



**BROCKENHURST
PARISH CHURCHES**
Sharing the love and life of Jesus

**Brockenhurst Parish
Mission Action Plan**

2022 Year of vocations

Our Vision Day in September 2019 helped us to define our aims and mission for the Parish. To equip us to fulfil this vision, we have decided that there will be three years of activities to help us grow closer to God: 2020 was the year of prayer, 2021 was the year of the Bible, 2023 will be the year of vocations and this year will be the year of vocations.

Our aim is that through our activities this year, every individual will know how we are individually called to be part of God's mission to our families, friends, community and the world as a whole. This leaflet describes the wide variety of ways we will support that aim.

Everything described here will also help us collectively as we seek to live the mission of Jesus as outlined in our Mission Action Plan: please take this opportunity to prepare for the exciting journey of faith we are taking together.

You are encouraged to consider how each offering might meet your needs and strengthen your discipleship. Help is available if you would like to talk through the options available or discuss what might be right for you: please talk to me or any member of the Ministry Team.

Rev'd Simon Newham



DIOCESE of
WINCHESTER

EVERYDAY ACTIVITIES

A really strong foundation for life is to regularly spend time building our individual relationship with God through prayer and scripture.

AIDS TO DAILY STUDY

In the past, many people used a booklet to provide scripture references, prayers and reflections. These are still available and a good first step is *Knowing God in the Everyday: Reflections from Our Daily Bread* which is available free of charge from Our Daily Bread Ministries, PO Box 1, Carnforth, Lancashire LA5 9ES (015395 64149).

There are many good online resources (For example, Scripture Union's *WordLive* (www.wordlive.org) and The Bible Society's Daily Lyfe (<https://www.biblesociety.org.uk/explore-the-bible/lyfe/daily-lyfe/>)).

If you prefer to select your own plan, there's the free Bible App from YouVersion.com. This can be added to your tablet or smartphone and has the added advantages of always ensuring you have a Bible in your pocket, a wide choice of Reading Plans and the option to have your passage read to you!

If you have questions, talk to Simon Newham or John Pearson.

HOME GROUPS

Our Bible Study Groups meet regularly at a variety of times – both daytime and evening – throughout the week. They provide a friendly, encouraging way to explore what the Bible has to say to us today. These groups can also provide a supportive environment to discuss the challenges of life and discipleship. This year, these groups can also provide great support exploring the life we are each called to live. If you do not currently participate in one of our groups, why not join one of them?

If you have questions or want to get involved, talk to Diane Webster or Simon Newham

Our personal prayer time is an important part of considering how we are called to live. However, there's lots of support available to help you make this time as enriching as it can be. The Parish website contains prayers for different seasons and events in life as well as regularly updated weekly prayers. There are also specialist websites and apps including Lectio 365 from the 24/7 prayer movement and SacredSpace from the Jesuit movement.

Should you feel that your prayer life is in a rut, we can offer you support as you *Start again with prayer*. Similarly, if you find it difficult to pray around a particular topic, then our Prayer Team would be happy to support you – either at the 10:30 service (1st and 3rd Sundays) or by confidential email to prayer@brockenhurstchurch.com

If you have questions, talk to John Pearson.

YEAR OF VOCATIONS EVENTS

The *Year of Vocations* will have a very different approach to our recent focuses on Prayer and the Bible: there is more time for each church member to discern and explore potential opportunities to apply their God-given skills in the service of the community, the Church and/or the wider world. Throughout the year, everyone will be encouraged to:

- ENGAGE with the diverse opportunities for vocation that exist.
- EXPLORE and discern the vocation they feel called to fulfil
- ACT to begin to make it a reality

Our expectation is that people will clarify and respond to God's call at differing rates and so our approach must accommodate and support such differences. Accordingly, some activities will be repeated, whilst others will be offered on a 1:1 basis so individuals can move forward as soon as they discern a call.

LAUNCH EVENT

SUNDAY 9 JANUARY

Our renewed focus on our vocations starts with a special service when we will be joined at both services by our guest preacher the Reverend Canon Mark Collinson, Diocesan Director of Ministry.

Today we are often overwhelmed with choice. Whether you are pondering a new job, a sense of calling or a particular role at church, our *Year of vocations* book – *Life is for Giving* – is designed to help you answer the question: what will I do with my life?

Life is for Giving contains twelve reflections that encourage you to hear how God is calling you through your history, your present reality, your identity and your community, opening yourself to hear God's voice speaking directly to your heart. Each is accompanied by actions to help you explore your vocation to the full.

We have a number of these books to offer as a reduced price (£2) when you are ready to start your journey. They are available from the church office.

If you have questions, talk to Simon Newham.

ONE PERSON'S VOCATION

20 FEBRUARY; 15 MAY; 16 OCTOBER

On these three Sunday mornings, visitors will attend both the 9:00am (St Nicholas') and 10:30am (St Saviour's) services to talk about their sense of vocation as they work beyond the bounds of the Church in building design (Wendy Perring: 20 February), education (John Littlewood: 15 May) and the world of Finance and Insurance (Philip Geddes: 16 October).

For more information, talk to Simon Newham.

LENT SERMON SERIES

ST. NICHOLAS' AT 9AM; ST. SAVIOUR'S AT 10:30AM

The Bible is peppered with the inspiration of individuals who have – perhaps to their own surprise – decided to use their lives to act for God in a particular way. Throughout Lent we will be exploring their commitments and the powerful impact that resulted.

6 March: The God who calls

13 March: Stepping out in faith

20 March: A life of giving

27 March: The God who calls us to repent (St Nicholas')

3 April: The God who calls us to love

If you have questions, talk to Simon Newham.

COMPLINE/NIGHT PRAYER

ST. SAVIOURS: 7PM WEDNESDAYS DURING LENT STARTING 9 MARCH

During Lent, we will offer Night Prayer each Wednesday starting at 7pm. This will be combined with a short talk from a member of our Church family on his/her experience of being called. The diverse and fulfilling ways others are drawn to live out their faith will inspire you to see your own life differently.

If you have questions, talk to Simon Newham.

WHERE DOES MY FAITH LEAD ME?

TUESDAYS FROM 17 MAY AT 7PM

This series of six Bible studies has been written especially for *2022 Year of vocations*. It helps participants recognise the differing ways we can use our God-given skills to benefit his Kingdom. Each study is focused on a Bible passage and provides the opportunity to discuss its importance in our lives today.

Additionally, each study offers the chance to use questions and activities at home after each study to help you identify vocations that you will find both fulfilling and enjoyable. This study series is also available for use by home groups throughout the year.

If you have questions, talk to Simon Newham or John Pearson. To book a place, please contact the Church Office

VOCATIONS DEVELOPMENT GROUP *STARTING SEPTEMBER AND NOVEMBER*

Following on from “*Where does my faith lead me?*”, this small group activity is for people who have developed an initial idea of their calling and want to make it happen. The course will combine activities to inspire you, together with practical information on the wealth of local training and support designed to help you reach your goal.

If you have questions or want to focus on vocation at other times, talk to Simon Newham or John Pearson.

1:1 MENTORING

ONGOING

We recognise that a vocation can be a personal matter and that you may be uncomfortable discussing it publicly – especially in the early days when your ideas are still forming. To meet the needs of people in this situation, we have identified a range of skilled and experienced people who will help in exploring vocational possibilities and developing action plans.

SUPPORT FROM THE SCHOOL OF MISSION

The Winchester School of Mission provides training that enables the delivery of the vision of *living the mission of Jesus* according to the four strategic priorities of making disciples, reimagining the church, transforming society and living generously. The *School of Mission* has already helped people in the Parish to grow and be supported in a variety of roles.

RULE OF LIFE MINI-RETREATS

How might a Rule, (or rhythm) of Life help us grow and be more fruitful in our relationships with God, with each other and with the communities we are a part of? This on-line retreat provides the opportunity for guidance and reflection within a flexible framework.

For more information, visit winchester.anglican.org/rule-of-life

SHORT COURSES

Through the *Bishop's Commission for Mission*, members of the Church can become more confident and equipped for their service within their church and community. Each BCM programme helps people to grow in the knowledge that they are a valuable part of the mission of God in His world.

The *School of Mission* offers a range of programmes, which are varied each term. For example, during Spring 2022, they will offer:

BCM Creation Care

This is for those who want to help their churches take more steps towards caring for God's Creation. The programme will look at both theology and practical actions as we seek to learn how to be better stewards of God's wonderful world.

BCM Growing Faith

This is for those who have a passion to help *others* to grow in their faith. We will explore what being a disciple means and how disciples grow into maturity. We will offer tools to use in a variety of contexts and give a vision for how the local church might help grow new disciples.

BCM Pastoral

This programme aims to equip you to support people pastorally in different contexts in the church and in the community. It is about developing your skills and exploring your vocation to this ministry.

BCM Pioneer

BCM Pioneer is for those who have a passion to take the church outside of the building. It aims to equip you with confidence to explore new forms of outreach, and to see all areas of life as opportunities to help others engage with God.

Later in the year, it is hoped to offer programmes to support you as you grow as a worship leader, an evangelist, a small group leader or a leader of children's work.

Please consider whether one of these programmes might help you develop for your vocation.

For more information, talk to Simon Newham, John Pearson or Wendy Atkinson (wendy.atkinson@winchester.anglican.org).

DISCOVER YOUR CALLING

Every Christian is commissioned by Jesus to serve, some Christians are called by God to lead. Every Christian leader is a *servant* but since the early Church there have been a variety of roles in which God's people serve as leaders. This is equally true today and in the Diocese of Winchester we want to encourage, nurture and work alongside men and women who are being called by God to be leaders in our churches, whether lay or ordained. Full-time and part-time courses are available, so there's always a study method that supports your particular circumstances.

If you believe this is something you want to explore, please talk to Simon Newham