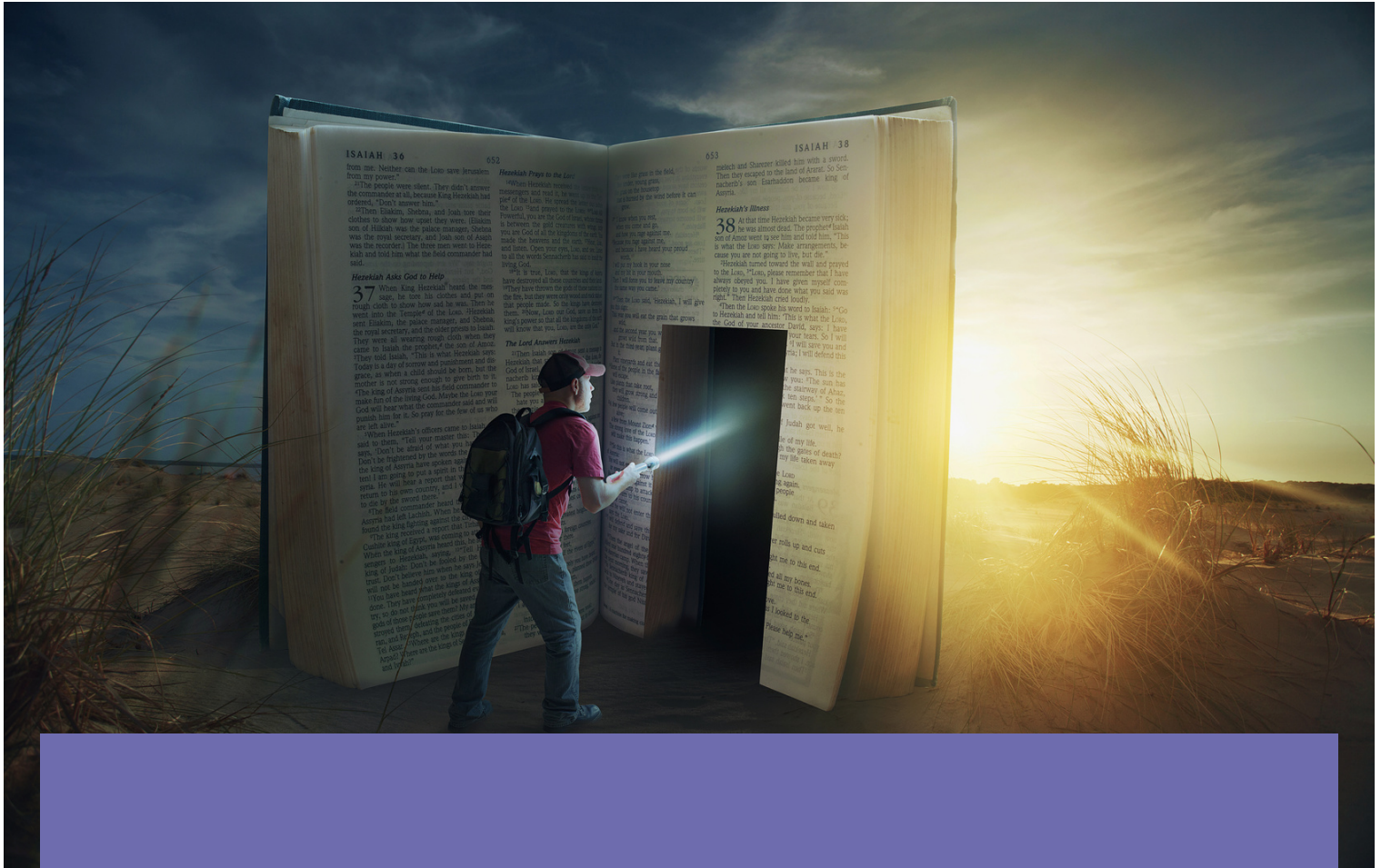


THE BIG STORY

Diocesan gathering and celebration 2023



Telling our stories; Telling The BIG Story

A sharing of stories from across the Diocese
and a celebration of the Good News of Jesus
Christ

What?

Our Diocesan Gathering and Celebration this year is on Sat 3rd June from 10.30am-3.30pm at St Mary's Cathedral. Come and share with all ages; learn; grow; enjoy; and be inspired! - as we share our stories of faith, and share The BIG Story of the good news of Jesus. Veggie lunch and refreshments provided. Please share the [Eventbrite link](#), and begin to discuss with your Vestry what your church's contribution will be.

How?

There are three elements to the day:

1) Telling your Story! Every church is invited to showcase an aspect of its life at The BIG Story: What will YOUR church stall be?

Discuss with your Vestry, talk together and plan your contribution. Choose one thing that shows how you share the Good News in your location, and try link it to a verse from the Bible, or a Bible story, that speaks of the good news of Jesus. Examples to inspire you are given below!* Try to make your stall as creative and interactive as possible, for example you could use a craft, puzzle, game, quiz or simple activity. You will be provided with a small table and a chair or two.

2) Learning and being together! There will be a number of workshops available around the theme of storytelling, but it won't be all sitting about on cushions murmuring in soft voices. There will be opportunities to act, move, use our voices differently, and tell our faith and community stories in new and confident ways. Workshops include The Scottish Storytelling Centre, and Foolproof Creative Arts. Be inspired and try something new! There will be something for everyone – and for all ages. Play Church, and a baby friendly soft space will also be available.

3) Worship How often do we get a chance as a Diocese to worship together? Come and be filled as we praise the God who gave us The BIG Story to proclaim!

*Examples:

Foodbank: 'He has filled the hungry with good things'
from Mary's Magnificat (Luke 1: 53)

Eco/community garden: 'Their fruit will serve for food
and their leaves for healing,' (Ezek. 47: 12) or 'The leaves
of the tree are for the healing of the nations' (Rev 22: 2)

Debt Centre: 'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because
he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor'
(Luke 4: 18)

Work with refugees/asylum seekers: 'I was a stranger
and you welcomed me.' (Matt. 25: 35)

Warm Space: 'Share with the Lord's people who are in
need. Practice hospitality' Romans 12: 13

Prayer/pastoral group: 'Pray without ceasing'
(1 Thess. 5: 17)

Any questions, don't hesitate to get in touch with Sarah
Shaw on revsarahshaw@gmail.com or 07943 405 156.