

Fostering a Spiritual Journey

Every human being is made in the image of God, and called by God into a life-long journey of growth and transformation. We are not meant to stay in the same place all our lives – we are encouraged to learn, to develop, and to become adults of faith.

Life itself presents each of us with opportunities from which we can learn. Each life has its joys and sorrows, challenges and delights. Each person's journey is unique; with its own twists and turns, just like the labyrinth.

Sometimes, the twists of life make us disoriented or confused. Then it can be helpful to receive guidance or support. Many of us find such support in the weekly liturgies that we offer here. We listen to the scriptures or a sermon, we receive communion, we pray, and we receive what we need for the coming week. Throughout the year, we observe celebrations and mark grief and loss. Here, we find companionship and share our lives with one another. These are the foundations of spirituality for an Anglican church.

More and more, though, the church environment is foreign for people in our community. Yet those very same people have spiritual needs. They face the same struggles of life as we do, and have the same need to make meaning and to find reassurance. The vision group senses a call on us to reach out towards this non-church group. To do this, we plan to establish a Spirituality Centre, which will offer workshops, Quiet Days, seasonal liturgies and discussion groups in the hall. We will teach the labyrinth and use poetry and the arts as a bridge to mystery. Later this year a programme will be prepared for 2019 – watch out for it! You too may find something there.

The Spirituality Centre will be another way of offering food to people: but this time it will be spiritual food for life's journey. We pray that through this centre, souls in both our parish and wider community will be enlivened, deepened and enriched.

Vicar Anne Chrisp

