

6 February 2020

Welcome our new Bishop of Dudley

Martin Gorick officially became the next Bishop of Dudley when he was consecrated by Archbishop Justin at a special service at Southwark Cathedral.

[Read more](#) / [See pictures from the service.](#)

Bishop Martin will be **welcomed to the Diocese on:**

- Saturday 22 February, 4pm at Top Church in Dudley
- Sunday 23 February, 4pm at Evensong in the Cathedral.

All are welcome to either of these events, but we'd appreciate an idea of numbers so please email leonie.andrews@cofe-worcester.org.uk if you're planning on coming.

Office and housing arrangements for Bishop Martin

To coincide with the arrival of Bishop Martin, it has been decided to relocate the Bishop of Dudley's office and home.

The Bishop's office will move to Dudley town centre. This will greatly facilitate the outward-looking aspects of the Bishop's role in the community in Dudley. To save costs and reduce isolation for the Bishop's Secretary, who was often working in the house alone, Bishop Martin's new office will be in the same premises as offices already being used by the Top Church team at 3 Parsons Street, Dudley. [Find out more](#)

Open Conversation for children and young people

We're holding a special open conversation for children from year 3 to the sixth form to enable their voices to be heard as we discuss the future of ministry in our Diocese.

All are welcome on Saturday 8 February, 1.30 - 3pm. Parents/ carers do not need to stay with their children. [Find out more and book a place.](#)

Thank you to the 1,080 people who have attended one of our nine open conversation events to date. Look out for a summary of the feedback coming shortly.

Safeguarding

Some new dates for Leadership (C3) Safeguarding training have been confirmed:

- **Monday 2 March** - Greenlands St John, Ipsley - 9:30am-12:30pm [Book Here](#)
- **Monday 4 May** - The Old Palace, Worcester - 6:30pm-9:30pm [Book Here](#)

Past Cases Review 2

We have been asked by the Archbishops' Council to undertake a review of past safeguarding cases in our diocese. This process is known as the Past Cases Review (or PCR2). Find out more and how to make representations to the PCR2 process, or a disclosure regarding church related abuse on the [diocesan website](#).

In brief ...

- We're looking for a new **volunteer Chair for our Diocesan Advisory Committee for the Care of Churches (DAC)**. Could it be you? [Find out more](#)
- Read the latest edition of [Worcester Cathedral News](#).
- The latest **Baptism Books resource** available to pass on to families in your parish is based on [Paddington](#) and looks at different kinds of gifts. [More information.](#)
- Read the latest update from the [Cathedral's Undercroft project](#).
- Holland House is running a **Lent Quiet Day** led by the retired Bishop of Ludlow, Michael Hooper. Monday 24 February from 9.30am. £30 per person including lunch. Book on 01386 860330.
- On Tuesday 11 Feb at 7.30pm a small group will be **praying for the city of Worcester** as well as the ROC conversation and the Passion play at Lindisfarne House, Barbourne Terrace, WR1 3JS. All are welcome.
- The editor of Pershore Abbey's parish magazine will be running a training session on **church magazine production** on Mon 2 March, 10.30 - 12.30 in Pershore. More information from [Colin Reeves](#).
- Read the [latest newsletter from Parish Buying](#) which aims to help your church become greener, increase donations and support you in saving money wherever possible.
- Claines Church is looking to appoint an **inspiring and energetic organist** to play for regular services, weddings and funerals and to direct and develop our small, capable and enthusiastic choir. To enquire about making an application, please contact the [Vicar, Jo Musson](#)
- The next meeting of the **Worcester Theological Society** will take place at The Old Palace at 2pm on Wednesday 12 February with a presentation by Dr Steve Phillipson on "Perspectives on life, faith and the church from the seminal 19th Century theologian and philosopher, Soren Kierkegaard." [More information.](#)
- **Chaplaincy to GP Surgeries** is becoming more prevalent. If you might be interested in being involved, visit the website of the [Association of Chaplaincy in General Practice](#) or contact [local GP Claire Gardiner](#) for a chat.
- There are a number of services happening in Worcester for the **World Day of Prayer** on 6 March. [Find out more](#)
- The Mothers Union is looking for a **Volunteer Supervisor** to assist in Hewell Prison visitors' centre canteen. [More information.](#)
- Read the [latest newsletter from the Church Support Hub](#), which includes an idea for connecting with couples, a look ahead to Lent and Easter, and some brand new resources to try.
- Germinate: The Arthur Rank Centre's **Rural Ministry Course** is back in June! The three-day residential programme is designed for lay and ordained church leaders across the denominations entering a rural appointment for the first time, and those already in rural ministry who feel the need for a 'refresher'. [Find out more](#)

- Read the [latest newsletter](#) from the **Mission Morogoro** charity, including an update on the tractor which the Diocese helped to raise funds for!
- The Well Counselling in Malvern is offering two different five week courses - **The Angry Course** and **The Assertive Course**. [More information](#)
- The **Faraday Institute** will be holding its annual Summer Course June 28 - 3 July. It is an opportunity to explore the ways in which faith and science speak to each other in contemporary society and to explore the theological and ethical issues which this dialogue raises. [Download poster](#) / [Find out more](#)
- CPAS is looking for a **Head of Fundraising and Communications**. [More details.](#)
- **Call to the catwalk at CRE Midlands:** The search is on for church ministers, particularly male, to contribute to Clergy on the Catwalk, a presentation of clerical clothing at the upcoming Christian Resources Exhibition (NAEC, Stoneleigh Park, nr Coventry, 4/5 Mar 2020). Clergy wishing to take part should contact CRE on 0161 240 4500. Email: enquiries@creonline.co.uk. More info: www.creonline.co.uk
- Read **Church Action on Poverty's** [latest newsletter](#).
- **Caring for God's Acre** is holding two 'Beautiful Burial Ground' conferences in March in Cardiff and Sheffield. [More information.](#)
- Read the [latest newsletter from Roots](#), including resources for reaching children and young people.
- There will be a **free Retirement Roadshow** with local and national services for the over 55s at the Guildhall, Worcester on 7 March from 9.30 - 2.30pm. [More information.](#)
- **CPAS** offers two different days for clergy who might be thinking about a new post. [Find out more](#)
- The Canal and River Trust is planning a **Canal Clean in Worcester** on 13 February. [Download flyer.](#)
- The **College of St. Barnabas**, a unique Anglican retirement and care home, celebrates its 125th anniversary this year. Find out more at www.st-barnabas.org.uk or by calling 01342 870260.

To read more news, including sermon podcasts, blogs and daily prayers, head over to our [website](#).

Vacancies

See the [latest parish and diocesan vacancies](#). Please pray for those parishes who are currently in vacancy.

Events coming up

For a full list of upcoming events go to our [Events listings](#). You can also [add your own event](#).

The next **ALIVE Worcestershire** concert for children and families takes place on 9 February at Worcester Arena. [See what happened last time](#), [Download flyer](#) or [book tickets](#)

Valentines afternoon tea
Holland House will be serving Afternoon Tea between 12 noon and 4pm on Friday 14 February, why not treat your loved one. £14 per person or 2 for £25 (mention this offer when booking). Must be pre-booked, please telephone 01386 860330.

CRE Midlands 2020
Wed-Thur, 4-5 March, Stoneleigh Park, near Coventry
Back in the Midlands for the first time in five years, the [Christian Resources Exhibition](#) will feature some 130 exhibitors, displaying everything from computers to communion wine, puppets to pulpits. Book your tickets at www.creonline.co.uk/tickets for as little as £3 each (£8 on the day).

Sustainable Flower workshop
Saturday 14 March, 10 - midday, St Peter's Church, Martley.
An Easter foam-free pedestal workshop. Contact kate@camomilecornflowers.co.uk for further details and to book your place.

Rethinking Mission: Rediscovering the Gospel in 'Christian' nations
Saturday 21 March, St John's Waterloo, London, SE1 8TY

Training opportunities

[Download the latest clergy training programme](#)

[Download the latest parish training programme](#)

Labour Exploitation & Modern Day Slavery Training Morning
Saturday 8 February, 10am - 1pm, The Ark, St Laurence Church, Alvechurch
The event, sponsored by Faith at Work in Worcestershire, is to raise awareness of the current issue of modern day slavery and human trafficking. It will be of interest to anyone concerned and wanting to learn how to respond safely and effectively, should they come across signs of such exploitation. [Download flyer](#)

Labs Learning Webinars

- Do you know the difference between your Instagram and Facebook audiences?
- Do you know how to measure your success on social media?
- What and how often should you post to social media as a church?

Learn more about using digital for your church in a live webinar. [Find out more](#)

Worship - All Things to All People?
Thursday 14 May, St Mary's Church, Leamington Spa
Come and join the PraxisMidlands team for a day focussing on what it means for worship to be truly accessible and welcoming for all people. Bookings open in January. [More information](#)

Marena Link Prayer Guide basic

USPG Rethinking Mission Conference 2020 - How is Christian Mission being lived out in four contrasting 'Christian' nations - Brazil, Britain, Kenya and the Philippines? What can we learn from these diverse contexts for our own mission and ministry? 10am-4pm, refreshments from 9.30am. [More information](#)

training course
Sept 2020 - Jan 2021 in Birmingham
Would you like to explore or deepen your calling to a ministry of prayer guiding - accompanying others through retreats in daily life or weeks of guided prayer? If so, this course is for you. It takes place over eight Saturday mornings, followed by two weekends. [Download flyer](#) or [visit the website](#).

And Finally ...

Roofing slates need a new home!

A member of the public has a surfeit of roofing slates which she has offered to diocesan churches free-of-charge to aid repairs. There are approximately 100-120 slates, dimension 25x50cm (see picture). If these are suitable for your church or hall and you would be interested in acquiring them, please contact the Church Buildings Team on 01905 732809. You would need to collect them from Malvern.

Sermon Podcasts

Each week a sermon podcast is available to listen to and download from the [diocesan website](#). These are especially useful for churches without anyone available to preach.

