

YORK Candy NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the December edition of Candy. As ever this pre-Christmas edition is packed with loads of information, news, events, books and resources. If you need clarification on anything, please do ask. This month, please take note especially about XLS - we want young people to audition NOW!

Also do you fancy a couple of weeks working in Cape Town? Read on.

There's loads of Advent and Christmas ideas/resources and even Easter 2011 stuff.

Happy reading and don't forget, direct linked pages to web sites are highlighted in blue and underlined. Just a click away!

NEWS AND INFORMATION



XLS is back at York Minster in 2011, with a different kind of event; one where young people take a major role. We still have two headline bands namely [Sounds of Salvation](#), and [Gold Digger!](#) However this event is a great opportunity for young people to share their talents through music,

song, art, dance, comedy, card tricks or entertainment of any kind. We would like young people to audition as a solo performance, duet, groups, or even a choir.

We want performances for the main stage as well as entertainers during the supper break. (Yes there is food)! This event is not like previous events held in the Minster though; there will not be loads of activities happening around the Minster, just one main stage and a variety of different acts performing through the evening, with lots happening to keep everyone entertained, including video clips.

If any of your young people would like to take part in this event then they need to send as a 3 minute video of their performance by 4th January. Videos will be posted on XLS YouTube pages and up to 10 favourites will be invited to perform at XLS-Factor. All details of how to enter are on the website: www.dioceseofyork.org.uk (then go to children and youth work pages XL-Events and follow the links).

Flyers were been sent to every benefice at the beginning of November, if you would like more please contact Nigel Chapman.

YOUTH LEADERS' CAPE TOWN EXCHANGE

The East Riding Archdeaconry played host to a group of 14 youth work leaders from Cape Town during October. It was a great success in that they were able to visit and in many cases work alongside other youth workers here on projects around the Archdeaconry. As well as a bit of sight seeing and trips to supermarkets the group spent time sharing their faith and Christian understanding at Archbishop Holgate School, Archbishop Sentamu Academy, parishes and projects. A full report will be posted on the web site shortly.

YORK TO CAPE TOWN: In August 2011 we aim to take a similar age group (18 - 30's) of youth work leaders to Cape Town. We are looking for youth workers from each archdeaconry to go to the Dioceses of Cape Town, False Bay and Saldanha Bay next year. The idea of the trip is to see first hand the work being done by [Fikilela Trust](#) (AIDS work among children and young people) and to join in some practical aspects of running an orphanage and outreach programmes. We will take part in their 'Agents of Change' training and visit parishes where outreach work is happening, especially peer to peer work.



As it is also the Diocesan Year of the Environment too, we have organised to take part in the Cape Town City local government Youth Environmental Studies, to help us grasp the nature of our need to 'Care for God's Creation.' As part of the plan, we will be encouraging all those going to plant trees to offset their carbon footprint!

We want to take 3 youth work leaders from each archdeaconry, plus 3 overall leaders: Mike and Freda Bailey and Nigel Chapman. If you would like to go we will expect you to make a commitment to help develop the diocesan link with our South African partner Dioceses, encourage your parish and young people to engage with the link, and you will need to raise £1000 - £1500 toward air fare and costs and spending money while in Cape Town. So if you are involved in youth work in your parish, as a paid worker or volunteer, aged 16 to 30 (though we would encourage any age above that to apply too) would like an experience to challenge your view of youth work and ministry and would like further details please call Nigel Chapman. More details and application form are also on the web site. Please note this is not a first come first served event, consideration will be given to each application.

Hearing children's voices in formal meetings

The idea of an 8 year attending a PCC meeting and having their contribution to the discussion of church life taken seriously might sound like la-la-land. But children can and do have opinions which need to be heard. If you'd like to explore how to facilitate their participation in formal meeting, have a look at these packs which have been developed by [Participation Works](#).

200 Years of church schools!

In 2011 the National Society is celebrating 200 years of church schools. Join in the celebrations by linking with your local church school or Diocese. There's a [brand new web site](#) with ideas to get the celebrations started and news of events that are already planned. What a great opportunity to strength your parish-school partnership!

Bye buy childhood!

Increasingly children are being seen as consumers, with manufacturers targeting them in order to reach their families' purse. **The Mothers' Union** is seeking to counter this with their campaign to say [bye bye to buying childhood](#) and countering the increasing commercialisation and sexualisation of children.

Messy Discipleship

If you're into Messy Church, then Lucy Moore its founder has penned some thoughts about discipleship in the context of Messy Church. Can find more details on the Messy Church website: <http://www.messychurch.org.uk/pages/5510.htm>

A Manifesto for Spiritual Formation

Canadian [Adam Kline](#) offers his thoughts on what a manifesto for children's spiritual formation might look like. Whether you agree with all of it or not, each premise could act as a prompt to get discussion going about how and where children are spiritually formed.

The importance of play

This video from [Conspiracy of Freedom](#) (scroll down to PLAY) explores the place and importance of play in childhood. It has a commentary and Bible study to take the discussion forward with parents or PCCs.

Blog it!

One of the great bonuses of the Internet is that it gives wide access to a range of thoughts and views. Here are some articles and blog entries that may be of interest:

[How a child sees the world](#) by Ivy Beckwith

[Messy Church](#)

[Children in Worship](#) by Beth Barnett

[Exploring Worship](#) an interview with Matthew Moretz, an Episcopalian priest who makes short video clips to explain Christianity to children. Some are a bit corny – but they are very informative!

[The Church Mouse](#) Not a blog about children but a very interesting sideways glance at news and happenings in the church.

[Worshipping with Children](#)

Twenty years ago, Carolyn C Brown wrote a series of books which looked at the weekly Lectionary readings through the eyes of a child. Now she has started a blog which offers reflections on all of the weekly readings with ideas for prayer, talks, activities, music and more. Definitely one to bookmark!

[BuildFaith](#)

Brand new this week, **Build Faith** comes from Church Publishing in the States and is masterminded by Sharon Ely Pearson. The site supports Christian Education across the ages, but you'll find a whole host of ideas and resources for children's ministry on it.

[Rhythms of Grace](#)

This site about worship which supports children on the Autism Spectrum has a blog which details their worship and offers ideas and thoughts to support children and their families who aren't comfortable in a traditional worship setting.

[Explore Faith](#)

Sometimes it's easy to forget that our own spiritual lives need nourishment and nurture. This site offers spiritual practices and reflections to keep faith alive, growing and healthy.

RESOURCES FOR WORSHIP

All-Sorts of Worship offers 52 non-Eucharistic, all age services to take churches right through Year A. Each service is designed to last no more than 50 minutes, and there are ideas for prayer, storytelling, activity and music. Claire Benton-Evans hasn't assumed that endless resources and skills are available, making it suitable for smaller congregations to use. There's an emphasis on exploring the biblical material rather than prescribing a lesson to be taught, which offers worship leaders freedom to use the material either as written or as a springboard for their own ideas. A CD Rom provides printable handouts, resources and checklists.

[All-Sorts of Worship](#)

By Claire Benton-Evans

Pub. Kevin Mayhew

ISBN: 978-1-84867-283-3 £34.99

1000 Prayers for Children

Lois Rock's classic book of children's prayers has been republished. It gathers together prayers for all aspects of life, mixing traditional alongside those newly written. It would make a useful addition to a classroom or Sunday group, allowing children to choose and read prayers for themselves, as well as an ideal baptism gift or family Christmas present.

[1000 Prayers for Children](#)

By Lois Rock

Pub. Lion

ISBN: 9-780745-962313 £9.99

ROOTS



Every two months, **ROOTS** publishes two lectionary based magazines: Children & Young People and Adult & All Age. The edition for this November/December is packed treasures.

There's an All Age service for Remembrance Sunday and an All Age Carol Service in the Adult & All Age magazine. Children & Young People has reflections on spirituality from Rebecca Nye, an Advent Gift idea to travel the four weeks leading to Christmas, and an all-age Advent calendar. And that's before you get to the weekly resources with ideas for worshipping and learning together! Don't be put off by the website – its front page is dull in comparison with the magazines! SEE: [ROOTS](#)

Pub. Churches Ltd

£5.70 (Adult & All Ages) £7.80 (Children & Young People)

LectionaryLive is a new strand on **LightLive** for people using the Common Worship lectionary.

Each week, there will be an all-age service + helpful extras for when everyone is meeting together; then relevant Light activities for 5s and under, 5 to 8s, 8 to 11s and 11 to 14s will be available whenever possible. The lectionary Bible passages do not coincide with the Light syllabus exactly but there are many times when there is an exact match or a close overlap. LectionaryLive will make those sessions available to users and take the hard work out of searching and planning.

LectionaryLive is live now, ready for the start of the church year (Year A, in the Common Worship lectionary) on Advent **Sunday, 28 November 2010**.

The other new LightLive brand, Mosaic for groups with a small number of children but a wide age range, already has over 250 groups signed up. There is also a Top Tips book to help churches and groups get the most out of this new - and unique - resource.

Scripture Union England & Wales Registered office: 207-209 Queensway, Bletchley, Milton Keynes, MK2 2EB Tel: 01908 856000 Fax: 01908 856111 Web: www.scriptureunion.org.uk

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS RESOURCES

Here are some sites which will offer you ideas to keep Advent and celebrate Christmas with your group:

Advent Posters If you are looking for colourful, visual posters to stimulate thought and discussion during Advent, these four scenes by the [Chinese artist He Qi](#) are worth considering.

Advent Calendar

WAITING FOR GOD:

Follow this link <http://rootsontheweb.com/roots-sample-advent.html> to download a pdf of the Advent calendar in colour or black and white, plus more of our free introductory material.

[Carolyn C Brown](#) has ideas for using the Crib throughout Advent and beyond; a suggestion for Advent Candle lighting, Epiphany ideas and lots of notes on the lectionary readings (pass them to your worship leaders!). The posts on her blog aren't in order, so scroll down to find the appropriate week.

[Paperless Christmas](#) is back! (live action episodes retelling the Christmas story with a modern twist) This will go down really well with older children.

Chrismons are homemade Christmas decorations which use Christian symbols. This site offers ideas of how to make them to add alongside the usual tree decorations.

[A Barnabas Advent and Christmas!](#) The BRF ideas website is always teeming with ideas! Click on *The Christian Year* to be taken to enough activities to keep you going for several years!

Taking Faith Home

The season of Advent gives wonderful opportunity to resource families with faith-related rituals and traditions. A favourite tradition is the Advent Wreath. Each week of Advent a new candle is lit, with a final centre candle lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day to symbolise the birth of Christ. Download this Advent 2010 **[Home Wreath Guide](#)** to copy and distribute to families in your church and/or community.

Another less-common tradition is the Advent paper chain. Christmas-related instructions are written or printed on paper slips, which are then pasted or stapled together to form a chain. Each day a link is removed and the family follows the instructions. Download the "Christmas Links" resource **[here](#)**.

Use of a Jesse Tree is also a rich family Advent tradition. The Reformed Church in America has a great set of **[Jesse Tree resources](#)** on their website. You can also learn more about the Jesse Tree tradition **[here](#)**.

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS BOOKS:

Countdown to Christmas with Timothy Bear

24 read-aloud stories with Timothy Bear counting down the days to Christmas. Ideal for bedtime reading in Advent with under 7s, or end of the day story time with Key Stage 1.

[Countdown to Christmas with Timothy Bear](#)

By Brian Sears

Pub. BRF

ISBN: 9 781841 017259

£6.99

Journey to the Centre of the Christmas Pudding

Four 30 minute sessions of story, activity, exploration and fun help to unpack the Christmas Story for 7-11 year olds. Designed to be used in schools to place Jesus at the centre of the story, it could also be used in church settings as a one-off Advent Exploration Day.

[Journey to the Centre of the Christmas Pudding](#)

By Ed Jones

Pub. Arise Ministries

£5.00

Emmanuel – assemblies for Christmas

6 assemblies take school through Advent into Christmas and the flight to Egypt. Each session has a script to tell the story, original music (which can be downloaded as an MP3), biblical links and ideas to take it further. The six scripts are also combined to be used as a Christmas presentation in school or church.

[Emmanuel - assemblies for Christmas](#)

By Mark Baxter

Pub. BRF **ISBN: 9 781841 016245** **£9.99**

A Christmas Family GodVenture

Help families have fun focussing on preparing for Christmas – give them a copy of **A Christmas Family GodVenture**. With a sticker Advent Calendar that traces the Holy Family's journey, a family play to perform the Christmas story, templates for a home-made nativity set and Bible stories to read together there's plenty in here to go part way to counteracting the commercial focus that Christmas so often has.

[A Christmas Family GodVenture](#)

By Victoria Beech

Pub. Beech Publications **ISBN: 978 0 956385 91 8** **£5.99**

More Christmas Unwrapped

Plenty of ideas for services, events, crafts, songs, parties and plays all focussing round Advent and Christmas.

[More Christmas Unwrapped](#)

Ed Christine Wright

Pub. Scripture Union **ISBN: 978 184427 261 7** **£11.99**

Emmanuel: assemblies for Christmas

Five assemblies for the run up to Christmas, including drama, music and prayer ideas. They could also be used together as a Christmas presentation in school or church.

[Emmanuel: assemblies for Christmas](#)

By Mark Baxter

Pub. BRF **ISBN: 978 1841 016245** **£9.99**

Joseph's Story of Christmas

A beautifully illustrated telling of the Christmas story through Joseph's eyes.

[Joseph's Story of Christmas](#)

By Geraldine Guadagno and Maria Cristina Lo Cascio

Pub. BRF **ISBN: 978 1841 018225** **£5.99**

If you have a toddler group in your area, Puffish is offering 30% discount on Christmas purchases over £50. You will need to contact Susie Poole....susie@puffish.co.uk direct to arrange delivery direct to door.

The most popular purchase for toddler groups are usually the white Books...Always Near Me, A Time for Everything, All These things, Whatever is lovely (usually £4.99 on offer for £3.49!) or the fold out books...God Sees, Hears, Made...(usually £4.99 also on offer at £3.49). You can find the catalogue on line at <http://www.puffish.co.uk/order.htm>

Christmas DVD: 'It's a boy'

DVD's of the Christmas story - suitable for 5-9 yr olds 'It's a boy' is by Quails
Quest link to Amazon: [HERE](#)

NEW YEAR

This is a short New Year Liturgy for families - it involves throwing away the old family calendar and unwrapping the new one, and is adapted from one written by Kevin Parkes

[http://www.ctepiscopal.org/images/customer-files//
ALiturgyForTheNewYear.pdf](http://www.ctepiscopal.org/images/customer-files//ALiturgyForTheNewYear.pdf)

TRAINING**More Core Skills**

Building on the foundational teaching in [Core Skills for Children's Work](#) , this complementary resource offers a further six key modules of extended training for children's workers and their teams of adult helpers and young leaders.

[More Core Skills](#)

Ed CGMC

Pub. BRF

ISBN: 978-1-841017006

£12.99

YOYO in York are offering CORE SKILLS training over the year, once a month at St. Cuthberts Church, York. If interested in doing the course contact the office: office@yoyotrust.org

YOUTH WORK

North Yorkshire Youth Winter Roadshows

Come along to meet your local members of the NYY team, and take part in a short workshop called “**Running Activities for Young People**”. Mince pies and refreshments will be available with an opportunity for you to find out more about us and what training is available for you. Please see the attached flyer for more details. Or view the flyers here:

http://www.nyy.org.uk/youth/project_downloads.php?recid=6



To book or to find out more please get in touch with your local fieldworker as detailed on the flyer.

Gimi, Gimi, Gimi:

Checkout this new website for young people and pass on the information to your group: (if you think it's appropriate to do so). Gimi, www.gimi.co.uk features the latest info on activities and events for 13 - 19 year olds in North Yorkshire, plus advice, news and a chance for young people to have their say. Advertising events for young people on www.gimi.co.uk is free just click on 'Add Event' at the bottom of the webpage. All events will be approved by a moderator prior to being published. Also they are always on the lookout for great news articles; perhaps you would like to celebrate the work of young people in one of your projects, promote your group or highlight the work you do. It would be good to get some Christian / Spirituality presence on their website! Just one word of warning, it is about life and life issues, as well as events and activities, but if you feel unable to approach subjects such as sexual health and relationships then this is a reasonably good site to point your teenagers toward.

The Inbetweeners

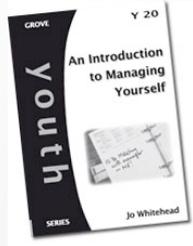
If you're new to the world of the Inbetweeners then be warned, it's not a show for the faint hearted. "What's on the mind of the average sixth-form boy?" the show's page on the E4 website asks, "College, jobs, marriage, that whole bright and exciting future thing? Or the humpability of anything female in sight? For Will, Simon, Jay and Neil, it's humpability all the way."

YCML (The Youth Culture and Mission Lectures) are a response to the increasing numbers of youth workers studying youth ministry and theology at undergraduate or postgraduate level and the desire by so many to keep their heads in that field once they have graduated. Their website is a mine of information and very useful commentaries upon youth culture today, if you're willing to pay a few pounds for the articles. One of the themes being explored in these lectures is the increase in the sexualisation of young people in our society today. Check it out [HERE](#)

YOUTH WORK

For the Youth Worker:

Grove Booklets YOUTH Series:



[Y 20 An Introduction to Managing Yourself](#) — Jo Whitehead £3.99

This practical exploration looks at the different dimensions of self-management, key issues and resources, and ways in which ministry with potential might become ministry that is fruitful. ISBN: 9781851747702 [Buy Now](#)

YOUTH EVENTS



On Sunday 5th December at 7pm for the young people and students of York to come together to worship God, pray for one another and head back to our churches excited about the mission God has given us.

The speaker for UNITE York #7 is Robin Rolls, the Director of the [Archbishop of York Youth Trust](#). Robin is a Yorkie by origin and after many years experience in youth ministry, has returned to York.

Once more worship will be led by Mike and the UNITE band. To book RSVP to the facebook event [here](#). (you will need someone with a facebook account).



SEE ABOVE OR VISIT THE WEB SITE: [HERE](#)

OR BECOME A FACEBOOK FRIEND OF XLS at XLS-Youth Events

OTHER BITS

EASTER 2011:

Originating in the Diocese of Manchester

Real Easter Eggs!

I know, I know! We haven't even got to Advent – but there's a reason why Easter Eggs are making the news! Next year, for the first time ever, an Egg will be on sale which actually mentions Jesus – and there's a need to convince major retailers that they ought to stock it. It's made from Fair-trade chocolate, and its profits will support two charities; Traidcraft and Baby Lifeline. FIND OUT MORE AT: <http://www.realeasteregg.co.uk/>

National Family Week

Family Week will be summer half-term. To receive further details etc register with them now! 2011 is set to be bigger and better than ever! Get involved and connect with the UK's families, raise awareness of your organisation or cause, and engage with families as part of an entertaining, educational and positive occasion.

[Click here](#) to enter the Partner Zone where you can find out more about being involved in National Family Week 2011, and access event ideas, theme toolkits, promotional materials and more.

Finally, Jon and Nigel would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and New Year.... I know a month away, but there won't be another newsletter until then!

If you have any items of news, events, questions, etc etc please do contact us. Also please continue to encourage children and youth work leaders to join the CandY Network. Find out more [HERE](#)