

# The BRIDGE

Newspaper of the Anglican Diocese of Southwark

**Walking  
Welcoming  
Growing**

Vol.27 No.10  
December 2022/January 2023

## Diocesan Synod

Budget approved  
for 2023  
See page 3



## Season of Lay Ministries

Celebrating our laity  
this Christmas  
See pages 7-9



## Robes Project

Southwark Cathedral  
host annual SleepOut  
See page 16



# Modern slavery: Right here, Right now

A two-day event was held at Southwark Cathedral to highlight the shocking reality of modern day slavery in South London and East Surrey. The event in collaboration with Southwark Diocese, The Southwark Diocesan Board of Education (SDBE), The Clewer Initiative and the Reigate Archdeaconry Social Justice Forum (RASJF) was held on Friday 25 and Saturday 26 November.

On Friday, Diocesan secondary schools with a church foundation; Bacon's College, Rotherhithe (see page 6) and Christ's School, Richmond led the event, and the schools undertook an art project on 'We See You' – the Clewer Initiative's strapline, in conjunction with the Worshipful Company of Glaziers and the John Reyntiens Studio. Cathedral Education volunteer, Elizabeth James, writes more about this below. The finished piece of stained glass, which sits in the Chapel of Reconciliation (read more on page 11), was revealed

at a reception at the Cathedral attended by the Mayor of Southwark, students, teachers, headteachers and parents from both schools and representatives from the SDBE, Cathedral and Southwark charitable trusts. Guests filled the Retrochoir and were welcomed by the Dean Revd Andrew Nunn and Revd Canon Jay Colwill, who led the Community of the Cross of Nails Litany of Reconciliation shortly before noon.

On Saturday, all were invited to a morning at the Cathedral on the theme of 'Modern Slavery: Right Here, Right Now', aimed to raise awareness of modern slavery in the UK. It was also an opportunity to provide information about what to do if you spot the signs or are worried about a person or situation.

DCI Kerry Loveless from Surrey Police explained that modern

slavery is the illegal exploitation of people for personal or commercial gain and can include sexual exploitation, forced labour, domestic servitude, criminal exploitation and organ harvesting. In the UK the police estimate there are 140,000 people enslaved, many of whom are British.

Diocesan Head of Justice, Peace & Integrity of Creation, Nicola Thomas, said: "We listened to talks from DCI Kerry Loveless and Jennifer Hyde (RASJF) followed by active discussion of the issues. Many more visited the marketplace to learn more from the organisations represented there, and there was a steady flow of people joining the Community of the Cross of Nails for the Litany of Reconciliation in the Harvard Chapel. Together with the many tourists who dropped in through the morning, we estimate that two to three hundred people learnt something about modern day slavery at Southwark Cathedral on Saturday morning."

The morning culminated in a short act of worship led by The Rt Revd Dr Rosemarie Mallett,



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**Above: The stained glass artwork produced by the Diocesan school pupils. Left: Standing in solidarity against modern slavery with Comfort Idowu-Fearon, President of Mothers Union (second left).**

Bishop of Croydon, with a homily from Bishop Alastair Redfern, Chair of the Clewer Initiative, who thanked Southwark for organising a tremendous day which he called "a model of how to engage, inspire and encourage".

## Find out more

See our Modern Slavery webpage: [bit.ly/3P2EzfZ](https://bit.ly/3P2EzfZ). For advice on modern slavery issues call the helpline 0800 0121 700. If you would like a speaker to talk to your church or group about modern slavery, contact Chris Elliott ([rasocialjustice@gmail.com](mailto:rasocialjustice@gmail.com)).



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## We See You – Clewer initiative

### Elizabeth James writes:

The Southwark Anti-Modern Day Slavery Project challenged groups of 16 Key Stage-3 pupils from the participating schools to design their individual responses to the crime of modern day slavery, after taking part in a thought-provoking lesson in the Cathedral Learning Centre on the Clewer Initiative – We See You.

The pupils gained a historical perspective on slavery from a visit to the Victoria & Albert Museum, where they viewed the Wedgewood roundel, created to promote the abolitionist movement of the 18th century.

The John Reyntiens Glass Studio gave the pupils practical insight and experience into the reality of working with glass and their

final designs were used by the Reyntiens Studio to create a moving stained glass pane (see above), synthesising their emotive reactions, expressed in design, to We See You. School banners, showing the students' individual designs and words, were equally arresting.

These designs were revealed at the reception at the Cathedral and the glass pane,

startlingly back lit, tells the story of the scandal of modern day slavery. Documents and objects relating to the slave trade in the 18th century were also on display.

All those present were prompted to reflect in a profound and collective way on slavery, over time, and 'hidden in plain sight', robbing human beings of their most vital and basic freedoms.

# A view from The BRIDGE



**‘The light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not’ (John 1.5) – these beautiful words from the great Prologue to St John’s Gospel will be heard in churches and cathedrals across the land as people gather for carol services and to celebrate the birth of Christ eucharistically.**

When the days are the shortest, when we find ourselves in the deep recess of winter, we are given reassurance of God’s love and saving power as the eternal Son steps into our world and assumes our humanity. In Christ, God has taken each season of our life and bound it to his own, warming our souls, and opening the way to eternal life.

This Christmas some in this country will face a choice between heating their homes and buying food. Across the world many people’s lives have been buffeted by war, violence, or civil unrest. We do not need to look far for evidence that there is an uncomprehending darkness in the world. But Christmas reassures us that God is with us in Christ and we, in response, can confirm our resolve to pray and work for peace with justice because the light of the Christ child emboldens and deepens the fire of faith that burns within us. Even more at Christmas as we gaze on the Christ child we remember that we are setting off on

a journey: the story which begins in the manger unfolds towards the events of Easter, the Passion and the Resurrection.

The Church boldly proclaims that by Christ’s birth and all that flows from it we are made ‘children of the light and children of the day’ (1 Thessalonians 5. 5). We are to walk in that light joyfully, with merry hearts and sober minds, because of both the greatness of the gift entrusted to us, and the challenge of uncomprehending darkness. In all things, we are to clothe ourselves in the three great virtues of faith, hope and love.

I pray that this Christmas you and your families will find renewed encouragement in your faith and great delight in the good things God has given us. Let us make 2023 a year in which we encourage one another and build up each other, walking as children of the light that shines in the darkness and is never extinguished by it.

I wish you, your families and friends and all those you love a very happy Christmas and a peaceful new year.

**Bishop Christopher**



## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Church Commissioners provide each Diocese with energy grant

Bishop Christopher is delighted to have written to all parishes to inform them about a recent energy grant given to the Diocese from Church Commissioners for each Parish as a measure to support local churches with energy costs.

In addition to this, and so that all aspects of the guidance coming from Government and National Church initiatives can be considered, Bishop Christopher has asked The Rt Revd Dr Rosemarie Mallett to chair a Cost-of-Living Task Group. As we face challenges the group will provide support to all our clergy families, our parishioners and churches.

Read more here: <https://bit.ly/3XqXRPG>.

### 30 Years of Trinity House

Diocesan office, Trinity House, was dedicated by the late Rt Revd Roy Williamson, former Bishop of Southwark (1991-1998) on 4 November 1992. This year marks 30 years since the building officially opened to be used as offices for Diocesan staff. Trinity House also host St Augustine’s College of Theology and the Southwark Branch of the Mothers’ Union.

Ruth Martin, Diocesan Secretary, said: “Our staff working at Trinity House have as our purpose to serve, support, lead and enable the mission of God through our parishes, deaneries, schools and communities across the Diocese at the centre of their roles. We thank our parishes for their partnership with us during our challenging times and are always pleased to welcome our brothers and sisters from across the Diocese.”

### Revd Andrew Dovey wins Charity Champion Award



The Revd Andrew Dovey, Head of Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care at Croydon Health Services, wins hospital Charity Champion Star Award. Revd Andrew works directly with charities and clinicians alike to increase support for bereaved families.

### Winter Welcome project

Neighbouring churches are working with the local community to provide warm and welcoming drop-in sessions. This has been funded by a grant to Wandsworth Council to enable churches across Balham, Tooting and Wandsworth to provide a space for people to keep warm, have quiet time or conversation, play games and watch films. Tea, coffee and light refreshments are also provided. Sessions started on 7 December and will run until 30 March 2023.

Find out when and where these take place in the What’s On section on page 15.

### Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 18–25 January 2023

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is coming up in January – the countdown has started! The resources are on the CTBI website: <https://bit.ly/3VBJSol>

TRINITY HOUSE  
WAS DEDICATED BY  
ROY, BISHOP OF SOUTHWARK  
ON 4<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 1992

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#### Next Issue: Submission deadline and guidance

The FEBRUARY edition is due to be published online on 1 February 2023. Material for that edition must be with Sophia Jones by email by **MONDAY 16 JANUARY**.

Space limitations mean that we cannot guarantee to publish everything we receive and material may be edited. All photographs submitted for publication are assumed to have the necessary permission for printing. So, please ensure that people are happy for their photographs to be submitted before you do so.

Forms for permission for the use of photographs of children and adults who may be vulnerable can be found at [southwark.anglican.org/safeguarding/diocesan-policies-procedures](https://southwark.anglican.org/safeguarding/diocesan-policies-procedures)

# Diocesan Synod approves the 2023 budget in challenging times

**On Saturday 19 November, members gathered to attend the Diocesan Synod at St Peter, Battersea.**

Chair of the House of Laity, Adrian Greenwood, welcomed members to the meeting, after which he invited Revd Sandra Schloss to lead the Synod in prayer.

The meeting chaired by Adrian alongside Bishop Christopher, followed with the House of Laity proceedings and His Honour Nigel Seed, KC was formerly appointed as DAC Chair to the Diocesan Council of Trustees (DCT), this motion was moved by show of hands by the Laity only.



**Chairs, Adrian Greenwood and Bishop Christopher.**

Bishop Christopher gave his Presidential Address, reflecting on the joyful promise of Advent, saying Synod “is a good opportunity both to look back at 2022 and also to look forward into 2023.”

He went on to talk about highlights from the past year, including the Diocesan Conference which took place at the beginning of September, the importance of bringing together “all those, lay and ordained, who hold my licence as ministers of the Gospel”, and the diversity of the Diocese. There was focus on the unanimous endorsement of the *Anti-Racism Charter* and commitment to *Carbon Net Zero* among the contributions of ministry across each Area. Looking forward, The Bishop spoke about the importance of theological reflection and the Church’s commitment to Living in Love and Faith (LLF), and next steps to conclude conversations. Read here: <https://bit.ly/3tP90fA>

Lastly, Bishop Christopher spoke about upholding family life and upholding family values as “the bedrock of society and our personal well-being”, having regularly being asked as a single Bishop if he had family. He shared how Jesus, though he was born into human family, remained single and unmarried through the whole of his earthly life, saying: “please do not exclude

single people like me through a too casual use of language – we all have and belong to families, thank God. The Church needs to be more caring about the growing number of people remaining single – a task which lies beyond the LLF process.”

## **Youth Forum – blessed are the peacemakers**

Young people from Croydon and Woolwich Youth Forums shared their thoughts on mental health, the Cost of Living Crisis, war, violence and peace through a video to members at the Synod. Watch here: <https://bit.ly/3UI0jor>.

## **Annual objectives**

Diocesan Secretary, Ruth Martin, gave her presentation starting with a reminder of *Southwark Vision* for a fruitful future, leading on to discuss the five strategic objectives approved by the DCT and Synod. Ruth also introduced the major Synodical Priorities of:

- implementation of the *Anti-Racism Charter*
- connectedness and communication
- parish finances of growth in post-pandemic recovery
- environment (including *Carbon Net Zero*)
- clergy well-being in times of change.

Feedback and questions were welcomed from members across all Areas, with questions on the financial resilience of the Diocese, the current Cost of Living Crisis and the importance for the Diocese to serve and enable churches. The annual objectives were approved overwhelmingly by a show of hands.

## **Financial update**

A presentation by Vice-Chair of the Diocesan Board of Finance (SDBF) was given by Sarah Docx. A supporting paper circulated in advance of the meeting was shared with members in preparation to approve the total budget expenditure of £25,738,622 and total budgeted income of £25,642,068 for 2023.

The collection rate from the Parish Support Fund sits at 99.2%. 285 pledges received, 88% from churches, totalling £14.9m, with an average increase of 1.55%. 93% of churches have increased or maintained their pledge.



© All Synod photos by Rahneel Eric



**Top: members of Synod. Left: Ruth Martin, Diocesan Secretary. Right: Sarah Docx, Vice Chair, SDBF.**

Sarah presented a review of the December 2020 financial plans, this year’s performance, the 2023 budget and assumptions and a forecast of budgeted income and expenditure beyond 2023 – giving thanks to all Parishes for the support given.

The collection rate from the Parish Support Fund sits at 99.2% as at the end of October, with one-off gifts given from a number of Parishes. As of 16 November, 285 pledges received, 88% from churches, totalling £14.9m, with an average increase of 1.55%. And 93% of churches have increased or maintained their pledge.

There have been a few significant decreases, due to challenges of lower congregation numbers and giving levels post-pandemic, as well as slow recovery of hall rental income. Rising inflation and energy costs are also putting further pressure on PCCs.

Questions were taken by Sarah, who was joined by Ruth and Mark Rhodes, Director of Finance and Financial Assets and Sarah moved the motion which was approved overwhelmingly by a show of hands. There is a plan to present a three year forward view to Synod in March 2023.

## **The Diocesan Conference**

The Revd Canon Jay Colwill, Diocesan Director of Mission, gave members an update on the success of the conference at Bacon’s College, Rotherhithe – the first Diocesan wide clergy conference in eight years, which for the first time included lay ministers. Jay summarised the conference themed ‘*Christ Centred, Outward Focused*’ talking about the wide-ranging programme, which included seminars, workshops and a marketplace, alongside daily morning and evening prayer and the Eucharists. More than 570 delegates attended either online or in person with 40% responding to the survey for feedback on their experience of the conference. Over 98% of survey respondents said the conference content was relevant to their ministry.

## **Deanery Synod Model Rules and Deanery Synod Elections**

As part of Synod, Adrian presented the model rules and elections to members, including motions to approve the number of lay representatives per parish to be elected to Deanery Synods at the annual parochial church meetings (APCM) next year; and the revised role of Deaneries and Rules and Constitution of Deanery Synod. Another was encouraging all PCCs and APCMs, in light of their particular context, to consider the use of the new power contained in the Church Representation Rules 2022 to set limits on the number of consecutive terms that their elected lay members may serve on Deanery Synod, whilst recognising the importance of continuity, experience and the role of Deaneries in advancing the *Southwark Vision*. With the final motion to encourage all PCCs and APCMs, having regard to the Diocesan *Anti-Racism Charter*, to identify suitably qualified people of UKME and Global Majority Heritage as candidates for election as their lay representatives on Deanery Synod.

## **Handbook of Governance**

Prior to formal Synod questions Michael Hartley of Camberwell Deanery presented the *Handbook of Governance*. Members, by show of hands, unanimously endorsed the updated handbook also agreeing with the change to incorporate the Parsonages Board within the SDBF.

There were formal questions on the *Anti-Racism Charter*, safeguarding and same sex marriage and the event ended with *This Time Tomorrow* and the Eucharist. Adrian invited Alex Helliwell to join the *This Time Tomorrow* segment, where Alex asked for prayers for All Saints, Carshalton and for his studies as he submits his PHD thesis in the coming months. Bishop Christopher presided at the Eucharist alongside Deacon, The Revd Dr Alun Ford, Bishop’s Chaplain.

**Members were invited to enjoy lunch in St Peter’s Centre main hall.**



**IN FOCUS...**  
*News from our parishes*

# Lest we forget

*Services and events to mark Remembrance Sunday and Armistice Day took place across the Diocese.*

In preparation for Remembrance Sunday, St Helier Centre of Mission prepared poppies during their coffee morning.

The Knit and Natter craft group at St Paul, Hook designed, created and installed a display of hundreds of crafted poppies for the altar and individual poppies for people to buy and wear. The group worked on the art installation all year during their weekly meetings at church. Kate Shrimpton, Parish Administrator said: "It is a wonderfully fitting memorial for all those who have lost their lives in war and conflict, and we would like to express our deep gratitude towards all those who have dedicated so much time, attention and skill to the installation."

All Saints, Tooting held a parish Eucharist with an act of remembrance on Sunday 13 November followed by Choral Evensong sung by the Choir of All Saints.

Brothers and Sisters attended the West Indian Association of Service Personnel's Service

of Remembrance at St Peter, Clapham with The Revd Canon Jonathan Boardman and Revd Marcia Da Costa.

The Revd Erica Wooff was invited by the Mayor of Lambeth to lead the Civic Remembrance Service at Lambeth Council Town Hall and Stockwell Memorial.

Greenwich Sign Church took place at Christ Church, East Greenwich, to explore the meaning of Poppies in the Deaf Faith journeys. The event hosted by Revd Dom Hubbuck and Penny Beschizza included worship, prayer and Bible study, along with refreshments and social time.

St Philip, Norbury decorated their church with a poppy display to observe the act of remembrance at the church's dedicated war memorial.

Bishop Christopher joined by Cllr Nick O'Hare, Mayor of Bexley, attended the Festival of Remembrance at St Michael, East Wickham, organised by The War Memorial Trust.



*"It is a wonderfully fitting memorial for all those who have lost their lives in war and conflict."*



**Clockwise from top: St Paul, Hook's knitted installation; the Mayor of Lambeth; Stockwell memorial; St Helier Centre of Mission prepare poppies; wreathes at St Philip, Norbury.**

## Cheam Parish hold *Welcome to the UK* course for migrants from Hong Kong



**Cheam Parish, in partnership with Volunteer Centre Sutton delivered a six-week *Welcome to the UK* course for migrants who have recently arrived in the UK from Hong Kong.**

Speaking on the joint initiative as part of the Parishes' commitment to being a welcome church, PCC member Melody Thorpe said: "What's great is that as individual organisations we probably wouldn't have been able to deliver such a successful course, but in partnership with other organisations, we did, with more than 30 participants each week. We featured guest speakers from the NHS and even local councillors, as well as bringing together members of our

congregation with those on the course during a week focused on 'Making Friends' – so everyone could practice their small talk in English. We were also in the fortunate position to be able to deliver the course bilingually.

"This is what we hope is one of the first examples of some of the work we are working on across the Parishes of Cheam, Worcester Park and Belmont in our pioneering initiative known as Ignite. We would hope to provide further updates soon as we, as a pioneering community of churches, seek to reach out and serve in new ways and bring 'pioneering' to life."

**Find out more about running courses at [www.ukhk.org](http://www.ukhk.org)**

# “Rather than hold up our hands in despair, we rolled up our sleeves”

The topic of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers coming to the UK is never far from the news headlines. Last month, Croydon Minster and St George, Waddon, working in partnership with the charity Separated Child Foundation, prepared around 600 packs for unaccompanied child refugees coming into the UK.

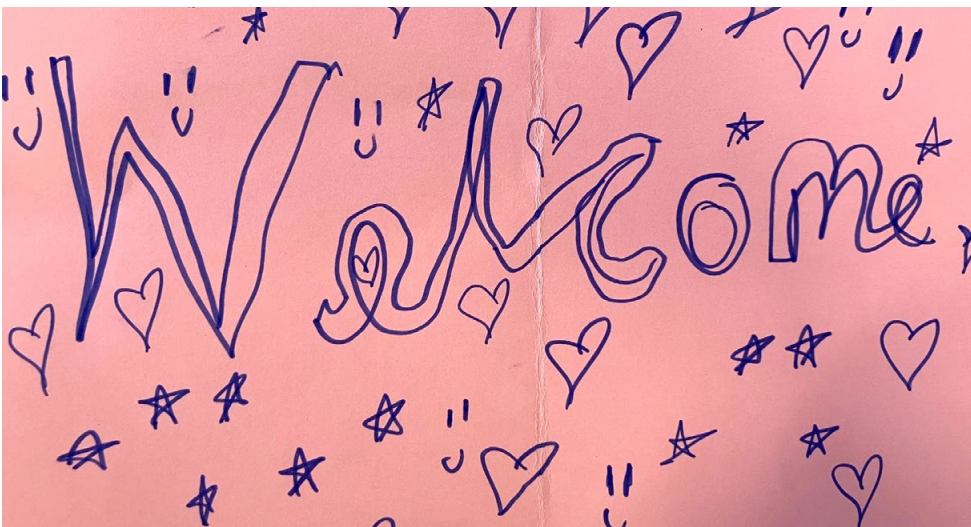
The Revd Canon Dr Andrew Bishop, Priest-in-Charge at Croydon Minster, shares how this joint effort to support children who arrive without parents or guardians is a blessing and an act of hospitality, reflecting the hospitality of God.

He said: “Around half of the world’s 26 million refugees are under the age of 18 and in 2021 the UK received 3,762 asylum applications from children travelling alone. It is hard to avoid the issue of immigration in Croydon and this became a focus of prayer and response in the Parish of Croydon. Croydon draws and retains many asylum seekers because the headquarters of UK Visas and Immigration is in the parish of St Michael, West Croydon – a church of welcome to migrants.”

On working with Separated Child, a charity that specifically provides for the needs of

child refugees and asylum seekers in the UK who have been separated from their families because their parents have been killed or otherwise unable to leave, he said: “Rather than hold up our hands in despair, we rolled up our sleeves in October to work with the Separated Child. So, after the Sunday Eucharist in both churches – our harvest festival – we spent a session before and after lunch preparing and packing arrival packs and were joined by our MP, Sarah Jones, and local councillors. In the weeks beforehand we had collected many of the items needed for the packs including t-shirts, toothbrushes and wash kits. Very beautifully, the children of the church wrote and decorated cards to go in the packs.”

The service celebrating Harvest began and ended with prayer so that the packs would be a blessing to the children who receive them. “Refugees have become politically contentious, but we were drawn back to the parable in which we are called to cloth the naked and welcome the stranger (Matthew 25). Our conviction is that what we did was an act of hospitality reflecting the hospitality of God. Now we prepare to work with Separated Child in the spring, as more boats coming across the Channel can be anticipated.”



## Lay Reader receives Lancelot Andrewes medal on 70th birthday



Lay reader, Pauline Simpson, received the Lancelot Andrewes medal from The Revd Jonathan Croucher at Christ Church, Gipsy Hill on 13 November, also Pauline’s 70th birthday.

The Lancelot Andrewes medal is awarded by the Bishop of Southwark in recognition of ‘Godly Service and Zeal for the Gospel’. Revd Jonathan Croucher, Priest-in-Charge at Christ Church, said: “Pauline has been a licensed lay reader here at Christ Church for many years. She has also served as church warden for eight years and currently serves on Deanery Synod and as PCC Secretary. Alongside these significant formal roles, to which Pauline gives and has given

herself wholeheartedly, it is her wider contribution to the life of the church that is so significant and deserving of recognition.

“She tirelessly supports my work as Vicar, and the broader mission and ministry of the church. She is ever-present at church events, always willing to serve in whatever way is required, whether it is moving tables, serving teas and coffees or leading on ministries when required. She has been a key leader in the development of our community hub – *Open Door* – which we established in 2014 and which Pauline has been committed to as a leader and participant over that whole period. She organises our service rota which pulls together the availability of more than 50 volunteers and schedules them every term with efficiency and good humour. And as well as our ministry team, she plays a part in our pastoral and missions team.

“In addition to her work at Christ Church, Pauline is also dedicated to serving at the Norwood and Brixton Foodbank, where she commits two days each week, packing parcels and supporting Elizabeth Maytom the Project Lead there in many different ways.”



## St Helier Centre of Mission celebrate removal of ‘Hell Church’ mural

Pioneer Evangelist, Hayley Humphreys writes:

“This will go down in the history books, as the mural – which has been on the building depicting a scene of despair and torment with buildings on fire has been removed – much to the joy of local residents and members of the congregation. Some in the community knew the church as ‘hell church’ or ‘devil church’ and where people once looked at the mural they now see a cross, which they didn’t notice before!

“As the workers were removing the mural (pictured top, pre-removal), passers-by were shouting up to them to give their thanks! The scaffolders were intrigued at the tears of joy from onlookers as they worked to finally reveal the original brickwork and the cross which opened up Gospel conversations with myself and Revd Tracy Marlow” (pictured, post-removal).

Now the building has been restored to its original state, the team believe a new narrative will be spoken about the church and the parish – no longer ‘hell church’ – but a place of hope. Hallelujah!



## IN FOCUS...

*News from the Diocese*

# Lent Call 2023 set to encourage good mental health and well-being

**'I pray that ....you may be in good health' (3 John 2)**

**The Revd Canon Wendy Robins, Director of Discipleship, Lay Ministry and Continuing Ministerial Education writes:**

Each year the Bishop of Southwark's Lent Call encourages all to keep a holy and prayerful Lent. The Lent Call also asks us all to remember the projects which have been selected for support in prayer. Another way to support the projects is by giving. We are asked to think about how as individuals, churches and schools, we might give or raise money to give to the Bishop's Lent Call projects. Every pound raised helps the projects to continue and so please pray for and give generously to the 2023 appeal.

The theme is mental health and well-being. The Bishops of the Diocese have chosen two projects in each Episcopal Area (EA); and projects in Zimbabwe and the Diocese of Jerusalem. Each help to encourage good mental health and well-being amongst those whom they serve.

The **first week** of the Lent Call features the Arab Episcopal Hospital in Ramallah. The Ecumenical Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, led by Bishop Christopher, Dean Andrew, Bishop Paul Hendricks, Assistant Bishop in the Archdiocese of Southwark

and Michael Branch, the new Dean of St George's Cathedral, Southwark, will visit the hospital while there. The project that we are asked to support offers medical care for those with diabetes and diabetes related illnesses. This will help to relieve the stress of a lack of available health care for Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank.

**Week Two** focuses on the Croydon EA where we are asked to pray for and support *Whyteleafe Community Hub* in the Reigate Archdeaconry. It has been running since the first COVID lockdown and is now a registered charity, running a foodbank and a befriending centre for the elderly, vulnerable and lonely. In addition, they offer help to Ukrainian refugees. In Croydon Archdeaconry, *Ment4*, which has a small team of mentors and support staff, pride themselves on being specialists in their field. They provide in depth engagement with young people on a one-to-one basis, aimed at long term life change. They help some who are in the criminal justice system and they have helped to reduced their re-offending by more than 75% compared to the local and national average.

**Week Three** has two projects from the Kingston EA. They are the *Fircroft Trust* which works to support adults who have mental health challenges or learning



**A MumSpace Group, where parents meet to share experiences and support, and also provide a safe environment for the children who come to play.**

disabilities in the Borough of Kingston. They offer supported residential living and centre-based activities. They especially would like help with their Man Shed, a workshop style environment for men with mental health challenges or illness as a result of loneliness and isolation. In the Lambeth Archdeaconry, the *Beacon Project* provides health and well-being services to under served communities. An Ascension Trust initiative, it has developed five well-being hubs which offer health checks and signpost individuals with health or mental health issues to the right places to receive help. Two of the hubs are based in churches in the Diocese – St Mark, Kennington and St John, Angell Town.

**Week Four** features two projects in the Woolwich EA. The *Front Room Club* based at St Luke, Downham, which is one of the churches on the Downham estate, an area of great deprivation. They offer services to those who have mental health and other challenges through a community nurse, money and housing advice, sewing classes and various other services to help those who are in need in the local area. *MumSpace* and *Espacio Mama* which are under the auspices of Parents and Communities Together (PACT) provide

a welcoming supportive environment focused on reducing social isolation and promoting the well-being of parents. The Bishop's Lent Call is asked to help raise funds for the work in Southwark, mostly based in Camberwell. At *MumSpace* and *Espacio Mama* parents can meet to share experiences and create a network of support, while also providing a safe space for their children to play.

Finally, **Week Five** takes us to projects in the four Dioceses in Zimbabwe with which we are linked. Here, we are asked to support work on nutritional gardens, and enabling the drilling of bore holes to reach the water table (lowered due to global warming). Those who are hungry or concerned about how to feed themselves and their families are often faced with mental health or well-being challenges. Additionally, the clergy, their wives and Diocesan workers are finding life very hard and so two of the Dioceses are asking for help with retreats and interventions that will help with their well-being.

**Bishop Christopher hopes that you will keep a holy and reflective Lent and that you will consider how you can support these projects in prayer and where ever possible financially too.**

## Sharing the gift of love

**Bacon's College invited local people to enjoy a special Christmas meal, sharing the gift love and company during the festive season.**

Jayne Nelson, Cluster Marketing Manager said: "As a Church of England College, our Christian values of Courage, Compassion, Respect, Faith and Integrity run through everything we do here at Bacon's. This term our collective assembly and worship theme is Living in Faith. Putting our faith into action means loving our neighbour as ourselves, having the eyes to see suffering and pain and loneliness, and by our faith responding in compassion by doing something to help."

On Friday 2 December, 70 local care home residents and elderly neighbours visited Bacon's College for an evening of carols, a three course turkey dinner and

gifts from Santa which had been donated and even hand made by students. Among the guests was a former student who attended Bacon's in the 1950s and still lives locally. William Griffiths left Bacon's College back in 1958 when it was still a boys' school on Grange Road and he was delighted when Principal, James Wilson, presented him with a copy of *The Story of Bacon's College*.



**James Wilson (right) presents the school's book to William Griffiths.**

## Hats for HMP Wandsworth Christmas Appeal 2022

**The Chaplains at HMP Wandsworth led by Liz Bridge, the Quaker Chaplain, are once again heading up a campaign to give a hat to each prisoner for Christmas. The target is 1,600 in time to hand out in the days running up to Christmas.**

There are rules to the types of hats that can be accepted. These rules are from the prison in order to keep everyone safe. The rules are:

- NO black or white hats
- NO peaked hats
- NO ear pieces
- NO hats with slogans.

Knitted, bought, crocheted or pre-loved in good condition, warm beanies or bobble hats – all are very welcome.

If you would like to send in a hat for the HMP Christmas Appeal, please drop off or send your hats to: Visitors Centre Wandsworth Prison, 17 Heathfield Road, London SW18 3HR – please mark 'Hats appeal FAO Liz Bridge, Quaker Chaplain'.

If you would like to help beyond just hats, you can now donate to a new charity running for the prison called 'Wandsworth Prison Welfare Trust' visit: <https://bit.ly/3Vi1Z2I>





## DISCIPLESHIP & MINISTRY

### Season of Lay Ministry

# The Season of Lay Ministries

*The centre spread of The Bridge gives us plenty of examples of the work that people are doing across the Diocese as part of their response in service for all that God has done for them.*

They are helping with youth work, as a Lay Pioneer, Reader and Southwark Pastoral Assistant (SPA). They are all involved in lay ministry and are wonderful examples of all the ministries in which lay people can be involved.

That's why, here in the Diocese, we are holding another Season of Lay Ministries. Following last year's successful Season of Lay Ministries, we have decided to move it to earlier in the year so that people might be able to begin training in the autumn. We hope that this will be an annual event.

The Season of Lay Ministries will take place during Epiphany, it starts on Sunday 8 January and will run for four Sundays until 29 January 2023. We will be celebrating the light which shines in the church through the vocations and ministries of the lay people of God; all those who faithfully serve God, following in the footsteps of the disciples of Jesus working for God's Kingdom in the community of the Diocese of Southwark.

At Epiphany, Jesus makes himself known to the world. In this season we want to make known in the Church the gifts of the people of God which God is calling

us to affirm, commission and licence. The Season of Lay Ministries will help us with this as it allows space for people to reflect on their gifts and to engage with those feelings that each of them may have about God's call on their life. It also provides a pathway by which those who feel called can respond to God and be supported by the church in being an active Christian proclaiming the Good News of God's Kingdom, responding to human need by loving service, and supporting new believers in the faith.

Archbishop Rowan Williams reminds us, "Baptismal living is living in the proximity of Jesus and therefore in the neighbourhood of those to whom Jesus is near. Seeing our environment as related first to God before it is related to me."

### Exploring your call

You can find out more about Lay Ministries here:  
<https://bit.ly/3gcD9Sx>.

Or email us:  
[layministry@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:layministry@southwark.anglican.org)

## Speakers and leaflets

**Helen Medland is the Diocesan contact if you would like to book a speaker to come and talk about lay vocations in your church, deanery, deanery synod, among your staff team and PCC, or the wider community.**

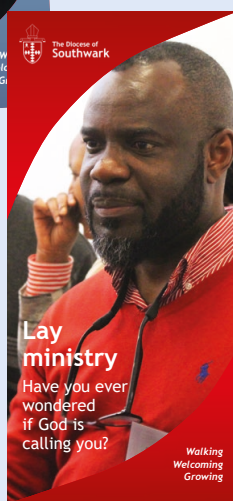
In fact, we are happy to talk about Lay Ministry wherever anyone invites us. We'll send you someone from the Ministry and Discipleship Team or a Reader, SPA or another lay minister. Helen can arrange for someone to come to speak to your chosen group.

Helen can also arrange for you to receive leaflets on Reader Ministry, Pastoral Ministry (licensed and commissioned), Children's, Youth and Family Ministry, Evangelistic Ministry, with the Church Army, Lay Pioneer Ministry and a general leaflet on Lay Ministry.

The leaflets give all the information needed to explore the various lay ministries on offer in the Diocese. But leaflets, all too often, allow us to file away the things about which we should be more proactive. So please do email Helen and book someone to come and talk about lay ministries to your parish.

Do help us support your parish or deanery in enabling the wide vocations of the people of God to be affirmed, commissioned and licensed so that they can be recognised and supported in your local church and celebrated within your communities.

**Contact details:** [helen.medland@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:helen.medland@southwark.anglican.org)



## Affirmed, Commissioned and Licensed Ministry

**There are a whole range of different ministries available to lay people within the Diocese of Southwark and right across the Church of England.**

**Affirmed ministries** are recognised, trained and affirmed locally in the parish or deanery. Those who are affirmed may welcome people to the church week by week, or help with the children's and youth work, pastoral work, make the tea and cakes or flower arrange. Some will already be in these ministries, but others may feel a call as a result of the Season of Lay Ministries. Those who

experience a call to affirmed ministry and are new to ministry will be selected, trained and affirmed locally.

**Commissioned ministries** are recognised, trained and commissioned in the Diocese. SPAs, Commissioned Lay Pioneers, Children and Young People's workers are ministries which can be transferred within the Diocese and, after proper processes, may be able to be transferred if the person moves. Training usually takes two years and is most often led by people from the Diocese.

**Licensed ministry**, such as Licensed Lay Ministers (Reader) or those

licensed for Pastoral Ministry or Pioneer Ministry is recognised, trained, and licensed by the Diocese. Training for this ministry usually takes two years and is often undertaken in conjunction with St Augustine's College. (In time we hope to license Children, Young People and Family workers too.) Licensed Lay Ministry is transferable to other Dioceses after a suitable time in the new parish.

There are many different ministries within the church. During the Season of Lay Ministries, which celebrates the ministries of the lay people of God, the Church in the Diocese

of Southwark wants to affirm and encourage lay ministries in a way which supports the missional work of the church in parishes, outside the parish system, in chaplaincies and schools, in care homes and communities.

- Do you spend an afternoon pastoral visiting?
- Do you serve at Church?
- Do you read the scriptures, host bible study groups?
- Do you serve the vulnerable and needy?
- Do you want to bring Christ to all people in the place where you work or where you live?

Talk to your local church leader, priest, archdeacon, bishop and talk to God, asking God to help you discern and be affirmed in the work you do for your church and what you want to do for Christ.

**Listen – God is calling you.**

Drop us an email:  
[layministry@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:layministry@southwark.anglican.org)



Following the success of the Season of Lay Ministries last year, Bishop Christopher has called the Diocese to a further Season launching from Epiphany 2023 for three weeks. This move to earlier in the year gives us the opportunity to think about people as gifts and bringers of light.

All God’s people are called to serve him in a variety of ways, using our gifts wherever we are, called to live out our faith in our work and in all that we do in our church communities. The Season of Lay Ministries celebrates all that the laity do to share God’s Good News and will especially focus on the Affirmed, Commissioned and Licensed Lay Ministries.

Our laity are a gift to the Church. They are its backbone and enable churches across the Diocese to function and thrive, from arranging the flowers, balancing the accounts, leading bible studies, running Children’s and Youth groups, providing pastoral support to the vulnerable, preaching. The list is endless.

Diocesan Warden of Readers, Ray Wheeler reflected on how the Very Revd Andrew Nunn, Dean of Southwark compared the different roles of clergy and Readers at the Eucharist, “He said that clergy break the bread, while Readers break the Word. The Readers’ role is to break open the scriptures, to interpret, to ensure their audience come away with an understanding of what they have heard read to them.”

Ray continued, “Readers, by virtue of their calling and ministry as preachers are ideally placed to ‘break open’ the meaning of Advent and Christmas. Readers as trained leaders in worship, lead Advent study groups, lead crib services, Christingle events and carol services whether in the church or for schools, colleges, community groups or local businesses. Without the calling of God on the lives of lay people the Church would find it difficult to bring the joy of the incarnation to so many. During the Christmas party season many lay people volunteer as Street Pastors and assist at homeless shelters serving Christmas.

“Readers, by virtue of their calling and ministry as preachers are ideally placed to ‘break open’ the meaning of Advent and Christmas.”

Sophia Jones and Susana Rojas spoke to SPAs, Youth Workers and a Lay Reader who talked about their work and what they will be doing at Christmas.



Daniel Osei-Brown – Youth Work at St Mary, Peckham

Officially, I am the Youth Worker at St Mary’s Magdalene, Peckham. But more than just a Youth Worker, I work with everybody within our community from our younger to older church members.

Normally, Christmas is the usual Christmas services, but this year we have decided to go a little bit further to get our young people more involved.

A lot of our church members have moved out of the area due to being relocated by the council and our numbers have dropped quite a bit. But we have a lot of young people who attend our Sunday groups, and also our youth club. On our books at the moment we have 35 young people that attend our youth club every week and 56 in our Sunday groups that attend regularly.

My wife and I spoke with the kids and asked them what we should do for Christmas and they said that they want to be a part of something that not only celebrates the birth of Christ but allows people in our community to also come into our building and use it. The Christmas Fair (pictured right) was one of the ideas that we came up with. There are not many events that go on over the Christmas period and this was the first Christmas Fair in our area. It was an opportunity for us to open up the church doors. A lot of people in our community don’t know that the building is actually a church. We sit on a roundabout where

there are four roads leading to Nunhead, Lewisham, Queen’s Road and Peckham. The church is in the middle of the road. People think it is a temple, or a party venue or just a hall.

We had music and stalls for people to buy stuff and a grotto for giving away gifts to kids in the community. We also had some fundraising as well for our youth club so that we can take the young people out a bit more.

I have been the youth leader for three and a half years and attended the church for over nine years. Before that, I was a volunteer in the Sunday school. I am going through training towards being commissioned.

During Christmas our church school, St Mary Magdalene Primary, come and do services in the church. I lead the service along with the Head Teacher and have a good relationship with our church school. I am normally there every week for our Transformers Club with is our Bible study session. I sometimes lead RE sessions too.

“This will be the first Christmas Fair in our area. It is an opportunity for us to open up the church doors.”

My advice to anyone considering lay ministry is to listen to that voice inside. I think for me it is something that I have considered for a long time. I had the confirmation when Bishop Karowei one day came up to me with a flyer and said “why are you not going into the children’s ministry” and handed me the flyer which I read through. I have done the Bishop’s Certificate course and I could take this the next step.

In the time that I have been youth leader, the youth ministry has grown. I’ve achieved this by listening to the young people. When I came, I took everything back to the basics. I used my

life experience of being in the Pentecostal church as a guide. I was honest with the kids and told them that I am not the greatest at praying, I’m not great at remembering bible verses off the top of my head, but I’m doing my best and I am learning. I told them that that was all I expected of them and for them to work on their relationship with God. We did activities like learning to pray, reading our bible. We linked it to problems that they might be having in their day to day life. We found that now they are evangelising more, they are bringing more kids to the church because they understand church as a whole. Church for them is not just them sitting down and listening to a sermon that they might not understand. They said that this is what it was for them for a long time. That’s what made them not want to come to church as much. But now they come to church and they know that they are going to learn something that they can apply to their day to day life now.

We have two different sets of kids – our Sunday group kids and our youth club kids. A lot of the youth club kids don’t attend the church. They are young people from the estates and local community that have brought their friends. We have had good feedback from the parents that they have seen improvements in the relationships between them and the parent. There’s improvement at school as well and they know them attending the youth club, regular bible study sessions linking it to what is going on in their day to day life is all a part of helping them.



Tim Hill, Pioneer Worker and Lay Reader – Horley Team Ministry

**My role in the Parish is multi-faceted. As a Lay Reader I can be asked to take Sunday Services, funerals and do pastoral work.**

I attend PCC, DCC and other groups like Team Meetings, Rota Meetings and Churches for Horley. I co-run our youth group with our Curate 'lovely Sue'. The youth group have been through *Alpha Youth* and other study themes plus we have fun together. I help with the Men's Fellowship, some Home Group Zoom studies and other things as asked.

In my role as Pioneer Worker I work outside of the churches and yet in some ways represent them. I'm currently working in six schools, taking lessons and assemblies as well as getting to know staff, families and listening to see where I can help. Also, outside of church I do things

which some might not feel connect to my Ministry but I feel it does – Volunteering at the YMCA on Mondays and being in the local Rock Choir for example. As you can tell I believe that life and church should meld and become indistinguishable from one another. Everything is a chance to witness but everything doesn't have to feel like hard work.

What I have done for 30 years at Christmas is far too much but I enjoy helping others enjoy Christmas much more than I enjoy Christmas myself. So, in November and December I will be doing two weeks of Christmas Journey with *Sparkfish*. About 1,000 children and staff from many schools in the Reigate, Redhill and Horley area will experience the live action re-telling of the first Christmas – it's the most Christmassy thing ever! Then I'll be doing Advent Assemblies,



Many local schools experienced the Christmas Journey with *Sparkfish*.

Christingle and Carol Services and some YMCA and Youth Clubs too. But this year will be a bit different – I'm a grandad now – so instead of doing a midnight service I'm driving to my daughter's home to spend Christmas with family. Lots of cuddles and long walks by the sea!

If you are thinking about becoming a Lay Reader then don't think too long. It's easier to learn when you are younger! But you may already have a good Bible knowledge and strong faith – then we need you in Ministry! Ask God why and why not? After all Jesus said "Go into all the world and preach the Gospel" – is there a good reason why you shouldn't? There might be – I'm not saying it's for everyone. There will be study and training, you must submit to authority too, but pace yourself and go for it!

**“I enjoy helping others enjoy Christmas much more than I enjoy Christmas myself.”**

Ruth Slater – SPA at St Edward the Confessor, Mottingham



**I have been serving the Church of England as a Lay Minister since 1982. First, as a Youth Worker, then taking communion to church members who are housebound, and from 1990 as a Lay Hospital Chaplain in the Willesden Area of London Diocese, then as a Pastoral Assistant at Oxford Diocese and now as a SPA in Southwark Diocese.**

I am part of the ministry team at St Edward, Mottingham with my colleague Pat Dockree; we are both SPAs. We share duties relating to pastoral visiting, telephone calls and home communion, so if there is somebody in the community who needs a listening ear, we are there for them. As part of my role, on Sundays, I assist with services as needed, do the prayers or intercessions, and if there are special services on Sundays the Revd Dr Catherine Shelley (Vicar of St Edward) will always include us.

Also, my role on Sundays is to look out for who is not there. For instance, if there is someone who hasn't been to church for a couple of weeks, I make a phone call to see if that person is alright. I also have other roles in my church as parish administrator, DBS officer and treasurer.

I think Lay Ministry is important because the clergy are very busy, and they need support to spread the load. Sometimes, when you are visiting people in the community or making a phone call, the fact that you are not ordained actually creates a bridge with people. Once you have made that bridge, then it can be easier for clergy to be welcomed in as part of the visiting team.



Ruth Slater (centre) with hospital colleagues Tabatha (right) and Revd Frances.

Having Katie, our Pioneer Assistant Curate, working alongside me is important as we support each other. We share similar roles in some aspects, but in others, we play very different roles to each other. We can cover for each other if necessary, making sure we are available to offer support. More people need to be made aware of how varied a SPA role is, you can develop it into whatever your gifts and talents lead you to. You are not restricted to one particular thing. It is important for people to know that if they have talents, they can use them to help and serve their parishes; from visiting people to administration work, all talents can be of good use if you become a SPA. For example, I have a disability, I have to walk with a stick, but this doesn't

**“This Christmas, I will look out for those people that we know are on their own and would welcome a phone call.”**

stop me for doing what God wants me to do. If you are called or wish to do something to help, you can.

This Christmas, I will look out for those people that we know are on their own and would welcome a phone call. We will continue our parish visits during the Christmas period, trying to link in with those who are house bound and would welcome a delivered Christmas dinner – our parish also organises take away dinners on Christmas Day.

This will be my first Christmas season volunteering at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, and my first day will be on 14 December, a really important day because this will be the first year since lockdown that we are able to hold the Tree of Hope Service in person. The service with the big Christmas tree will be in the foyer of the hospital, people can write a message and hanging it on the Tree of Hope and everybody is welcome.

You are also allocated a day and a ward when the chaplaincy team needs help. I will have Oncology and Care for the elderly. I will be given a list that I have previously visited, or those who would welcome a visit. As a volunteer Lay Chaplain, I can go to various bays and bedsides to verify if anyone would like to speak to a chaplain. I then provide feedback to the chaplaincy team so they can take it forward if needed.

It definitely feels lovely to be back doing chaplaincy visits at the hospital. When Wendy Stevens, our Archdeaconry SPA, sent the leaflets out asking for volunteers, I felt like the Lord was trying to tell me something! He wanted me to return to this service. So, I followed it through, and it feels right. It is very rewarding and important to my faith belief to reach out to others and to be a listening ear.

Since lockdown we have new people coming in, who became regular members of the church. We have at least one lady who now receives communion because she said she benefited so much from our regular visits that she wanted to know more about the church.

People see our work and come to help. People get to know us, and it brings them to the church and some volunteers have come recently to help paint the church and have helped to organise the Christmas and the Summer fairs.

**Pat Dockree, also a SPA at St Edwards writes:**

The Lay Ministry helps support the incumbent, spreading the word to the community. I advise everyone who wants

**“This year, on Christmas Day I will be cooking lunch for people who are lonely or wanting company. We do this every year after our church service.”**

to help to think deeply about what they feel they could offer, pray and then speak to their vicar for some guidance.

In my role as a SPA, I support the incumbent with pastoral visits, home communion and phone rota. I also help to run our parish food bank.

This year, on Christmas Day I will be cooking lunch for people who are lonely or wanting company. We do this every year after our church service.



## IN FOCUS...

*News from the Diocese*

# Celebration Eucharist held at Southwark Cathedral to mark the beginning of the academic year

**The Southwark Diocesan Board of Education (SDBE) held a celebration Eucharist at Southwark Cathedral on 3 November 2022 marking the beginning of the academic year, and bringing together new school leaders, chaplains and governors to worship with the Diocesan education family.**

The service acknowledged the achievements of the schools who have completed the Bishop's Certificate over the last year with prayers for the well-being of schools within the Diocese.

The congregation was welcomed by Canon Michael Rawson, Sub Dean at Southwark Cathedral, and the hymn *Lead us heavenly Father, Lead us* was sung during the entry procession, after which The Rt Revd Christopher Chessun, Bishop of Southwark, greeted those in attendance.

Neil Meehan, Headteacher of Christ Church C of E School New Malden, read the First Reading from Psalm 105 vs 1-7 and Kristy Armer, Governor of Nutfield Church C of E School, read the Gospel, Luke 15 v 1-10.

The Rt Revd Dr Rosemarie Mallett, Bishop of Croydon, Chair of the Board of Education and a Member of SDBE Multi-Academy Trust preached about the parables of being lost and found. She said: "The story of the lost sheep and the coin reveals the heart of God, who searches out the lost, when we know it or not, or when we feel it, or not. Jesus knows that we are all sinners, all carrying our shadows, our worries, our sins, but yet he guarantees us that there is rejoicing among the angels of God over one repentant sinner."

"We are all prone to getting lost – to be inattentive, to lose contact with our source of being, our sense of being, who we are and how we are connected to each other and to God. The prophet Isaiah famously phrased it 'We all like sheep have gone astray'."

"God goes to great effort to seek lost sinners who have gone astray and He greatly rejoices when they come to repentance. After returning home with his lost sheep, the good shepherd calls his friends and neighbours together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep'."

Congratulations to the following schools who completed their Bishop's Certificate during 2021/22



**Governing body representatives receive their certificates.**

St John The Divine C of E Primary School, Camberwell  
St Stephen's C of E Primary School, Lambeth  
St Luke's C of E Primary School, West Norwood  
St John's & St Clement's C of E Primary School, East Dulwich  
Coulsdon C of E Primary School, Croydon  
St Paul's C of E Primary School, Kingston Hill  
Nutfield Church C of E Primary School, Surrey

In closing, Bishop Rosemarie said: "As we continue God's work here on earth, we too must look out for the lost, and those living in life's shadows, and bring them to the light of Christ."

New headteachers, chaplains and SDBE Staff were invited to stand before Bishop Christopher and Acting Headteachers and New Governors were also invited to join as a prayer of dedication was said. Presented by Bishop Rosemarie, the candidates were given a Bible, committing to the work of education in the Diocese.

Prayers of intercession were led by the Revd Dr Daniel Eshun, Whitelands College Chaplain, University of Roehampton.

The hymn, *Alleluia, Sing to Jesus* was sung followed by the Liturgy of the Eucharist. After Communion, there was a presentation of the Bishop's Certificate in Church School Governance and governing body representatives stood to receive their certificates presented by Roz Corder, Diocesan Director of Education.

The service ended with a final blessing.



## Vigil in memory of Charlie Bartolo

**Hundreds attended a vigil at William Temple Church, Abbey Wood for teenager Charlie Bartolo, who was fatally stabbed in Thamesmead. The service on Saturday 3 December, included music, silence, reflection and prayer.**

The Venerable Alastair Cutting, Archdeacon of Lewisham and Greenwich, who attended the vigil, said: "Shock and fear comes across an area when young members of the community get caught up in violence leading to loss of life. The work of Transform Youth Mission (TYM), other agencies and schools, working among the youth of the area, is vital. William Temple Church is TYM's regular venue and safe space. For a community longing for peace,

it was good to be able to gather there with TYM's leader Karen Saunders and others, for the vigil remembering Charlie and all families currently facing grief."

The Revd Ruth Turner, Team Vicar in the Thamesmead Team said: "We would appreciate your prayers as we continue to try and support our community – many –are, understandably, traumatised and fearful because of the murders. The vigil was an opportunity to provide a safe space for us to come together and show our support to the local family. Thank you."

In remembrance of all those who have been victims of violent crime and terrorism, Bishop Christopher consecrated the Chapel of Reconciliation at Southwark Cathedral.

Read more about this on page 11.

## Advent procession



**On 27 November a candlelit service combining readings and music took place at Southwark Cathedral to mark the beginning of the season of Advent.**

# Chapel of Reconciliation dedicated to victims of violent crime and terrorism

© Eve Milner



*Victims of violent crime and terrorism were remembered at a service at Southwark Cathedral on Sunday 4 December during which the Bishop of Southwark consecrated the Chapel of Reconciliation.*

Bishop Christopher, with the assistance of Bishop Rosemarie, dedicated the Chapel of St Francis and St Elizabeth as an act of remembrance for victims of violent crime and terrorism.

During the dedication, Bishop Christopher spoke of how this is “a pledge of our common commitment to work and pray for peace, justice and reconciliation” and

said: “This we do through seeking to heal the wounds of violent crime, through learning to live with difference and to celebrate diversity, seeking to build a culture of peace.” On the altar of the new Chapel of Reconciliation stands a large Cross of Nails, below which sits the newly commissioned stained glass artwork ‘We see You’ (see page 1).

Southwark Cathedral joined the Community of the Cross of Nails in January 2020.

In his homily, Bishop Christopher paid tribute to the victims of the London Bridge Terror Attack and said: “We do so with great sadness and heavy hearts because not only do we bear the scars of the London Bridge Terror Attack more than five years ago, remembering those who perished, those who endured life changing injuries, those who were traumatised along with their families, colleagues and friends. But we do so with renewed sorrow because only last week two more young people from South London, Kearne Solanke and Charlie Bartolo, became themselves tragic victims of knife crime – and we pray for them

and their families in their devastating loss and grief”.

Hundreds attended a vigil for Charlie Bartolo at William Temple Church in Abbey Wood on Saturday which included music, silence, reflection and prayer (see page 10).



*“Southwark Cathedral has joined the Community of the Cross of Nails... as a pledge of our common commitment to work and pray for peace, justice and reconciliation.”*

## Installations, Collation and Licensing at Southwark Cathedral

**The dedication of the chapel was followed by the installation of the Bishop of Croydon, The Rt Revd Dr Rosemarie Mallett, the Collation and Installation of the Archdeacon of Croydon, The Venerable Greg Prior and the Licensing of the Assistant Director for Clergy Formation, The Revd Anne Stevens during Choral Evensong.**

The congregation were welcomed by the Dean of Southwark, The Very Revd Andrew Nunn who talked about the joy of welcoming the Croydon Episcopal Area to the Cathedral and of how it was the last of the Areas to be brought into the Diocese when it left Canterbury Diocese. He also welcomed the Deputy Lieutenant of Croydon, Colonel Ray Wilkinson.

The choir led the procession singing the hymn ‘Be Thou My Vision’. The Revd Anne Stevens, The Venerable Greg Prior and Bishop Rosemarie took their seats at the front row. Psalm 11 was sung by the choir and was followed by the First Lesson, read by Bishop Rosemarie, from Isaiah 42.1-9.

During her Installation, Bishop Rosemarie was surrounded by the Dean of Southwark, the Residentiary Canons and the Archdeacons. Bishop Christopher invited her to receive the commission and to “be diligent so to take your part with your

brothers and sisters of the Chapter in the Government of this holy place, that here the word of God may be faithfully preached and the sacraments duly administered.” He then blessed Bishop Rosemarie and handed the mandate to the Dean, inviting him to proceed with the installation.

The Sub Dean, the Revd Canon Michael Rawson, placed a Jubilee Cope on Bishop Rosemarie and The Dean led her to her allotted chair in the Sanctuary. At the Installation, Dean Andrew admitted Bishop Rosemarie and invested her as Bishop of Croydon, she was given a Bible and a copy of the Constitution and Statutes of the Cathedral. After this she made her promise and was then welcomed by the Residentiary Canons and Archdeacons, followed by a round of applause from the congregation.

Bishop Rosemarie then presented the Revd Greg Prior who was at that point still the Archdeacon-designate, to Bishop Christopher. During the Collation Bishop Christopher read the Deed of Institution and the new Archdeacon knelt before him to be blessed. He then stood up as the new Archdeacon of Croydon and Bishop Christopher handed the mandate to the Dean, inviting him to proceed with the installation. The Venerable Moira Astin, the Archdeacon of Reigate, placed the cope on him and the Dean guided him to

his allotted stall. After receiving his Bible and making the same promise as Bishop Rosemarie, he was also welcomed.

The Revd Anne Stevens was presented to Bishop Christopher by Canon Jeremy Clark-King, Director for Clergy Formation and Initial Ministerial Education. Bishop Christopher commented that Anne is not new to Southwark and welcomed her back. She received her licence and knelt before Bishop Christopher for a blessing. The congregation welcomed her with applause.

The second lesson from Matthew 5:1-16 was read by The Venerable Greg Prior. In his homily, Bishop Christopher said: “Bishop Rosemarie, Archdeacon Greg and Anne – in being led to your stalls and receiving your commission and licences, you have also received a charge to serve God with gladness and joy in a beautiful world where the image of God in which we are each made has been marred by sin. You are, by God’s grace, each to be channels of his love and instruments of his grace in taking forward the work of healing and reconciliation.”



© Eve Milner. **Top: The Revd Anne Stevens was presented with her licence by Bishop Christopher. Bottom: The Venerable Moira Astin placed the cope on The Venerable Greg Prior, alongside Bishop Rosemarie.**



IN FOCUS...  
News from our parishes

Saint Gabriel’s College receive outstanding school award for mental health and well-being



**Saint Gabriel’s College in Camberwell has been classed as an outstanding school in the field of mental health and well-being for their migrant students by the Athena Network.**

The *Athena Network* is a space for exchanging help, experiences, research and initiatives that aim to improve the protection of the mental health of migrants.

The award was received in recognition of the high-quality support given to migrant students, which make up a significant proportion of the school community and the extensive liaison with external services to ensure students receive all the support they need. Saint Gabriel’s also provides a range of enrichment activities focused on all aspects of well-being, including mental health and shares information, resources and organisations with families that can help them support their children’s mental health.

As a result of the award, the board of the *Athena Network* invited Claudia Lopez-Prieto, EAL Raising Achievement Coordinator at Saint Gabriel’s, to participate in the XII International Congress on Migration and Mental Health which took place in Bogotá, Colombia, from 19–21 October 2022.

This International Congress brought together top universities, colleges and schools such as the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana which hosted the congress, as well as la Universidad de Barcelona and the University of California, to participate in discussions and seminars on initiatives that improve the mental health and well-being of migrants across the globe. It was a place to share knowledge and experiences of managing and supporting the mental health of migrants living in extreme situations.

The congress wanted to hear about Saint Gabriel’s College, being an inner London school that has achieved what many others have not in improving the

mental well-being of migrant students who are so often left behind. During her presentations, Claudia gave advice to university, college and school leaders on ways of ensuring early identification and prevention of mental health challenges, specifically for migrant students, as well as providing information about how to obtain specialist support and effective ways of working with external agencies to provide mental health support. Claudia shared examples of resources and the whole school strategy that is implemented at Saint Gabriel’s which has created an ethos in which migrant students feel accepted and part of the school community.

“It was wonderful to be surrounded by so many specialists... who all had the well-being of migrants at the forefront of their minds.”

It was a jammed packed four days for Claudia, as the congress started with a press conference followed by three days of back-to-back presentations. Claudia said: “It was wonderful to be surrounded by so many specialists in this field from all over the world who all had the well-being of migrants at the forefront of their minds. They brought statistics, data and research, and I brought the reality lived through the lives of my students”. She also said it was a fantastic opportunity to “give a voice to our fantastic students who achieve so much given their circumstances – migrating to a new country during your teenage years is definitely not an easy experience”.

**Find out more**  
**The Athena Network website:**  
[athenanetwork.org.uk](http://athenanetwork.org.uk)

Christ the King, Salfords – Patronal Feast



Bishop Rosemarie joins the congregation (pictured after the service) at Christ The King, Salfords to celebrate the Patronal Feast of Christ The King.

Reader Emeritus status for Reader at St Andrew, Couldson

**Susan Goddard, a Reader at Coulsdon, St Andrew, retired from Reader Ministry in November. She preached her last sermon on the Feast of Christ the King, 20 November.**

At her retirement service Ray Wheeler, the Warden of Readers, presented Susan with a certificate to her obtaining Reader Emeritus status. “Susan has been a Reader at St Andrew since she was licensed in 1994. During that time she has served on the PCC, Deanery Synod, Finance team, and ministered to young people, encouraging them to take a full part in the life of the parish”.

Ray, in thanking Susan for her ministry, said that while Incumbents come and go Readers are very often the ministers who provide a continuity of the pastoral life in the parish.

During the party after the Eucharist Susan cut a cake baked specially for the occasion while Prosecco was served.



# Hundreds watch immersive play *The Mark Drama* at Christ Church, Surbiton

More than 500 people visited Christ Church, Surbiton Hill to watch three performances of *The Mark Drama*. The performances, over Bonfire weekend, were brought to life in partnership with Emmanuel, Tolworth and local independent Evangelical Churches; Cornerstone Church, Kingston and Grace Church, New Malden. Jen Manhire, Administrator at Emmanuel Church Tolworth writes:

The Mark Drama is a fast, punchy and immersive 90-minute, theatre-in-the-round, dramatic telling of the story of Jesus, as recorded in Mark's Gospel. The drama, created by Andrew Page the Director (pictured third from left), was performed in churches and Christian Unions around the world.

A team of 15 people from participating churches made up the cast of Jesus, Disciples, Pharisees and others. A



production like this would usually take months of rehearsals but there were just three days, which started the Thursday before the first performance on a Saturday evening. No previous acting experience was needed. There were no costumes, props or microphones. But it worked and worked very well! The audience was gripped by the fast pace of

the Gospel as Jesus healed, cast out demons and preached with authority. Then they were moved by the arrest, trial and crucifixion scenes and left with Mark's abrupt ending pointing clearly to the resurrection.

One cast member commented "Learning more about Mark's Gospel and acting it out was such an amazing experience for

me. I met so many wonderful Christians from other local churches and thought it was such a powerful way to convey to the audience just how amazing our wonderful Saviour Jesus Christ is."

How good it was that there were so many non-Christians in the audience, invited by church members, to see the life of Jesus

and hear that he came to die for sinners like us. It was such a great way to engage the local community with the good news about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. John Shepherd, vicar of Christ Church, who played one of the Pharisees, said afterwards, "What a joy and privilege it was to see so many of our local community coming through the doors to witness and experience the life transforming good news of Jesus Christ"

Get involved

Find out more about the *Mark Drama*, including how your church could make use of this amazing resource:

[themarkdrama.com](http://themarkdrama.com)

## New clergy take up their posts

1) *Revd Carol Bates licensed as Priest-in-Charge at All Saints, Sanderstead.*

All Saints, Sanderstead welcomed new Priest-in-Charge (Rector Designate), Revd Carol Bates following licensing by The Rt Revd Dr Rosemarie Mallett, Bishop of Croydon. The service, which took place in October, was a warm and joyous occasion, celebrated by more than 200 people.

On becoming the new Rector Designate, Revd Carol Bates who hosted this year's Diocesan Conference said: "I felt amazingly blessed and supported by family and friends coming to be with me and affirm me in my new role, some of whom had known me since I was a child, some had travelled a great distance from Penzance, York, Worthing and Lincoln. Some were my new neighbours I'd only just met after moving into the area. All Saints prepared a real banquet afterwards – it was a taste of the heavenly feast as my friends are a diverse bunch of wonderful people. Everyone felt very welcomed and there was a tangible sense of joy throughout the service and the banquet. One of my friends, who has worked on the *Croydon Racial Justice Group* for many years was greatly encouraged to see so many clergy of colour, including myself, not to mention our Bishop Rosemarie. For her, this reflected the fruits of the Group's labour."

2) *St Anne's welcome The Revd Cécile Schnyder as new Vicar.*

The Revd Cécile Schnyder has been appointed as Vicar of St Anne, Wandsworth. She was instituted by the Bishop of Southwark. Revd Cécile was the previous Vicar of St Clement with St Peter, Dulwich and Chaplain at James Allen's Girls' School, Dulwich. She previously served her curacy in Sutton.

3) *Collation and Induction of Revd Anna Moore at St Matthew, Redhill.*

The Collation and Induction of Revd Anna Moore as Vicar of St Matthew, Redhill took place on 16 November. Revd Anna

is pictured with Bishop Rosemarie, The Venerable Moira Astin, Archdeacon of Reigate and Revd Judith Brooks, Curate.

The Revd Martin Colton, Area Dean was also present during the service.



© David Alcorn Photography



## DISCIPLESHIP & MINISTRY

### At the Cathedral...

# Diocesan Confirmations

*On the eve of the Feast of Christ The King, a Diocesan Confirmation Service took place at Southwark Cathedral where 44 candidates from 11 parishes were confirmed.*

The congregation were welcomed by Canon Precentor, The Revd Andrew Zihni. In his homily, Bishop Christopher spoke of "Everyone coming forward for confirmation will have decided for themselves to want to follow this path"; and commending the candidates also said "The reason you are here today is because this is the right time. This is God's time for you."

The Clergy then presented the candidates for baptism and confirmation, firstly making a sign of the cross with anointing Oil of Baptism on the forehead of each candidate and then baptising a group of candidates before confirmation. Holy Water was sprinkled on confirmation candidates in remembrance of their baptism and then a declaration was said over each of the candidates. The congregation applauded the confirmation candidates as they were called to receive their First Communion from Bishop Christopher and The Revd Mae Christie, Incumbent at All Saints, Tooting.

At the end of the service the confirmed received a lighted candle and it concluded with a candlelight procession.



## Christian Mission launches Christmas appeal for Southwark Cathedral, the Trussell Trust and British Red Cross

**UK-based charity, Christian Mission, is raising money this Christmas for Southwark Cathedral, the work of the British Red Cross in Ukraine, Somalia, Sri Lanka and for the foodbank charity Trussell Trust.**

Bishop Christopher has presented a video (<https://bit.ly/3H5qIJ8>) encouraging churches, businesses and charity organisations to support Christmas Mission's Christmas Card appeal.

In it he said: "At Christmas, which is God's gift and blessing to us, we think of the needs of others. We also think of reaching out with a hand of friendship to help those in various conditions of need. That allows us to make Christmas something which is a blessing. We receive many blessings from God at Christmas, we also want to bless others by our kindness, our care, our love and our response to human need."

"We are encouraged by the support we've received from churches and charity organisations across the Diocese of Southwark so far, we are hopeful to raise an estimated £30,000 which will be equally split between our three chosen charity partners," said Christian Mission's Phinehas David.

He continued, "We are launching our community outreach by raising money through our Christmas Card Fundraiser, if each church or charity organisation were able to contribute just £60 or £110 toward the Christmas Card Appeal, it will enable us to send Christmas cards to the contributing churches and charity organisations to sell or distribute the specially designed cards, we will send packs of 50 (£60) or 100 (£110). Your generous contributions would enable us to support our chosen charity partners and the Southwark Cathedral."

Finally, Phinehas said: "The Christmas cards we send may remain year after year to send seasonal greetings; but your contributions now will help support children and families in this period of national and international crisis."



### Find out more



To read about the charities and donate, visit:  
<https://bit.ly/3EWkZx0>



## LET US PRAY...

### DECEMBER

**The Very Revd Andrew Nunn**

*Dean of Southwark*

*(follow @deansouthwark to see the Dean's daily morning prayers on Twitter)*

At this time of the year we are bombarded by adverts trying to sell us a good Christmas – toys for the kids, a new telly to watch all the films on Christmas Day, perfume for Gran and maybe something for Dad. The supermarkets all want to get us through their doors with anything from talking carrots to ageing celebrities telling us how good one store is over another. But I noticed one big supermarket chain saying something that struck a chord with me. They said that we were "short on joy", that they want to "stand up for joy".

One of the carols I really love singing at all the carol services I go to in the Cathedral in the lead up to Christmas is the one that goes:

*Joy to the world, the Lord is come  
Let Earth receive her King.*

The words are by Isaac Watts, an 18th century pastor and teacher and the tune we most often sing it to is by George Frideric Handel, of the *Messiah* fame and much, much more. Together words and music make for a carol that really is joyful and looking at the faces of those singing, you know that the words find a



place in people's hearts. That is how it should be because the hymn picks up on something that St Luke tells us about the nativity of Jesus.

The angel startles the shepherds out on the hills around Bethlehem and says to them "I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people." (Luke 2.10).

And then the skies are full of angels singing joyously. After they've visited the manger and seen the child for themselves

that same joy bursts out of those same shepherds who return to their watch 'glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen.'

Christmas is an encounter with joy, an encounter with God, the God who brings joy, deep joy to our hearts. It may well be that joy is something that we are short of this year when our lives have been assaulted by so many things – war, climate change, high prices and low expectations for the future. But angels burst in with a message of joy, joy to the world, joy to you, which is both for this Christmas and all that is to come in 2023.

Have a very happy Christmas and a blessed New Year.

***Jesus, child in the manger,  
God amongst us,  
fill our hearts with joy  
and our lives with hope,  
today and always.  
Amen.***

# WHAT'S ON

Please send details of your next events for FEBRUARY ONWARDS to Trinity House **BY MONDAY 23 JANUARY**



## December

### SEASON OF ADVENT

\* **LOCAL** – Church Urban Fund. Share the light of Christ and a message of hope in our communities this Christmas. Download a free resource pack to help your church reflect, pray and share a message of hope with your community: <https://bit.ly/3VpjQFn>

### 10-21 DECEMBER

♪ **SOUTHWARK** – Join Southwark Cathedral for one of their special services this Advent. These include the annual Swedish Carol Service, the Mayor of London's Carol Service and various Cathedral Carol Services. Details: <https://bit.ly/3GG96hp>

### SATURDAY 24 DECEMBER

♪ **BATTERSEA RISE** – Carols on the Rise. All welcome to join us on the grass outside St Mark, Battersea Rise, SW11 1EJ, for carols, mulled wine and hot chocolate Free. 4-5pm.

To include your upcoming events, please email: [bridge@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:bridge@southwark.anglican.org)

## Local community raise £2,000 for church garden

St James Church, Clapham have raised over £2,000 from generous givers to help maintain their church garden, a welcoming place for the local community.

The church costs £4,000 a year to maintain and a gardener is employed to help keep the space tidy for locals. Churchwarden, Jim Grover said: "As a church community we are a combination of humbled, inspired and proud!"

St James are seeking contributions to support maintaining the garden. To find out more visit: [stjamesclapham.org.uk](http://stjamesclapham.org.uk)



## St Peter, Streatham

Sunday 18 December: 6.30pm: Advent Carol Service, Streatham. Free.

2023 Sunday Recitals at 11.50am: 22 January – Artiste to be confirmed. 19 February – Chiara String Quartet

St Peter's Church, Leigham Court Road, Streatham SW16 2SD.

Further recitals March-June, details: [www.stpeters-streatham.org](http://www.stpeters-streatham.org)

## January

### 18-25 JANUARY

\* **LOCAL** – Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Resources to help you plan your own actions or events are on the CTBI website: <https://bit.ly/3VBJSol>

## February

### THURSDAY 2 FEBRUARY

\* **PIMLICO** – National Estate Churches Network London Conference. Theme "The Kingdom On Estates: Sowing the mustards seeds." Cost £12.50, lunch included. 10am-3.30pm at St James The Less, Pimlico. Details and booking: <https://bit.ly/3gv0nE4>.

## Diocesan primary schools Journey to the Manger

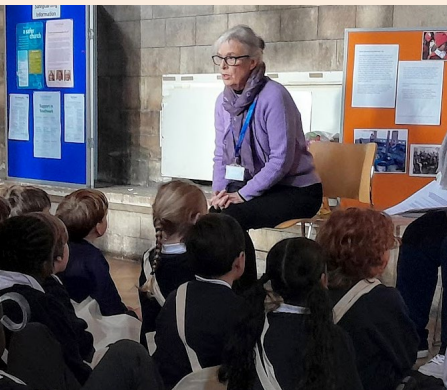
Journey to the Manger, a joint event planned by the Southwark Cathedral Education Centre and Southwark Diocesan Board of Education took place on Friday 2 December, where five Diocesan primary schools were invited to take part at the Cathedral.

The schools, including St James' Hatcham; St John the Divine, Kennington; The Queens, Kew; St John's and St Clement, Dulwich; and St Faith's School, Wandsworth – each brought with them a character for the nativity scene.

Pupils in year two heard the stories of the Wise Men, Mary, Joseph and the Shepherds, completing a craft as they travelled round the eight stations. The day ended with a collective worship and the group were joined by The Very Revd Andrew Nunn, Dean of Southwark.

### Everyone prayed:

Jesus, as I journey to the Manger  
Smile at me as I smile at you  
And know you as my brother,  
My friend,  
My Lord,  
And my God.  
Amen



## New London Community Energy Mentorship Programme to help boost uptake of projects

Community Energy London (CEL) launches peer mentoring programme to boost the delivery of community energy projects across the capital.

Groups can benefit from expert advice on issues from raising finance to feasibility to installing renewable generation.

The Community Energy Peer Mentoring support programme will run for three months, from November 2022, and is

available free of charge to qualifying groups and community energy groups delivering a project in London.

To apply to the CEL Community Energy Peer Mentoring programme groups must read the *Application Guidance Document* and complete the application form: <https://bit.ly/3OMgV73>. Should you have any questions about the mentoring programme then please email Jess: [officer@communityenergy.london](mailto:officer@communityenergy.london)

## Letter to the editor

Many thanks for publishing an article about my setting of the Evening Service in the November edition of The Bridge. I would, however, like to emphasise that whilst the composition includes plainchant, organum and simplicity, the composition does not consist of

these, these are influences in my composition for a standard SATB choir and is mainly in four-part polyphony.

With best wishes and thanks.  
Rev'd Dr Michael Brooks,  
St Augustine of Canterbury,  
Honor Oak Park



## Pilgrimage to the Holy Land 2023

27 February – 6 March

Led by Bishop Christopher, the Bishop of Southwark, with Bishop Paul Hendricks, Assistant Bishop in the Archdiocese, as well as Andrew Nunn, the Dean of Southwark, and Michael Branch, the new Dean of St George's Cathedral.

For more details watch this video: <https://bit.ly/3rrLZyo>, or see our website: <https://bit.ly/3Kp6vbr>

Email queries: [pilgrimage23@southwark.anglican.org](mailto:pilgrimage23@southwark.anglican.org)



## IN FOCUS...

## Robes Project SleepOut


 robes

# Robes SleepOut

Each year, groups from across the Southwark Diocese give up the comfort of their homes to sleep out in the churchyard to raise awareness of homelessness.

This year, so far over £27,000 has been pledged on the charity's JustGiving platform, with donations still being made.

Those taking part and their supporters were provided with an evening of entertainment which included a silent disco, a live jazz performance by guitarist John Etheridge and a game of *Thou Shalt Not Lie* featuring the Dean Andrew Nunn, Revd Grant Bolton-Debbage, Revd Roger Royle as well as Actor, Jonathan Livingstone and TV presenter, George McGavin – who also joined the SleepOut. The event concluded in the morning with a short act of worship and a shared meal.

This year marked Dean Andrew's final SleepOut as Dean at the Cathedral. He said: "It was the best weather to be sleeping out at this time of the year – cold, dry and no wind. Whilst all that might have been the case, it doesn't take away from the feelings of discomfort and vulnerability that those who sleep on our streets day by day must always feel. As ever, the Robes SleepOut was a great event, an evening of fun and companionship, and a dawn in which the bread of the altar and the sustenance of breakfast were shared. Most importantly we raised money so that those forced on to our streets can be helped back off them."



*"It was the best weather to be sleeping out at this time of the year... but it doesn't take away the feelings of discomfort and vulnerability that those who sleep on our streets day by day must always feel."*

The Robes Project has operated across Southwark and Lambeth since 2007, providing shelter for people experiencing homelessness. Last winter, they were able to support 30 guests, of whom 24 are either in, or awaiting, long-term accommodation. During the winter of 2022/23, the Robes Project will once more be running its Winter Night Shelters and weekday drop-in centres which provide vital support, advice, and shelter to those most in need.

## Read more

To find out more about Robes or to get involved please visit their website: <https://robes.org.uk/>

To make a donation via JustGiving: <https://bit.ly/2DzH1Y9>



© Eve Milner. **Above:** Cheery participants prepare to bed down for the night  
**Left:** Revd Canon Michael Rawson and Dean Andrew enjoy organising the entertainment.

## Schools smash their sponsorship target

Joining others, The Southwark Diocesan Board of Education (SDBE) Multi Academy Trust schools also participated in the SleepOut this year and have received 10 times their target in sponsorship from generous donors.

On hearing about the SleepOut Mark Burnett, COO, SDBE Multi-Academy Trust said: "I thought what a great event to involve our schools in. After a few emails here and there, we managed to form a team of six staff from across the Trust to take part.

We set what we thought was an ambitious target of £500. We are proud, amazed and delighted to say at last count, we had raised £5,600 including Gift Aid. It was not an easy night by any means, but totally worth it to help those less fortunate than us and a sobering reminder of how hard life must be if you are homeless.

As a team, we are committed to making this an annual event and to actively recruit more people from across our schools to join in next year. A huge thank you to all who were able to sponsor us for this incredibly worthy cause."