

## Conversation about death and dying

The Church of England is launching a new national resource to help churches get people talking about death and dying.

GraveTalk provides resources for a café space in which churches provide a relaxed environment for people to explore questions about death and dying, funerals and loss. It is a pack of 52 questions about life, death, society, funerals and grief to help people start, and has been piloted in more than 100 parishes.

Question cards include: 'What would you like your lasting legacy to be?', 'How do you feel about being asked to wear bright colours at a funeral', to 'What music would you like to have played or sung at your funeral?'

Recent research from Mintel (2014) shows the need for GraveTalk, showing that less than one in five (16%) people have made written funeral plans. The research highlighted that many people who want to make a funeral plan haven't yet done so, with three fifths (61%) of respondents feeling that it was important to make at least some plans for the kind of funeral they'd like to have.

The Revd Canon Dr Sandra Millar, head of Projects and Development for the Archbishops' Council said:

*"We have been helping people to think about the big questions of life and death for generations. Our local clergy and lay people are a valuable source of support and help at every stage. Whether it is thinking about what hymns and readings you might want in your funeral service, or finding someone to listen during the painful journey of grief, a local church can play a big part in getting people talking about death and dying."*

For more information please visit: [www.gravetalk.org](http://www.gravetalk.org)

## Sea Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> July



**SEA SUNDAY**  
12 July 2015

THE MISSION TO SEAFARERS

Join us on SEA SUNDAY to celebrate those men and women who risk their lives at sea to bring us 90% of what we use every day.

Visit [www.seasunday.org](http://www.seasunday.org)

Working at sea is dangerous and can be very lonely. Crews can be away from home for up to a year at a time. The Mission to Seafarers works all over the world, caring for seafarers through our network of chaplains and volunteers. Our centres are a home away from home where seafarers can relax and contact their loved ones, while our ship visitors provide onboard practical and emotional support to crews. No matter what problem, crisis or emergency a seafarer is facing, seafarers know they can turn to the Mission for help, advice and support.

[www.missiontoseafarers.org](http://www.missiontoseafarers.org) | [@FlyingAngelNews](https://twitter.com/FlyingAngelNews) | [missiontoseafarers](https://www.facebook.com/missiontoseafarers) | [www.justgiving.com/missiontoseafarers](http://www.justgiving.com/missiontoseafarers) | Registered charity no. 1123613

On Sea Sunday churches all over the world come together to remember seafarers and pray for them, their families and those who support them. The Mission to Seafarers needs your prayers and support for all merchant crews and their families on Sea Sunday 2015, to continue our vital work for those in need.

*"The Mission to Seafarers works tirelessly to provide help and hope to seafarers in distress in 71 countries worldwide. In 260 ports, from Southampton to Sydney, every day the world's 1.5 million crew men and women look out for the Mission's 'Flying Angel' flag. The Mission is universally trusted to be of service for everyday problems and in maritime emergencies. Please help the Mission by holding a Sea Sunday service this year."*

- The Revd Richard Coles, BBC Radio 4 presenter

More information, and ways to support their work can be found at [www.seasunday.org](http://www.seasunday.org)