

Children's Youth & Families Newsletter April 25

Please encourage your children and young people to get involved with the Question of the half term to hear from across the Church of England.

All answers are anonymous, there is just a yes / no question and a space for their age.

They can add any other comments they would like to - or not.

Go to <https://churchofengland.tfaforms.net/4904219> or scan the QR code below.

This half-term's question is:

Does Music help you feel closer to God?



Thank you for all you do,

Micki Carey-Slater

07483 410204 micki.carey-slater@lincoln.anglican.org

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Networking



 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Growing Faith seeks to put children and young people at the heart of all we do, bringing together the spheres of church, school and community.

**20th May
7-8pm**

**1st July
7-8pm**



Register

Last month, we were joined by Rev. Matt Rodgers who shared about Growing Faith in Grimsby and how children are excited to receive Bibles!

In May, we're thinking about Growing Faith from a **school's perspective**. Lynsey Norris, the Assistant Director of Education for Lincoln Diocese, shares the challenges and the opportunities. Do join us!

Discover more about Growing Faith, watch our webinar and listen to their podcast via our [Digital Learning Platform](#).



SPRING
HARVEST
2025

**10th
Apr**

I will be at Spring Harvest for the day and would love to meet for a cuppa and catch up.

If you will be there, please do get in touch:
micki.carey-slater@lincoln.anglican.org



Networking

We now have 3 Toddler Ministry networks across the Diocese!

As well as creative thinking around some of the challenges we're facing they are a great source of ideas and encouragement, and an opportunity to connect and hear each others' stories, like this one from Martin and Miriam:

"It was with some trepidation that when asked to take on the catering role for our Bumps and Buggies group here at St. Anne's Grantham, my wife and I decided to give it a go.

The group leader Rhys gave us a free hand to go ahead in a way that we were comfortable - a great decision.

We are astonished to find the great joy and sense of fulfilment this has given us.

We serve simple things, toast, crumpets, fruit and biscuits, and a variety of drinks. Yet the pleasure and happiness that both the mums and children show as they are served their items is a truly joyful thing.



We had one clear aim when taking on this role - if the Lord walked through the door would what we offered to Him be any different than that served to any one else? The answer has to be no, to serve His children is to serve the Lord Himself and that means aspiring to give the best we can.

Hebrews 13 v2 says " Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it" we appreciate that not all children can be described as "angels" !

However, giving of our best is surely a practical way for showing Jesus' love for everyone."

Watch this space for more information on our next gatherings!

Share YOUR Story

We would love to hear from you about what exciting projects you are working on and what God is doing across the Diocese.

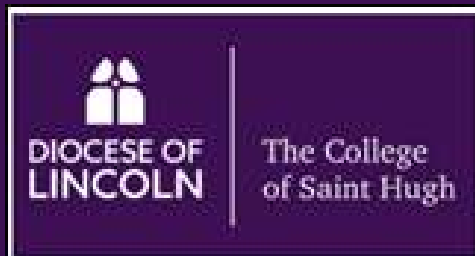
It could be a new group, church service, family event, youth outreach, messy church, holiday club whatever it is we want to hear about it.

Send us a couple of 100 words and some photographs and we'll share it to celebrate, inspire and encourage each other.

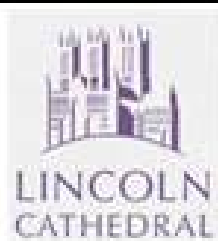
micki.carey-slater@lincoln.anglican.org



Networking



Choral Churches Network



As part of growing links through the network, we have been planning events to bring Choirs together, over the summer and autumn, for Choirs and for Junior Choirs, too.

Watch this space (and our Facebook page) for more information!

**Our next meeting will be online at 6pm
Tuesday 20th May.** Do join us!
Email Nick.Brown@lincolncathedral.com



Anglo-Catholic CYF Workers Network

Tuesday 17th June at 7.30pm on Zoom

To register your place, email Clare
clarewilliamsyouthwork@gmail.com



Date for your diary:

**In person conference,
7th - 9th November**

A national network for anyone - laity or clergy - involved in voluntary or paid positions, who are involved in ministry with young people.



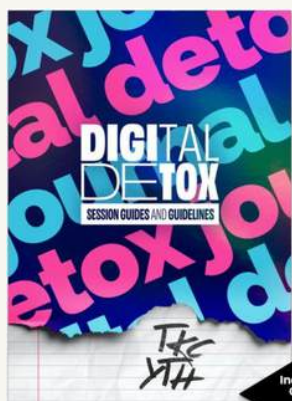
Thy Kingdom Come

For the 10th anniversary of **Thy Kingdom Come**, they are challenging young people to take on a Digital Detox, with a journal and youth group sessions to support them.

There's also 4 new Cheeky Panda episodes, sticker sheets and additional resources for schools, homes and at church.

You can order your resources now.

Catch up with the [launch webinar](#)



Please let us know about your ministry

The QR code below will take you to a simple form to let us know what's going on with children, young people and families in your LMP.

Messy Church, Open the Book, youth groups, choirs, drop ins, all age services... whatever the project, help us to hear about and celebrate what's going on across the Diocese.

Thank you to everyone who's already been able to complete the form.



Sign up to receive this newsletter via a short form: [CYF Newsletter Sign Up](#)

We're still seeking our **"Godly Play"** resources! At one time, the Diocese had kits that could be borrowed by churches and ministers. We would like to be able to offer this again, but we need find them first!

If you have some of these resources, or know where they are, please get in touch, thank you.



Resources

NUA, from Scripture Union Ireland, “is all about exploration; videos that encourage questions, acknowledge doubt and offer an engaging perspective on the Christian faith.”

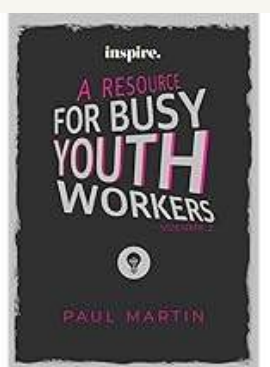
There are series for 10-14 year olds, 15 and over, Year 6 transition, seasonal series as well as training videos for CYF ministers!



In 3 volumes, **“A resource for busy youth workers”** has ready-to-use Bible studies for young people.

“It's not just fact based teaching, but is all about understanding, applying and hearing God's voice through His word today. This resource is also written for your volunteers to pick up and use too! All the research and groundwork is done for you and all sessions have been tried and tested with youth first. A handy resource for the busiest youth ministries.”

ISBN: 978-1976841729



Supporting Students through Exams?



“Don’t Panic!”

An exam survival guide including 20 daily Bible readings for stressed-out students.



Youthscape offer a suite of support for youthworkers and their young people, including 1 minute videos on self-care, grounding, rhythm and after exams.



Youth for Christ have prepared a session plan to help, too, including “survival kit” ideas - like chocolate and post it notes.

“Talking to Kids and Teens about Exams and Tests.”

is a webinar from Parenting for Faith.

They also offer discussion notes and a small group handout.



Resources

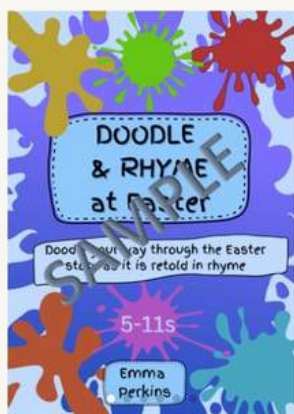


Looking for resources for schools, households
or churches?

For Lent and Easter?

Find some inspiration on our

Padlet Board - below are some of the ideas
posted there.



DOODLE & RHYME is an interactive booklet which retells the biblical Easter story through rhyme, and invites children to join in and think about what happens through drawing, colouring, writing and doodling! With spaces on each page to get creative, it's a new way to explore this amazing story! Suitable for churches, drop-ins, cafes, services and family time!

Sensory Easter Story from The Additional Needs
Blogfather



AN EASTER TRAIL: HOMES OF HOPE –

“As the first buds and flowers are bursting through, this is the moment for an Easter trail in your community. Get families walking around their local streets, following the Easter story – the only source of certain hope.”

The Spiritual Child Network

Celebrating children's spirituality, their insights,
experiences, gifts and questions.

Discovering ways we can travel alongside children on our
shared Christian journey of faith.

Providing support, ideas and resources for those involved
in children's ministry within a Christian context.



Please send in your tried and tested resources, too, to inspire and
support others.



Training & Events



Godly Play Core Training Course

Date: Thursday 24 April – Saturday 26 April 2025

Place: St Andrew's Church, Girton, Cambridge CB3 0PN

Trainers: Andrea Harrison and Eona Bell

Godly Play is a Christian movement centred on childhood spirituality. It recognises childhood spirituality as an instinctive and profound capacity that includes a natural sense of God's mystery and presence. It promotes open, creative ways to explore Christian story and practices, and offers a well-tested alternative to seeing children as empty vessels, and to the stressful societal cultures of consumerism, measurement and achievement.

It is hoped that a network for Godly Play Storytellers in South Lincolnshire & Peterborough will be launched after this training.



Embracing Differences

Thursday 22nd May 2025 .

**Grimsby Baptist Church, 246-248 Laceby Road, Grimsby, DN34 5DW
(Tea & Coffee on arrival at 6:30pm).**

"To embrace means: to love, to accept and include someone.

During this seminar, in addition to gaining more awareness about the autism spectrum, you will be able to have insight into how far the church has come from welcoming people in the building, to allowing them to belong and supporting their spiritual needs wherever they are.

You will learn strategies and ways in which your church can move forward and become a place of worship for all, and a community of God's children who accept each other just as they are."

Monday 19 May –

6.00 pm

on Zoom

Do you have young people aged 10-17 as part of your Messy Church? Then this is for them!



You can register for these events, discover more and check out the Messy Church blog [here](#).



A portrait of a young Black man with a beard and short dark hair, smiling. He is wearing a green t-shirt. The photo is tilted slightly to the right.

FUTURE YOUTH

Gaining experience in young people
and children's ministry

Future Youth meant that I could do a placement at an established church, while also pioneering a new youth project at IMPRINT Leicester. I hope this will help me improve my caring for people, being a mentor for youth and my evangelism to bring Jesus to people.

Joshua Leicester Diocese



the ministry experience scheme

My MES year gave me a passion for reaching children and young people who do not know Jesus. I grew so much in my confidence and became more independent in ministry whilst still being empowered and stretched in a collaborative environment. Having people believe in me and my gifting allowed me to explore avenues I wouldn't have on my own. I am excited for what this means going forward.

Grace

Southwell and Nottingham Diocese



Find out more at cofe.io/mes



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