

COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

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JUNE 2019

Our new Deacons and Priests

It's an exciting weekend for the Diocese! The ordination services for this year's group of 18 Deacons and Priests are on Saturday and Sunday. **Please be praying for all the candidates.** Read our news story about the build-up to the weekend [here on the Diocesan website](#) and get to know all the ordinands via [the usual profile page here](#).

Watch out too for coverage of your Deacons and Priests in the local and regional media ... the first piece of that coverage will be on BBC Radio Lancashire this Sunday between 6am and 9am when Joe Wilson will feature interviews with some of the candidates, as well as Bishop Julian. The programme will also be [available here afterwards](#) on BBC iPlayer.

Meanwhile, early next week pictures from the ordination services will appear on the diocesan website and will be sent to the local media; all alongside a special video featuring four of the ordinands alongside Bishop Julian, Bishop Philip and Bishop Jill.

That video will also be available on our [YouTube channel](#) while pictures from the ordinations will also be posted next week to albums in [our flickr account](#). Finally, readers of 'The See' magazine can catch up on all the ordination news in the next available edition.

Safeguarding including parish websites

A further reminder that all parishes must make their local safeguarding arrangements clearly accessible via the home page of their parish website by having an obvious link to further information, including contact details. [Find out more.](#)

Meanwhile, our Bishops, Archdeacons and The Dean also sent a letter to all clergy and safeguarding advisers in this Diocese recently, reflecting on the IICSA reports on Chichester Diocese and Peter Ball. You can read more, including the full text of the letter, by [clicking here](#).

Bishop's Ordination Fund

With ordinations this month, and as part of Vision 2026, we are committed to growing vocations and increasing the number of ordinands and curates in training. The Bishop's Ordination Fund helps to fund the grants made to assist with living and removal cost of those in training.

Visit www.blackburn.anglican.org/donate where you can donate to all our present funds, including the Bishop's Ordination Fund.

BBC help gives a new lease of life

A former Blackburn Day School and Sunday School built in 1834 to nurture young people is to be given a new lease of life to continue its legacy. The Parish Rooms of St Silas Church, Blackburn, once Billinge End School, are set to be transformed into a supportive living accommodation for 16-18 year olds in a groundbreaking initiative run by the Blackburn with Darwen charity Nightsafe. The conversion is the chosen 2019 BBC Children in Need 'DIY SOS Big Build'. [Read more.](#)

HEALTHY CHURCHES TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES

Clergy family fun

A fun day was held recently at Bishop's House near Ribchester for clergy and their families from across Lancashire. The theme of the event, held in a marquee in the ground of Bishop's House was 'Animals of the Bible/Noah's Ark'. [Read more](#) and view an album of pictures from the event [on flickr here](#).

Profile: Director of Discipleship

Ruth Hassall, our Director of Discipleship, has reached six months in her new role and, if her diary is anything to go by, it's already shaping up to be a busy first year for the former children and young people's pastor. That diary is filling up nicely with parish visits; PCC away days; Vision Champions meetings and many other opportunities to meet people across the Diocese. [Get to know Ruth](#) and find out much more about her role.

Grass Roots Community Action Award

The Holiday Club Volunteers of St Oswald's church in Knuzden recently won the Grass Roots Community Action Award category at the Blackburn with Darwen Volunteer Awards in King George's Hall. One of the Holiday Club's main aims is to feed children in the school holidays. Holiday clubs runs every half term and some weeks during end of term holidays. They also run a couple of parties and trips out in the summer holidays. It attracts up to 40 local children, mostly not 'church kids'. They were the first in the country to use the hashtag #holidayhunger. [Read more.](#)

Cricketing success!

Breaking news! The joint Carlisle/Durham/Blackburn Diocese cricket team has reached the semi-finals of the Church Times Cup. [Find out more](#); learn about how you could get involved, plus more about the next local fixture here in Lancashire, which is against a team from the Lancashire Council of Mosques.

Pathways to Prayer

'Pathways to Prayer' at St Oswald's, Preesall, led by Archdeacon Mark, is on July 6 from 10am to 2.45pm. This is a wonderful opportunity for all people of every tradition to explore fresh perspectives on patterns and styles of prayer, contemplation and meditation, through a diverse range of workshops. [Read more](#) and book your place.

Get snapping!

Finally this month ... budding photographers could be in with a chance of winning £5000 for their church as part of a new competition! Parish Pixels is a new national photography competition for Anglican Churches in England, Wales and Scotland, launched by Ecclesiastical Insurance. The competition opened earlier in June and churches must submit their entries by 31 October 2019. More information and rules of entry [can be found here](#).