



St Paul's Institute &
The Diocese of London

A Good Childhood? Growing up in the 21st Century
Bishop's Study Day
St Paul's Cathedral Conference Room
21 September 2007
Programme

- 9.15am Registration and coffee
- 9.45am **Welcome and Introduction to the programme**
Edmund Newell, Director, St Paul's Institute
- 9.50am **Children, Church and a Global City**
The challenges of children's ministry in the Diocese of London
Richard Chartres, Bishop of London
- 10.05am **Childhood Today: The Good Childhood Inquiry**
Why The Children's Society is holding an inquiry into childhood
Bob Reitemeier, Chief Executive, The Children's Society
- 10.50am Coffee
- 11.15am **Childhood Today: A Theological Perspective**
What Christian theology says about childhood today
Adrian Thatcher, Professorial Research Fellow in Theology,
University of Exeter
- 12.00pm **Children and God**
The nature of children's spirituality
Rebecca Nye, author and consultant on children's spirituality
- 12.45pm Lunch
- 2.00pm **'Godly Play' Workshops**
Religious education and spiritual development through play
Mary Hawes, National Children's Advisor to the Church of
England, and Rebecca Nye
- 3.15pm **'Godly Play' Questions and Answers**
Rebecca Nye and Mary Hawes
- 3.45pm Tea and resources
- 5.00pm Evensong (optional)

Speakers

Richard Chartres is the Bishop of London. Formerly Chaplain to Robert Runcie, Archbishop of Canterbury, Professor of Divinity at Gresham College, and a parish priest in London, he was consecrated Bishop of Stepney in 1992 and Bishop of London in 1996. He is a patron of Prospex, a charity which works with young people in North London.

Mary Hawes is National Children's Advisor to the Church of England. She was for eight years Children's Advisor to the Diocese of London, and before that Education and Visits Officer at Rochester Cathedral and Children's Bible Reading Editor for Scripture Union. She is a Non-Stipendiary Minister at St Leonard's Streatham, Trustee of the Christian Care Child Forum and co-author of *Together for a Season: All-age Seasonal Material for Advent, Christmas and Epiphany* (Church House Publishing 2006).

Edmund Newell is Director of St Paul's Institute and Chancellor of St Paul's Cathedral. Formerly a Research Fellow at Nuffield College, Oxford and Chaplain to the Bishop of Oxford, he was also Chaplain of Headington School and Headington Junior School. Publications include *Seven Words for the 21st Century* (DLT 2002) and *What Can One Person Do?* (DLT 2005).

Rebecca Nye's background is in child psychology and she has spent the last 14 years applying it to the area of children's spirituality, for most of those years based at the Divinity Faculty, Cambridge University. She is a member of the Archbishops' Council Board of Education advising on children's spirituality, a consultant and trainer for Godly Play, Director of Empirical Research for the Centre for the Theology of Childhood in the USA, and co-author of *The Spirit of the Child* (Jessica Kingsley 2006).

Bob Reitemeier is Chief Executive of The Children's Society with overall responsibility for the leadership and delivery of strategy of the organisation. He has over 20 years experience of work in the voluntary sector, having taught as a Secondary School Teacher in the Peace Corps in Zaire, as a Director of a not-for-profit small business credit programme in Chad, and in various posts for ActionAid, including Country Director for Bangladesh and Africa Regional Manager.

Adrian Thatcher is Professorial Research Fellow in Theology, University of Exeter, Previously he taught at the College of St. Mark and St. John, Plymouth for 27 years, as Head of Theology, and Professor of Applied Theology, and before that he was a Baptist Minister and Lecturer at St. Paul's College, Cheltenham. He is the author of numerous books including *Theology and Families* (Blackwell Publishing 2006), *Living Together and Christian Ethics* (CUP 2002).

Clergy register by emailing nick.mercer@london.anglican.org.