

## Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis: Parish Supplement (September)

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Dear Father,

Each month, the Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis (AEC) will share upcoming initiatives, courses and events with you via this simple summary document. This will include possible newsletter inserts for use in your bulletin, on your website or on social media. We have kept it simply formatted so that you or your secretary are able to just copy and paste. It does, therefore, look slightly heavy going but we hope that it will be informative and useful! Thank you for your patience in reading it all, we hope that you will find it of some support for understanding a little more of what we as an Agency are doing to support you and your parish.

God bless, The Agency Team

### Communication

We would like to request that if you have a link to the Centre for Catholic Formation on your parish website that it be amended to link to the Agency (<https://aec.rcaos.org.uk>). If you don't currently link to the Agency, the diocesan department which seeks to support your catechesis, formation and evangelisation efforts, we would be grateful if you could do so now.

Those running your parish social media feeds may have already 'liked' or 'followed' the Agency's social media accounts and share what we post to your followers. If this has not yet happened, we would encourage you to do so. We will do likewise and can share the good you do with our network.

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/aecsouthwark>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/aecsouthwark>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/aecsouthwark/>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/aecsouthwark>

You may also wish to advertise the monthly e-newsletter 'Communicating Christ' from the Agency to your parishioners and subscribe for yourself. The link to sign-up can be found below:

Link to sign up for Communicating Christ - <http://eepurl.com/heWjml>

#### *Possible Newsletter Insert*

Supporting parishes in terms of evangelisation, catechesis and formation, is the work of the **Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis** which celebrated its first anniversary this month (September 2021). If you would like to find out more on the courses, resources and support they offer please visit the website <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk>; follow them on various social media platforms [@aecsouthwark](https://twitter.com/aecsouthwark) or subscribe to their free monthly newsletter: <http://eepurl.com/heWjml>

### Courses

#### **Archbishop's Certificate**

Over recent months the well-received Diocesan Catechists Certificate (DCC) has been rewritten and sharpened in focus to become the new Archbishop's Certificate. We would encourage anyone involved in catechesis, in adult formation in the parish, members of the pastoral council or evangelisation teams to register for the course. Indeed, where possible, we recommend two or more members of the parish participate together to extend the learning opportunities beyond the in-person study days and online workshops.

### *Newsletter Insert*

Do you wish to learn more about the Faith that you profess each week at Mass, and share it confidently with those you love? If so, please consider registering for the new Archbishop's Certificate today. More information on this two-year blended learning course (which starts on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2021) can be found on the Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis website:

<https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/archcert>

### **Evangelium Online**

We are delighted to offer the Evangelium course via Zoom once more this autumn. Last year dozens of people looking for an overview of the Catholic faith came together on Sunday nights to learn, discuss and share. Around 20 of the 100 or so participants were exploring baptism or reception into the Church and have continued their journey in their local parish. If you are unable to convene an RCIA group this year, or wish to provide a course offering an overview of the faith, we are glad to offer Evangelium. Participants will also be entitled to a discount on three accompanying CTS books.

### *Newsletter Insert*

The Evangelium Online Course from the AEC is a full refresher and overview of the Catholic faith led by Fr Marcus Holden (co-author of Evangelium). Each session is 'live' with opportunities for discussion and questions. There are optional follow-up activities and further reading links provided and a certificate of completion is given by the Agency. To register for this FREE course, beginning 26<sup>th</sup> September please visit: <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/latest/evangeliumonlinecourse21-22>

### **Bible Timeline Course with Mauro Iannicelli**

During lockdown, Mauro Iannicelli delivered a very well-received overview of salvation history using the Bible Timeline Course. Hundreds of Southwark parishioners participated and Mauro is offering the course again this autumn. This time, he is encouraging parishes to consider participating as a group, and would appreciate your promotional support. Attached is a letter from Mauro with a possible pulpit appeal script. He is also offering free flyers to advertise the course in your parish.

### *Newsletter Insert*

THE BIBLE TIMELINE COURSE: Understand the Bible from start to finish, the Old and New Testament, with this FREE OF CHARGE, worldwide-famous course delivered online LIVE by Mauro Iannicelli. Starts Wed 29th September 2021. Eight Wednesday sessions (7pm-8:40pm). Info & Registration: [www.comeandsee.org](http://www.comeandsee.org)

### **Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies**

This nationally recognised certificate which comprises eight modules (six core: Old and New Testaments, Jesus Christ, the Church, Sacraments and Christian Morality; plus two specialist modules) is available to all parishioners but is particularly focussed at those involved in Catholic education, i.e. teachers, teaching assistants and governors. If you are speaking with your local school leadership in the coming weeks, please mention the availability and importance of the CCRS in terms of developing religious literacy.

### *Newsletter Insert*

The Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies is an internationally recognised course which looks to provide teachers and others with the tools to effectively understand the Catholic Faith. If you would like to participate in this eight-module course (either as a full student or simply attending the course without completing the assignments) please find out more or register via:

<https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/ccrs>

## Some Definite Service

Archbishop John Wilson and the AEC have developed a vision and fresh model for supporting parishes in the Archdiocese. *Some Definite Service* is a missionary volunteer network, this three-fold network will be made up of Parish Leads, Deanery Mentors and Diocesan Advisors working together to ensure that you and your parish has the support that it needs.

We are currently looking for both Parish Leads and Deanery Mentors to serve in the three areas of Evangelisation, Catechesis and Formation. Please feel free to contact us to find out if there has already been a Deanery Mentor commissioned in your Deanery. The role of Deanery Mentor is one that an individual can apply for themselves or be recommended, there is a discernment process ending in a commission by the Archbishop. The Parish Leads will be chosen by you as parish priest and we are happy to provide support, if you wish, in your discernment on what this role will entail.

Our hope is that we are able to speak with all Parish Priests – you should have been contacted on your personal @rcaos email to try and organise a meeting. Please contact as at [aec@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:aec@rcaos.org.uk) if this is not the case.

We have also attached a handout that can be given out in support of Home Mission Sunday this weekend sharing a little about *Some Definite Service* and how your parishioners can be missionary.

### *Possible Newsletter Insert*

The Church is made up of people and so is *Some Definite Service* - Catechists, Formators, Evangelisers, Deanery Mentors, Parish Leads. It is the goal and intention of the Agency and the archdiocese to invest time and energy in all involved in *Some Definite Service*, to ensure that those working in ministry are supported and do not feel isolated. Are you being called to be part of this network in a particular way? For more information, please visit: <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/sds>.

## Events

### **Autumn Catechists Meeting**

Following the success of our Summer online meeting for Catechists it's already time for our Autumn meeting. It's always a joy to come together and see all those who are serving and helping as Catechists across the Archdiocese, even if we are not yet able to meet completely in person. The new Directory for Catechesis was published this year and so we will spend some time exploring together what this might have to say to us in our parish catechetical ministry. Perhaps you could invite your parish catechists personally?

### *Possible Newsletter Insert*

Are you a parish catechist? Or interested in catechesis? Join the Dr Mark Nash and the Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis (AEC) as we explore the new *Directory for Catechesis* which was published earlier this year. On Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September at 7:30pm on Zoom we will look at the new Directory and what it has to say to us about our parish catechetical ministry. Register for the zoom link here; <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/catechesis-events>

## NEW: The AMiGO App

We are also delighted to have partnered with Hubspace on the creation of a new event app for Catholic parishes and organisations in Southwark. The AMiGO app allows for parishes and other institutions to upload events (liturgical, social, formation, outreach etc) and permit any app user to see what is available locally. Info on the attached sheet.