

Here: Now: Us

- **Here:** in your parish, your neighbourhood and the wider world
- **Now:** as we emerge from lockdown into a 'new normal'
- **Us:** God's people called to bring healing to a wounded world.

"The thing the church needs most today is the ability to heal wounds and to warm the hearts of the faithful; it needs nearness, proximity. I see the church as a field hospital after battle." *Pope Francis*

"The essential vocation and mission of the lay faithful is to strive that earthly realities and all human activity may be transformed by the Gospel." *The Joy of the Gospel*

"This initiative comes at an exciting time for our diocese, as we listen afresh to the Gospel's invitation to encounter Christ, grow as disciples, and step out in mission... Every parish that takes up the invitation of 'Here: Now: Us' won't just make an impact at home; it will be joining the universal Church in making Christ's love known on earth." *Bishop Patrick McKinney*

Here: Now: Us is a one-day workshop to help you put Catholic Social Teaching into action. Developed by the charity Together for the Common Good and brought to you by Caritas in the Diocese of Nottingham, it helps lay people grow in confidence and leadership and reach out to their local community.

Caritas Diocese of Nottingham can help you bring the **Here: Now: Us** workshop to your parish. As we emerge from lockdown it will enable you to:

- Seize the opportunity build the Common Good
- Listen for how God is calling you to live the Gospel
- Join with others to let the Kingdom of God break in.

After months of social distancing, hosting the gathering in your parish will help it to re-weave, repair and grow as a confident, outward-looking missionary community.

The workshop works best with a group of 12 to 20 people from your own parish, or in collaboration with a neighbouring church. Seek your parish priest's support in this initiative to help lay people take up their 'special task' in the post-pandemic world.

The workshop is only the start. **Caritas** can support your group or parish to put your vision into practice.

Here: Now: Us also offers a six-week programme called 'The Word and the Common Good'. This is a series of Scripture-based workshops on Catholic social teaching. Someone in your parish may have joined an online group from across the Diocese of Nottingham in June-July 2021. We can help you run the course locally with a group of fellow parishioners.

Paul Bodenham will be very happy to tell you more. Email him at caritas@dioceseofnottingham.uk.

