

# News and Events from the Archdiocese of Birmingham

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To: The Sacred Heart and St Catherine of Alexandria - Droitwich <sacredheart.droitwich@rcaob.org.uk>



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Archdiocese of Birmingham

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## ***The Sower* magazine, Service of Praise, dates for your diary**

### **Out now! Summer edition of *The Sower* magazine**

Snap up the latest edition of the Diocesan magazine, *The Sower*.

This free magazine is available in churches and online now.

Featuring a great selection of articles showcasing the work of our parishes, schools and communities.

[The Sower online](#)

### **Still time to sign up for Service of Praise**

An ecumenical '*Service of Praise: The churches of Birmingham welcome the Commonwealth Games*' will be held at St Chad's Cathedral at 3pm on Sunday 24 July.

Free tickets to attend the service are available, but must be booked in advance.

Please join us as we welcome the Commonwealth Games to the area.

[Service of Praise](#)

### **Join the Little Bits of God exhibition**

A unique opportunity to view and have a brilliant explanation of a new mosaic polyptych of the Bible story from Genesis to Revelation by the person who commissioned this artwork. Fleur Dorrell is the national co-ordinator of the 'God who Speaks' scripture campaign.

## Little Bits of God

### **Minister Refresher Day, September**

All welcome to the Refresher Day for parish liturgical ministers on Saturday 10 September.

At St Nicholas in Boldmere, Sutton Coldfield.

The day begins at 10am and will finish at 3pm - come for as much or as little as you like.

One of the programme items is Exploring 'Desiderio Desideravi' - Pope Francis' recent letter to the Church about the Liturgical Formation of the People of God.

## Refresher Day

### **Carmelite Encounter Festival**

**29 - 31 July - for ages 25 - 35**

Experience the Carmelite Tradition of Self Awakening, Self-Giving and being Transformed.

Available online or as a residential - Oxford.

Do you consider God a trusted friend?

Do you want a deep experience of fellowship with other young adults?

Do you want to nurture and grow in your spiritual life?

This Encounter Festival will help you discover God as a trusted friend and deepen your prayer life as well as find others to walk alongside you on the journey.

## Carmelite Encounter Festival

### **Help us plan events to keep your parish**

#### **Fit for Function**

Fit for Function is a working group made up from the Anglican dioceses of Coventry, Hereford, Gloucester, Birmingham, Worcester, Lichfield and the Archdiocese of Birmingham.

Through our shared experience of church buildings and the projects that we are asked to offer help and support for, we know that it's not always easy to work out what is possible, where to start, and what help churches can get to achieve this.

Whether it is repairs, renovations or advice on community use, we would like to plan a conference that is useful to you and people like you, who care about their church buildings and their future.

To help plan for future events please would you take a few minutes to respond to our questionnaire by **Sunday**

## **Nominations open for the National Church Awards**

The first ever National Church Awards to celebrate churches and the people who use and look after them are now open for entries.

The categories for the 2022 awards are:

- Church architecture
- Church maintenance
- Church volunteers
- Church tourism

**Entry deadline is Monday 1 August.**

A special prize for the UK's 'Church of the Year' also forms part of the awards, being run by the National Churches Trust.

The National Church Awards are open to any church, chapel or meeting house in the UK and are free to enter. Nominations will be judged by a team of church and heritage professionals. Churches can enter for as many categories as they wish.

The Awards will culminate in a high profile ceremony, including a glorious high tea, to be held at the historic Mercers Company Livery Hall in the City of London in October 2022.

### National Church Awards

## **New job opportunities in the network: one week to apply**

### **Office and Facilities Manager Brushstrokes, Smethwick**

Brushstrokes Community Project is an award-winning project delivered through Father Hudson's Care, founded in partnership with the Infant Jesus Sisters, Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd Sisters and the parish of St Philip Neri, Smethwick.

The project is well established with a proven track record in supporting refugees, asylum seekers and migrants in Sandwell and surrounding areas. Apply by **Thursday 21 July 2022.**

### **Communications and Administrative Officer at Restore**

An opportunity to join a small busy staff team committed to working towards Restore's vision of a society into which all refugees and asylum seekers are welcomed, valued and integrated.

Restore is a project of Birmingham Churches Together. Apply by **Tuesday 19 July 2022.**

## Dates for your diary: the month ahead

Sat 16 July: [Kenelm Charity Gala](#)

Fri 22 - Sun 24 July: [Annual Justice and Peace Conference](#)

Mon 18 July: [Little Bits of God exhibition](#)

Thu 23 July: [Catholic Union Summer Gathering](#)

Sun 24 July: [Second World Day of Prayer for Grandparents and the Elderly](#)

Sun 24 July: [Service of Praise: The churches of Birmingham welcome the Commonwealth Games](#)

Sun 24 July: [KYT Summer Camp](#)

Tues 26 July - Thurs 4 Aug: [YouCAN Pilgrimage to the Holy Land](#)

Wed 27 July - Mon 1 Aug: [Retreat with the Jesuits](#)

Mon 1 - Fri 5 Aug: [New Dawn in the Church Conference](#)

Wed 3 - Sat 6 Aug: [Society of St Gregory Summer School](#)

Thu 4 - Sun 7 Aug: [Catholicism & Contemporary Culture](#)

Sun 14 Aug: [Aid to the Church in Need Assumption Pilgrimage](#)

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## More Events

### Supporting your parish

You have asked us how you can continue giving to your parish.

Parishes still greatly need your support.

We do though recognise that many parishioners may be struggling financially, and there is no expectation to give where you are unable to do so.

You can donate via standing order or single donation.

## Support your Parish

### Please follow us online

If you are on Facebook, Twitter or Instagram please follow the Archdiocese of Birmingham online.

Our accounts are being used more than ever before to share news, events and information.

[Twitter/ Facebook/ Instagram/ Web/YouTube](#)

We hope you are finding this e-newsletter useful. **Please share with anyone you think will benefit, and encourage them to subscribe via the website.**

If you have any news, events or information you'd like to share this way please email it to [communications@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:communications@rcaob.org.uk) marked 'For Newsletter'.

It's great to see information coming into us which we can share with others, please keep it coming!



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