

Our Community & Mission Hub – Update, Autumn 2026

Welcome • Compassion • Outreach • Discipleship

As you can see, **construction is well underway** on our new Community Hub on the site of the former parish hall on Milton Rd. The potential of a **purpose-built space** to **serve the mission**, is coming visibly to life now that we have walls, windows and roofing! Construction remains largely on schedule for **opening in 2027**.

Our Vision: Our Community Hub will create a space where parish and local people can come together to **belong, build friendships, serve others, grow in faith, and flourish**. The East Brighton Catholic Church covers some of the most deprived areas of the city, so the Hub will enable us to respond more effectively to **local needs, sharing the hope and joy of the Gospel**.



Named the Galilee Community Hub - Why "Galilee"?:

Following consultation across the parish, it became clear that finding a name which was distinctively Christian while also welcoming to the wider community, was challenging. During discussions with the Diocese, whose Trustees have made a substantial contribution to the project, the name **Galilee Community Hub** emerged and received strong support.

The name offers rich potential for our mission. Galilee was the place where much of Jesus' public ministry unfolded: where he welcomed all who came to him, formed disciples, healed the sick, blessed children, shared meals with those on the margins, and proclaimed the coming of God's Kingdom. Like Brighton, Galilee is beside the water. It was a place of **encounter, invitation, transformation and mission**. The name Galilee helps us hold together both our Christian identity and our desire to be an open and welcoming resource for the whole community.

What the Hub Will Do:

1. Students/Young Adults, Children, Teenagers & Families: Dedicated space for students and young adults, safe spaces and activities for teenagers, support for families and children, opportunities for learning, skills development, mentoring and participation.

2. Community & Social Action: Community meals, food support, signposting and social prescribing, opportunities for friendship, wellbeing and belonging, support for older adults experiencing loneliness and isolation, cultural celebration.

3. Formation, Discipleship & Leadership: Faith-exploration opportunities, leadership development, theological formation, community organising, training and formation that will support the missionary renewal of the wider Brighton & Hove Parish.

Listening, Learning and Planning Together: Alongside the construction work, a process of listening and consultation is helping to shape the future activity of the Hub. Through meetings with small groups and individuals, and engagement with local charities, institutions and leaders, we have been exploring local needs, gaps in provision, people's passions, and the gifts and skills individuals would like to offer.



Several themes are emerging strongly:

- A need for safe and supportive opportunities for young people.
- Greater support for families facing increasing pressures.
- Expanded food provision and community meals.
- Practical support for older adults experiencing loneliness.
- Opportunities for cultural sharing, learning and community-building.
- Training and upskilling opportunities, particularly for younger people.
- Integrated approaches combining community activities with advice and signposting.

Our hope is that every member of our church community will be able to imagine how their own gifts, skills and experience might contribute to the mission of the Hub. If you would like to take part and bring the vision to reality, contact the parish office: eastbrighton@abdiocese.org.uk . In Particular, we are currently seeking people with experience in fundraising, comms, and business management.

If you would like the opportunity to engage in a small group meeting to explore ideas, please email Jo: joanna.gilbert@abdiocese.org.uk . We would like our whole community to shape this project together.

✧ **Together, we are creating a place of welcome, encounter, community
and mission for generations to come.** ✧