

COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

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It's a very busy month ahead, with a Consecration and Installation happening in the same seven-day period as the ordinations! This latest Update will tell you more.

Ronnie Semley, Diocesan Communications Manager

Dates confirmed

Bishop-designate Rev. Dr Jill Duff will be Consecrated as Bishop of Lancaster at York Minster on June 29; with the Installation Service following a few days later at Blackburn Cathedral on July 3. All parishes have received separate communications about attending these two services and you can also find out more - including details about booking seats - [in this story](#). Meanwhile you can still view Bishop-designate Jill's message to the Diocese from the day of her announcement [here](#).

Bishop Julian looks ahead

Bishop Julian recently wrote to all parishes reflecting on all the celebrations to come later this month. You can read his thoughts [here on the Diocesan website](#).

Remembering Manchester

The Bishops issued a joint statement on the recent first anniversary of the Manchester Arena bombing. You can read [their statement here](#).

Putting squeeze on modern slavery

A new app was launched this week by The Church of England's Clewer Initiative to help fight the scourge of modern slavery. The app is supported by us as we are a 'Clewer Diocese'. Find out more about the app and how to use it in our story [here](#) and find out more about The Clewer Initiative [here](#).

£10,000 on offer ...

You can win up to £10,000 for your church in the 2018 Ecclesiastical Insurance church competition, 'Little deeds, big difference', which celebrates the valuable contributions of church volunteers. From helping with the church playgroup to sorting donations for overseas aid, volunteers play a crucial role in churches and their communities. The competition also gives you the chance to thank and celebrate the volunteers in your church. For more information visit www.churchcomp.ecclesiastical.com. If you enter, send an email to communicate@ to tell us!

Archdeacon's Reading Day

Archdeacon Mark leads his next Reading Day at Whalley Abbey on Wednesday July 18. There is no charge for the day, but you need to book in before you come. To book please email Whalley Abbey at office@whalleyabbey.org and also email the Archdeacon's secretary, Kelly Quinn, on kelly.quinn@blackburn.anglican.org to advise of your attendance.

More/

HEALTHY CHURCHES TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES

GDPR advice

In May the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) replaced the Data Protection Act 1998. Parishes, in common with the Diocesan Offices, need to know what things they should keep doing and what things they should do differently to comply with the new law. Staff at the Diocesan Offices and in the national church are working hard to support parishes. For general advice [visit this page](#) on the Diocesan website. You can also visit the Parish Resources website (www.parishresources.org.uk) and additional information will also continue to be made available as appropriate in our regular Diocesan communications channels including The See; on the website and on email.

Get Your Church Noticed

The latest communications and marketing advice day takes place on October 20, 2018 at the Diocesan Offices, Clayton House, Walker Business Park, Blackburn BB1 2QE from 10.30am until 3.30pm. 'Get Your Church Noticed' will once again be hosted by Ronnie Semley, our Diocesan Communications Manager, who will be joined by his colleague, Neil Pugmire, Communications Manager for Portsmouth Diocese, to give practical, common sense ideas for promoting your church, its mission work and activities in your immediate local area. This is the third annual event and the feedback on previous years' courses has been excellent. [Book via Eventbrite](#).

New Canon Missioner

The new Canon Missioner at Blackburn Cathedral has taken up her role. Rev. Canon Dr Rowena Pailing has experience in education, growing churches and working with different faith communities. Rowena is looking forward to being part of the Cathedral community and said: "It is very exciting to be coming to a Cathedral which has such an outstanding reputation and to be part of the wider Diocese of Blackburn with its focus on mission through Vision 2026: Healthy Churches Transforming Communities. There are huge opportunities for the Cathedral and the Diocese as we work together towards that Vision." Read more about Rowena and watch an introductory video as well by [visiting this page](#).

Thy Kingdom Come

Once again, many of our churches participated in the annual Thy Kingdom Come prayer initiative. It all kicked off locally with the [beacon launch event for Lancashire](#) at Blackburn Cathedral. As well as the beacon service [highlights video](#), a series of daily videos featuring people from parishes across the County were posted on [our YouTube channel](#). If you haven't seen them yet, why not catch up now and perhaps use them as a prayer resource for your church as well? A shorter version of our highlights video was also picked up by the national church and posted to the Archbishop of Canterbury's Facebook Page and Twitter feed, where it received a combined total of more than 10,000 views! Meanwhile our diocese also features in the international post-event '[thankyou video](#)'. You may also want to read about Archdeacon Michael's [prayer walk](#) during Thy Kingdom Come around Preston's Guild Wheel.

Harvest Appeal total for 2017

The results are in and the Harvest Appeal for 2017 [has raised more than £24,000](#). Well done to all participating churches and schools. If you didn't take part in the 2017 appeal for some reason, or didn't make a contribution last time round, then don't worry because the 2018 appeal is just around the corner. Watch this space for news about the charities it will benefit and how you can donate. Information will be posted to the Diocesan website and circulated to the local media as well.

... and finally

You may have heard that The Church of England's digital communications team in London has developed a new Amazon Alexa 'skill' enabling millions of users to ask the Church of England for prayers, explanations of the Christian faith and location-based information about local church events and services. [Find out more about it here](#).

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