



Children's and Youth Leaders' Bulletin October 2020

As ever please do check out our Facebook Page - @newcastledioceseyoungpeople

It can also be found by following this link <https://www.facebook.com/newcastledioceseyoungpeople>

We are posting all kinds of ideas, webinars, conferences and resources on there to help you with ministry with children, young people and families. We are also sharing some of the online worship that a few churches are doing during 2020 with all ages or young people in mind.

How's things? We understand that this year has been a challenge in many ways. We also know that as we have opened our churches back up that children's and youth ministry has been yet another challenge and in some cases just too much to handle. We do however believe that there are some wonderful things happening. I would love to share some examples on our Facebook page and possibly in The Link or on the Diocesan website, so we can inspire each other. Please do email me any good news stories r.scheffer@newcastle.anglican.org

Christmas in a Bag Project – The major and incredibly exciting project the Children and Youth Task Group and Team are working on this term is **Christmas in a Bag**. The church is in a unique place this Christmas. Many of the things that people associate with Christmas eg. Parties, Meals Out, Drinks in the Pub, Big Family Meals etc. may not be able to go ahead due to the pandemic. However **Christmas Isn't Cancelled** and we would love for as many churches as possible to deliver Christmas in a Bag parcels to families from their churches or those they are in contact with even just a little bit. To help us plan what will go in the bags and how we can make the budget spread far enough it would be really useful if you could email me with your name, contact details and also the number of packs you would be able to use by 30th October r.scheffer@newcastle.anglican.org. The items and bags will be packed into boxes 1st December and someone from your church would need to come and collect your box/es by 9th December from St. Mary's Church, Stamfordham. There will be no charge for these packs but if your PCC could make a donation it would be very welcome and it would also mean we would be able to make the bags more special.

Please join in and we can make Christmas as special as it should be, even in 2020.

Moments of Faith

Family life can be busy and complicated.

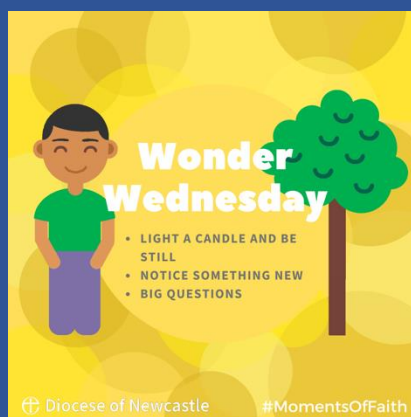
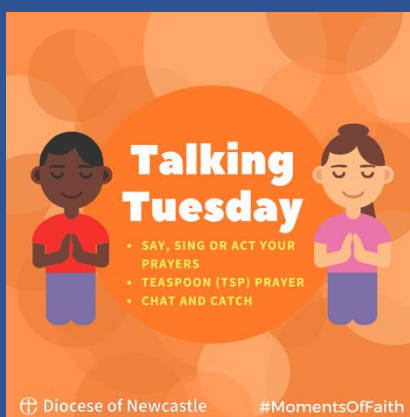
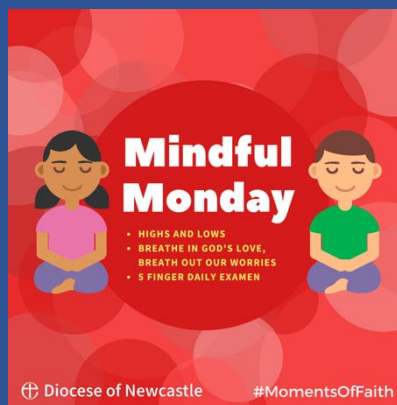
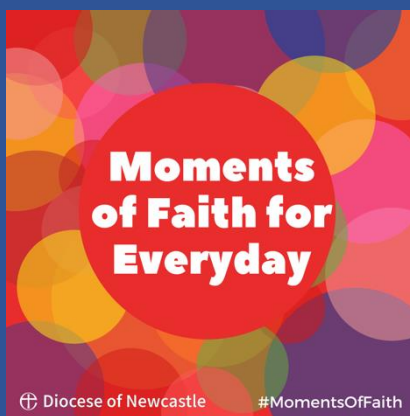
We can also want to nurture our families faith.

It was these two thoughts that inspired the Moments of Faith for Everyday project. There are printed cards available and also an Instagram profile @momentsoffaithforeveryday. The idea being that each day of the week has a different theme and that over time it will become a habit to think of the days with the theme in mind eg. Mindful Monday, Talking Tuesday, Wonder Wednesday. For those who are feeling creative you can then take the theme of the day and then do something for just a few minutes with your family on the that day. For those whose minds are full of all the things that that life involves, there are ideas on the different slides for simple things you can do each day together as a household. The Instagram profile will also grow over time and you can always scroll through and find a simple idea for each day.

Hope you enjoy finding #momentsoffaith every day.

We have currently ran out of the packs of cards for the Moments of Faith Project but if there is enough interest we will find the funding to do another print run. Please email r.scheffer@newcastle.anglican.org if you would like to reserve some.

When thinking of how many you will need, please keep in mind the idea is that you would give a full pack to each child or family so they can have the pack at home and use it on a daily basis.



Collective Worship – Many of our churches go into schools to lead Collective Worship/Assemblies. It is rather strange this term when we can't go into the schools as we normally do but there are ways round this.

Please take a look at this page by **Open The Book**. It includes top tips for both Open The Book Groups and also others who normally go into school.

<https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/open-the-book/open-the-book-storyteller-guidance/>

I (Rachel Scheffer) am also loving doing more Collective Worship sessions than ever before. I am recording them on zoom and then emailing them to the school.

Benefit of this method is that some schools can't access YouTube and also the emailed file can then be played in each individual classroom when the time is right and convenient to the teacher (it also reminds the schools that we are glad that we have a relationship with them and that we want to support them at this time). The files are usually huge but can be transferred easily and for free via <https://www.transferrnow.net/en/>

I am also finding that it can feel even more like a worship service than ever by having some regular things like lighting a candle and inviting the children to settle into a special time while the candle is being lit. I also do some things where I show props or just chat to the camera, however there is also scope to change your virtual background or screen share. I am particularly enjoying screen sharing and have found some wonderful videos, songs and stories online (please make sure you have the right licenses in place to do this).

Crib Services...

Gold Star to Margaret P-H in St Albans for creating a Crib Service that works on Zoom: <https://stalbanscme.com/2020/09/22/crib-service-on-zoom/>

Goodbye Follow The Star Christmas theme, Hello Comfort and Joy Christmas theme

The Church of England's Christmas campaign this year will focus on Comfort and Joy. Find out all the resources that will be available by following this link: <https://www.churchofengland.org/our-faith/living-out-our-faith/advent-and-christmas/preparing-advent-christmas-2020-comfort-and-joy>

Thanks for taking the time to read our mailing. We are so grateful for all you do for ministry with children, young people and families. Rachel and James



Christmas isn't cancelled!

Join us for ideas on how to do
Christmas for children and
families this year!

WED 11TH NOVEMBER
6PM
BY ZOOM

To register for the zoom link email Rachel Scheffer at
r.scheffer@newcastle.anglican.org



PS: 'Like' our **Facebook** pages: www.facebook.com/newcastledioceseyoungpeople
(Join the 'closed group' by searching for 'Newcastle Diocese Young People - leaders sharing space').
Visit our website pages at www.newcastle.anglican.org/children-youth/