

Children's Youth & Families Newsletter Mar 24

Over the past couple of weeks I have had some really good conversations with children and young people about safeguarding and their views on how the church cares about them.

While it was reassuring that some had seen how their church protected them, there were some (younger ones) who couldn't tell me what safeguarding was and others (all ages) who didn't know who to turn to if they had concerns.

I guess it can be easy to assume they know.

But, out of these conversations, they now know who to speak to, they have hung Childline posters where they feel other children and young people can see them if they need help, they understand confidentiality and they've shaped our programmes as they shared the challenges they're facing - with peer pressure, with being able to say "no", with identifying issues in relationships - challenges that they would like our help with, that they are **trusting us to support them** in.

The questions I asked can be found on the Padlet Board under "Safeguarding, Paperwork & Proformas" - can I encourage you to sit with your groups and ask them, too?

The National Safeguarding Team have commissioned resources to support young people and children in safeguarding themselves and their friends. The resources are free to download through the Church of England Safeguarding portal (<https://safeguardingtraining.cofeportal.org/>) and can be found by going to Resources - Training - Empowering Children. Please add these resources into your programmes.

I pray that Lent is proving to be a time of reflection and drawing closer to God, and that, as we look to Easter and all the joy (and busyness) it brings, you will be strengthened and blessed as you share the Good News, in schools, homes, churches and communities.

Thank you for all you do. God bless you,

Micki Carey-Slater

CYF Enabler

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Choral Church Network

Last week we gathered at Lincoln Cathedral as a Choral Church Network, from across the Diocese. It was great to celebrate this mission and ministry, the impact it has on so many, and recognise the role it can play in drawing children and young people into the church and their faith formation.

We discussed a possible framework to articulate a common pattern for the development of music and how schools links were often the foundation for engagement with children and young people. We considered pathways and development within the Choral structure, for both singers and organists.

We are looking to work at a Diocesan, in a series of hubs and more locally, where a 'choral church' might make a distinctive contribution to the wider life of the local church family.

At our next meeting, on **4th May in Stamford**, we will consider how a strategy framework might be shaped in our individual contexts, and how it might be resourced for the future, as well as what activities we could promote that would bring together existing singing groups in both local combined services and at a diocesan level.

If you have, or are interested in developing a Junior Choir ministry, please contact Nick Brown at nick.brown@lincolncathedral.com and join us!

Share your stories with us

We want 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.

How can we pray for you and your ministry?

micki.carey-slater@lincoln.anglican.org

Sign up to receive this newsletter via a short form:

[CYF Newsletter Sign Up](#)



Follow our Facebook Page for more resources & training opportunities

www.facebook.com/lincolnyouthandchildren/



growing faith



DIOCESE OF
LINCOLN

The College
of Saint Hugh

16th
March

Online

9.30am-
12pm

Bringing Churches, Schools & Communities together,
Growing Faith seeks to put children, young people and
families instinctively at the heart of mission and ministry.

With input from Bishop Stephen

For clergy, CYF workers and volunteers - and all those
wanting to explore the opportunities this could bring.

Sign up here:

[Growing Faith Webinar Registration](#)

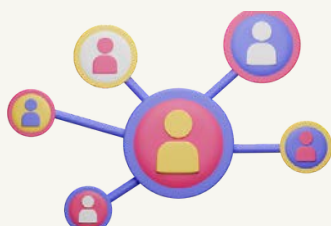
Spring Harvest

4th
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

Anglo-Catholic
Children, Youth
and Family
Workers
Network



The inaugural meeting of this
Network will be held on **Tuesday
5th March at 7.30pm on Zoom.**

For a link please email
Clare Williams
clarewilliamsyouthwork@gmail.com

Look out for more networking dates coming up - in person
and online!



Resources

Check out our **Lent & Easter Padlet** board - and send in your tried and tested ideas and resources so we can add them in to inspire and help others.

The board will continue to be updated over the next few weeks.

<https://padlet.com/DioceseofLincolnCFY>



The first episode in a new series of the Faith in Kids 4Kids podcast goes live on 8th March! “Over 4 consecutive weeks these fun packed, faith filled episodes will explore the Easter story from the perspective of John.”

You can sign up to the Podcast here:
[Faith In Kids 4Kids Easter Podcasts](#)

“In partnership with ALIVE: The Awesome Easter Surprise...

watch the free accompanying video animation and download the brilliant I Spy and Snack activity sheets for children. All designed to share the good news that Jesus is alive!

[The Awesome Easter Surprise](#)



A Seasonal Journey: Lent to Pentecost...
Creative and reflective activities for this season
<http://www.spiritualchild.co.uk/seasjourney.html>

Easter trail, barefoot stations, Palm Sunday outside, , Window Egg pictures...
[Muddy Church Easter Resources](#)



Resources



“Join us on 19 March at 8pm on our Facebook page for our next pop-up small group!

We will be discussing different ways to engage kids and teens with worship and we will also be joined by Becky Drake from Worship For Everyone who will share her thoughts and wisdom too!

These Facebook Lives are designed for parents and carers to watch individually or as part of a group. You provide the coffee and we'll provide the content!”

<https://www.facebook.com/parentingforfaithBRF>

“Whether you're a youth leader wanting to engage parents, or a church leader supporting parents of tweens and teens, this training event will inspire you with what's possible when we equip whole families for discipleship.

We'll go through the nuts and bolts of our exciting six-session course and answer any questions you have.”

The sessions will run on 13 March and there are morning and evening options.”

£10 per session

Find out more and book here:

[Parenting Teens Training Events](#)



“Becky explores how grandparents can proactively encourage and equip their grandchildren to meet and know God. Grandparenting brings new life and joy, and also the opportunity to walk spiritually alongside your grandchildren, offering tools and skills for the journey. Martha Flavell, children and family lead at Bible Society says: ‘Grandparenting for Faith is a liberating, convicting and exciting work that has the potential to transform the lives of three generations: children, parents and grandparents. This book will empower grandparents in all types of family settings and dynamics to be part of their grandchildren’s lives and share their faith without damaging relationships with their adult children.’

[Grandparenting for Faith](#)



Training, Podcasts & Research

Catch up with the latest **Church of England** webinar here:
[Funding opportunities for growing children and youth ministry](#)

And sign up for the next one here:
[Serving Your Local School](#)



Mar 18th @ 11am

Are you looking for ways to serve your local school? This webinar provides an introduction to the learning and development of the Growing Faith Serving the Local School peer support network. It will include:

- Top tips on how to engage with and serve your local school
- Insights from children, young people, school staff and church leaders
- Diocesan facilitators share the impact of this network in their areas
- What works? New research from the Growing Faith Foundation

“Join us for our 2024 **Worship for Everyone** conference – Equip. Explore, be equipped and inspired to grow in intergenerational worship and discipleship both in church and at home. Including two keynote sessions where we’ll encounter God together and seminar streams from Worship for Everyone and Parenting For Faith. Come as a church leader or ministry leader and bring your teams, but also come if you are a parent or carer to explore how you can grow the worship in your family more intentionally.”

Saturday 18th May



Messy Masterclass – Communion in Messy Church

Thursday 7, March 2024 – 1:00pm to 2:30pm Venue: on Zoom

How to feed your Messy Church – Evening Session

Tuesday 19th March 2024 – 7:30 to 8:30pm Venue: on Zoom

Messy Masterclass – Starting your Messy Church

Thursday, 21 March 2024 – 1:00pm to 2:30pm Venue: on Zoom



Training, Podcasts & Research



The Limitless Leadership Podcast is a conversation covering key youth ministry topics with top practitioners and thinkers, designed to help youth leaders reflect on their practice and flourish as a leader.



“Translating God is a new major project from The Youthscape Centre for Research exploring how young people understand and respond to the Christian story.

Published in three parts, it represents more than two years of work with input from a diverse group of more than a thousand young people. Everyone interested in how the church engages with young people will want to see what this ground-breaking research means for you, your ministry and the wider church. The first part, the Trend Report, sets the scene by understanding how young people’s lives in the UK have changed in the last decade”. and is out

now:

[Translating God](#)



“The CYM Research Centre is being launched in **March 2024**, with the aim of drawing together people who are interested and active in research amongst children, family and youth ministries. We are keen to ensure that the work we do strengthens the church, specifically these ministry areas.

We’d love you to join our CYM Research Network (CYMRN) to keep you up to date about research activity in this area and forthcoming events.”

Sign up here:

[CYM Research Network](#)

