

The Methodist News

15 April 2021

Hello everyone and welcome to the Methodist News.

Yours,

[The Communications team](#)

News

St. Vincent



The La Soufrière volcano on the Caribbean island of St. Vincent began a series of eruptions on the 9 April, sending clouds of ash 20,000 feet into the air, blanketing much of the island in ash and causing water and electricity outages.

Global Relationships have received this update from Bishop, The Rev'd Everaldo L. Galbraith President of Conference of the Methodist Church in the Caribbean and the Americas (MCCA). You can read this [here](#).

Rural Mission and Ministry



Sarah Hulme has been announced as the Methodist Church's Rural Mission and Ministry Officer, a new full-time position aimed at expanding a confident and vibrant Christian presence in rural communities and advocating for the complex social issues these diverse communities face. Read more [here](#).

Bullying webinar Tuesday 20 April



On Tuesday 20 April, the Methodist Church is to present the first of three webinars looking at different aspects of anti-bullying action. They are designed for all leaders within the Methodist Church and any other members and officers who are interested in how we can continue our journey of making churches and church work safer for everyone.

20 April [Tackling Bullying, Changing Culture, Enabling Positive Relationships](#)

13 May [Reconciling communities: living well with difference](#)

17 Jun [Addressing Bullying through Justice, Dignity and Solidarity](#)

MHA Sunday



Religion and the Media



MHA are running free online sessions so that churches can find out more about MHA Sunday taking place on 13 June and how they can be involved. The sessions run on 19 April 2021 at 7pm and 23 April 2021 at 2pm. Register at MHA, [here](#).

The All Party Parliamentary Group on Religion in the Media has published its report 'Learning to listen'. The Methodist Church contributed to the report which explores religious literacy in print and broadcast media. You can read the report [here](#).

The Duke of Edinburgh

Prayers



The President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference offered [this prayer](#) following the death of His Royal Highness The Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

Statement



The President and Vice-President of the Methodist Conference made [this tribute](#) in response to the announcement.

Reflection



A reflection on the life of Prince Philip from the Revd Ruth Gee, Assistant Secretary and Past President of the Methodist Conference, can be watched [here](#).

Year of Prayer

Join others across the Methodist Church to pray, every Tuesday from 12.45pm to 1.00pm

Participate



Next Tuesday's service will be led by Matthew Forsyth, the All We Can Church and Volunteers Officer for London and South East. More information about the Year of Prayer can be found [here](#) or use this [direct link](#) to register.

Watch Again



This week's Year of Prayer service was led by Revd Kan Yu, Minister in the Teddington Methodist Circuit. You can watch the service again, [here](#).

Media

[The Methodist Podcast](#)

['Dial-a-Prayer' phonelines](#)



In this podcast we consider prayer. We hear what defines prayer from The Revd Carole Irwin, Director of Studies at Wesley House. The Revd Dr Roger Walton discusses prayer and Methodism and we talk to experts about three distinct types of prayer; liturgical, meditative and extemporary. Listen [here](#).

Prayer: 0808 281 2514

Pastoral message from the President and Vice-President: 0808 281 2695

Methodist Podcast: 0808 281 2478

You can download a print-and-cut-out sheet with details to send to others [here](#)

CHURCH TIMES



Church leaders pay tribute to Prince Philip as a man of questioning faith in [this report](#) from the Church Times.

Leslie Griffiths, retired Methodist minister and a peer in the House of Lords, spoke to Premier Radio about the Duke of Edinburgh's character and his legacy in [this report](#).

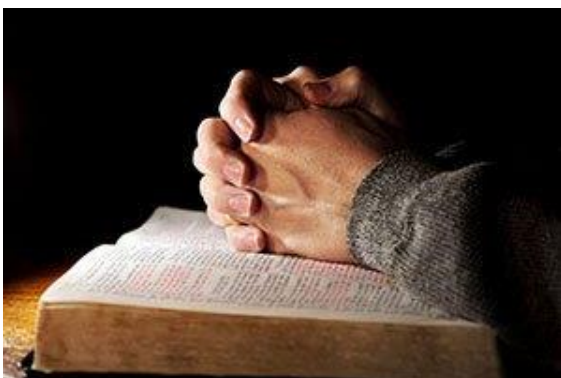
CHRISTIAN TODAY

Christian Today featured [these prayers](#) for Prince Philip and the Royal Family.



Revd Ruth Gee, Assistant Secretary and Past President of the Methodist Conference gave [this reflection](#) to UCB after the announcement of the death of Prince Phillip.

Spiritual sustenance in isolation



During this time of 'lockdown' a special page on our website signposts you to resources to help nourish your spiritual life.

These are mostly resources that are provided centrally but you can also check what your local church or circuit is providing.

Click [here](#).

Guidance

The government has updated the [Safe Use of Places of Worship](#) guidance to include details of how restrictions will be lifted for churches in England. Updates for [Step 2](#) on 12 April 2021 included:

Funerals are limited to 30 people



Weddings & civil partnership ceremonies, wakes and wedding receptions are limited to 15 people
Children and youth activities are allowed

Further information can be found on [Coronavirus Guidance for Property](#). Please note that this is only for England. In Scotland, please refer to the [Timetable for Easing Restrictions](#). In Wales, please refer to the [Restrictions during our Gradual Move Out of Lockdown](#)

Email: mediaoffice@methodistchurch.org.uk