FORMATION OPPORTUNITIES

NEW TO THE FAITH

"For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord,
plans for welfare and not for evil,
to give you a future and a hope." (Jeremiah 29:11)

This leaflet is for you if:

- **You know nothing, or very little, about the Catholic faith but you are interested in finding out more.**
- **You've moved away from the Catholic Church in the past and you're thinking about coming back.**

Formation & Mission

DIOCESE OF Hexham & Newcastle

ALL ARE WELCOME...

All of us are called by God to know him, love him and to serve him. The greatest discovery that we can make is to realise that we are loved by God and that he has a plan for each of us. We believe that sharing in the Christian Faith helps us understand this more clearly.

FIRST STEPS

Exploring the Catholic Faith Online

Who is this for?

First Steps is aimed at people who are thinking about their faith or their relationship with God. Perhaps you were baptised a Catholic but didn't make First Communion or receive Confirmation; or were baptised as a member of another Christian Church; or have never been baptised at all. If you are currently wondering whether joining the Catholic Church is the next step for you this may be the way forward.

What are we offering?

This course is run online via Zoom, on a weekday evening, over a few weeks.

It really is a gentle and 'first steps' approach to help you discover more about your relationship with God and with others. We will look at scripture and explore some key elements of the Catholic faith. We hope to help you make an informed choice on what to do next.

Does First Steps allow me to join the Catholic Church?

This is just a beginning. Eventually you will need to be in touch with your local parish. Our purpose is to allow you to decide if you want to go further.

How do I join?

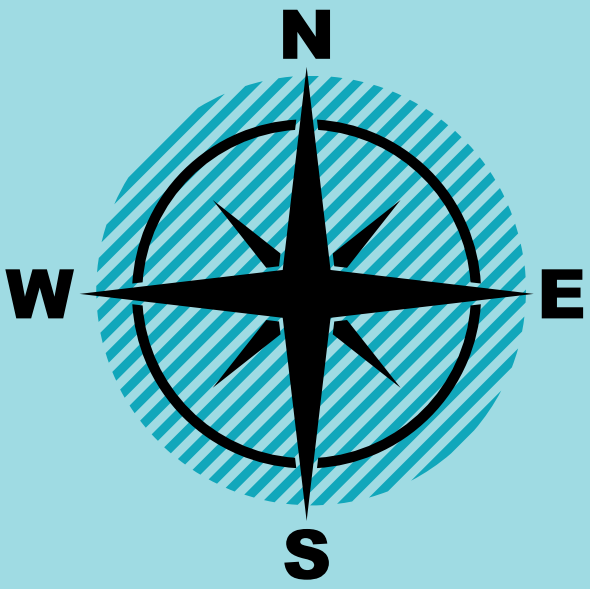
If you would like to enquire about joining our Zoom group then please email: adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk.

We would also encourage you to get in touch with your local Catholic parish as they are likely to have a way to help you within the parish community. It may be advertised as RCIA or Journey in Faith.

RCIA/JOURNEY IN FAITH

This is a process through which you deepen your relationship with God and make friends with other candidates through Bible study, faith sharing and learning about the teachings of the Catholic Church. It may lead to full initiation into the Catholic Church through the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Communion.

RCIA and Journey in Faith Programmes should take place at a local parish. Please get in touch with the priest at your local church to find out more.



FINDING YOUR LOCAL CATHOLIC CHURCH

The Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle covers a huge geographical area from Berwick upon Tweed in the north all the way down to Darlington in the south; from Haltwhistle in the west to Tynemouth in the east. There are many Catholic churches in between.

The diocesan website has a helpful search tool to help you find churches local to you and their contact details. Visit https://bit.ly/DHNFindAChurch to try it out or scan the QR code.

SCAN ME

Does it all feel a little daunting?...That's ok...

These may feel like pretty big steps when you're not quite sure where to begin. If this is how you're feeling, please reach out to our Formation and Mission Team. Our friendly team would welcome the opportunity to listen to you, and accompany you, to find the right pathway for you at this time. Our contact details are on the back page of this leaflet.

"Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us, by letting us be called God's children; and that is what we are." (1 John 1:3)

DIOCESE OF Hexham & Newcastle

NEW TO THE FAITH

SO, YOU WANT TO FIND OUT MORE?

WHAT'S THE NEXT STEP?

Here at the Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle, our friendly Formation & Mission team would be delighted to help you explore formation opportunities for those new to the faith.

We'd love to chat with you, so please call us:

0191 243 3316
0737 593 4713

Our office hours are
8.30am-4.30pm Mon-Fri

Drop us an email:
adminfaith.mission@diocesehn.org.uk

Amy Cameron: Director of Formation & Mission
Mark Hindmarsh: Formation & Mission Team Leader
Emma Wynne: Formation & Mission Development Officer
Amy McDonagh: Formation & Mission Administrator

For further areas of Formation & Mission
in the Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle please scan the QR code or visit:
https://bit.ly/DHNFormation_Mission_Leaflets