

Events and training

More details for all these events at gloucester.anglican.org/events

Living Christ's mercy, justice and hope, Abbey Centre, 34 Great Smith Street, London, SW1P 3BU, 10 March. Join Bishop Rachel for an in-person event for organisations, churches and individuals wanting to deepen their involvement or develop a Christian response to people in prison and those leaving prison.

<https://gloucester.anglican.org/event/save-the-date-living-christs-mercy-justice-and-hope/>

Cheltenham Bach Choir: Spring concert, Tewkesbury Abbey, Church Street, Tewkesbury, GL20 5RZ, 14 March. A concert from one of the leading amateur choral societies in south-west England.

<https://www.tewkesburyabbey.org.uk/whats-on/>

Have your say

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Riding Lights Theatre Company – Night Falls, St Catharine's, London Road, Gloucester, GL2 0RR, 18 March

A new passion play that retells the Easter story, blending music and drama alongside space for worship and reflection.

<https://www.stcatharine.org.uk/events/riding-lights-theatre-company-night-falls>

Chrism Eucharist 2026, Gloucester Cathedral, GL1 2LX, 2 April

A special service where ministers and congregations gather from across the diocese to renew their commitments to God. The service starts at 11am on Maundy Thursday, a day Christians remember for the last supper Jesus and his disciples shared on the night before he was crucified.

<https://gloucester.anglican.org/event/chrism-eucharist-2026/>

Caring for Creation together

Over the past 18 months, the Church House team has taken important steps towards caring more faithfully for God's creation. This has included understanding our carbon footprint, strengthening net zero carbon governance, and connecting long-term ambitions with the everyday life of churches, offices, and communities.



The next stage is about turning these plans into practical, visible action. Across the Church of England, one of the main ways this happens is through the Eco Church and Eco Diocese awards. The Diocese of Gloucester achieved Bronze Eco Diocese in 2021 and is now working towards Silver Eco Diocese, aiming to reach it this year. A key part of this process is encouraging more churches, schools and diocesan teams to engage with Eco Church.

Throughout Lent, we will be sharing reflections on the recent move to the new Church House premises, including the challenges and opportunities involved in working towards an Eco Office Silver award for our building. There is much to celebrate in the environmental features built into the refurbishment, as well as opportunities to continue improving.

Each week we'll take a look at one of the five Eco Church categories: worship and teaching, land, buildings, community, and lifestyle. Each week will also include a simple three-level challenge, offering ideas for what can be done with just five minutes, half an hour, or half a day. These are small, practical invitations to pause, notice, and take part in caring for creation, and to discover the joy and encouragement that often comes with it.

Sometimes 'Eco Church' can sound like an extra project, but it is often about noticing and building on what is already happening. Caring for creation shows younger generations that the Church takes its responsibility seriously, and for Christians, it is embedded in worship, teaching, and everyday discipleship.

Here are some tips for getting started:

- **Work together:** A small group of people with varied interests is enough to share ideas, plan actions, and encourage one another.
- **Track progress first:** The Eco Church survey shows what is already in place. Celebrate current achievements and focus on next steps without pressure to do everything at once.

Five-minute challenge: Be still and thank God for the ways nature supports life.

30-minute challenge: Take a gratitude walk in a garden or park, noticing five things you see, four you hear, three you feel, two you smell, and one you taste.

Half a day challenge: Join a friend for a litter pick, taking time to observe the beauty of creation.

Rory's faith story

We spoke to Rory Wilson, Church Buildings Support Officer for the Diocese of Gloucester about his journey to faith.



In 2004, just after his mother had died, Rory was sitting in her empty home and noticed a Bible. He opened it, started turning the pages and found that all the words that previously felt irrelevant suddenly made sense. Tears appeared in Rory's eyes as he remembered the sudden peace and understanding that came over him.

"It was a moment of euphoria, when everything changed. I didn't know what to do but I had to speak to someone about it. I picked up the phone and called my mother's neighbour, Richard who I knew was a Christian. It's hard to grasp how different life was before I came to know God. I was reborn as a different person."

Rory now keeps a small cross in his pocket, made of New Zealand jade as a reminder that God is always with him. "It helps me to reframe my thinking and to prompt me to take moments of quiet in the day for prayer."

Read Rory's full story at <https://gloucester.anglican.org/2026/faith-stories-rory-wilson/>

Easter services near you

Looking for a church to celebrate Easter? There are many opportunities across the Diocese of Gloucester to join worship. Use AChurchNearYou.com to find a service in your local area, see times, and plan your visit.