

Springboard

An invitation to step out with *The Joy of the Gospel*

Practical workshops for outreach and parish development
in Summer 2022

'The Church which "goes forth" is a community of missionary disciples who take the first step, who are involved and supportive, who bear fruit and rejoice'.

Pope Francis, The Joy of the Gospel

What does mission look like here, now, and for us, in our parishes and our diocese?

Come to Springboard at a venue near you.

Let's find out together and make it happen.

Book at bit.ly/2022Springboard



The first steps in a journey with The Joy of the Gospel

In 2022, we seem to be in the midst of a perfect storm of change.

- Over the last two years we've survived successive lockdowns – but come out changed
- In our Synodal journeys begun in 2021 we have dreamt dreams, and are ready to move into action
- This is a year of reorganisation throughout our diocese, with new parishes communities taking time to coalesce
- *Six Here: Now. Us* workshops last Autumn have made plans for post-pandemic outreach
- And now for society at large, and even many in our parishes, it's time of unfolding social and environmental crises.

What is God calling us to *be* and to *do* here in the Diocese of Nottingham now and over the years to come? **Springboard** is a chance to find out, taking Pope Francis' inspiring booklet *The Joy of the Gospel* as our roadmap for growth and mission. Together we will:

- Discern together our gifts and call in the 'new normal'
- Build collaboration across parishes for the Common Good
- Establish your county's local Caritas Hub as a platform for mission.

You are warmly invited to a workshop near you in Summer 2022.

Each takes place on a Saturday, 10.30 a.m. – 3.30 p.m.

Join us for as long as you can manage.

Lincolnshire: 18 June

at St Hugh's Lincoln

Leicestershire and Rutland: 25 June

at St Joseph's, Leicester

Derbyshire, High Peak and Burton: 9 July

at Our Lady's, Mickleover

Nottinghamshire: 10 September

at the Cathedral



Why Springb*ard?

Last Autumn 92 people attended six **Here: Now: Us** days around the diocese. The workshops helped everyone to discover the part they can play as leaders of outreach, bringing the Kingdom of God closer here in the East Midlands.

Since then many of us have helped to shape the Synodal journey in our parishes and diocese, with a wealth of ideas for becoming a more outward-looking, missionary Church. Furthermore this year will be a time of lasting change in the Diocese, as many parishes are merged, a few churches close, and we discover our mission anew. Bishop Patrick is inviting us to discover a new culture and practice, in which lay people take co-responsibility with our priests.

Now we face the cost-of-living crisis, the impacts of war in Ukraine, and the increasingly urgent task of safeguarding life on Earth.

The pace of change is bewildering. But Christ is among us saying “Peace be with you” and the Holy Spirit is breathing around us. He calls us out of our ‘upper room’ into the world, where peace and hope are so badly needed.

Pope Francis in *The Joy of the Gospel* urges us to take a missionary responsibility for these times:

The Church which “goes forth” is a community of missionary disciples who take the first step, who are involved and supportive, who bear fruit and rejoice... Therefore we can move forward, boldly take the initiative, go out to others, seek those who have fallen away, stand at the crossroads and welcome the outcast. 24

Pastoral ministry in a missionary key seeks to abandon the complacent attitude that says: “We have always done it this way”. I invite everyone to be bold and creative in this task of rethinking the goals, structures, style and methods of evangelisation in their respective communities. 33

“The essential vocation and mission of the lay faithful is to strive that earthly realities and all human activity may be transformed by the Gospel.” 201

At Springboard we'll celebrate the potential of our communities to fulfil the Pope's vision for us and our parishes, set out in *The Joy of the Gospel*. We'll pray and discern plans for the future, and build the infrastructure at local level that will help turn those plans into reality.

The objectives of each workshop are to:

- Develop listening skills which will help us hear God's call, value each other's gifts and stories, draw alongside the vulnerable, understand their needs and speak up with them
- Catch up on ideas emerging from *Here: Now: Us* and the Synod, and on parish reorganisation, and explore how to turn them into mission
- Lay foundations for a Hub in each county to lead and foster social outreach close to home.

To register, copy and paste this link into your browser and hit Enter:

bit.ly/2022Springboard

Provisional programme

- 10.30 Welcome and opening liturgy
- 10.35 Outline of the programme
- 10.40 **Gathering for the journey:** Exploring *The Joy of the Gospel*
- 11.00 **Twining the strands of the last year:**
- What happened at *Here: Now: Us?*
 - What has emerged from the Synod?
 - What's happening with reorganisation?
- 11.15 Discussion in parish groups:
- What sticks in your mind?
 - What's changed for you since last Autumn?
- 11.40 **Discovering the holy ground between us:** One-to-one conversations
- 12.00 Short feedback
- 12.05 **Reading the signs of the times:** *Laudato Si'* and *Fratelli Tutti*
- Discussion in pairs
- 12.25 **Building on our community's assets:** Appreciating our strengths
- 12.45 Lunch
- 1.30 Recap and review
- 1.40 **Imagining missionary parishes:** Pope Francis' encouragements in *The Joy of the Gospel*
- 1.45 **Reviewing our readiness for the Common Good:** Discussion in parishes or pairs
- How are we doing?

- How can we develop?

To be continued in your parish...

2.10 Feedback

2.20 **introducing the Caritas strategy:** workplan, Springboard and Hubs

2.40 **Planning our next steps:** over to you!

3.20 Closing liturgy, ending at 3.30.

We look forward to seeing you at Springboard.

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