



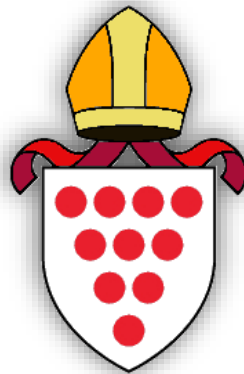
THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

DIOCESE OF WORCESTER

Training & Learning Programme

AUTUMN 2026

*A range of training and events in the
Diocese of Worcester*



Kingdom People

love • compassion • justice • freedom

Key		
Ministry and Leadership	Buildings and Churchyards	Governance and Compliance
Finance and Administration	Education	Enrichment
 Online	 In-person	 Both available

Contents

Course Title	Date	Location
BMP, Faculties and Faculty Jurisdiction Rules	22 July	Online
BMP, Faculties and Faculty Jurisdiction Rules	23 July	In Person
Funding Drop In	12 August	Online
Preparing a Missional Budget	2 September	Online
Martyn's Law – A practical walk through the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025	8 September	Online
Funding Drop In	9 September	Online
Leading People in Prayer	9 September	In Person
Lunchtime Learning - How the Old Testament came together	15 September	Online
Grow Your Church Website	17 September	Online
Finances for Church Council Members	17 September	In Person
Overview of SIAMS	17 September	Online
SIAMS Framework: Day 1 Vision and Leadership	22 September	In Person
Overview of Governance in a Church School	24 September	Online
Finances for Church Council Members	29 September	Online
Overview of Governance in a Church School	30 September	Online
Martyn's Law – A practical walk through the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025	1 October	Online
Governors' and Governance Professionals' (Clerks') Briefings	5 October	Online
Buildings for PCC members	7 October	In Person
New Treasurer Training	7 October	In Person
Governors' and Governance Professionals' (Clerks') Briefings	8 October	Online
Lunchtime Learning - Writing and Collecting the New Testament	12 October	Online
SIAMS Framework: Day 2 The Impact of Collective Worship	13 October	In Person
Understanding about Church's Funds	14 October	Online
Build community using WhatsApp	15 October	Online
Worcester Diocesan Spirituality Gathering Under the Mercy- Praying the Jesus Prayer	17 October	In Person
From Text to Sermon	19 October	In Person
Being a Clergy Ex-Officio or Bishop's Representative	20 October	Online
Health and Safety training with Ecclesiastical Insurance	28 October	Online
Fire Safety training with Ecclesiastical Insurance	29 October	Online
PCCs as employers – what you need to know!	2 November	Online

SIAMS Framework: Day 3 The Effectiveness of Religious Education	3 November	In Person
PCCs as employers – what you need to know!	4 November	In Person
Enabling governors, foundation governors and Ex-Officios to monitor the impact of the school's Christian Vision	4 November	Online
Having a Generous Advent	5 November	Online
Keeping Yourself and Your Church Safe	10 November	In Person
Annual Treasurers Meeting	10 November	In Person
Funding Drop In	11 November	Online
Annual Treasurers Meeting	17 November	Online
Preaching with Mark	18 November	In Person OR Online
Lunchtime Learning A very short history of Bible Reading	24 November	Online
Create Stunning Visuals with Canva and AI	26 November	In Person
Having a Generous 2027	8 December	Online

BMP, Faculties and Faculty Jurisdiction Rules

Wed 22 July, 19:00 -21:00 (online)

OR

Thurs 23 July, 10:00 – 13:00 (in person)

This session will take you through how to get started with the new Buildings Management Portal, running you through the full user journey including how to set up an account; view your existing/old applications; and how to make new applications including both List B and full Faculties. We'll be looking in more depth at what makes a good application and how to pull the necessary documents together, and how to get the most out of the system and understand how it works. Even if you have attended Faculty training in the last year, you'll likely find this session helpful as it will be weighted more heavily towards the process of making applications, rather than Faculty Rules (though this will be covered briefly as a refresher). Whether you have yet to register for the new system or have already started using it but would benefit from a few pointers, this is an opportunity to get more familiar with it in a supportive environment where you can ask questions in real time.

To book 22 July online: [BMP, Faculties and Faculty Jurisdiction Rules \(online\) – Fill in form](#)

To book 23 July in person: [BMP, Faculties and Faculty Jurisdiction Rules \(In person\) – Fill in form](#)



Funding Drop In

Wed 12 August, 12:30 – 13:30

Buildings and Churchyards

Drop-in to seek advice from the church buildings team on funding for your building projects, including making applications to any of the following:

- *The Places of Worship Renewal Fund (government funding)*
- *Minor Repairs & Improvements Fund (diocese funding)*
- *Net Zero Quick Wins Fund (diocese funding)*
- *Parish Accessibility Fund (national church funding)*

To book: [Funding Drop-Ins – Fill in form](#)

(This session is also repeated on 9 September and 11 November)



September 2026

Finance and Administration	Preparing a Missional Budget Wed 2 September, 12:30 – 13:30 A good budget is about more than just balancing the books. Of course, it is important to plan and allocate your finances properly, but your budget is more important than the numbers on their own. Careful and prayerful preparation of a church budget will help you to capture the mission of your church and the resources you need to make it happen and unlock the financial resources that will make that mission possible. Chris Ottershaw, Parish Resources Officer, will take us through a step-by-step approach, looking at how both to create a missional budget and how to use it during the financial year. To book: Preparing a Missional Budget – Fill in form 
Buildings and Churchyards	Martyn's Law – A practical walk through the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025 Tues 8 September, 10:00 – 11:15 The Church of England and Community Security Trust (CST) are offering briefing webinars on Martyn's Law, with an emphasis on Standard Duty Premises. Martyn's Law requires premises to be prepared for attacks, ready to respond, able to mitigate impact and reduce physical harm. Larger premises and events must also take steps to reduce vulnerability to attacks. It establishes who is responsible for considering risk and how to prepare. We discuss what you will need to do to comply with Martyn's Law – looking at which premises/events are 'in-scope' and the requirements for Standard and Enhanced Duty Premises, and for Qualifying Events. We also look at the regulator's responsibilities and enforcement. Finally, we discuss some practical examples and suggestions. The Community Security Trust (CST) is a charity that protects British Jews from antisemitism and related threats. Our SAFE programme shares the CST's security knowledge with vulnerable groups outside the Jewish community, through its free programme of talks and webinars (minimum age 18). To book: Please click here 

Buildings and Churchyards	Funding Drop In Wed 9 September, 12:30 – 13:30 Drop-in to seek advice from the church buildings team on funding for your building projects, including making applications to any of the following: • <i>The Places of Worship Renewal Fund (government funding)</i> • <i>Minor Repairs & Improvements Fund (diocese funding)</i> • <i>Net Zero Quick Wins Fund (diocese funding)</i> • <i>Parish Accessibility Fund (national church funding)</i> To book: Funding Drop-Ins – Fill in form (This session is also repeated on 12 August and 11 November) 
Ministry and Leadership	Leading People in Prayer Wed 9 September, 19:30 – 21:00 Are you sometimes asked to lead the prayers in your church services? Or perhaps you have been asked and said no, because you weren't sure how to do it? Or have you been doing it for some time, and would like to think about how you do it? This workshop is intended first for those who are just starting or just considering leading prayers in their church. However, it will also be of value to those who have been doing it for some time, as we can all benefit from stepping back and reflecting on what we do. The workshop will cover moving from reading prayers that are part of the authorised Common Worship provision, through adapting them for particular occasions, to writing your own from scratch. It will conclude with some ideas for more creative ways of developing them beyond words, and for all-age congregations. The workshop will be led for the Malvern and Upton Deanery by Canon Doug Chaplin, Discipleship and Lay Training Officer, who is also the author of a short book on the subject, <i>Leading Common Worship Intercessions: A Simple Guide</i>. (Church House Publishing, 2009). The event is being opened up to other Deaneries to ensure we have a good number attending for this workshop. To book: oldhillsmalvern@gmail.com Location: St James Church, Upton Road, Callow End 

Enrichment	Lunchtime Learning - How the Old Testament came together There is a complicated history behind the collection of books we call the Bible. Because we usually experience it as a single book between two covers, we don't often think about its complexity. But the history is fascinating, and getting to understand that history can enrich our understanding of the scriptures we read. In this first session of the series, Doug Chaplin will lead us in thinking about how the Old Testament came together. Christians don't agree on how many books there are in the Old Testament. Jews and Protestants have the same books, but arrange and count them differently – and for Jews, of course, these books are the entire Bible, not the Old Testament. Catholics and Protestants have the same arrangement of books, but Roman Catholics have some additional books which Anglicans put in a separate section called the Apocrypha. And if you're an Ethiopian Orthodox Christian, you have more books in both your Old and New Testaments than anyone else in the world. Come along and explore the history of how the Old Testament section of the biblical library was put together. Doug Chaplin is the Discipleship and Lay Training Officer for the Diocese. To book: Lunchtime Learning - How the Old Testament came together – Fill in form	Tues 15 September, 12:30 – 13:30 
Finance and Administration	Grow Your Church Website Learn how to improve your church website so more people can find and engage with your content online. This session will cover website best practices, writing effective web content, improving SEO (Search Engine Optimisation), and preparing your content for AI-powered search tools and assistants (AEO). Perfect for churches wanting to strengthen their digital presence and reach their community more effectively. This training is being run by external agency Nexus in association with the diocesan communications team. It will be held online via Zoom. Contact annika@nexuscl.com for more information and to book.	Thurs 17 September, 14:00 - 15:00 

Finance and Administration	Finances for Church Council Members Thurs 17 September, 14:00 – 16:00 (In person) OR Tues 29 September, 19:00 – 21:00 (Online) A chance for members of the Church Council, who are not involved with the finances, to find out what they need to know about their church finances to ensure your trustee duties are fulfilled and help better plan for mission and ministry. In this session, we will be looking at what your responsibilities are with the finances as a Church Council member. We will look at how to read accounts and interpret what they mean, why budgeting is important and how to do it, the different kinds of funds a PCC can hold, and look briefly at how we integrate this into our faith. To book: Finances for Church Council Members – Fill in form 
Education	Overview of SIAMS Thurs 17 September, 18:00 – 20:00 This course is particularly suitable for governors, school leaders and clergy. The session provides delegates with an overview of the SIAMS Framework for Inspection. It outlines the importance for each school in determining a distinctive Christian vision and gives a summary of the 7 questions which make up the Framework. To book: https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/4p1bywUCHG 
Education	SIAMS Framework: Day 1 Tue 22 September, 10:00 – 15:30 Vision and Leadership This course is particularly suitable for governors, school leaders and clergy. This course is run in conjunction with <i>SIAMS Framework Day 2: The Impact of Collective Worship</i> and <i>SIAMS Framework 2024 Day 3 The Effectiveness of Religious Education</i>. This course focuses on question 1 Vision and Leadership, helping schools to interpret the requirement of adopting a vision rooted in theology. Focusing on inspection question 1, questions 2,4 and 5 will also be explored in detail, as well as systems for self-evaluation. To book: https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/7bmriDW56A Location: Diocese of Worcester Office Lowesmoor Wharf, Worcester 

Overview of Governance in a Church School

**Thurs 24 September,
17:00 – 18:30 (Maintained Schools)
Wed 30 September
17:00 – 18.30 (Trustees/Directors)
19:00 – 20:30 (Local School Boards)**

This course is mandatory for foundation governors who are new or have been reappointed to a church school, and encouraged for who those wish to refresh their knowledge and understanding, this training session will address the following key areas:

- statutory responsibilities and core function of governance
- a history of church schools and how context is key
- Church of England and national developments in education
- Structure of governing bodies – your role as a governor and how it fits in
- responsibilities of a foundation governor
- SIAMS church school inspection: increase your understanding and discover how to strengthen your role in this process

To book: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/EKNKjr5zwB>



Buildings and Churchyards	Martyn's Law – A practical walk through the Terrorism (Protection of Premises) Act 2025 Thurs 1 October, 12:30 – 13:45 The Church of England and Community Security Trust (CST) are offering briefing webinars on Martyn's Law, with an emphasis on Standard Duty Premises. Martyn's Law requires premises to be prepared for attacks, ready to respond, able to mitigate impact and reduce physical harm. Larger premises and events must also take steps to reduce vulnerability to attacks. It establishes who is responsible for considering risk and how to prepare. We discuss what you will need to do to comply with Martyn's Law – looking at which premises/events are 'in-scope' and the requirements for Standard and Enhanced Duty Premises, and for Qualifying Events. We also look at the regulator's responsibilities and enforcement. Finally, we discuss some practical examples and suggestions. The Community Security Trust (CST) is a charity that protects British Jews from antisemitism and related threats. Our SAFE programme shares the CST's security knowledge with vulnerable groups outside the Jewish community, through its free programme of talks and webinars (minimum age 18). To book: Please click here 
Education	Governors' and Governance Professionals' (Clerks') Briefings Mon 5 October, 13:30 – 14:30 OR Thurs 8 October, 18:00 – 19:00 Topics covered at the termly briefings will include • SIAMS, • Ofsted, • Governance, • Monitoring, • Multi-Academy Trusts, • Headteacher recruitment, • Data, attainment and progress, • Staff and governor wellbeing. • Statutory responsibilities & compliance • To book: https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/KjRsD9X5mq 

Buildings and Churchyards	Buildings for PCC members Wed 7 October, 09:30 – 12:30 You may not know your architrave from your clerestory, but as a PCC member you share a general responsibility to work with your churchwardens and incumbent to maintain your church building (“care, maintenance, preservation and insurance of the fabric of the church and the goods and ornaments thereof” – as the law says) and the churchyard or if you don’t have a churchyard, the area around the church. In this session, we will cover what’s involved in basic care of the building, health and safety issues, and insurance, and outline the faculty system which is the legal framework for making any alterations or repairs, and mainly replaces planning permission. To book: Buildings for PCC members – Fill in form Location: Diocese of Worcester Office Lowesmoor Wharf, Worcester 
Finance and Administration	New Treasurer Training Wed 7 October, 14:00- 16:00 An afternoon for new treasurers to look at the peculiarities of church finances within the Diocese of Worcester. Becoming a Church Treasurer can often be daunting, with lots of new things to learn even if you are used to accounting. This afternoon, for treasurers, will provide you with the opportunity to come and meet the Finance team at Lowesmoor, who are always here to help, and your fellow new treasurers. We will cover a lot of the basics of church and charity accountancy, such as Parish Finance Returns, Gift Aid and Stewardship, and allow space for you to discuss and develop ideas within your own setting. To book: New Treasurer Training – Fill in form Location: Diocese of Worcester Office Lowesmoor Wharf, Worcester 

Enrichment	Lunchtime Learning - Writing and Collecting the New Testament Mon 12 October, 12:30 – 13:00 There is a complicated history behind the collection of books we call the Bible. Because we usually experience it as a single book between two covers, we don't often think about its complexity. But the history is fascinating, and getting to understand that history can enrich our understanding of the scriptures we read. In this second session of the series, Doug Chaplin will lead us in thinking about how the New Testament came together. Despite the order in which the books appear in our Bible, many of the letters were written before the gospels. The early church also generated quite a lot of other literature, which different churches and groups valued. The later church recognised some of this as valuable, and some as heretical. Part of the story of how we got the Bible we now have is the story of how they established which books reflected, taught and expressed the faith of the apostles. Come along and explore the history of how the Old Testament section of the biblical library was put together. Doug Chaplin is the Discipleship and Lay Training Officer for the Diocese. To book: Lunchtime Learning - Writing and Collecting the New Testament – Fill in form 
Education	SIAMS Framework: Day 2 Tue 13 October, 10:00 – 15:30 The Impact of Collective Worship This course is particularly suitable for governors, school leaders and clergy. High quality Collective Worship has always been at the heart of an effective church school and this expectation is built into the SIAMS Framework. This course will identify the main features of effective practice in Collective Worship and highlight current resources available to help schools enrich the quality of their worship. This course focuses on inspection question 3. To book: https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/sVHEjZyhFR Location: Diocese of Worcester Office Lowesmoor Wharf, Worcester 

Education	SIAMS Framework: Day 2 The Impact of Collective Worship Tue 13 October, 10:00 – 15:30 This course is particularly suitable for governors, school leaders and clergy. High quality Collective Worship has always been at the heart of an effective church school and this expectation is built into the SIAMS Framework. This course will identify the main features of effective practice in Collective Worship and highlight current resources available to help schools enrich the quality of their worship. This course focuses on inspection question 3. To book: https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/sVHEjZyhFR Location: Diocese of Worcester Office Lowesmoor Wharf, Worcester 
Finance and Administration	Understanding about Church's Funds Wed 14 October, 12:30 – 13:30 An afternoon for new treasurers to look at the peculiarities of church finances within the Diocese of Worcester. Becoming a Church Treasurer can often be daunting, with lots of new things to learn even if you are used to accounting. This afternoon, for treasurers, will provide you with the opportunity to come and meet the Finance team at Lowesmoor, who are always here to help, and your fellow new treasurers. We will cover a lot of the basics of church and charity accountancy, such as Parish Finance Returns, Gift Aid and Stewardship, and allow space for you to discuss and develop ideas within your own setting. To book: Understanding about Church's Funds – Fill in form 
Finance and Administration	Build community using WhatsApp Thurs 15 October, 14:00 – 15:00 Discover how WhatsApp Communities can help your church communicate more effectively, organise groups, share updates, and strengthen connections within your congregation. This practical session will explore best practices, group structure, safeguarding considerations, and how churches can use WhatsApp to support ministry and community engagement. This training is being run by external agency Nexus in association with the diocesan communications team. It will be run online using Zoom. Contact annika@nexuscl.com for more information and to book. 

Enrichment	Worcester Diocesan Spirituality Gathering Under the Mercy- Praying the Jesus Prayer Sat 17 October, 10:00 – 14:00 A morning exploring the history, theological roots, and practice of a way of praying known as “the Jesus Prayer”. David Runcorn, is, or has been, a parish priest, theological teacher, conference speaker, ministry trainer, spiritual director, and the author of several books. He calls himself a ‘free-range priest’. You can meet him at: www.davidruncorn.com <i>Attending the Gathering is free. However, we invite donations to cover the session expenses.</i> The Purpose of the Gathering - David has shared the following: The Jesus Prayer is a gift to the wider church from the Eastern Orthodox Tradition. We will consider the relevance of this ancient way of repetitive prayer to the challenges of praying in today’s world. We will make simple prayer ropes and close by praying the prayer together Everyone is invited to stay until 1:30 pm to meet and share over a Free simple lunch – <u>please book in advance (by Friday 9th October) to order and indicate any dietary requirements</u>. It would help us to know beforehand if you plan to attend. Pre-booking is not required unless you want lunch. The Spirituality Network and Spiritual Direction The Diocesan Spirituality Network includes people seeking to listen to and walk with others on their spiritual journeys. In addition, clergy and lay people are available to offer spiritual direction or accompaniment. To learn more or request information about those offering spiritual direction in our diocese, contact Mary Flitcroft at Spirituality@cofe-worcester.org.uk. To book: Worcester Diocesan Spirituality Gathering Under the Mercy- Praying the Jesus Prayer – Fill in form Location: St Cecilia’s Church, Kidderminster 		
Ministry and Leadership	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px;">From Text to Sermon</td> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px; text-align: right;">Mon 19 October, 10:30 – 12:30</td> </tr> </table> This workshop is put on as part of the continuing development programme for Readers / LLMs, but is also open to clergy. All of us – however long or short a time we’ve been preaching – can benefit from reflecting on what we do as preachers. This workshop is a chance to meet with others, think about how people’s expectations have changed over the years we’ve been in ministry, and ask whether there are ways we can better develop our own practice in response. Come prepared to share tips, ask questions and learn from one another. If there are aspects of preaching you particularly want to reflect on, please say so on the booking form. The workshop will be convened by Doug Chaplin, who will also say something about the practice of improvisation in relation to preaching. To book: From Text to Sermon – Fill in form Location: Diocese of Worcester Office Lowesmoor Wharf, Worcester 	From Text to Sermon	Mon 19 October, 10:30 – 12:30
From Text to Sermon	Mon 19 October, 10:30 – 12:30		

Education	Being a Clergy Ex-Officio or Bishop's Representative Tue 20 October, 18:00 – 19:30 This session will look at the unique role of the clergy Ex-Officio or approved Bishop's Representative on the governing body of a church school. We will review their responsibilities and provide an understanding of the position within the governing board and how it relates to other key stakeholders within the school. Additionally, this session offers an opportunity for the Ex-Officio or Bishop's Representative to explore further ways for the church and school communities to work effectively together. This will include an overview of the Church and School Partnership Award. To book: https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/yFBcdTWSTj 
Buildings and Churchyards	Health and Safety training with Ecclesiastical Insurance Wed 28 October, 19:00 – 20:00 This training is with Heather Ford, Church Support Manager with Ecclesiastical Insurance. Heather will lead the session, explaining why managing health and safety effectively is important, providing an overview of health & legislation relevant to churches, and offering a step-by-step guide and the tools to enable churches to feel more confident in managing their health and safety responsibilities. To book: Health and Safety training with Ecclesiastical Insurance – Fill in form 
Buildings and Churchyards	Fire Safety training with Ecclesiastical Insurance Thurs 29 October, 19:00- 20:00 This training is with Heather Ford, Church Support Manager with Ecclesiastical Insurance. All churches need to complete a suitable and sufficient fire risk assessment to comply with legislation. Heather will lead this session and take you through the specialist resources Ecclesiastical have, in order to enable you to meet your fire risk management obligations. To book: Fire Safety training with Ecclesiastical Insurance – Fill in form 

Governance and Compliance	PCCs as employers – what you need to know! Mon 2 November, 19:00 – 21:00 (online) OR Wednesday 4 November, 10:00 – 12:00 (in person) Being or becoming an employer can seem daunting but the key is to get the basics right. This training course will help you navigate the administrative and legal side of employing someone in your parish (including administrators, youth or family workers, caretakers or other paid staff). Led by the Diocesan HR team, it will offer clergy and PCC members information, guidance and best practice in an easy to understand, interactive format including the use of short videos and case studies. A range of resource templates will be provided as well as signposting for more complex queries. Jo Hyrons and Becky Lowe hold the role of HR Manager on a job-share basis, providing practical employment advice and access to a wealth of templates all specifically tailored to the Church environment as well as offering practical advice for clergy on a range of topics from wellbeing to common tenure! They are ably assisted by Liz Toone who supports HR as well as being part of our safeguarding team and Fiona Edlington who supports our transformation project as HR Advisor for Parishes. Location for in person training: Diocese of Worcester Office Lowesmoor Wharf, Worcester To book: PCCs as employers – what you need to know! – Fill in form 
Education	SIAMS Framework: Day 3 The Effectiveness of Religious Education Tue 3 November, 10:00 – 15:30 This course is particularly suitable for governors, school leaders and clergy. We will look in detail at RE within the SIAMS Framework, the importance placed on RE, including the requirements for subject leaders, headteachers and governors. This course focuses on inspection questions 6 & 7 (VA). To book: https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/Ufvd1VD0us Location: Diocese of Worcester Office Lowesmoor Wharf, Worcester 

Education	Enabling governors, foundation governors and Ex-Officios to monitor the impact of the school's Christian Vision Wed 4 November, 18:00 – 20:00 This session will give governors, foundation governors and Ex-Officios an understanding of their responsibilities with regards to monitoring the impact of the effectiveness of the Christian vision within a church school. Delegates will be given the practical resources to enable them to monitor the impact of the school's Christian vision. To book: https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/Mqnr0MSS4B 
Finance and Administration	Having a Generous Advent Thurs 5 November 13:00 – 14:00 Join Stewardship Officer, Robyn Rooney, for a one-hour online workshop exploring how churches can encourage generosity during Advent. We will look at practical ways to inspire giving, including digital giving campaigns, contactless donation devices, QR code giving and simple social media approaches. We will also touch on the theology of giving and generosity during the Advent season. To book: Having a Generous Advent – Fill in form 
Governance and Compliance	Keeping Yourself and Your Church Safe Tues 10 November, 10:00 – 16:30 Faith Security Training (FST) is a new training scheme available from the Home Office for faith communities in England & Wales. <i>The training is intended to help faith communities reduce the risk of hate crime, anti-social behaviour, and serious threats.</i> <i>Worcester Diocese is hosting a training session Tuesday 10 November, 10:00-16:30, at Worcestershire Wildlife Trust, Lower Smite Farm, Smite Hill, Hindlip, WR3 8SZ.</i> Until 30 September, this training is only bookable by clergy, churchwardens, and church operations managers in the Diocese of Worcester. If there are available spaces after that date, people from other denominations and faith communities in Worcestershire and Dudley will be welcome to book. <i>We shall operate a waiting list once all available spaces are taken, and if there is widespread interest, plan a repeat of this.</i> <i>Training will cover:</i> • Understanding threats to security • Pre-incident actions and incident response security measures • Risk scenarios • Security governance To learn more, visit https://www.gov.uk/guidance/faith-security-training To book: https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/1994138199034?aff=oddttdtcreator Location: Worcester Wildlife Trust, Lower Smite Farm, Smite Hill, Hindlip, Worcester, WR3 8SZ 

Finance and Administration	Annual Treasurers Meeting Tues 10 November 14:00 – 16:00 (In person) OR Tues 17 November 19:00 – 21:00 (Online) We will be getting an update of changes that affect our church and parish finances, considering upcoming legal changes, the finances of the Diocese and stewardship practices and opportunities. We will also be hearing from Andy Todd Diocesan Secretary, and Mark Carter, the Church Buildings Officer and Becky Lowe from our HR Team. We are also delighted that Bishop Hugh will also be joining us for the in-person meeting on the 10th November at Clent Parish Hall. To book: Annual Treasurers' Meeting – Fill in form Location for in person session: Clent Parish Hall, 40 Church Avenue, Clent, Stourbridge, DY9 9QT 
Buildings and Churchyards	Funding Drop In Wed 11 November, 12:30 – 13:30 Drop-in to seek advice from the church buildings team on funding for your building projects, including making applications to any of the following: • <i>The Places of Worship Renewal Fund (government funding)</i> • <i>Minor Repairs & Improvements Fund (diocese funding)</i> • <i>Net Zero Quick Wins Fund (diocese funding)</i> • <i>Parish Accessibility Fund (national church funding)</i> To book: Funding Drop-Ins – Fill in form (This session is also repeated on 12 August and 9 September) 

Ministry and Leadership	Preaching with Mark Wed 18 November 10:00 – 12:30 (In person) OR Wed 18 November 19:00 – 20:30 (Online) Mark is one of the most accessible and, at the same time, one of the most challenging of the Gospels. Mark's Jesus is very human, but some of his stories are 'hard' theologically. Understanding some of Mark's stories and sayings requires us to understand the underlying purpose that shapes his portrait of Jesus. In this session we will use techniques from narrative criticism to begin to approach Mark as a whole, understanding his themes and purpose as a lens through which we can preach week by week in a way that is true to the text. The only preparation required will be to read through the Gospel, preferably in one go. This workshop is part of the LLM continuing development programme, but is also open to clergy and others. Led by Rev'd Dr Roger Latham, Vicar of Malvern Priory, it will look at Matthew's shape, theme, and theology, and how these can connect with the concerns and questions of our congregations. Roger was a student of literature to postgraduate level before ordination, and spent 15 years as a full-time theological educator specialising in literary approaches to the Bible (which were the focus of his doctoral research). He is also a passionate amateur military historian and wargamer, self-confessed Tolkien geek and steampunk. To book: Preaching with Mark – Fill in form Location for in person session: Diocese of Worcester Office Lowesmoor Wharf, Worcester 
Enrichment	Lunchtime Learning A very short history of Bible Reading Tues 24 November, 12:30 – 1:30 As well as there being a history behind the Bible, there is a history of the Bible. For most of its existence, most Christians have been unable to read, and so the Bible has been listened to more than read. Because it was often read in the language of scholars – Latin – people didn't always understand it. Instead they approached it through pictures and the stories those pictures told. Sometimes, they approached it through drama, as we still do with nativity scenes and passion plays. Those who did read were aware that there was a huge amount of diversity from its human authors, including some very difficult passages, but a fundamental unity that came from its divine author. They therefore worked out ways of reading it that would help deepen their understanding of, and relationship with, God. In this third and final session, Doug Chaplin will explore some of the ways the Bible has been read and used over history, and see what we can learn from our ancestors in faith. Doug Chaplin is the Discipleship and Lay Training Officer for the Diocese. To book: Lunchtime Learning A very short history of Bible Reading – Fill in form 

Create Stunning Visuals with Canva and AI

Thurs 26 November, 11:00 – 13:00

Back by popular demand! Learn how to create professional-looking designs for your church using Canva, including Canva's latest AI-powered tools.

We'll cover how to design eye-catching visuals for social media, websites, posters, magazines, prayer sheets, and other church materials.

This session will also explore how AI can help speed up design creation, generate content ideas, and enhance your church communications. Perfect for beginners and experienced users alike. Join us at the diocesan office and bring your device to give it a go!

This training is being run by external agency Nexus in association with the diocesan communications team.

Contact annika@nexuscl.com for more information and to book.

Location: [Diocese of Worcester Office Lowesmoor Wharf, Worcester](#)



December 2026

Having a Generous 2027

Tues 8 December, 12:30 – 13:30

Finance and Administration

In 2026, Robyn Rooney, Stewardship Officer, had a focused year of Generosity, each month taking on a new deliberate act of generosity. Join her for this one-hour online workshop as we reflect on the journey, share what worked well, and explore the challenges and opportunities that emerged along the way. Together we will consider how churches can create their own Year of Generosity in 2027, building a culture of generous discipleship that can flourish for years to come.

To book: [Having a Generous 2027 – Fill in form](#)



Bishop's Certificate

Ministry and Leadership

What is the Bishop's Certificate?

This is a study course using tried and tested diocesan material which is offered in different places each year and run by volunteer tutors. It's designed to help you learn more about the bible and the great themes of Christian faith and life, and to relate these to your own experience and locality. It will encourage you to explore and reflect as you learn with, and from, the other people on your course. It's a great way to get to know people from neighbouring churches and different Christian traditions.

There are 30 sessions, and each one lasts about 1½ to 2 hours. Most courses run on a weekly basis over three terms, with the usual breaks for holidays, but each group can plan its own timetable.

What will I learn?

The course includes a mix of input from the course materials and from the tutor (everyone has their own copy of the full notes for every session), as well as discussion, personal reflection and looking at passages from the bible together. This is a course that invites everyone to get involved in sharing their ideas and experiences, but only as much as they wish to. Listening to, and learning from, each other is a significant ingredient of the whole experience.

The main subjects covered are:

- an introduction to the Old Testament and its central themes
- the person, life and teaching of Jesus
- Pentecost and the Holy Spirit
- Christian faith and creeds
- baptism, prayer and the Eucharist
- living and growing as Christians in today's world

As you explore these topics you will be learning about yourself and other people, as well as exploring your own faith.

How much does it cost?

It's £30 per person, to cover materials and administration.

When and where will the course happen?

We are hoping there will be several courses running across the diocese starting in October 2026,

For further information or to download an application form please see: <https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/your-faith/courses-group-resources/bishops-certificate/>

Safeguarding

Governance and Compliance

View all safeguarding training and resources on the Diocesan website: <https://bit.ly/3F58oqv>

Safeguarding Training

Basic Awareness course

Preparatory module and useful basic knowledge for anyone who is interested. This module is available via the [Safeguarding Training Portal](#).

If you cannot complete the training online or with support from your Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO), we are running in-person training sessions 10 – 11.45am at the Diocesan Offices on the below dates:

- Wednesday 18th November
- Monday 14th December

Please book onto the course via the Eventbrite link on our training page. Please ask your PSO if you need assistance to book. Please note, spaces are limited and you may be added to a waiting list.

Foundation course

Required learning for all PCC members, those working with children and/or vulnerable adults, and as pre-requisite learning for anyone needing to complete 'Leadership module'. Available via the [Safeguarding Training Portal](#).

If you cannot complete the training online or with support from your Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO), we are running in-person training sessions 1 – 2.45pm at the Diocesan Offices on the below dates:

- Wednesday 18th November
- Monday 14th December

Please ask book onto the course via the Eventbrite link on our [safeguarding training page](#). Please ask your PSO if you need assistance to book. Please note, spaces are limited and you may be added to a waiting list.

Leadership Course

For Clergy, Licensed Lay Ministers (Readers), Authorised Lay Ministers & PSOs. We encourage Churchwardens to attend, although no longer required to attend unless the parish is in vacancy. Takes place over two Zoom meetings plus some preliminary and post-course reflections, there are also two in-person courses available. Please book onto the course via the link on our [safeguarding training page](#). Please ask your PSO if you need assistance to book.

ONLINE (ZOOM) – 10.30am – 12pm

Friday 11th and 18th September
 Tuesday 6th and 13th October
 Monday 16th and 23rd November

ONLINE (ZOOM) – 2.30 - 4pm

Monday 7th and 14th September
 Monday 28th September and 5th October
 Monday 2nd and 9th November

ONLINE (ZOOM) – 7 – 8.30pm

Wednesday 9th and 16th September
 Monday 28th September and 5th October
 Thursday 5th and 12th November

IN-PERSON – 10.30am – 3.15pm

Friday 2nd October
 Thursday 10th December

IN-PERSON PTO PATHWAY

Thursday 10th September **1 – 4pm**
 Tuesday 24th November **10am – 1pm**

Safer Recruitment Training

For Clergy, Parish Safeguarding Officers, DBS Administrators, and anyone involved in parish recruitment, available as an online course, accessible through the [Safeguarding Training Portal](#).

Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking

Optional learning for anyone interested, available via the [Safeguarding Training Portal](#).

Raising Awareness of Domestic Abuse

Required learning for all Clergy, PTOs, Licensed Lay Ministers and Children and Family Workers, but available to everyone via the Safeguarding Training Portal. We recognise the sensitive nature of the material and would encourage anyone who requires support to contact the Safeguarding Team. If you would prefer to complete the course in-person training sessions 1 – 2.45pm at the Diocesan Offices are available on the below dates:

- Thursday 26th November
- Wednesday 16th December

Please ask book onto the course via the Eventbrite link on our [safeguarding training page](#). Please ask your PSO if you need assistance to book.

Book the Safeguarding Trainer to visit your Parish

The Diocesan Safeguarding Trainer can visit your parish to deliver the following courses in-person:

Basic Safeguarding

Foundation Safeguarding

Raising Awareness of Domestic Abuse

You will need to have a guaranteed minimum of:

- at least 12 participants
- access to a projector or TV that is sound and video enabled
- an accessible premises with seat for the trainer.
-

Please see the [safeguarding training page](#) for more information and instructions for booking.

View all safeguarding training and resources on the Diocesan website: <https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/safeguarding/safeguarding-training/> Please sign up to the Diocesan Training

Newsletter to receive safeguarding training updates throughout the year, the subscription box can be found on the Diocesan homepage: <https://www.cofe-worcester.org.uk/>

If you have any access needs, please contact the safeguarding trainer at safeguardingtraining@cofe-worcester.org.uk or on 07399238679.