



A CHURCH NEAR YOU

Is your church on this vital website?

'A Church Near You' is a national website run by the Church of England which lists every church in our Diocese.

All churches can have their own page on 'A Church Near You' to keep up to date with relevant information. In our Diocese some churches have no information or limited details on 'A Church Near You' while others are regularly updated by enthusiastic contributors.

It is a resource created by the national church and research conducted by the CofE communications team in London shows it is a very popular site.

So we want to encourage ALL the churches in our Diocese to proactively manage their 'A Church Near You' page with the very latest services and upcoming events as well as up to date contact information.

If you haven't taken ownership of your parish page on 'A Church Near You' why not do it now? The responsibility to do own a page and maintain it is down to each church.

It is simple to register on the site (www.achurchnearyou.com) and 'take over' your parish page. You can then add information about your church mission work and activities, normal services, special services, events and fundraisers.

You can also add your website address and social media links if you have them. It is a simple task and you don't need to be a computer whizz to update it!

Best of all it's a completely FREE resource - so there is no reason not to give it a go!

Bishop Julian says: "As part of Vision 2026: Healthy Churches Transforming Communities we want our churches to be as welcoming as possible. That welcome can now start as early as the first online click to find a local church!

For many people these days online is the way information is consumed and engaged with so if someone decides they want to visit their local church we need to make it as easy as possible to find us.

"To that end, information that is up to date and relevant and with a few words of welcome could make all the difference in some people choosing to attend or not.

"I encourage all parishes not already using <u>'A Church Near You'</u> to do so or if you are using it but you haven't updated your details for a while, please revisit your pages now to update them and remember to do it regularly in future."