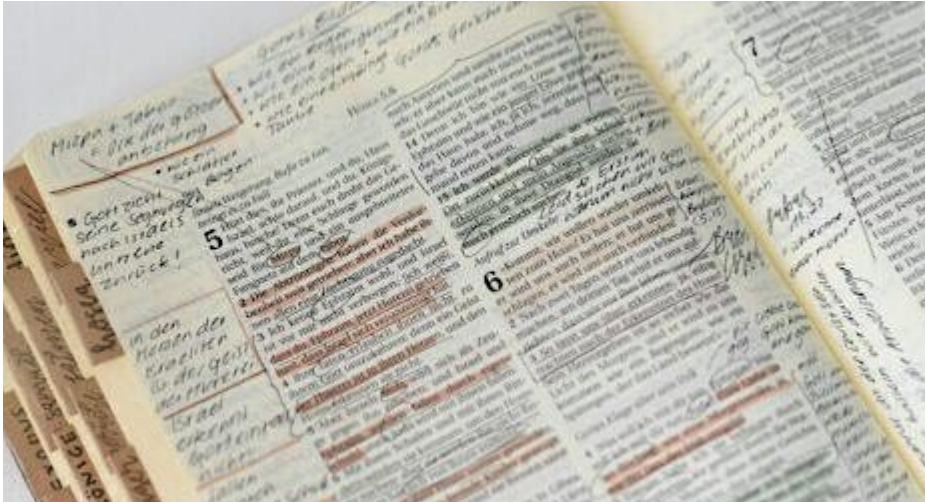
Easter is the great festival of the Christian Church - the heart of the good news of Jesus. But the story of Easter doesn't end at Easter - Jesus' disciples encountered the risen Christ numerous times, culminating in the Ascension, and Jesus post-resurrection ministry was sealed with the coming of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church at Pentecost. In this workshop, we will explore how to preach for the three festivals of Easter, Ascension, and Pentecost, and will also look at the post-resurrection encounters that take us through the season of Eastertide.

This workshop will be led by The Revd Martin Little, Vicar of Holy Trinity, Headington Quarry, Oxford. Martin studied History of Art at The University of Edinburgh, and completed an MA in Theology, Ministry, and Mission at Cranmer Hall in Durham in 2017. He spent ten years in youth and music ministry before ordination in the Church of England.

Check out their other events

To find out more and book:

<https://www.collegeofpreachers.co.uk/events/>



Stepping into the Bible, 3 day course

£300-348. Ashburnham Place. Kitchenham Road, Battle TN33 9NF

Led by Peter Sills

An opportunity to get under the skin of the Bible, to understand its world, & to ask the questions as we exploring the Biblical message. The Bible can be a bit of a closed book. There are some wonderful bits, like the story of Jesus, but what about the rest?

Stepping Into The Bible opens it up. It offers an opportunity to get under the skin of the Bible, to understand its world, and to ask the questions that bother us. Together we make a journey exploring when and how the different Books were written, how the Old and New Testaments relate to one another, and the way the Biblical message develops over the many centuries of its writing. We explore the different levels of biblical truth – from the literal to the poetic – and what they mean for us today.

The retreat offers, in a prayerful context, tools for deeper understanding and imaginative engagement with the scriptures. Stepping into the Bible we discover it is not 'a sacred monolith', but a dynamic testament to a developing faith.

The retreat is led by Canon Dr Peter Sills, and is based on his book, Six Steps Into The Bible : www.peter-sills.co.uk/courses. Peter is an experienced teacher, spiritual guide and pilgrimage leader. Formerly Vice-Dean of Ely, now retired, he assists in the Beacon Parish of Ditchling, Streat & Westmeston.

To find out more and book:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/stepping-into-the-bible-tickets-1345429639269>



Holy Week: Rituals and Traditions

Free. 15.00-14.30. All Saints Church, The Drive, Hove BN3 3QE

Led by The Revd Catriona Cumming

Join the Revd Catriona Cumming for an insightful exploration of the solemn and richly ceremonial liturgies of Holy Week The Revd Catriona Cumming.

This special occasion offers a chance to rediscover the spiritual depth and beauty of the Church's most sacred season, reflecting on Christ's Passion, death, and resurrection.

It's an opportunity to deepen your understanding of why liturgy is celebrated in such a profound way during this pivotal time in the Christian year.

Please note that there is street parking around All Saints, but no dedicated parking at the church. Hove train station is a convenient 10-minute walk from the church.

To find out more and book:

<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/FOJH>



Ignatian Wisdom for the Journey: Practices for Desire, Discernment and Deep Encounter

£50 Non Members, £40 Members. 10.00-15.00. Online

Led by Dr Jason Clark

In an age of anxiety, fragmentation, and longing for meaning, Spiritual Direction offers a sacred space to listen for God and rediscover the self. This session explores how Ignatian spirituality, rooted in desire, discernment, and deep encounter, can enrich the practice of Spiritual Direction. We'll draw on insights from neuro-theology and the science of identity formation to reflect on how God works through our minds, emotions, and embodied experiences. Drawing from the wisdom of Ignatius of Loyola and the Exercises, we'll consider how practices like the Examen, discernment of spirits, and imaginative prayer can foster authentic encounters with God in daily life. We will also explore how desire can be more than a personal feeling, it is a spiritual compass that leads us into God's transforming love.

We will reflect together on how God works through our minds, emotions, memories, and embodied experiences. Integrating insights from neuro-theology, identity psychology, and contemporary spirituality, this session offers a holistic and theological framework for understanding how people are formed and re-formed in Christ. This is a space to become more attuned to how God is already at work in those you accompany.

To find out more and book:

<https://www.lcsd.org.uk/events/ignatian-wisdom>



Introducing...The Year of Matthew (2nd of 2 seminars)

Free. 10.00-12.00, online

Led by Canon Peter Sills

Although placed first in the New Testament, Matthew's Gospel was the second to be written. Composed around AD70 for a Jewish Christian community, possibly situated in Syria, it has a distinctive style and layout. The first Zoom seminar, 20 Nov 2025, explored when, why and by whom the Gospel was written, the sources on which it is based, its distinctive features, and its major themes. This second seminar, will look more closely at Matthew's teaching and his picture of Jesus.

Canon Peter Sills, formerly Vice-Dean of Ely, is a retired priest and pilgrimage guide attached to the Beacon Parish of Ditchling, Streat & Westmeston. He is the author of several books, including *Six Steps Into The Bible*, written for those who want to get under the skin of the Bible and deepen their understanding of the scriptures: www.peter-sills.co.uk/courses

image © Pinterest: St Matthew depicted in the Book of Kells.

To find out more and book:

<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/FKSG>



Mind, West Sussex

The Gateway, 8-10 Durrington Lane, Worthing, BN13 2QG

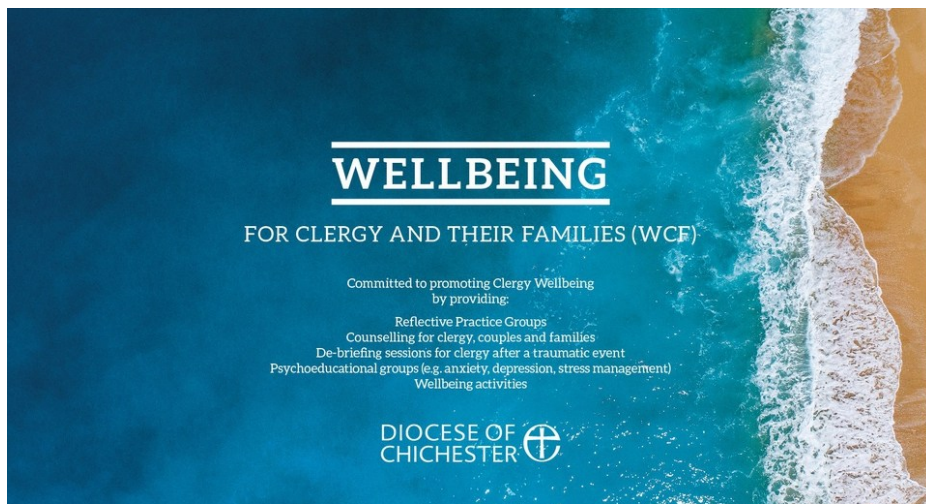
If you are an individual who would like to learn more about mental health, a manager or employer interested in training for your workplace, or a parent, carer or professional who wants to better support young people, you can find the right training course here. All our training options are led by specialist trainers and are offered either in person or online.

Training includes:

- * **Understanding Behaviours in Children and Young People**
- * **Self Harm Learning Webinar**
- * **Suicide Prevention**
- * **Eating Disorder Awareness**
- * **Adult Mental Health First Aid**
- * **Youth Mental Health First Aid**

To find out more and book:
<https://www.westsussexmind.org/>





Wellbeing for Clergy and Families

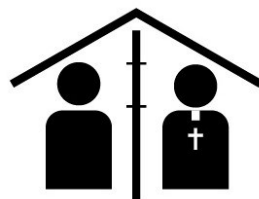
The Diocese of Chichester is committed to promoting and sustaining the Wellbeing of our clergy and their families.

Laura Steven, Head of Wellbeing for Clergy and their Families (WCF), is employed by the DOC to provide the WCF services for clergy and their families.

A WELLBEING HANDBOOK

is available to all clergy, which outlines how the Diocese seeks to support clergy through the development of the Wellbeing Covenant. It has a threefold shape:

- Spiritual Life,
- Theological Development and Physical and
- Mental Health.



To find out more and book:

<https://www.chichester.anglican.org/wellbeing-for-clergy-and-families/>

<https://www.chichester.anglican.org/mental-health-and-wellbeing/>



Safeguarding for Clergy and Parish

The hub for all information, resources, news and events relating to safeguarding children and adults throughout the life of the Diocese. It also introduces a new tool - 'Safer Quality Protects' - which will help parishes to assess and improve their own safeguarding practice, whilst providing useful resources to enable them to achieve this goal.

Safeguarding is a complex area of church life - how do we keep children and adults safe from harm, whilst building communities of trust and openness, and still demonstrate the welcome the Gospel offers to all? Moreover, how do we build church communities that obey the biblical mandate to defend those who are weak, heal those who are hurt, and demonstrate God's forgiveness to all, for all have sinned?

This site is intended to provide people in parishes with a 'one stop shop' for all things safeguarding.

To find out more and book:

<https://safeguarding.chichester.anglican.org/safeguardingelearning/>



Making Mission Possible

CPAS, Making Mission Possible

University of Warwick Science Park, COVENTRY CV4 7EZ

CPAS is an Anglican evangelical mission agency, we believe that the message of the gospel is relevant to all people, and that effective local church ministry is the key to seeing men, women, young people and children come to faith in Christ. Courses include subjects such as:

Improving Spaces: 9 Oct 2025 Free, online. This is an online gathering for leaders and PCCs involved in a church building project where raising funds is a critical part of the project. Come share your story with others. Together let's find out what's working, what we're finding difficult and how we can overcome.

Introduction to Change: 18 Nov 2025. £25, online. Change is constant in church life—from service patterns to vision shifts. This session is for anyone exploring or implementing any type of change within a church context, including staffing, parish structures, or strategy. Click the heading above for more information.

Arrow Webinar (Line Managing Those Who are Neurodiverse): 5 Feb 2026, £0-5, online. With many more people aware of their neurodiversity, how do we adjust our line management to help people give of their best?

To find out more and book:

<https://www.cpas.org.uk/browse/events>

RESOURCES: Spiritual Direction

Ultimately, it is not us but the Holy Spirit who is the director of souls, 'God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us' (Romans 5.5).
+Martin Cicester

Those looking for a Spiritual Director should contact the London Centre for Spiritual Direction.

The Retreat Association

"Helping you explore and deepen your journey with God through retreats".

Provide relevant resources and detailed information.
Hold and host national and regional events.

Provide training and lead retreats across the UK .



To find out more: <https://www.retreats.org.uk/>

The London Centre for Spiritual Direction

An independent charity which offers resources, training and support for all those interested and involved in Christian spiritual direction. They also offer training, support and development opportunities for new and established spiritual directors, including Encounter, a three-year formation course.

Check out their regular workshop and learning opportunities.



To find out more: <https://www.lcsd.org.uk/>

SPIDIR Spiritual Direction Network

Believes that everyone would benefit from having someone to talk to three or four times a year about their journey to and with God, and about their deepest values and experiences. Includes more than 150 trained 'directors'. Elects the SPIDIR Committee at the Annual General Meeting to administer the affairs of the network. Course Leaders plan and deliver training programmes



To find out more: <https://www.retreats.org.uk/>

To find out more and book:
Follow detail supplied

RESOURCES: Retreats

WEST SUSSEX

Chemin Neuf Community

Storrington Priory, School Lane, Storrington,
Pulborough RH20 4LN

To find out more: <https://www.chemin-neuf.org.uk/retreats/retreats/>



Monastery of the Holy Trinity

Fernandy Lane, Crawley Down, Crawley Down,
Crawley RH10 4LH

To find out more: <https://servants-of-the-will-of-god-cswg-monastery-of-the-business.site/>

Monastery of the Holy Trinity
Crawley Down

Worth Abbey

Paddockhurst Rd, Crawley RH10 4SB

To find out more: <https://worthabbey.net/visiting/retreats/>



EAST SUSSEX

Ashburnham Place

Ashburnham Christian Trust, Ashburnham Place,
Battle TN33 9NF

To find out more: <https://www.ashburnham.org.uk/contact-us>



Crowhurst Christian Healing Centre

The Old Rectory, Forewood Lane, Crowhurst,
Battle TN33 9AD

To find out more: <https://www.crowhursthealing.org.uk/quietdays>



Penhurst Retreat Centre

Manor House, Penhurst,
Battle TN33 9QP

To find out more: <https://www.penhurst.org.uk/retreat-and-quiet-days>



To find out more and book:

Follow detail supplied

St Augustine's MA in Theology, Ministry and Mission

The St Augustine's MA in Theology, Ministry and Mission is a specially tailored programme of theological learning and research that allows lay and ordained ministers, as well as church members, to deepen their theological knowledge by building on previous theological learning, engaging with daily life and ongoing experience of the Body of Christ.



Accredited and awarded by Durham University, the degree includes both taught modules and guided research in a theological discipline of your choice. It offers opportunities to develop advanced skills as part of your continuing ministerial development e.g. in pastoral supervision, leadership, mission, spirituality.

The degree can be taken part-time or full-time. Much of the teaching is delivered alongside candidates for church ministry, but the programme is suitable for all, irrespective of any ministerial involvement.

Biblical Languages for Fun – an introduction to Hebrew and New Testament Greek.

This is a year-long set of weekly online sessions that provide a simple introduction to the key features of Hebrew and New Testament Greek. It opens up some of the issues that translators are faced with, to provide deeper insight into English Bible versions. I

To find out more and book:

<https://staugustinescollege.ac.uk/courses/postgraduate-studies/>

<https://staugustinescollege.ac.uk/courses/biblical-languages-for-fun/>

St Stephen's House Oxford

Graduate Qualifications in Worship and Liturgical Studies

Postgraduate Diploma: 1 year full time, 2 years part time

MA: 2 years full time: 3-4 years part time



Music and liturgy are powerful tools for the mission of the Church. The Institute of Sacred Music at St Stephen's House Oxford offers musicians, music ministers and liturgists a unique place to study, worship, and perform – either part time or full time – and obtain post-graduate qualifications up to master's level. The university city of Oxford offers an unparalleled setting for the Institute of Sacred Music, which offers selected liturgical and music experiences in Oxford chapels, together with context-based learning in aspects of choral preparation, alongside liturgical performance within the college's own magnificent Church that serves as one of the chapels of St Stephen's House.

The academic programme focusses on worship and liturgical studies and is partially delivered online.

The programme is an ideal opportunity for musical or ministerial professionals worldwide to participate in part time tuition at St Stephen's House, some of it remotely.

To find out more and book:

<https://ismo.ssho.org.uk/how-to-apply/>

The Mirfield Liturgical Institute

Post-Graduate Diploma and MA in Worship & Liturgy

Would you like to:

1. Deepen your understanding of how and why Christians worship God?
2. Gain a postgraduate qualification that will support you in your ministry in the church, lay or ordained?
3. Refresh your approach to worship?
4. Equip yourself to teach others about liturgy and worship?

Then wherever you are in the world, this could be for you!



“Worship matters, and it is especially in worship—the occasion when we gather with other Christians and are engaged by the living Lord, that we can be formed more closely into the likeness of Christ.” Christopher Irvine

Learn at your own pace from distinguished practitioners including Bridge Nicolas, Thomas O’Loughlin, Peter Allan, Phillip Tovey and Christopher Irvine.

Explore subjects like Scripture and the liturgy, ritual space and language, liturgical spirituality, music and liturgy.

Easy access to excellent online resources with the opportunity to use our world class liturgy holdings if you are able to visit in person. Successful applications will usually have a good first degree in theology or related field. Study to PG Dip or MA level. Or audit classes for personal interest. We accept applications for anywhere in the world!



To register your interest, arrange a conversation or request an application form:

Website: www.college.mirfield.org.uk/academic-information/the-mirfield-liturgical-institute

For further information: The Revd Dr Jo Kershaw (Course Director) Email: jkershaw@mirfield.org.uk

Write to: The college of the Resurrection, Stocks Bank Road, Mirfield WF17 0BW

RESOURCES: Study

Cardiff University

Website: <https://www.cardiff.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/taught/courses/course/canon-law-llm>

Main reception: <https://www.cardiff.ac.uk/help/contact-us>



Sarum College

Website: <http://www.sarum.ac.uk/learning>

Main reception: 01722 424800

Email info@sarum.ac.uk



Sussex Gospel Partnership

Website: <https://sussexgospelpartnership.org.uk/>

Contact: Mrs Wendy Sands, SGP Administrator,
Haywards Heath, RH16 3LE. Ph 01444 458635



WTC Theology

Website <https://wtctheology.org.uk/>

Main reception: <https://wtctheology.org.uk/about-us/contact-us/>



To find out more and book: See detail listed

MAKE SURE TO CHECK OUT THEIR STUDY DAYS AND COURSES

Grants

Bursaries, Extended Ministerial Development Leave—EMDL (Sabbaticals), Education and Training

Ecclesiastical Ministry Bursary Awards; European Bursary Trust ; Fellowship of the Maple Leaf; Josephine Butler Memorial Trust; Philip Usher Memorial Fund; Provost Howard Fund; Society for the Relief of Poor Clergymen; SPCK: The Richards Trust & St Aidan's College Charity; St Boniface Trust; St George's Trust; St Luke's College Foundation; Winston Churchill Memorial Trust; Elfinward Trust, Women's Continuing Ministerial Education Trust; Pauline Webb Ecumenical Fund

Children of Clergy

The Buttle Trust; Lawrence Atwell's Charity; Rustat Trust; Society for the Relief of Poor Clergymen; Working Families Tax Credit

Clergy Spouse/Retired Clergy

Broken Rites; Church of England Pensions Board; Diocesan Committee for retired Clergy and Widows/ers; Crosse's Charity; Dr. George Richards' Charity; Family Action; Foundation of Edward Storey; Independent Age; Newton's Trust

Debt Assistance

Christians against Poverty

General Assistance with Hardship

Elizabeth Finn Trust; Frances Ashton's Charity; Fraser and Howarth Trust Funds; Friends of the Clergy/Sons of the Clergy; Henry Smith's Charity; Queen Victoria Clergy Fund; Society for the Relief of Poor Clergymen; Society for the Assistance of Ladies in Reduced Circumstances; Society of Mary and Martha, TURN2US, The Clergy Support Trust, St Luke's Healthcare

Health

Pyncombe Charity; St. Luke's Healthcare for Clergy

Holidays

Eggbeer Trust; English Clergy Association; Mothers' Union; Tranquillity House Trust

Vocational Grants

Board of Mission Trust Fund; Cleaver Ordination Candidates' Fund National Transition Service for Clergy: Church of England website

Applying for a CMD grant or EMDL:

<https://www.chichester.anglican.org/fundraising-and-grants/>

<https://www.chichester.anglican.org/cmd/>

APOSTOLIC LIFE

The Department for Apostolic Life brings together several areas of responsibility
at Church House

whose primary aim is to support parishes and individuals in their
'apostolic' life and 'mission' activities.

Contact us:

<https://www.chichester.anglican.org/apostolic-life/>

Cover photo by René Vetter, Flickr

