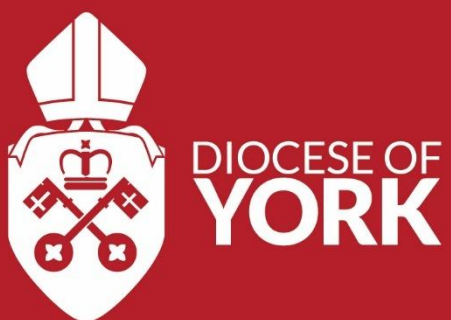




WHAT'S ON OFFER

2026-27



Parish Support

Empower • Equip • Encourage

Introduction

Supporting your church's next faithful step

Church life rarely stands still. Every church moves through seasons of challenge, renewal, discovery, and growth—and at each stage, they need different kinds of support.

This booklet brings together practical support to help your church take its next faithful step. It is part of **Living Christ's Story**: how we live and share the story of Jesus today, joining in God's mission of love in and for the world.

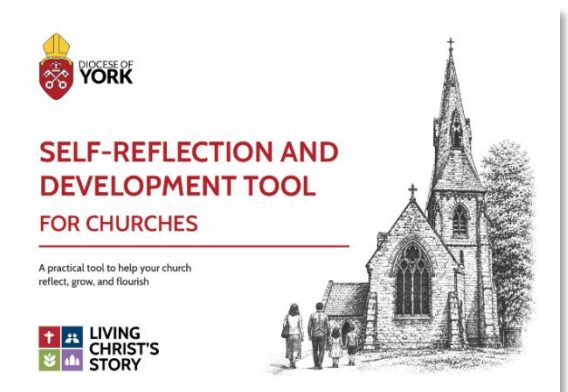
The resources and advice described here aim to help churches:

- ✦ deepen discipleship and become more like Christ
- ✦ reach people they do not currently reach
- ✦ grow communities of missionary disciples
- ✦ use their people, finances, and structures well for mission

Self-Reflection and Development Tool for Churches

Before exploring what is available, it may help to pause and consider:

- ✦ What is going well?
- ✦ What is proving difficult?
- ✦ What capacity do you realistically have?
- ✦ Where might God be calling you to focus?



The Self-Reflection and Development Tool for Churches can help you explore these questions together, recognise your church's strengths and identify areas for development.

References throughout this booklet connect individual offers of support with relevant parts of the tool. For example, 'SRDT: sections 8a–e' refers to questions a–e in section 8 of the Self-Reflection and Development Tool.

Download the tool and watch the introductory video at:

dioceseofyork.org.uk/self-reflection.

Supporting deanery planning

From autumn onwards, each parish will contribute to deanery-level reflection and planning. Alongside the toolkit of possibilities offered in the Deanery Planning Guide, you may find ideas in this booklet to help you move forward as a deanery. It includes resources you can use locally, webinars suitable for deanery gatherings, and advisers who may be able to contribute to an existing meeting or offer a session tailored to your needs. If you attended the diocesan conference in July 2026, we hope you found inspiration and insights. Recordings will be available on the diocesan website from September. You can revisit them, share them with others, or use them to support further discussion.

Parish support offer: empower, equip, encourage

You do not need to take up everything in this booklet. Think of the parish support offer as a buffet table: there is a wide range of support available, but you only need to choose what is right for your church at this point.

Are you hungry and ready for a full plate?

Your church may be in a season of energy and opportunity. You might be ready to try something new, strengthen an existing ministry, or respond to an emerging need. Choose the support that will most help your mission and discipleship.

Are you feeling 'full' after just coming through a major transition?

Your church may have recently been through a significant change or period of activity. This may be a time to reflect, regain strength, and build on what you have already learned, rather than begin something new.

Is your capacity very limited?

When even small steps feel difficult, focus on what is essential and manageable. Practical support with one immediate challenge may be more helpful than taking on a larger programme.

Is there one particular thing you are hungry for?

Your church may be doing well overall but facing a specific issue that needs attention. A focused piece of support could make the greatest difference.

The important thing is to begin with where your church is now. Choose what will help you take a realistic next step, grow in faith, and serve your community through the good news of Jesus.

A bring-and-share table

This support is not meant to be one-way. Churches across the diocese hold a wealth of creativity, innovation, and lived wisdom. Some of the most transformative learning across the diocese begins with you, as you discern what God is doing in your community.

So, the parish support offer is not only a buffet; it is a bring-and-share meal. We invite you to make use of the available courses, networks, tools, and practical support, and to share what you have learned.

Can't find what you need?

Get in touch. The team may be able to offer support tailored to your church or develop something new when several churches have identified the same need.

Interested in a course that is not yet running?

Register your interest. Some new courses will begin once enough people have signed up, and the team will contact you with further details.

We will continue to add new advice, events, and resources over the coming year. For the latest information, subscribe to *The Journal* and visit the diocesan events page.



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Leadership – Teams and People

SRDT: sections 1a–e and 2a–d

Healthy churches depend on people who feel equipped, supported, and able to work well together. The opportunities in this section can help you strengthen leadership, support staff, and volunteers, plan your next steps, and sustain wellbeing in ministry.

NB: Clergy continuing ministerial development (CMD) opportunities are listed separately in the CMD companion booklet and on the [diocesan website](#).

Networks

Churchwarden networks

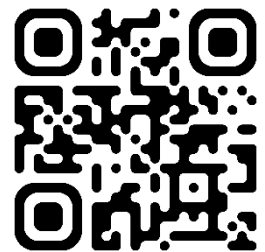
Connect with other churchwardens in your area to share experience, ask questions and learn from one another.

Networks are available in:

- Cleveland
- East Riding
- York

You can also join the Churchwardens England Facebook group:
facebook.com/groups/churchwardens.

To join: submit a form at [Churchwarden Network Form](#).

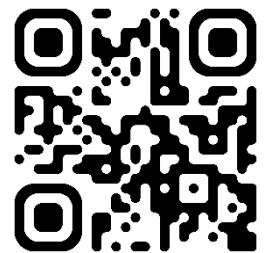


Parish Administration Network

The Parish Administration Network provides a regular opportunity for parish administrators to meet, share ideas and support one another.

The network meets online once a term, from 12.30pm to 1.30pm, so you can join during your lunch break.

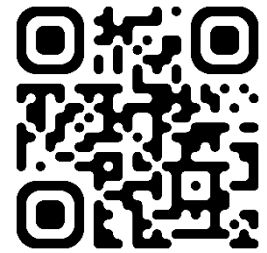
To join: Go to [Parish Administration Network Form](#) or contact kate.cameron@yorkdiocese.org.



Short courses, webinars, and workshops

People, Not Paperwork: Employing Staff Well

Employing staff can raise questions about responsibilities, relationships, and legal requirements. This course will help you manage people confidently, lawfully, and pastorally, without creating unnecessary bureaucracy.

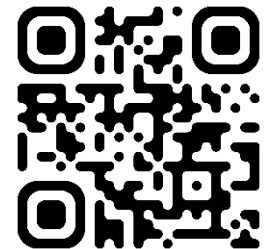


- Suitable for: clergy and parish administrators involved in employing or managing staff
- Format: four one-hour daytime sessions
- Expected: spring or summer 2027

Register your interest: go to [People, Not Paperwork - Register Your Interest](#).

People, Not Pressure: Supporting Volunteers Well

Finding and supporting volunteers can be difficult, particularly when you repeatedly ask the same people to do more. This course will help you create clear, healthy, and sustainable opportunities for people to serve.



- Suitable for: anyone who recruits, manages or supports volunteers
- Format: four one-hour evening sessions
- Expected: spring or summer 2027

Register your interest: go to [People, Not Pressure - Register Your Interest](#).

Bespoke consultancy and support

Action-planning facilitation

It can be difficult to agree on what should happen next when people have different priorities or a church is facing several challenges at once. Sometimes, it helps to have support from someone outside your immediate context who can ensure that all voices are heard and help you move forward with a plan. Support is also available to help deaneries develop their action plans.

Suitable for: PCCs, deaneries, and churches with a new incumbent

To discuss a session: contact kate.cameron@yorkdiocese.org

Wellbeing in ministry

Caring for yourself and your relationships is essential to healthy and sustainable ministry. Confidential support is available for clergy and their immediate families, diocesan employees, and licensed and authorised lay ministers.

This may include counselling or psychotherapy, pastoral support, mediation, and advice on wider pastoral concerns.

All enquiries are handled confidentially.

To ask about support: contact mona-karina.theodosius@yorkdiocese.org or search for 'wellbeing' on our website.

On our website

Our Wellbeing in Ministry section includes information and signposting on:

- support for spouses and partners
- spiritual accompaniment
- retreat venues and facilities
- retirement and money
- counselling and psychotherapy
- Archbishop's Visitors

Visit dioceseofyork.org.uk/wellbeing

The diocesan website also contains employment policies and guidance for parishes. We will add more resources during autumn 2026.

Other trusted support

- ✚ **Wydale Hall** – Wydale Hall offers retreats, quiet days, and a range of spiritual and wellbeing support.
- ✚ **Resourcing Church Administration** – The Church of England's national hub offers practical guidance and resources for people involved in parish administration.
- ✚ **The Sanctuary Course** – An eight-session course for church groups that helps people talk more openly and confidently about mental health.
- ✚ **Mental Health First Aid** – Training is available to help you recognise signs of poor mental health, respond appropriately and signpost people towards further support. Contact Ian Cartwright at iancartwrightmhfa.co.uk

Leadership – Vocations

SRDT: sections 1a–e and 2a–d

God calls people in many different ways. You may be wondering whether you are called to a particular ministry, looking for new ways to serve, or simply wanting to explore what the next step in your Christian life might be.

A Vocations Adviser can help you reflect on:

- your journey of faith so far
- your prayer life
- the gifts you may be developing
- the ways you are already serving
- possible next steps in ministry or discipleship

They may suggest reading, prayer, practical experience, or further conversations to help you explore your calling.

Some people are called to serve through informal or local roles. Others may explore authorised or licensed lay ministry, or ordained ministry as a deacon or priest.

Ordained Ministry

Ordained ministry may be the right path for those who sense a call to serve as a deacon or priest. You will be supported as you explore that call and, where appropriate, move through the Church of England's Shared Discernment Process.

To begin a conversation: contact sam.taylor@yorkdiocese.org

Foundations in Ministry

Foundations in Ministry is a supported learning community for people exploring ministry, vocation, and service. It provides space to learn with others, to test your sense of calling, and to consider what your next step might be.

The course runs for 10 months and includes a mixture of local in-person days and online reflection sessions.

For course details and applications: visit the Foundations in Ministry webpage.

For questions about the course: contact ehren.mierau@yorkdiocese.org

Leadership – Safeguarding

SRDT: section 2e

Safeguarding is part of creating churches where every person is safe, valued and welcomed. It is not simply a set of policies or training requirements; it should shape the culture and everyday life of your church.

The diocesan Safeguarding Team offers training, guidance and practical support to help you build confidence, meet your responsibilities, and develop safer practice.

Networks

Parish Safeguarding Officer Forums

Quarterly online forums give Parish Safeguarding Officers an opportunity to hear important updates, ask questions, share experience and good practice, and connect with others carrying out the role.

The remaining forums for 2026 are:

- 10th September, 6.30pm–8.00pm
- 17th November, 6.30pm–8.00pm

Joining information will be sent by email. For help accessing a forum, contact safeguarding@yorkdiocese.org

You can also subscribe to the latest safeguarding news on our website for updates, guidance, and training opportunities.

Short courses, webinars, and workshops

Safeguarding Week

Safeguarding Week is the diocese's annual programme of learning and discussion. It is open to everyone and covers a wide range of safeguarding topics.

In 2026, 13 online sessions will take place from 16th to 20th November.

Recordings from previous Safeguarding Weeks are also available on the diocesan website.

Safeguarding training

The diocese uses the Church of England's national safeguarding learning pathways. These provide training suited to different roles and levels of responsibility.

The independent INEQE review in August 2025 found that safeguarding had become fundamental to the diocese's culture. Continuing to strengthen that culture depends on everyone understanding their role and completing the training relevant to them.

Visit the safeguarding training pages to find the right pathway for you.

Parish Safeguarding Officer Thanksgiving Event

Parish Safeguarding Officers are invited to a thanksgiving event with Archbishop Stephen at York Minster on 15th November 2026.

Invitations and further details will be sent by email.

Bespoke or on-site consultancy and support

Tailored parish support

The Parish Support Officer, Mike Tyler, can visit your church or parish to offer practical help with:

- the Parish Safeguarding Dashboard
- the Safeguarding Hub
- Disclosure and Barring Service applications
- identity checks
- related parish processes

Support for deanery and archdeaconry events

The diocesan Safeguarding Team can contribute to deanery, archdeaconry, and other church gatherings where safeguarding input would be useful.

Face-to-face training

Online training is not accessible or suitable for everyone. Where numbers and capacity allow, the Safeguarding Training Team may be able to provide face-to-face training for a parish, benefice, or group of churches.

To discuss support: contact safeguarding@yorkdiocese.org

On the Diocese of York website

The diocesan website includes guidance on:

- reporting a safeguarding concern
- safeguarding learning and training
- safer recruitment and Disclosure and Barring Service checks
- the role of the Parish Safeguarding Officer
- Parish Safeguarding Dashboards
- policies, procedures and downloadable resources
- support for victims and survivors
- the Safeguarding Complaints Policy and Procedure

Visit dioceseofyork.org.uk/safeguarding

Report a concern

If you are concerned that someone may be experiencing or at risk of abuse or neglect, use the 'report a safeguarding concern' page on the diocesan website or contact the Safeguarding Team.

Other trusted support

- ✦ **[Church of England safeguarding](#)** - The national Church of England website provides policies, guidance and information about safeguarding across the Church.
- ✦ **[Safe Spaces](#)** - Safe Spaces offers free, independent and confidential support for adults affected by church-related abuse. Links to these services are available on the Diocese of York safeguarding pages.

Missionary Discipleship

SRDT: sections 3a–f

Missionary discipleship is about becoming more like Christ and joining in God's mission where you are. It brings together personal faith, confident leadership and practical action in your church and community.

The opportunities in this section can help you grow as a disciple, learn with others, and develop mission in ways that suit your local context.

Networks

Huddles

Huddles are small discipleship groups for leaders. They provide space to grow in the character of Jesus and develop confidence for leadership and ministry.

Each huddle brings together four to eight leaders for a one-hour session. You can expect to:

- receive practical discipleship input
- reflect on how it connects with your life and ministry
- learn from the experience of others
- identify one action or question to continue exploring with God

Huddles are being developed across the diocese. To express an interest, contact mark.carey@yorkdiocese.org

Communities of Practice

A Community of Practice brings teams from different ministry units together twice a year to share experience, reflect on discipleship and mission, and learn from one another through a facilitated process. This can help you:

- learn from what is working in other places
- reflect honestly on challenges
- develop plans rooted in your own context
- consider how your ministry unit can become more like Christ
- explore new approaches to mission and ministry

Communities of Practice can form part of your deanery planning process.

Our Rural Life

The Rural Life and Faith team publish a regular newsletter for those who worship, live, and work in rural communities across the diocese.

We will share the latest editions in *The Journal* and *The Briefing*.

You can also find it online at dioceseofyork.org.uk/rural

Short courses, webinars, and workshops

We will develop new learning opportunities in response to the needs and interests of churches across the diocese.

These may include short courses, webinars or workshops exploring aspects of discipleship, leadership, and mission.

To suggest a topic or discuss what would help your church, contact mark.carey@yorkdiocese.org

Bespoke or on-site consultancy and support

If your church, leadership team, or deanery wants to strengthen missionary discipleship, tailored support may be available to help you:

- reflect on your current situation
- identify realistic priorities
- develop plans for discipleship and mission
- take practical next steps

To discuss support, contact heather.black@yorkdiocese.org

On the Diocese of York website

Mustard Seed has supported churches in some of the diocese's most deprived communities by recognising local strengths, developing lay leadership and helping people step into ministry where traditional models of church were difficult to sustain.

The learning from Mustard Seed and Stepping Up continues to shape how local people can be equipped to serve, lead and develop mission in their own communities.

Find out more on the Mustard Seed pages of the diocesan website.

Other trusted support

Church Urban Fund Growing Good

Growing Good is a free six-session course developed by the Church Urban Fund and Theos. It helps church communities explore the relationship between social action, discipleship, and healthy church growth.

Arthur Rank Centre

The Arthur Rank Centre provides training, advice and resources for rural churches and ministry leaders, including:

- Germinate Leadership
- Rural Mission and Ministry
- Rural and Wild
- practical resources for rural mission, leadership and church life

Discipleship and Everyday Faith

SRDT: sections 4a–d

Discipleship is the lifelong journey of becoming more like Christ. It is shaped by worship, prayer, scripture, service, and life together. It is also lived out in everyday places: at home, at work, in education, in the community and through relationships with others. Every person has a part to play in God's mission, and every church can help people recognise and respond to that calling.

The resources in this section can help you deepen discipleship, nurture everyday faith, and build on what is already growing in your church.

Rhythm of Life

The Diocese of York's Rhythm of Life is a flexible framework to help people follow Jesus more intentionally in daily life. It is shaped by seven spiritual practices: prayer, scripture, worship, loving one another, living generously, sharing faith, and patterns of rest.

Resources include a practical toolkit, a small-group resource, and a pocket guide. These can be used by individuals, small groups, or whole churches.

To explore the resources or request printed copies: contact sammi.tooze@yorkdiocese.org

Support for churches

The Diocesan Discipleship Adviser can offer advice and support to help you develop discipleship in your church or deanery.

This may include contributing to deanery synods, Deanery Leadership Team meetings, clergy chapters, PCC meetings, and other church gatherings. Invitations to preach in parishes are also welcome.

Sessions can be shaped around topics such as:

- discipleship and everyday faith
- Rhythm of Life
- becoming more like Christ
- pilgrimage
- supporting people to grow in faith

To discuss support: contact sammi.tooze@yorkdiocese.org

On the Diocese of York website

The diocesan website includes resources for prayer, worship, and spiritual growth, including:

- the Diocesan Prayer Diary
- Rhythm of Life resources
- pilgrimage resources
- the worship podcast series
- resources for Advent, Lent, and national Church of England campaigns

We will continue to add new resources, so check the discipleship pages regularly.

Other trusted support

- ✠ The Church of England's **Everyday Faith app** provides daily reflections, Bible readings and prayers to help you live out your faith throughout the week.
- ✠ The Church of England's **Daily Prayer app** includes Morning, Evening and Night Prayer, with Bible readings and audio.
- ✠ **Holy Habits** is a discipleship programme from BRF Ministries that helps churches develop resilient, whole-life followers of Jesus.
- ✠ **Home Groups** offers free resources and practical advice for running Christian small groups.
- ✠ **Faith in the North Pilgrim Places** - This initiative encourages churches to become places of welcome, reflection and prayer for visitors and local communities.
- ✠ **Practicing the Way** offers resources for spiritual formation built around three practices:
 - being with Jesus
 - becoming like Jesus
 - doing what Jesus did

Renewal – Growing Younger: Children, Young People, and Families

SRDT: section 5a–e

Children, young people, and families are central to the life and mission of the Church. The support in this section can help you develop sustainable ministry, strengthen existing groups, and create new opportunities for younger people to explore faith and belong.

Whether you are an employed worker, a volunteer, or a member of the clergy, you can access networks, training, and practical advice.

Networks

Children and youth ministry networks

Termly networks provide space to share ideas, learn from others, and find encouragement.

Current networks include:

- York Children's Leaders Network — for employed and volunteer leaders
- York Toddler Group Leaders Network — for employed and volunteer leaders
- Hull Children, Families and Youth Leaders Network

York networks: contact angela.brymer@yorkdiocese.org

Hull network: contact gillian.shepherd@yorkdiocese.org

You can also subscribe to the monthly *Growing Younger* newsletter on our website for news, resources, and training opportunities.

Short courses, webinars, and workshops

Catalyst children and youth leader training

Catalyst is a development programme for people involved in ministry with children and young people. The course begins in the autumn term and includes an introductory session followed by five further sessions. Learning will take place through a mixture of in-person and online sessions. Hubs are being planned in Hull, Middlesbrough, and York.

To find out more: contact emma.anderton@yorkdiocese.org or angela.brymer@yorkdiocese.org

Joined Up Ecumenical Training Day

A training day for children's and youth leaders and clergy, covering a range of practical ministry topics.

- **Date:** 7th November 2026
- **Location:** Scarborough

For further details: contact emma.anderton@yorkdiocese.org or angela.brymer@yorkdiocese.org

Bespoke or on-site consultancy and support

Angela and Emma can offer advice and signposting to clergy, children's and youth workers, and volunteers.

You may find this helpful if you are:

- starting a new group or activity
- reviewing an existing ministry
- unsure what your next step should be
- looking for suitable training or resources
- recruiting or supporting volunteers
- trying to connect more effectively with children, young people or families

They may also be able to contribute to deanery synods, clergy chapters, and other church gatherings.

To discuss support: contact emma.anderton@yorkdiocese.org or angela.brymer@yorkdiocese.org

On the Diocese of York website

The Diocese of York's Growing Younger pages include:

- contact information
- training opportunities
- practical resources
- details of networks
- newsletter sign-up

Other trusted support

Growing Faith Foundation

Growing Faith helps churches place children, young people, and families at the heart of mission and ministry. It encourages stronger relationships between churches, schools, and households.

The 30k Project

The Church of England's 30k Project provides ideas and support for:

- recruiting volunteers
- developing volunteer teams
- supporting employed children's and youth workers
- strengthening local ministry

Church Support Hub

The Church Support Hub offers webinars and practical resources on ministry with children and young people, including:

- schools ministry
- outdoor activities
- work in estate communities
- seasonal and life-event resources

Spurgeons

Spurgeons works with children and families to help them flourish. Churches may be able to connect with their programmes, resources, and local partnerships.

Youthscape

Youthscape provides research-informed training, resources, and events to help churches understand young people and develop their youth ministry.

Renewal – Growth, Evangelism, New Congregations, and Justice

SRDT: sections 6a–e

Reaching people you do not currently reach begins with listening well, building genuine relationships and creating spaces where people can explore faith and belonging.

The support in this section can help you understand your community, try new approaches to mission, develop new worshipping communities, and engage more confidently with racial justice and inclusion.

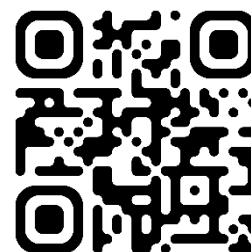
Short courses, webinars, and workshops

Faithfully Curious: Connecting Beyond Your Church

This course will help you understand your community, listen to people beyond your usual congregation and build relationships that can support mission.

You will explore practical ways to:

- learn more about the people and needs around you
- listen without making assumptions
- build trust and genuine relationships
- connect with people your church does not currently reach
- respond naturally and confidently



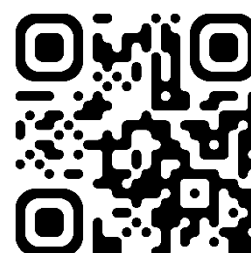
Suitable for: clergy, churchwardens, PCCs, deaneries, and anyone involved in community engagement.

Register your interest: go to [Faithfully Curious - Register Your Interest](#).

New Paths to Faith and Community

This course explores what can happen when churches create new spaces for people to encounter faith, friendship, and spiritual connection.

You will hear from clergy and churches that have experimented with ideas such as book groups, walking groups, family church, informal gatherings, and other new ways of building community.



Their experience can help you think creatively about what might work in your own context.

Suitable for: ministers, PCCs, and deaneries

Register your interest: go to [New Paths to Faith Community - Register Your Interest](#).

Unconscious Bias

This free session helps you recognise how unconscious assumptions can shape decisions, relationships, and church life.

It is suitable for anyone in a parish and can be delivered locally, with a benefice providing a venue and at least 20 participants.

To discuss a session: contact gerald.fox@yorkdiocese.org

Racial justice learning

Further learning opportunities are being developed, including:

- a self-guided online module on diversity and inclusion
- an introduction to race, racism and racial justice
- a session exploring Christian nationalism

Details will be shared through *The Journal* and *The Briefing* when they are available. You can sign up to receive these on our website.

Bespoke or on-site consultancy and support

Church planting and new forms of church

New worshipping communities can help people encounter Jesus in places and ways that may not be reached through existing church life.

The diocesan approach to church planting aims to:

- begin with prayerful discernment
- build on local strengths
- learn from what is already working
- develop approaches suited to both rural and urban communities
- include a range of church traditions
- establish healthy leadership, governance and sustainable structures

The aim is not to copy one model everywhere, but to help you discern what may be right for your community.

To explore church planting or a new worshipping community: contact mark.carey@yorkdiocese.org

Racial justice and intercultural ministry

The diocesan Racial Justice Adviser, Gerald Fox, can support churches, benefices, and individuals as you explore:

- racial justice
- intercultural ministry
- diversity and inclusion
- difference and belonging
- practical ways to challenge racism

Gerald may also be able to contribute to deanery synods, PCC meetings, clergy chapters, and other church gatherings.

To discuss support: contact gerald.fox@yorkdiocese.org

On the Diocese of York website

The Diocese of York's Racial Justice pages include resources for:

- Black History Month
- Racial Justice Sunday
- learning and discussion
- worship and prayer
- wider issues of race, social justice, and inclusion

Other trusted support

- ✚ **The Difference Course** is a five-session programme that helps groups navigate disagreement and build healthier relationships across difference.
- ✚ **We Need to Talk About Race** is a four-session small-group resource that supports honest conversation about race and encourages churches to become more inclusive.

Communications

SRDT: section 6a–e

Good communication helps churches welcome new people, engage with their communities, and share the story of what God is doing locally. Our Communications Team provides practical resources, shared learning, and professional advice to help parishes build their confidence and skills.

Our role is to make communication easier so that parishes can focus on ministry and mission. We will offer direct support where we can and signpost to trusted resources where these are better placed to help.

Short courses, webinars, and workshops

Following requests from several parishes, we plan to offer introductory webinars to help clergy and parish teams use social media confidently and effectively. We will advertise these in *The Journal*, *The Briefing*, on our website and—of course—through our social media channels.

Bespoke or on-site consultancy and support

Parishes can contact the team for brief advice and signposting. More substantial support is prioritised where there is active media interest, a safeguarding or reputational concern, a serious incident, or a significant diocesan strategic priority.

We are also happy to contribute to deanery synods, clergy chapters, and other existing gatherings, where capacity allows. This might include a short session on social media, storytelling, media awareness, or another topic.

For support or advice: contact comms@yorkdiocese.org

On the Diocese of York website

Our parish communications resources include practical guidance, templates, and checklists covering:

- websites and online presence
- social media
- writing clearly and accessibly

- photography, filming, and consent
- media enquiries and sensitive situations
- storytelling and sharing stories with the diocesan team

We will continue to develop these resources over the coming year, so please check back regularly.

Other trusted support

- ✦ **Church of England Digital Labs** – a hub of resources, training, and events to support digital evangelism and discipleship in your church, including guidance on using A Church Near You.
- ✦ **Canva Design School** – free, self-paced courses and tutorials to help users develop their design skills, use Canva's tools confidently and create more effective visual content.
- ✦ **CharityComms** – offers practical resources, training and peer support for charity communicators, covering areas such as digital, media, branding, and storytelling.
- ✦ **Charity Digital** – accessible articles, webinars, videos and podcasts covering websites, email, social media, digital tools, and wider charity technology.
- ✦ **Media Trust** – free guides and toolkits, alongside affordable charity-specific training in communications, storytelling, media, and digital skills.
- ✦ **Information Commissioner's Office (ICO)** – authoritative guidance on data protection, email newsletters, mailing lists, direct marketing, and electronic communications.

Governance and Finance – Governance

SRDT: sections 2a–d and 7a

Good governance helps your church make sound decisions, meet its responsibilities and use its time and resources well. It should support mission rather than leave people weighed down by meetings, paperwork and unclear roles.

The support in this section can help you simplify PCC life, explore changes to parish structures and find clear guidance when formal processes are needed.

Networks

Peer networks are available for churchwardens and people involved in parish administration.

See the [Leadership – Teams and People](#) section above for details.

Short courses, webinars, and workshops

Lightening the Load: Rethinking PCC Life

PCC meetings, administration and unclear responsibilities can consume time and energy that could be better used for mission.

This workshop can help you explore:

- clearer roles and responsibilities
- simpler and more effective meetings
- better ways of working across several parishes
- options for reorganising parish structures
- practical changes that reduce unnecessary administration

The aim is to develop governance that suits your context and frees people to focus on your church's life and mission.

Suitable for: PCCs in multi-parish benefices that are considering reorganisation or simpler ways of working

Before arranging a workshop, you will have an initial conversation to explore your situation and what support would be most useful.

For more information: contact kate.cameron@yorkdiocese.org

Bespoke or on-site consultancy and support

You may be considering changes to the organisation of your parish, benefice or deanery, or exploring whether a church building should close.

These decisions involve pastoral, legal, and practical considerations. Speak to your archdeacon at an early stage so that you can understand the process, consider the available options and involve the right people.

Where a formal pastoral scheme is needed, Lisa Cardy, the diocesan Pastoral Officer, can guide you through the process and coordinate with the Church Commissioners.

For more information: contact lisa.cardy@yorkdiocese.org

On the Diocese of York website

The Diocese of York's governance pages include guidance on:

- Annual Parochial Church Meetings
- PCC responsibilities and processes
- parish and benefice reorganisation
- formal pastoral schemes

Further policy guidance and templates will be added as they become available.

Other trusted support

Charity Commission registration

PCCs with annual income above £100,000 must currently register with the Charity Commission. By 31st March 2031, PCCs with an annual income above £5,000 will also need to be registered. Guidance and phased support for PCCs will be provided as the change approaches.

The [Church of England's Parish Resources](#) website explains the requirements and provides guidance on preparing an application.

The Church Organiser

The Church Organiser is a free tool designed to help churches manage practical tasks such as life events, room bookings, event registration and ticketing, PCC administration, and wider parish governance.

Governance and Finance – Treasurers and Finance

SRDT: sections 7b–e

Good financial management helps your church plan confidently, meet its responsibilities and use its resources well for mission.

The support in this section can help you connect with other treasurers, build your knowledge, use suitable accounting tools, and find practical advice when you need it.

Networks

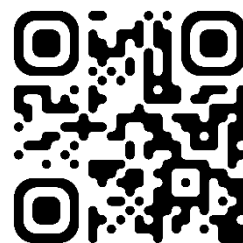
Treasurers Network

The diocesan Treasurers Network meets three times a year and provides peer support for PCC treasurers and others involved in parish finance.

Sessions may include input from Deanery Financial Advisers, diocesan officers, experienced parish treasurers, and other specialists.

The network gives you space to ask questions, share experience, and learn from others facing similar challenges.

Register your interest: go to [Treasurer Network Form](#)



Treasurer Facebook Group

You can also join the diocesan Facebook group for treasurers to share ideas, ask practical questions, and connect between network meetings:

facebook.com/groups/treasurersupport

Free ACAT membership

PCC treasurers in the Diocese of York can access free membership of the Association of Church Accountants and Treasurers (ACAT). Membership includes practical resources, updates and training designed for church and charity finance.

To request membership: contact finance@yorkdiocese.org

Short courses, webinars, and workshops

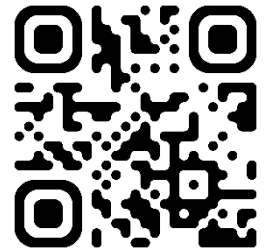
Training for new treasurers

Introductory training for new and developing treasurers is available through ACAT. Free places are offered on a first-come, first-served basis. We will share details in *The Journal*.

MyFund accounting software

MyFund is an accounting package designed for charities, PCCs, and church treasurers. It includes training videos and practical support.

We are currently exploring whether discounted access can be arranged for parishes.



Register your interest: go to [MyFund Accounting - Register Your Interest](#).

Bespoke or on-site consultancy and support

Your Deanery Financial Adviser can offer practical help and guidance with parish finance. This may include support with:

- annual accounts and returns
- budgeting and financial planning
- understanding parish finance requirements
- Free Will Offer
- common accounting questions
- identifying further help where needed

To find your adviser: contact finance@yorkdiocese.org.

On the Diocese of York website

The diocesan website includes guidance on:

- annual parish returns and accounts
- preparing the required financial documents
- Free Will Offer
- loans and grants
- parochial and casual-duty fees
- practical resources for PCC treasurers

Other trusted support

Ecclesiastical

Ecclesiastical provides a wide range of guidance for churches, including:

- fundraising
- clergy financial advice
- risk assessments
- church documents and templates
- church risk management
- insurance and financial services

Governance and Finance – Generous Giving

SRDT: section 7b–e

Generosity is part of discipleship. It includes how you use your money, time, skills, and influence to support God's mission and help your church and community flourish.

The support in this section can help you grow a culture of generosity, talk about giving with greater confidence and make giving simpler and more sustainable.

Keep informed

Subscribe to the Generosity Matters newsletter for:

- digital giving updates
- practical ideas for encouraging giving
- Gift Aid guidance
- news, resources and training opportunities

You can also follow [Generous Giving, Diocese of York](#) on Facebook and [@generousgivingdoy.bsky.social](#) on Bluesky.

Short courses, webinars, and workshops

The Generous Giving Team offers workshops online and for groups of churches, deanery synods, and learning communities.

- ✖ **Introduction to Cornerstone** – Explore attitudes to giving in your church, access practical resources and search an extensive grants database.
- ✖ **Setting up the Parish Giving Scheme** – Learn how to introduce regular giving through a simple system that includes Gift Aid and reduces administration for your church.
- ✖ **Encouraging legacy giving** – Explore sensitive and appropriate ways to help people consider leaving a gift to their church in their will.
- ✖ **Giving your experience, influence, and skills** – Recognise and develop the gifts already present in your church and community through an asset-based approach to generosity.
- ✖ **Encouraging generosity from a young age** – Find creative ways to help children and young people understand and practise generosity as part of their faith.

- ✳ **Talking about money** – Build confidence and find positive, plain language for talking about giving, collections and the financial needs of your church.

Bespoke or on-site consultancy and support

Generous Giving Programme

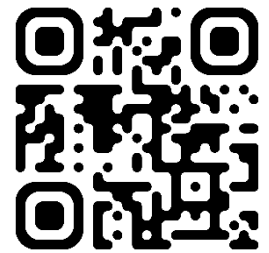
You can request a tailored programme to help your church develop its approach to generosity.

The team will meet with your leaders to understand your context and agree on what would be most useful. A programme might include:

- a vision day
- a session with your PCC
- support with engaging the wider congregation
- resources for worship, bible study, or small groups
- help communicating with your church and community

Capacity is limited, so contact the team early where possible.

To request support: go to [Generous Giving Request for On-Site or Bespoke Support](#).



Church and school engagement

Jan can offer assemblies and classroom sessions that explore generosity as part of discipleship and character. This may also help strengthen connections between your church, school, and local community.

Parish Finance Review

The diocese plans to offer every parish a supportive finance review over the next three years. You can also request a meeting sooner. The meeting should include people involved in your parish's finances and decisions about giving.

A review can help you consider:

- whether you are making full use of the support available
- opportunities to develop giving
- Gift Aid and regular giving
- Free Will Offer
- wider decisions about parish finances.

To arrange a review: contact sam.farnhill-young@yorkdiocese.org

On the Diocese of York website

The diocesan website includes resources on:

- how and why Christians give
- communicating about generous giving
- planning and running a Generosity Week
- legacy giving and will writing
- practical ways to grow giving

Other trusted support

Church of England National Giving Team

The National Giving Team provides guidance, training and practical resources to help churches develop generous cultures and sustainable giving.

Church Buildings

SRDT: sections 8a–e

Your church building can be an important part of your mission: a place of worship, welcome, community life and local presence. It can also bring practical challenges, including maintenance, permissions, accessibility, energy use, and funding.

The support in this section can help you care for your building, plan improvements, and make confident decisions about its future.

Networks

Regular briefings and surgeries provide an opportunity to:

- hear updates from the diocesan Church Buildings Team
- ask questions about maintenance, permissions and development
- learn from issues affecting other churches
- receive practical guidance on your next steps

Details will be shared through *The Journal* and under Parish Support on our website.

Short courses, webinars, and workshops

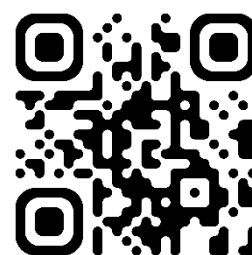
Kingdom Buildings

Is your building helping your church fulfil its mission, or are maintenance costs and uncertainty making it difficult to move forward?

This short course will help you explore practical ways to use and develop your church building with greater confidence. It draws on Kenneth Padley's book *Kingdom Buildings*, with input from diocesan specialists and churches that have already navigated similar questions.

You will consider:

- how your building supports worship and mission
- realistic improvements that could make a difference
- how to move from ideas to an achievable plan
- common barriers and how to address them
- where to find advice, permissions and funding support



Suitable for: anyone involved in the care or development of a church building. We particularly encourage bringing a small team from your church.

Format: six 90-minute webinars on Microsoft Teams

Time: 7.00pm

Dates: 29th September, 13th October, 20th October, 3rd November, 17th November and 1st December 2026

Register your interest: go to [Kingdom Buildings: Register Your Interest](#)

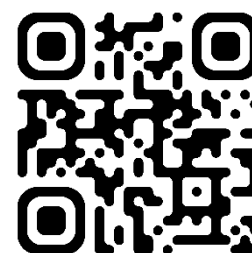
Bespoke or on-site consultancy and support

Church building consultancy

Keith Halliday can offer practical advice based on his experience of supporting churches with building projects and challenges.

Support may be available by:

- email
- telephone
- an on-site visit



This may be helpful if you are unsure what is possible, need help identifying priorities or want an experienced perspective before developing a project.

To request support: Visit Parish Support on our website or scan the QR code.

Faculty and permissions support

Changes to church buildings may require permission through List A, List B, or the faculty process. The Diocesan Advisory Committee Team can help you:

- understand which permission is needed
- prepare an application
- find the right guidance and forms
- avoid common delays or missing information
- identify when specialist advice may be required

Suitable for: clergy, churchwardens, facilities managers, and anyone involved in alterations, repairs, or permissions.

Start with the Church Buildings pages on the diocesan website. Telephone support is also available if you need further guidance.

On the Diocese of York website

The diocesan website includes information and guidance on:

- faculty permissions
- List A and List B
- quinquennial inspections
- care and maintenance
- accessibility and building development
- churchyards
- grants and funding
- wider building projects and responsibilities

Other trusted support

National Churches Trust

The National Churches Trust provides practical guidance, funding information and free webinars on topics including:

- routine maintenance
- developing wider community use
- project planning
- fundraising and grant applications
- making church buildings more sustainable

Church Buildings Council

The Church Buildings Council offers national Church of England guidance on the care, use, conservation, and development of church buildings.

Church Buildings – Fundraising and Community Engagement

SRDT: sections 8c, 4c and 6a–d

Your church building can be more than a place of worship. It can also provide space for community activity, partnership, and service, helping your church respond to local needs and build new relationships.

The support in this section can help you explore community use, strengthen local involvement, and find funding to develop your building sustainably.

Networks

Grant Writers R Us

This new network is being developed for people who write grant applications for churches.

It will provide opportunities to:

- hear about funding opportunities and changes
- share practical advice and experience
- learn from successful and unsuccessful applications
- support one another through the application process

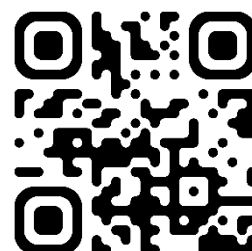
We will share details in *The Journal* and *The Briefing* when the network launches.

Short courses, webinars, and workshops

Opening Doors: Connecting Church, Community, and Mission

Would you like your church building to serve your community more fully, but are unsure where to begin? This practical webinar will help you:

- understand your local context
- identify community needs and opportunities
- assess your church's capacity
- consider suitable uses for your building
- develop a realistic shortlist of next steps



Suitable for: anyone involved in developing the community use of a church building. Dates will be confirmed. We can also arrange the session for deaneries or groups of churches.

Register your interest: go to [Opening Doors - Register Your Interest](#).

Bespoke or on-site consultancy and support

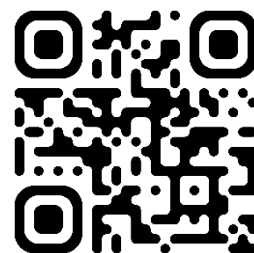
Community use and sustainability support

From autumn 2026, a new Church Buildings Support Officer will be available to help churches develop their buildings as places of worship, mission, and community life.

Support may include:

- strengthening relationships with your community
- exploring possible uses for your building
- recruiting and developing volunteers
- improving confidence in building care
- developing heritage and participation projects
- identifying grants and other funding opportunities
- building local skills and capacity for the future

The aim is to help your building become more welcoming, sustainable, and well-used, while remaining rooted in the mission of your church.



To request support: go to [Request Community Use and Sustainability Support](#)

On the Diocese of York website

The Church Buildings pages on the diocesan website include information about grants and fundraising.

We will continue to develop these resources, with further guidance and funding opportunities added as they become available.

You can also explore grant information through the Cornerstone resources on the [Generous Giving](#) page.

Other trusted support

Warm Welcome

Warm Welcome supports churches and other community spaces that provide safe, welcoming spaces during the colder months. Information may also be available about help with heating costs.

Cinnamon Network

The Cinnamon Network provides practical ideas, resources, and webinars to help churches respond to the needs in their communities and develop social action projects.

ChurchWorks

ChurchWorks brings churches, government, and other organisations together around issues including:

- social prescribing
- family hubs
- poverty and financial hardship
- community wellbeing

Church Buildings – Net Zero Carbon and Creation Care

SRDT: section 8e

Caring for creation is part of your church's mission and stewardship. It includes reducing carbon emissions, caring for the natural environment, and preparing your buildings for the effects of climate change.

The support in this section can help you understand what actions are possible, plan practical improvements, and connect with others working towards the same goals.

Networks

Parish environment network

We are developing a network of local eco champions and Parish Environment Officers across the diocese.

The network will offer:

- peer support and shared learning
- practical ideas from other churches
- updates on funding and diocesan activity
- access to specialist advice
- encouragement for the wider work of creation care

You do not need to hold a formal role to take part. The network is open to anyone helping their church respond to environmental concerns.

We will share details on our website and via diocesan channels.

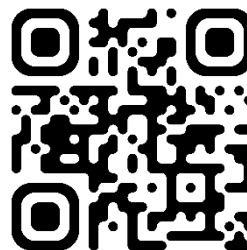
Short courses, webinars, and workshops

Carbon Literacy

Carbon Literacy helps you understand climate change, explain it clearly and take meaningful action in your church and everyday life.

The training will explore:

- what Carbon Literacy means
- how it can benefit your church
- practical ways to reduce carbon emissions
- how to begin developing an action plan
- what support and next steps are available



Suitable for: Parish Environment Officers, clergy and anyone interested in creation care or carbon reduction in their church.

We will advertise course dates through diocesan channels and the parish environment network.

Register your interest: go to [Carbon Literacy: Register Your Interest](#).

Bespoke or on-site consultancy and support

Net zero carbon support

The Net Zero Carbon Programme Lead can help you explore the practical and technical steps to reduce the carbon footprint of your church building.

This may include advice on:

- understanding your current energy use
- identifying realistic carbon-reduction measures
- heating, lighting and energy efficiency
- planning building improvements
- finding suitable technical guidance
- developing a longer-term route towards net zero

Creation care and environmental mission

The diocesan Environment Officer can help you explore the spiritual, theological, and missional dimensions of creation care.

This may include support with:

- worship and preaching
- discipleship and theological reflection
- community engagement
- biodiversity and churchyards
- helping environmental action become part of your church's wider mission.

New parish support roles

Thanks to national funding, we are adding two further roles to strengthen available support:

- **The Parish Environmental Support Officer** will develop and support the network of local eco champions, helping churches stay connected, informed and equipped to take environmental action.
- **The Net Zero Funding Enabler** will help churches identify, secure and manage external funding for energy-efficiency and carbon-reduction projects.

To request advice or tailored support: visit Parish Support on our website.

On the Diocese of York website

The diocesan website includes information and resources on:

- environmental justice
- the theological basis of creation care
- creation care as part of mission and discipleship
- practical environmental action
- reducing the carbon impact of church buildings

We will continue to add further guidance and resources over time.

Other trusted support

- ✦ **Net Zero Carbon Church** – Practical guidance to help churches understand their emissions, plan improvements, and work towards net zero carbon.
- ✦ **Climate Resilient Church** – Advice on preparing your church building for the effects of climate change, including flooding, heat, and extreme weather.
- ✦ **Caring for God's Acre** – Resources for caring for churchyards, supporting biodiversity, and managing burial grounds well.
- ✦ **Eco Church** – A Rocha UK's Eco Church scheme helps churches take practical action across worship, buildings, land, community engagement, and lifestyle. It also offers an awards programme to recognise progress.
- ✦ **Green Christian** – A national network offering resources for prayer, worship, learning, and action on environmental issues.

Key contacts

Area of support	Contact	Email
Teams and people	Kate Cameron	kate.cameron@yorkdiocese.org
Vocations	Sam Taylor	sam.taylor@yorkdiocese.org
Safeguarding	Safeguarding Team	safeguarding@yorkdiocese.org
Missionary discipleship	Mark Carey	mark.carey@yorkdiocese.org
Wellbeing in ministry	Mo Theodosius	mona-karina.theodosius@yorkdiocese.org
Discipleship and everyday faith	Sammi Tooze	sammi.tooze@yorkdiocese.org
Children, young people, and families	Angela Brymer Emma Anderton	angela.brymer@yorkdiocese.org emma.anderton@yorkdiocese.org
Growth, evangelism, and new congregations	Mark Carey	mark.carey@yorkdiocese.org
Racial justice and intercultural ministry	Gerald Fox	gerald.fox@yorkdiocese.org
Communications	Communications Team	comms@yorkdiocese.org
Governance	Kate Cameron	kate.cameron@yorkdiocese.org
Parish reorganisation	Lisa Cardy	lisa.cardy@yorkdiocese.org
Treasurers and finance	Finance Team	finance@yorkdiocese.org
Generous giving	Jan Grey	generous.giving@yorkdiocese.org
Free Will Offer	Sam Farnhill-Young	sam.farnhill-young@yorkdiocese.org
Church buildings	Keith Halliday	keith.halliday@yorkdiocese.org
Net zero carbon and creation care	Tim O'Brien	tim.obrien@yorkdiocese.org