

COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

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Key appointment for new Resourcing Parish



A key appointment as part of the transformative plans for the Parish of Preston has been announced. The new Vicar of Preston will be Rev. Sam Haigh, pictured with his wife Hannah. It was announced in January that £1.5m of Strategic Development Funding (SDF) was being invested by the national church in the future growth of the Parish of Preston. The plans will reinvigorate Preston Minster and St George's in the city centre, encouraging growth across traditions and creating a 'Resourcing Parish'.

[Read more.](#)

Festival of Baptism

An annual festival has been held for the past two years at the Cathedral in Blackburn for everyone in the Diocese with the aim of fostering growth in faith amongst parishes. Two years ago, there was a Festival of the Eucharist and last year a Festival of Prayer. This year, the third festival will be on Saturday October 19 and it will contribute to our ongoing 'focus on discipleship' as a Diocese by being a **Festival of Baptism**. [Read more.](#)

Children's Ministry Conference

Over the weekend of March 2/3, the fifth annual Children's Ministry Conference will be held at the Barton Grange Hotel, near Preston PR3 5EE. The theme this time of this popular event will be exploring how churches can equip parents to raise children who are connected to God. [Find out more.](#)

New Director licensed

Ruth Hassall has been commissioned as Diocesan Director of Discipleship. Ruth will lead the Making Disciples team at the Diocesan Offices. The licensing by Bishop Julian, took place on Sunday evening at Blackburn Cathedral. [Read more.](#)

Christian Resources Exhibition

This latest edition of Communications Update – in common with the latest edition of The See – is worth up to £8, if you are planning to visit the Christian Resources Exhibition in Manchester on March 13 or 14! This is because one of the exhibitors will be our very own Diocesan Ministry of Sport team and, as an exhibitor, they can offer a free ticket to the whole event. [Visit this page](#) of the CRE website and use the code **MINOFSPORT**. Meanwhile, find out more about the diocesan Ministry of Sport initiative [here](#).

Remembering David Dunderdale

A reflection on the life of David Dunderdale, the former Diocesan Secretary for Blackburn Diocese, written by the retired Archdeacon of Blackburn The Venerable John Hawley, appeared recently in the Diocesan magazine 'The See'. The article also appears on the Diocesan website. Read it [here](#).

HEALTHY CHURCHES TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES

Latest digital resources

There are a whole host of brilliant digital resources for use in your parish available on the diocesan website. Current highlights include [a great new video](#) shown for the first time at the Diocesan Conference in November 2018. And from the conference itself there are many resources – including links to videos of conference speakers and conference workshop materials – all available in the conference section of the diocesan website under ‘News and Events. [Click here](#). And don’t forget our Generosity, Gift and Grace video course which has been sent to all parishes; further online materials to accompany the course and links to YouTube versions of all the videos are [here on Diocesan website](#).

... and finally ...

Our fantastic Vision Champions continue to be a great encouragement in their parishes. One of their regular gatherings took place recently at The Crofters Hotel in Garstang. The event gave the Vision Champions the chance to network and to share stories and best practice from their parishes. The evening was hosted by Bishop Jill who posted a series of pictures on Twitter and Facebook from the night saying: “So thankful for time with our Vision Champions; it was inspirational to spend an evening with some of you. #BuriedTreasureEverywhere.”



PDF and Word versions of every Communications Update, including this one, [are available here](#).