

# Children's Youth & Families Newsletter Feb 25

Last weekend, our Catalyst cohort spent time with others from across the Church of England, learning, sharing and having fun together; great teaching, great worship and time for reflection.

Catalyst has been such a great opportunity for me to widen my thinking and let me really have a taste into the world of youth work, coming together with people of all ages and abilities to learn and grow together.

Our weekend away was such a vital period of time as we learnt so much that we can take into the world and gained a new group of friends along the way that I can relate to and work with in future.

Weekends like this really show how worthwhile it is to work as a part of the church.

**Danielle, Volunteer,  
Holy Trinity Church, Boston**

If you are interested in exploring training in CYF Ministry, perhaps in joining our next cohort, please get in touch!

**Thank you for all you do.**



The Catalyst weekend away provided me with much-needed time to reflect on my mission and ministry practices in my local parish church.

In addition, this reflection time allowed me to hear from several practical theologians who have written and studied in their specialised fields, such as Dr Carolyn Edwards, who holds a PhD in Children's Spirituality.

Another aspect I found particularly significant about the Catalyst weekend was the opportunity to connect with individuals from across the Diocese of Lincoln who have a passion for children and young people. This allowed us to share ideas, pray for one another, discuss positive happenings, as well as our concerns and worries within our contexts, enjoy meals together, and continue to foster friendships and community overall.

**Andrew, Youth & Children's Worker,  
St Guthlac's Church, Market Deeping**

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## Networking

# Growing Faith

**Growing Faith seeks to put children and young people at the heart of all we do, bringing together the spheres of church, school and community.**

Whether exploring, just starting out or well on your way, everyone is invited to join our half-termly zoom meetings to connect with others on their Growing Faith journeys.

## Join the network



**11th Feb  
7-8pm**

**20th Mar  
7-8pm**

**20th May  
7-8pm**

**1st July  
7-8pm**

Discover more about Growing Faith, watch our webinar and listen to their podcast via our [Digital Learning Platform](#).

## Choral Churches Network



Our next meeting will be online at 6pm  
Sunday 2nd March. Do join us!

**Email [Nick.Brown@lincolncathedral.com](mailto:Nick.Brown@lincolncathedral.com)**



# Networking

## Toddler Ministry Networks

### Lincoln Archdeaconry

March 20th 12.30 to 14.30pm at  
St Michael's Church, Waddington, LN5 9RF

### Boston Archdeaconry

March 25th 12.30 to 14.30pm at  
St Anne's Church, Grantham, NG31 9ED



**Do you lead or support a baby / toddler group?**

**Join us as we:**

- share stories and ideas
- encourage each other
- forge links in your local area
- celebrate what God is doing
- be inspired for the future

**Feel free to bring your lunch.**

**We'll have tea and coffee ready to welcome you.**



**Scan the code to sign up**

In North and North East Lincolnshire?  
Contact Nay at [littlelions@stmarksgrimsby.org.uk](mailto:littlelions@stmarksgrimsby.org.uk)  
for the latest date for the **Grimsby Archdeaconry**



## Networking

### Anglo-Catholic CYF Workers Network

The Anglo-Catholic Children, Youth and Family Workers Network is for anyone - laity or clergy - involved in voluntary or paid positions, who are involved in ministry with young people.

To register your place, email Clare  
[clarewilliamsyouthwork@gmail.com](mailto:clarewilliamsyouthwork@gmail.com)

#### GET READY FOR EASTER



#### IDEAS EXCHANGE

TUESDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY AT 7:30PM

Anglo-Catholic Children, Youth and Family  
Workers Network Zoom meeting

An opportunity to share thoughts and ideas for  
activities and worship during Lent and Easter



 **The Society**  
under the patronage of Saint Wilfrid and Saint Hilda

#### ZOOM CONFERENCE

#### MUSIC & LITURGY

#### CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

IN AN ANGLO-CATHOLIC CONTEXT

SATURDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> MARCH 10:00 - 14:00

If you are interested in developing music and liturgy with children and young people don't miss this FREE Zoom conference.

**Morning session - Tom Haggett - Choir Church**

Tom will introduce 'Choir Church' - an exciting model for new worshipping communities and offer practical tips on this growing initiative.

**Break 11:30 - 12:30**

**Afternoon session - Jo Boyce - CJM Music**

Jo will talk about developing effective liturgy, worship and music in an Anglo-Catholic context, as well as answering questions from delegates.



# Godly Play



## Godly Play Core Training Course

**Date:** Thursday 24 April – Saturday 26 April 2025

**Place:** St Andrew's Church, Girton, Cambridge CB3 0PN

**Trainers:** Andrea Harrison and Eona Bell

Godly Play is a Christian movement centred on childhood spirituality. It recognises childhood spirituality as an instinctive and profound capacity that includes a natural sense of God's mystery and presence. It promotes open, creative ways to explore Christian story and practices, and offers a well-tested alternative to seeing children as empty vessels, and to the stressful societal cultures of consumerism, measurement and achievement.

This three-day course offers a complete introduction to all aspects of Godly Play: creating sacred space, building community, telling the story, facilitating wondering and supporting response.

Workshops in this core training also cover:

- The Spirituality of Childhood
- Setting up a Godly Play environment
- Your particular context, concerns and questions.

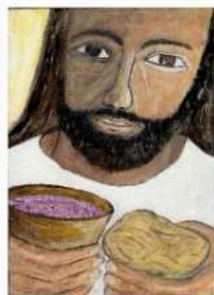


For more about Godly Play: <https://www.godlyplay.uk/about-us/>

*'So much good has sprung from the three days I set aside to learn how to do Godly Play properly. I'll always be grateful.'* (The Rev'd Dr Sam Wells)



**It is hoped that a network for Godly Play Storytellers in South Lincolnshire & Peterborough will be launched after this training.**



The cost, £315 if booked by 24 January, or £335 thereafter, includes lunches and all refreshments.

A certificate of completion is provided at the end of the course.

For bookings and further details please contact [admin@godlyplay.uk](mailto:admin@godlyplay.uk)

Or book online at <https://www.godlyplay.uk/events/core-training-cambridge/>

We're still seeking our **"Godly Play"** resources! At one time, the Diocese had kits that could be borrowed by churches and ministers. We would like to be able to offer this again, but we need find them first!

If you have some of these resources, or know where they are, please get in touch, thank you.



## Question of the Half-term

6 questions throughout the year, each gathering responses from CYP on key topics in a quick, easy-to-share format.

Please encourage your CYP to scan the code and answer “YES” or “NO”. They can offer more information if they wish.

They are looking to collect their responses by **Friday, 21st February**

**"Do you feel your mental health is stronger now than it was this time last year?"**

<https://churchofengland.tfaforms.net/4904166>



## Resources



### TKC 2025 resources online launch

Tuesday 25th February, 11am

To mark the 10th anniversary, this year's focus will be the Lord's Prayer. Join us as we unveil this year's offer, including the new Prayer Journal – featuring ecumenical voices, the Novena, daily films and resources for children in the form of the Cheeky Pandas as well as resources for schools.

**We also have an exciting NEW Youth and Young Adults strand, including content from the Way UK and others- so book now to find out more.**

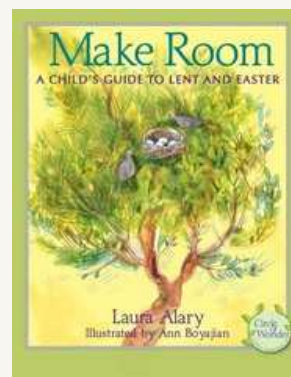
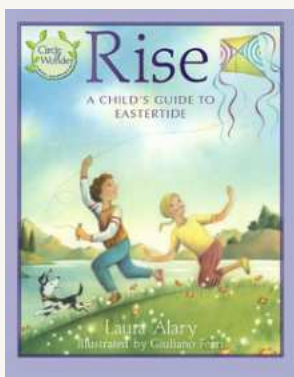
Children's books by Laura Alary

Rise, Jan 2025

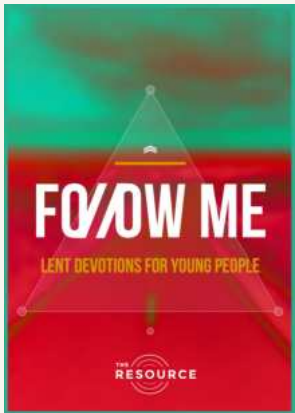
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Make Room, Jan 2016

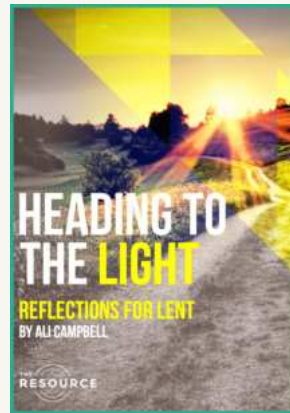
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## Resources



Two FREE Lent resources for young people from **The Resource**

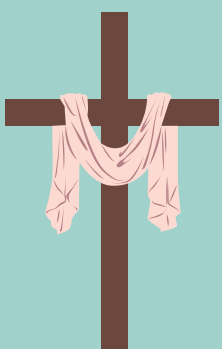


“New resource available now!

We have created a brand new set of printable **discussion cards**, suitable for older children, teens, and intergenerational groups; covering a wide range of issues from relationships to school; tech to church and include cards that can be used when looking together at a Bible passage or when praying together.”

## spaces

- “For young people (boys and girls) aged 10+ with a space (group) where they can explore the Christian faith, encounter Jesus and be challenged to put their faith into action.
- A space where everyone is welcomed and valued and where young people can engage with the big questions of life in a fun and caring environment.
- A ministry of **The Boys’ Brigade**, it is fully aligned to our Vision, Mission and Values and will operate under our safeguarding procedures, guidance and policies.”



Looking for resources for schools, households or churches?  
For Lent and Easter?  
Find some inspiration on our **Padlet Board** - and please share your great ideas to help others, too.



## Training & Events



Six Tuesdays 7:00 - 9:00pm UK time on Zoom

25 Feb, 4 Mar, 11 Mar, 18 Mar, 25 Mar, 1 Apr

Book now on: [outoftheboxstories.org](http://outoftheboxstories.org)

### OutoftheBox Intro

#### Video

“**OutoftheBox** helps individuals and groups find wholeness and wellbeing through story and play.

It enables good dialogue and strengthens our understanding of ourselves and each other.

OutoftheBox is transformational.”

**Wisdom** – we take time to breathe, trust and listen to our inner wisdom and the wisdom of the community.

**Wonder** – we engage with how we feel and allow ourselves to wonder in a way that connects with our hearts.

**Wellbeing** – we allow ourselves to be playful to find an evolving story of love for our lives and work.”

**NICODEMUS**  
TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES

Nicodemus are offering one free online Foundational Specialist Mentoring course to a representative from churches and community groups.

Why this Course?

“Designed to equip you with the skills and knowledge needed to support and guide marginalised youth, this course is a valuable resource for anyone passionate about making a difference.”

How to Acquire your Free Course

'REGISTER your offer code' JAN2501





# Training & Events



You: Supporting volunteers for work with children, young people and families

Monday 24th February, 2pm

Volunteers are essential for work with children, young people and families, yet it can be difficult to recruit – and retain – people. This webinar will feature four speakers who are actively involved with children and young people in our churches in various ways.

**You can catch up with previous webinars, too.**



Roots  
www.rootsforchurches.com

## Roots for Churches Podcast

Available on Youtube, videos on topics such as

- “Mercy and second chances vs cancel culture“
- Behaviour & Trauma Informed Children's Ministry
- “Not just for children? intergenerational church is for all of us”



Would you like to help your children have a vibrant, two-way relationship with God?

This Spring, we are delighted to be running eight online Parenting for Faith sessions. Come and get equipped with five Key Tools that you can use in everyday life, to help you nurture your children's faith.

Book now

Based on the book Parenting Children for a Life of Faith by Rachel Turner, the course will help parents and carers discover that they are perfectly positioned to show their children the reality of a life with God.

There will be breakout rooms throughout the session so we can get to know each other better and explore what parenting for faith looks like in our own unique contexts.

Each session will run on a Thursday evening from 8-9pm on Zoom (call open from 7.45pm). The dates are 6, 13, 20 and 27 March, the 3 and 24 April, and the 1 and 8 May.



# Training & Events

The Talking Toddlers sign up form for the next webinar on 6th March is officially...  
OPEN!



## Please let us know about your ministry

The QR code below will take you to a simple form to let us know what's going on with children, young people and families in your LMP.

Messy Church, Open the Book, youth groups, choirs, drop ins, all age services... whatever the project, help us to hear about and celebrate what's going on across the Diocese.

Thank you to everyone who's already been able to complete the form.

