



Lunchtime Learning

What's it about?

From our experience of the pandemic, we learnt that Zoom lets us share expertise and interests we have around the diocese in short sessions. We can just take a break for learning, meet up without having to travel, and explore something interesting together.

Who is it for?

Members of congregations, lay and ordained ministers, anyone around the diocese who's interested in the month's topic.

When is it?

During the lunch hour, 12.30—1.30pm, in the middle of the week, monthly. Obviously, on Zoom it's very much bring your own lunch.

What will it involve?

Each session is a standalone session. Book for one, or book for many. The session speaker will introduce the topic for around 20-30 minutes, and then open it up for group discussion.

Autumn Theme: Spirituality and Prayer

The Enneagram and the Life of Faith

Tuesday 13 September

Speaker: Jonathan Kimber

The Enneagram is a way of understanding our 'personality type'. It is based on a system of nine main types, but includes considerable subtlety and flexibility. (The Greek for 'nine' is 'ennea', and 'gram' means roughly 'things written'.) The Enneagram has ancient roots, and strong connections with early Christian thinking. Used well, it can heighten our self-awareness, deepen our compassion for others, and offer insights towards growth.

Jonathan Kimber, Director of Ministry and Discipleship, first encountered the Enneagram twenty years ago, and continues to benefit from its insights. This session will offer an introduction and overview to the Enneagram itself, and to how it can contribute to our Christian discipleship and maturing. If there is sufficient interest, it may be possible to offer more in-depth training in 2023.

[Book via Eventbrite here.](#)

Praying With Images or Stepping into the Encounter

Wednesday 19 October

Speaker: Mary Flitcroft

Mary Flitcroft, who is the Bishop's Advisor for Spirituality says: "I work as an artist I am deeply interested in what happens between ourselves and a work of art. I believe there lies here the possibility of a deep encounter, an 'I-Thou' encounter and I believe we can call this prayer.

During this lunchtime session, we will look at some art works together and consider how we might begin to step into this space between ourselves and the image: the space of encounter. How might we pray with an image?

[Book via Eventbrite here.](#)

Franciscan Spirituality Today

Thursday 17 November

Leader: Chris Boden

In this lunchtime seminar we will be looking at what is special about Franciscan Spirituality, its prayer tradition and how we can incorporate these into our daily lives. In particular, we will look at what Franciscan Spirituality has to say about mission and the environment, and how these messages are still as relevant today as they were 800 years ago.

Chris Boden was a Franciscan friar in The Society of St Francis (SSF) for ten years prior to becoming our diocesan Stewardship and Resources Officer.

[Book via Eventbrite here.](#)

*Join in for lunch, fun and learning
this coming school year.*



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Winter Theme: Explorations in the Bible

How Green is my Bible?

Thursday 19 January 2023 – Speaker: Robin Parry

Reading while Black

February 2023 – Speaker: Foluso Enwerem

Changing my mind with the Bible

March 2023 – Speaker: Nikki Groarke

Summer Theme: The Church in Society

The Church and the Future of Work

April 2023 – Speaker: Dick Johnson

The Church and the Future of Education

May 2023 – Speaker: Tim Reid

The Church and the Future of Politics

June 2023 – Speaker: Bishop John

The details of the winter and summer themes are still being confirmed. More information and complete dates will be published in the autumn, together with links to pages for Eventbrite bookings. The information published here is simply to give you a guide to the overall shape of the lunchtime learning programme.

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