

Training for

Ordained Ministry

with the Guildford Local Ministry Programme



Information for prospective Ordained
Local Ministers and their Incumbents

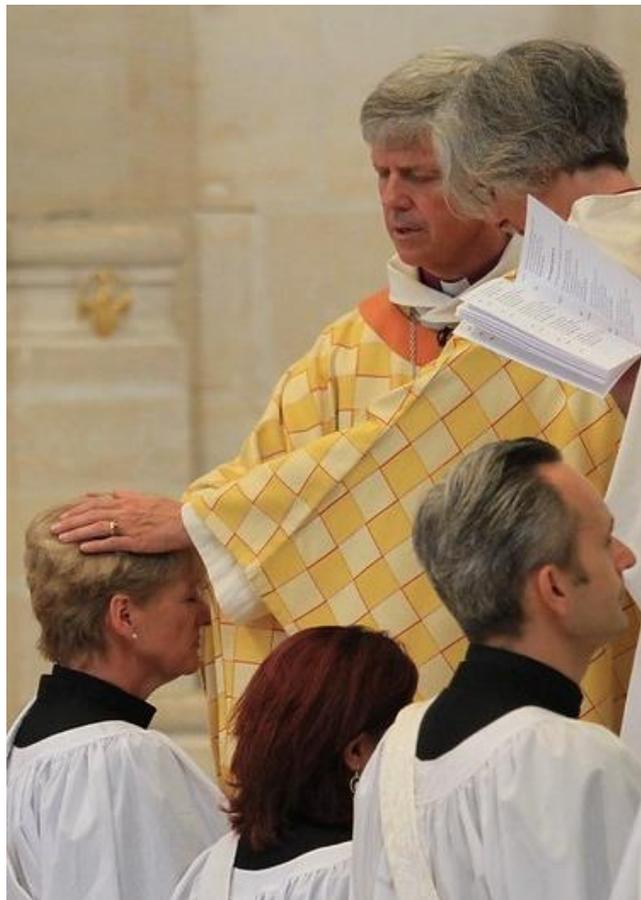


recruiting
more clergy

Ordained ministry is a sacramental, pastoral and prophetic ministry that will also encompass preaching and teaching.

This will be done in the context of a parish ministry team under the leadership of the parish incumbent. To be effective in these areas, an ordinand's own biblical, doctrinal, historical and liturgical knowledge needs to be stimulated, challenged and broadened.

LMP will set you on a path to achieve this in a way that will encourage, stretch and strengthen you.



This booklet is written for people and parishes wondering whether God is calling someone to be a Self-Supporting Minister, or perhaps as an Ordained Local Minister.

Introduction

'Minister locally, think globally'

Self-Supporting Ministers are priests in the Church of England, as are any other expression of the priesthood, such as stipendiary parish priests, Chaplains, Ordained Pioneer Ministers, etc. The ministry of an Ordained Local Minister (OLM) is distinctive, in that it is rooted in a specific parish, rather than being nationally deployable. The term Self-Supporting Minister (SSM) is used of someone who, unlike a Stipendiary priest, is not paid for their services.

As an OLM you will have been called out of your local congregation to train, and will return to serve in that same congregation or benefice. Your licence will be based on this condition with the expectation that the focus of your ministry will initially be within that locality.



If you are an SSM, you will not return to your sending parish for your curacy, but usually to somewhere nearby, and are nationally deployable. Self-Supporting priests normally operate as assistants to their parish priest. The ministry of these priests is a vital component within the Church of England's parish ministry.

Preparing for Ordained Ministry

Ordained Local Ministry and Self-Supporting Ministry is an integral part of the diverse ministry provision within our diocese. Discernment and training is undertaken with the same rigour as for any other form of ordained ministry: the same criteria apply. The training process brings together those who are looking to become OLMs, SSMs and those preparing to be Licensed Lay Ministers, LLMs (Readers). They all train together for significant parts of the course, as there is much common ground in areas of biblical learning, liturgical ability, ministerial skills and pastoral insight. They also have differentiated training when appropriate. The course also welcomes visitors who are expanding their learning by auditing a module out of interest, as well as those training for other forms of authorised ministry. This all creates a diverse learning community.

Learning together as adults and mature Christians is a different experience from learning about faith as a child or teenager.



All students bring with them significant past experience: academic, practical and theoretical, together with their own understanding of the Christian faith. LMP aims to deepen that understanding during three years

of training, by encouraging formation for ministry that builds upon these foundations.

The time required for study on the course mean that students have to relinquish most major responsibilities in their parish, to allow time to focus on training, bearing in mind that many may also hold down a demanding job. This also provides the opportunity to be more objective about one's local context.

Growing in faith and learning about scripture and the tradition of the Church is challenging, testing and (usually) great fun! It will engage your heart and mind and enhance your spiritual development.



Students at work

I am keen that students acquire both the academic tools needed for sound exegesis as well as the hermeneutical skills to use Scripture in addressing the bigger questions in life. Since my focus is the Old Testament, my personal desire is that students come to have a greater appreciation of the Old Testament and thus have a greater love of the God of the Old Testament, who is the same as the God of the New Testament. A natural outworking of a deeper love of God is a deeper love of neighbour.

*Dr Julie Woods
Tutor, Old Testament Studies*

What is an OLM or an SSM?

1 A Deacon and then a Priest

An OLM or SSM is an expression of representative and sacramental ministry in the parish, serving first as a Deacon and then as a Priest, just as a parish incumbent does.

2 A Person of God

The basis of any ministry must be a deep and flourishing relationship with God, that is expressed in prayer and a personal spirituality. Time is given to deepening these areas of life throughout the course. Spirituality cannot be structured or assessed in the way other modules are, but it is a vital aspect of broadening one's own experience in the new avenues offered for exploration.

In training you will be introduced to a variety of spiritual traditions and theologies and to different ways of praying. We also pay attention to your developing vocation and to equipping you for the role to which you have been called.



3 A Theologically Resourced Person

As an ordained minister you will be someone who has studied, read widely, and who has reflected on matters of faith so that you can help others to do the same.

To equip you for this, the training route is typically a three-year Diploma in Higher Education course validated by Durham University. It covers a wide range of academic and practical subjects. Each module gives you an overview of a particular subject and additional in-depth work. Typically, two tutors share the teaching in each module. You will usually be asked to complete two assignments and other forms of assessment for each module, often relating directly to the way in which you will be exercising ministry. You will have preparatory homework most weeks.

You will also discuss ways of enabling others to learn and grow in their faith in a parish setting.

4 A Pastoral Person

As an OLM or SSM, you will exercise a pastoral ministry in your work as a priest. Within your ministerial formation, you will study pastoral theology and practice, which includes sessions on bereavement care, listening skills and theological reflection. You will also experience a Sector Ministry Placement in your second year, which could be for example in a school, hospital or prison, giving you further opportunities to develop pastoral and missional skills.

5 A Preacher, Teacher and Leader of Worship

One of a minister's key functions is to lead worship and to preach in a variety of settings. Across the three years, preaching and teaching skills are developed through different parish opportunities. You will have time to preach in your home parish, on placement, and to your year group, as well as leading a number of different types of service. Several of your sermons will be assessed during the three-year period and you will attend a variety of

preaching classes at residential weekends and on Monday evenings. You will be given the tools to develop your own preaching gifts both during and after training, and will be encouraged to seek out other methods of communicating your faith beyond the pulpit.



You will take part in acts of worship of various styles and traditions, and will have the opportunity to lead worship in a variety of settings and to reflect on and learn from all these experiences. In this way you will become familiar with the breadth of Anglican worship.

6 Committed to sharing ministry

You will be committed to sharing ministry with the whole people of God - with other clergy, lay ministers and authorised ministers of all denominations, as well as with members of congregations, enabling the gifts of others to find expression. Throughout training there is an emphasis on collaboration and co-working, in order that ministry is accountable and sustainable.

The Programme



The normal training course lasts for three years and begins in September. Each year there are three terms of 10 – 12 weeks each. All meetings are held in Guildford on a Monday evening from 7.30pm – 10.00pm and begin with a time of shared Evening Prayer led by the students themselves. In addition, there are two residential weekends per year, a four-day Summer School, and three Saturday Study Days. Students who complete the three-year course will gain a Diploma in Higher Education in Theology, Ministry and Mission accredited by the University of Durham.

In the first year there will be modules on 'Introduction to the Bible', 'Foundations for Ministry and Mission in Context', 'Worship and Spirituality' and 'Christian Discipleship'. Second and third year modules include in-depth 'Old and New Testament Studies', 'Mission and Evangelism', 'Christian Doctrine' as well as 'Pastoral Care'.

Formation for Ordained Ministry

One of the main ways through which you gain formational experience is through placements. During the first year, you will investigate the nature and understanding of priesthood by interviewing priests of different traditions and discussing with them their understanding of the nature of ordained ministry. In the second year, you will undertake a Sector Ministry Placement. As part of the focus on pastoral skills and theology, you will also make links within your own parish context. During the third year all students are attached for a three-month period to a local church which provides a different socio-demographic context or church tradition from that of their home parish.

The Parish Placement experience becomes the basis for some assessed work on theological reflection. Through these experiences you will become aware of the breadth and depth of the Church of England and learn from traditions different from your own.

Shorter Pathways

Sometimes there are students on LMP who do not follow the normal three-year course. For instance, if they are an existing Licensed Lay Minister, or a minister from another denomination, they might follow a shorter, individual pathway which concentrates on the formation for ordained ministry aspects of training, and focuses on areas needing further development.

Degrees

For students who want to continue their studies following ordination, LMP provides an option to continue to take a BA(Hons) or Graduate Diploma in Theology, Ministry and Mission.



I found LMP to be a purposeful learning environment. The teaching is very good and appeals to various learning styles. The academic strands are embedded in practical application, providing invaluable tools that are now part of my ministry.

Ruth Kidd

OLM and former LMP student

Expectations

We take your vocation to ministry very seriously and because of this there are a number of commitments made by you, the parish and the LMP team.

Students

You are expected to give priority to your studies, the Monday evening teaching sessions, training events, residential weekends, Saturday Study Days and the Summer School. In addition, you will need time during the week for reading and preparation. Although it is difficult to give an accurate estimate of the necessary time commitment for training, because all adults learn at a different pace, around 12-15 hours per week may be necessary. Equally important is your willingness to be open to learning, to listen to others and to be prepared to change and grow as God works within you.



Parishes

Ministry does not belong to any individual, it is a communal service, and all priests operate under authority. So, the support of your parish and incumbent is vital. The parish can help by showing interest, giving prayer support, providing financial resources for books, etc. and being ready to provide opportunities for you to practice your skills. It is expected that you are released from many normal parish activities to allow you to give full attention to your training.

The cost of the course to the parish is in the region of £1,155 per annum (2022-23 figures) which includes all residential costs and course materials. The rest of the training fee is met through national and diocesan contributions.

You will also work with a Parish Support Group of around 5-6 members from your parish. This group will meet regularly to support you in your transition from lay to ordained ministry, help you to develop reflective and leadership skills, and to inform the parish about your training and progress.

Staff

The Course has a Core Staff team of five members: the LMP Dean, three Year Tutors – one of whom is Director of Studies – and a Team Administrator. The Year Tutor provides individual care for students and facilitates good relationships with the parish. The LMP Dean bears overall responsibility for all aspects of the Course. The Administrator will ensure that course materials are available and that good communication is maintained.

One of the strengths of LMP is the expertise of its teaching tutors who are drawn from diocesan clergy, Licensed Lay Ministers, lay people with specialist subject knowledge, and others drawn more widely from academia and church life.



The LMP team will always endeavour to make your training interesting, relevant and of a high quality.

Review and Appraisal

As well as receiving feedback from the marking of assignments and assessment work which you produce for each module, at the end of each year you will have a review and appraisal meeting. Your incumbent and a parish referee, LMP tutors and (in the third year) your placement supervisor, all provide written reports which feed into this meeting.

Self-appraisal is also a key part of the process. This is a major component of the appraisal interview at the end of each year with your Year Tutor. We see appraisal as a healthy and natural process, and it is embraced and exercised in a positive manner by all students and staff. It will inform the final report sent to the Bishop.



A Year Tutor who also teaches on LMP is likely to be patient and kind, long-suffering and abundant in hope! Helping students through the three years of the course is demanding in energy and commitment, but very rewarding and great fun.

Revd. Barbara Steele-Perkins

Governance

The governing body for the Course is the South Central TEI Governance Board, which has representation from Guildford and the other three teaching centres within SCTEI. Management of the course happens through the Common Awards Management Committee which has representation from teaching staff and students from across the region.

Resources

Online resources are available via the Moodle-based Virtual Learning Environment. Students are given membership of the Diocesan Library, which is housed in Guildford Cathedral and includes many of books used in training. The Cathedral Bookshop can order core textbooks and offers a discount to all LMP students.

[HOME](#) [DASHBOARD](#) [MY COURSES](#) [THIS COURSE](#) [SCTEI MAIN PAGE](#) [HUB RESOURCES](#)

Modules > Guildford > Modules 2020-21 > Year 1 2020-21 > GUI1031-ITB-20/21

Introduction to the Bible 2021



Welcome to Introduction to the Bible

You will find everything you need in the sections below



What to do next

If what you've read so far interests and excites you, why not visit LMP on a Monday evening? We welcome visitors as part of the discernment process. It can be a good way to get a flavour of what training is like and you can meet current students and ask any questions you may have.



You can even study a one-off module as an interested learner. To arrange a visit please contact the LMP Dean:

Revd Dr John Valentine
Church House Guildford
20 Alan Turing Road
Guildford GU2 7YF

01483 790319

John.Valentine@cofeguildford.org.uk

Discernment

LMP accepts all student ordinands who have been recommended for training by a national Bishops' Advisory Panel. The Diocesan Director of Ordinands (DDO) is responsible for this process, and is the first person to contact:

Revd Dr Craig Holmes
Church House Guildford
20 Alan Turing Road
Guildford GU2 7YF

01483 790322 ddo@cofeguildford.org.uk

Local Ministry Programme: Guildford

Core Staff



Revd Dr John Valentine
LMP Dean



Revd Pippa Ross-McCabe
*Director of Studies
& Year Tutor*



Revd Dr Lisa Cornwell
Year Tutor



Revd Clare Welham
Year Tutor

Paulette Withycombe
Team Administrator. People
admin@cofeguildford.org.uk

Local Ministry Programme: Guildford
Church House Guildford
20 Alan Turing Road, Guildford GU2 7YF



www.cofeguildford.org.uk/LMP