

# URC SOUTHERN SYNOD MISSION & VISION

*Jesus said... "In this world you will have trouble. But I have overcome the world."* John 16 33

## The Way of the Cross



Sunday 10 April 6.30pm

**All are welcome** to this Palm Sunday service at Trinity Church Sutton, (Cheam Road, SM1 1DZ) in the form of a performance of "The Way of the Cross", a sequence of readings, poetry and music based on the Passion narrative from St. Mark's Gospel, interspersed with traditional Passiontide congregational hymns as well as anthems by Gibbons and contemporary composers such as Philip Moore, Ronald Corp and David Ogden.

Free admission - retiring collection

<https://www.trinitychurchsutton.org.uk/choral>



## FIND OUT MORE

Free Resources Bundles for Churches  
(Just pay P & P)



NORTHERN  
COLLEGE

Our popular annual Lay Preachers' and Worship Leaders' Conference 2022

## "The Church in and of the Community"

Thursday 12 May – Saturday 14 May 2022. (Attendance Thursday-Friday, OR Saturday, OR Thursday-Saturday. Costings on request)

Taking place on site and the programme will include a visit to a community project included in the cost.

Contact [rosalind.selby@lutherking.ac.uk](mailto:rosalind.selby@lutherking.ac.uk)  
for further details, costings and bookings.



**Synod Office:** East Croydon URC Addiscombe Grove Croydon CR0 5LP  
Tel: 020 8688 3730 [office@urcsouthern.org.uk](mailto:office@urcsouthern.org.uk)

Issue 114

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## Online Youth Mental Health First Aid

Learn to support young people

- Gain an in-depth understanding of mental health and factors that can affect wellbeing in the youth sector
- Develop practical skills to spot the triggers and signs of mental health issues
- Feel confident to step in, reassure and support a young person in distress
- Enhance your interpersonal skills such as non-judgemental listening and learn to champion self-care

For more info and to book, contact:



Children's & Youth Development Officers  
Mersey Synod - Steven Mitchell [cydo@urcmerseysynod.org.uk](mailto:cydo@urcmerseysynod.org.uk)  
Southern Synod - Tom Hackett [cydo@urcsouthern.org.uk](mailto:cydo@urcsouthern.org.uk)

Visit the MHFA England website at [mhfaengland.org](http://mhfaengland.org)  
Find us on social media @MHFAEngland

Funded spaces available for  
Southern Synod Participants

Next Course May 2022

Tues 17, Thurs 19

Tues 24, Thurs 26

Evenings 18:30 - 21:30

(Must attend all 4 sessions)

Book now at

<https://may-mhfa.eventbrite.co.uk>

You're invited to a special  
**YOUTH EVENT**



with **Andy Kind**

comedian/ preacher of Youth for Christ

With live youth worship

**Saturday April 9<sup>th</sup> from 7-9pm**

At Charlton URC, 109 Bramshot Ave. SE77HX

Contact Rev Andrew 07828195831

[www.charltonurc.org](http://www.charltonurc.org)



*Suffer the Children*  
REPAIRING THE WRONGS DONE THROUGH  
RACIST CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Thursday 28th April  
at 14:00 (UK time)

**CWM LEGACIES OF SLAVERY  
CHILDREN & RACISM  
PROJECT**

Thursday 28th April  
at 14:00 (UK)

VIA ZOOM

MEETING ID: 891 2416 0958  
PASSCODE: 621565



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## Know and Grow 1

Equipping churches in key word signing to be welcoming and accessible to adults with learning disabilities so that they can know Jesus and grow in their faith

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2022**

9:45am registration, 10:00am – 4:30pm (bring your own lunch)

**Caterham URC, 1 Harestone Hill, Caterham, CR3 6SX**

**Advance booking essential as places are limited  
- £25 per person**

Contact Rev Andy Twilley: [training@urcsouthern.org.uk](mailto:training@urcsouthern.org.uk) 07552 751 600  
or Christine: [info@counteveryonein.org.uk](mailto:info@counteveryonein.org.uk) 07751 431277

Workshop includes:

- ▶ Introduction to learning disability
- ▶ A challenge and an opportunity
- ▶ What does accessibility mean for our churches?

Registered charity No. 1181852

## INTERIM MODERATOR

Interested in finding out more about the role & responsibilities of an Interim Moderator?

A training day is going to be run on July 19th. Interested?

If so, please get in touch with

Andy Twilley:

[training@urcsouthern.org.uk](mailto:training@urcsouthern.org.uk)



Faith – Hope – Love – Since 1972

The Daffodil Cross is a symbol of hope during the Spring-time and a reminder of Love which is sacrificial.

In 1997, St John's URC, Orpington planted the daffodil cross to celebrate the **25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of formation of the United Reformed Church**. Since then it has heralded Eastertide and been a much loved talking point within the neighbourhood each Spring. However, over the years, the vibrant blooms have been deteriorating. How very apt, then, for it to be replanted on Remembrance Sunday 2021. in time to herald, not only Easter but also the **50<sup>th</sup> birthday of the URC**

**ROB HALLIGAN**

Musician and Songwriter

*Live Concert*

**Friday, 13th May, 7.00pm  
at St John's URC, Orpington**

**Tickets £10 or £12 on the door**

**For more details see our website**

[www.stjohnsurc.org.uk](http://www.stjohnsurc.org.uk)



**PLEASE NOTE:** All items for the next issue of "Mission & Vision" need to be sent to [Opuene](mailto:Opuene) by **15 April**.

A copy of this news sheet can be found & downloaded from the Synod website  
[southernsynodurc.org.uk](http://southernsynodurc.org.uk)

**NEWS FLASH**

**Two people from Southern Synod have been accepted for Ministerial training at the recent assessment conference.**

**PRAISE THE LORD!**



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## INVITATION TO TRINITY CHURCH, SUTTON

Saturday 21 May 2022

Open day for Christian Aid

Come and see the inside of our beautiful church. Our building is Grade 2 listed and a prominent landmark in central Sutton. Enjoy refreshments and entertainment. Tell your family and friends and bring them with you.

11.00am to 3.00pm

Free entry- donations invited for Christian Aid

Address Trinity Church Sutton, Cheam Road, Sutton SM1 1DZ (opposite Sutton Library)

Website [www.trinitychurchsutton.org.uk/open](http://www.trinitychurchsutton.org.uk/open)



## PRESIDING AT THE SACRAMENTS COURSE

Interested in attending the  
sacraments course?



May 5<sup>th</sup> & July 5<sup>th</sup>

19.00 – 21.00

Caterham URC

Contact Andy Twilley to find out more or to register:

[training@urcsouthern.org.uk](mailto:training@urcsouthern.org.uk)

*Age comes to us all.*

**Dementia doesn't.**

For further information and resources on supporting  
older people in churches

**CONTACT**

Rev'd Janet Hopewell

Southern Synod Chaplain and Advocate for the Elderly

Associate Minister, St Ninian's, Pagham URC

[drjanethopewell@outlook.com](mailto:drjanethopewell@outlook.com)

[www.paghamurc.org](http://www.paghamurc.org)

**Ageing comes to all of us...** but dementia doesn't. However, if you are over eighty years old, there is a one in six chance of developing it and this rises to one in three once you reach ninety. Dementia is irreversible and its onset often insidious. For those of us caring for older congregations, this represents a call to watchfulness and response, such as providing a dementia-friendly café or social "space", open to the local community, and/or some dementia-friendly special services.

Further information is available under Church & Society on the Synod website and from Rev'd Janet Hopewell, Synod Chaplain & Advocate for the Elderly, and Associate Minister at St Ninian's Pagham URC, near Bognor Regis PO21 4NJ ([www.paghamurc.org](http://www.paghamurc.org))



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## Talking About... Any Questions?

An opportunity for you to ask members of the URC CYDO+ team **any** questions you may have related to your work with children/young people/family work

Thursday, April 21st at 7-8pm



Ask Me Anything

Get your FREE tickets from <https://bit.ly/TAAAnyQuestions>



New Synod Recognised Lay Preachers being welcomed at Synod Together at our gathering in March, 2022.

## Church in focus

### WEST SUSSEX AREA MINISTRY

In the relatively rural West Sussex Area Ministry, in the long ago days before the pandemic, none of the three congregations in Billingshurst, Pulborough or Petworth had wi-fi in their buildings. We were deterred by lack of phone lines, and areas with poor mobile signal. There seemed, after all, no urgency... Then things changed.

We discovered the usefulness of Zoom when we couldn't gather in person, and our Zoom evening services (led from the Manse) still continue to attract a loyal, geographically-scattered congregation who appreciate their interactive potential (conversation)! We didn't think we needed to live-stream from the church buildings, but we find expectations are changing again. Folk have got used to funerals streamed online, whether from the local crematorium or elsewhere around the world. We are looking at wi-fi again... because it's good to stay connected and worship together, whatever that might look like.

*Rev. Anne Lewitt*