



Diocese in Europe - Children, Youth & Young Adults Ministry

Growing young, faithful disciples, active for God,
and the next generation of church leaders!

Newsletter 4

July 2025

Hello again from a very hot Lisbon!!

Of course, the hot weather often links with screams of HOORAY! The school holidays are here!! I hope that you might get some time off from the great work you ALL do with our young people.



In this addition there are some great resources from the National Church linked to Children and Youth ministry. Make sure you check them out! Reflections on our youth gathering in Prague, an update on the research into Children and Youth ministry and info about refreshing your Messy Church. **AND DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUT THE NEW YOUTH ALPHA IN THE RESOURCES AT THE END OF THIS NEWSLETTER!!**

I am very grateful for all the work you do to help our young people grow spiritually and become, confident, faithful disciples of Christ. BLESSINGS!! **Iain**

If you know someone who is not yet receiving this newsletter, but should be, please do tell them to get in touch with me

NETWORK MEETINGS

These meetings are held every 5 or 6 weeks. They are an opportunity for anyone who has a passion for, or works/volunteers with children and young people aged 5-30, to meet for an hour, pray together, share stories & resources and take part in training.

At our last meeting we welcomed Kate Irvine from Parenting for Faith. This month it will just be an opportunity to share the successes of the year, share any good resources or offer support. ZOOM LINK BELOW

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81407268105pwd=WMDjmfUa7gXf7UiQZ3QaF2i8hu6uKq.1>

To join the network
e-mail Rev Iain Bendrey
iain.bendrey@europe.anglican.org



Our next meeting is
Thursday 17th July
17h30wet/18h30cet/19h30eet

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Are you passionate about building connections and resilience across cultures?

**Join our training
"A Future and a Hope: Bridging Youth
Resilience across Borders"!**

**Ostello Villa
Olanda, Italy**

**APPLY BY
JULY 5**

**JOIN US!
LINK IN BIO**



Funded by the
European Youth
Foundation under the
Special Call Ukraine

Opportunity

Any young adults who might be called?

Literally today, I have received this information.
The deadline has been extended until 14th July.

If you have anyone interested get in touch and I can send you the link to the website



The 30K project is a national initiative which aims to bring about change to raise up 30,000 new children and youth leaders by 2030. 3,000 of these to be paid workers. Find out more here

www.churchofengland.org/30kproject

HowYC is a video series of 'how to' videos addressing some of the most pressing questions raised by new Youth and Children's Ministers. Topics include:-

Supporting children in worship, praying with young people,
managing additional needs

**National
Initiatives**

visit <https://www.howyc.co/> for more information

If you are passionate about children and young people and want to find out more about becoming a Children's and Youth Minister, this is the place for you!

There are different routes into this exciting ministry and lots of great training options available. Check out the media pack here

<https://www.churchofengland.org/about/children-and-young-people/doubling-number-children-and-young-people/30k-project/find-your-joy-media-pack>

**FIND
YOUR
JOY***

**If you are looking to recruit volunteers, do check out
<https://www.churchofengland.org/JOIN>**

RECRUITMENT & TRAINING



YOUTHSCAPE ESSENTIALS

A 10 week course offered by Youthscape, for those who would like to volunteer with 14-18 year olds. **FREE!** Check out www.youthscape.co.uk/yse and watch this video https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/adk05v1dwgqyglok5n5e2/YSE-Intro-Film_4K.mp4?rlkey=chdijyur63102uuf3dscxegki&st=nru3gx6h&dl=0

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY ESSENTIALS

A 10 week course designed for those who work with or want to volunteer with 5-11 year olds. I HAVE FREE PLACES to pilot this training! Watch here https://f.io/14_EJX8n to find out more and visit the resources page here:-

www.churchofengland.org/about/children-and-young-people/doubling-number-children-and-young-people/30k-project/childrens-ministry-essentials-cme-media-pack

Interested? Then please get in touch with me and I can set up some Q&A sessions.

Messy Momentum focuses on enabling and supporting Messy Churches to grow their engagement with young people, through piloting new approaches.

These will be aimed specifically at young people aged 9+ years old, who have grown up through Messy Church, encouraging them, together with their parents and carers, to grow in their Christian faith, deepen their relationship with God and their peers, and use their gifts in the church.



**Messy
Church**

If losing young people is an issue for your Messy Church, come and hear more about Project 'Messy Momentum' and sign up to one of our launch meetings, where you'll hear an explainer of the six approaches that we are looking to pilot with 25-30 Messy Churches.

At the meeting you will find out what this could look like for your Messy Church and what training and resources are available to support your team.

Interested? Contact me for the details and zoom link

Young Adults Gathering - Prague



On the 6th June, 20 young people from 8 countries in the East came together in PRAGUE for the first ever youth gathering. They spent the weekend forming new friendships and talking about the issues they face as young Christians in Europe. Some of their discussions are below together with a video of the weekend.

**The voice of
young people**

A copy of the Diocesan Synod speech and a summary of the weekend, are attached with this newsletter.

vimeo.com/1091802165

What is the hardest thing about being a Christian in your country?



We hope to hold a second gathering for the Young Adults in the North West archdeaconry in September. Watch out for more details.

Parenting for Faith helps parents spiritually nurture children and teens to have a lasting, vibrant two-way relationship with God. Through ground-breaking courses, events and training, resources and thriving social media they help thousands of parents and carers to grow.

**Parenting
Courses**



<https://www.brf.org.uk/what-we-do/parenting-for-faith/>

5 YEAR CHILDREN, YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS STRATEGY

You may remember that the Diocese has commissioned Youthscape to undertake research into Children and Youth Ministry across Europe. So far they have completed 2 stages. A survey of all chaplaincies and a survey of Youth workers across the Diocese. A summary of the findings are below. The final stage is to survey young people themselves.

- 76% of the 108 chaplaincies that responded in Phase 1 have at least 5 young people and are providing some age-specific ministry for them but less than half (42%) of chaplaincies have someone with designated responsibility for this ministry
- In relation to life for young people, respondents across all chaplaincies spoke about: 'third culture' kids, the transient nature of lives, busy culture, academic pressures, the challenges to their ministries of geographical distances between churches and communities, and language barriers
- Very few chaplaincies are currently offering individualised or outreach-focussed youth ministry, instead, the most common offering is the opportunity to serve in the church, followed by all-age services, and regular group activities during the church service.
- The most common barriers to the development of youth ministry for chaplaincies is the lack of volunteers, small congregation numbers, geographically disparate communities, and the transient nature of individuals and families
- 23% of respondents in Phase 2 identified a desire to work in partnership with other churches and through survey comments and interviews, several individuals suggested that Diocesan support to work collaboratively could support the development of youth ministry
- Suggestions for Diocesan support were grouped according to practical, personal development, and financial. The most common suggestions were:
 - Practical: provision of resources e.g. curriculum, volunteer training resources regional/online events, and provision of advice or guidance;
 - Personal Development: youth ministry skills learning from best practice, networking with other youth workers, mentoring / coaching and vision and strategy support;
 - None of the respondents in Phase 2 felt young people had 'a lot' of influence over vision and strategy

Once the final Stage of the research has been completed the information will be used to formulate a strategy for Children, youth and young adults ministry across the Diocese which will be funded for at least 5 years.

WATCH THIS SAPCE!!

DON'T FORGET TO POST ACTIVITIES AND RESOURCES ON OUR DEDICATED FACEBOOK PAGE AND ENCOURGE OTHERS WITH THE WORK YOU DO .

Facebook Page [Diocese in Europe Youth Network](#) | [Facebook](#).

On the subject of resources do check out our resources page on the Diocese in Europe website: [Children & Youth Resources](#)

If you have any resources you would like to share then please e-mail me with the name and link and he can add it to the site iain.bendrey@europe.anglican.org

Social media & resources

Children's resources – 4 brand new episodes of the Cheeky Pandas- presented by CBeebies Gemma Hunt & guests- exploring different ways to pray and additional resources for use in schools, homes and at church;

Youth resources - including the Digital Detox Youth Prayer Journal and accompanying study guides for youth leaders/ teachers/ parents as well as content from the Way UK, including a special podcast episode / Bible study on the Lord's prayer and accompanying study plan.

Visit the website <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/new-2025>

*****CHECK OUT THE NEW YOUTH ALPHA. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN RUNNING A COURSE ONLINE, GET IN TOUCH****

<https://alpha.org.uk/alphayouthseries>

CHURCH SUPPORT HUB - is your chaplaincy registered with this hub which is full of ideas and resources for recruiting volunteers and delivering Children and Youth Ministry?

Check is out here <https://churchsupporthub.org/>

Keep in touch!

Well that is all for now. But if you have any questions, ideas for training, resources or just want to let us know what you are doing, then please keep in touch. **I would love to hear from you.**



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