



To: All clergy, PtO, Lay Readers, Church wardens and PCC secretaries.

12 March 2021

Dear friends

I hope that you have heard something about *Living in love and faith* (often known as *LLF*); the invitation to the whole of the Church of England to join in a conversation about questions of identity, sexuality, relationships and marriage.

These conversations are about subjects that are personal, profound and precious. And that makes these conversations both beautiful and risky; beautiful because we will be exploring the rich abundance of what it is to be human, to be children of God - to be alive. And risky because it's easy to break things that are precious; we might say things that hurt each other and we might hear things that we find painful.

We launched LLF in Truro at an online event last Saturday, with speakers from the national LLF team, as well as practical details about how it will work in this Diocese. The launch event was recorded for anyone who couldn't be there and you can watch it at

www.youtube.com/watch?v=nGMFcGx9rpY&ab_channel=TruroDiocese.

The feedback has been extremely positive, especially on the quality and range of the resources that are available. These include a book, a small group study guide, a library of articles and a series of short story videos and you can access them at www.churchofengland.org/resources/living-love-and-faith

There is now also an LLF page on the Diocesan website at <https://trurodiocese.org.uk/resources/discipleship/llf/>, which we will keep updated with links to both local and national resources and information.

The key invitation to church communities now is to set up small groups which can use the study guide to enable conversations about the subjects at the heart of LLF.

How the groups are run is a local decision. Some churches will want to run them as part of an existing programme, some will set them up specifically. Some will run many groups, others a smaller number. Some places are running them within parishes, others across the whole Deanery. Because the topics LLF invites us to have are personal and precious, groups that are having the conversations should be no more than 6 people, although the input could be done in a larger group with smaller breakout groups. Groups should use the materials offered in the LLF study

guide and they should have a facilitator. There are 5 sessions in the course, and the groups can be run any time between now and the end of the year.

The facilitators are responsible for preparing the materials and helping the groups to have open and honest conversations on subjects that are personal, precious and profound. We are offering two Zoom training sessions for facilitators on 23 March between 2-4pm and 7-9pm. If you would like to join one of those, please email Ruth.Trinick@truro.anglican.org indicating which session you will attend and which Parish and Deanery you are part of. Ruth will then send the Zoom link. The national LLF are also running a similar training, and details are on the Diocesan LLF webpage.

We want to support the local groups, so when you set them up, please let us know by emailing Ruth.Trinick@truro.anglican.org giving the name of your parish or setting, your Deanery, the number of groups you are running and a contact person.

We have 200 copies of the study guide for small groups available for distribution for free. If you would like copies, please contact Ian.Knuckey@truro.anglican.org at Church House, giving details of your parish and Deanery, a postal address and the number of copies required.

We will also be running a monthly Zoom check in for anyone involved with LLF to ask questions, share experience and seek advice. The first ones will be on 27 April between 2-3pm and again from 7-8pm and you can book a place via Ruth Trinick. Future dates will be available on the Diocesan LLF webpage.

We are very aware that for some people even the thought of discussing these issues will cause anxiety. If you would like to discuss anything related to LLF, the subjects that it addresses or how you can take part safely, please feel free to contact one of us.

This comes with our prayers for the church in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly as we deepen our understanding of what it means to live in love and faith.

God bless

The Diocesan LLF team

(+Hugh, Rose Jones, Steve Robinson, Rachel Monie, Becky Nesbitt, Colin Wilson)