



Curacy Training

2025-2026

Welcome to a new year of curacy training in the Diocese of Manchester. We are really excited to be coming on this journey with you, and walking together through these formative years of your ordained leadership.

Our vision for Manchester Diocese

Our curacy training is an important part of our strategy and plans for the diocese based on four distinct but interconnected themes:

- Growing younger
- Church planting and revitalisation
- Developing missional leaders, lay and ordained
- Supporting parish renewal

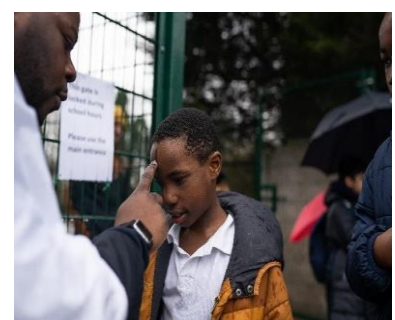
These priorities align with the Church of England's overall vision, and it's important that in all of our training we are inhabiting these themes and the wider missional context. Whether funerals, finance, music or pastoral care, we want to be equipping a new generation of leaders to be thinking missionally, and to be drawing common threads between these four themes.

This stage of IME is the programme of formation and learning for three to four years for those at the beginning of their ordained ministry, deacons and priests. Alongside the context-based training – primarily in a parish – this group training is an essential part of laying strong foundations for life and leadership ahead.

A few practical things...

Especially for those entering their first year it's helpful to lay out a few expectations and principles around our curacy training. This is also important given role changes coming up with Jonathan Bramwell's departure as Head of Clergy Development in July 2025, and pending the expected arrival of a new colleague at some stage in the autumn.

- 1. Diary Dates and Attendance.** Attendance at curacy training is a firm requirement, and we place a very high expectation on full participation over the three years of the training programme. Please put **all** the relevant dates for the year into your diaries, as well as ensuring that your Training Incumbent is aware of them. It would be good practice to ensure that you are not overly committed in the parish around the weekend sessions in particular.



If you know that you are unable to attend a session please notify us (see below) as far in advance as you can, and we would hope to arrange for you to attend that session in another year so that you don't miss out on the input.

We will endeavour to send out a reminder of each session a week ahead, and if there are any changes to any of the training sessions you will be notified by email.

2. **Venue.** Most curacy training takes place in Saint Johns' House in Bury, either in the conference room or in room 1.5 (which seats up to 30). Training is sometimes held in other locations, including Sacred Trinity Church, Chapel Street, Salford. Do please consider public transport options, or talk to others about car sharing!
3. **Timings.** Most of our training sessions last for two hours, though there are a few longer days or weekends each year. Our usual format is to begin with opening worship led by the session host, then the main input which will include a break, and finishing with a closing prayer and any particular 'news and forthcoming events' for curates to know. We will always aim to finish on time, especially in the evening sessions.

For longer sessions, eg whole day or weekend, we will be making arrangements for meals together. If we don't yet have any allergies or dietary requirements etc then please do notify us as soon as possible.

4. **Curacy Handbook and appraisals.** In July 2025 all curates will receive an updated version of the curacy handbook, with lots of practical things about ensuring an effective training curacy as well as further information around reports, ongoing learning objectives, and where curacies fit into the wider life of the Diocese of Manchester. If you have any questions, then please do speak to a member of the team.

You will be required to submit appraisals during each year of curacy, IME4 reports are organised through Neil Whittaker who will inform you of when these are required.

IME5 appraisals are due by 31/01/26

IME6 Assessment at end of curacy folders by 16/01/26

In both instances these will be sent to the new Head of Clergy Development, please send these electronically (no paper files please).

You will receive the necessary paperwork by the beginning of November.

5. **Safeguarding and inclusion** are foundational to all aspects of curacy training. We ask all involved to be mindful of creating a safe and respectful environment where every participant feels valued and protected. This includes being alert to any disclosures or signs of distress and knowing that any safeguarding concerns should be reported to the session host or the Diocesan Safeguarding Team.

We also encourage inclusive practice in language, content, and delivery, recognising the diversity of backgrounds, identities, and experiences among our curates, and ensuring that everyone is able to participate fully and with dignity. Please avoid any language which may be deemed offensive, this includes any swearing (including using God as a swear word) or any language that could be deemed discriminatory in any way.

6. **Feedback.** We do welcome feedback from everyone involved throughout our curacy training. If you are struggling – pastorally, practically or vocationally – please do speak to one of the team as soon as you feel able. Alongside other networks of support around – Training Incumbents, Bishops and Archdeacons, other colleagues at St John’s House - we are here to walk with you in these formational months and years of your training.

Contact details:

Pending the arrival of the new Head of Clergy Development (autumn 2025) there are a team involved in hosting and overseeing our curacy training programme:

Shaun Reynolds is the **Development and Training Officer**. He will be overseeing the practical day-to-day management of Curacy Training. If you can’t make an event, or have practical issues around a session, please start with him. shaunreynolds@manchester.anglican.org

Rev Canon Rachel Watts is **Director of Vocations**. rachelwatts@manchester.anglican.org

Revd Phil Cansdale is **Director of Mission and Ministry**. philcansdale@manchester.anglican.org



IME4 CURATE TRAINING 2025-2026 (FIRST YEAR)

CORRECT AS OF 30/6/2025

PROJECT/EVENT	IME CURACY TRAINING	 THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND Diocese of Manchester	CHURCH FOR A DIFFERENT WORLD
ORGANISER	SHAUN REYNOLDS		

EVENT	DATE/TIME	VENUE	EVENT	DATE/TIME	VENUE
STARTING THE JOURNEY: RACHEL WATTS, PHIL CANSDALE, BISHOP MARK	16/09/25 10am-3pm	SJH	PREPARATION FOR PRIESTHOOD: LUKE MACGUIRE, VINNIE WHITWORTH, ARCHDEACON KAREN BEST	7/03/26 10am-3pm	Sacred Trinity
GROWING YOUNGER 1: EDUCATION TEAM	7/10/25 7-9pm	SJH	CHURCH PLANTING: JANIE CRONIN	22/04/26 7-9pm	Nelson Street Church
FUNERAL MINISTRY: ANN GILBERT	6/11/25 7-9pm	SJH	LOOKING AFTER YOURSELF IN MINISTRY	16/05/26 Full day 10am-8pm	SJH
BEING MISSIONAL @ CHRISTMAS: KATRIN ALLDAVOODI	2/12/25 7-9pm	SJH	ORDINATION RETREAT	TBC	
MID YEAR REVIEWS: RACHEL WATTS & PHIL CANSDALE	13/01/26 8-9pm	ZOOM			
MARRIAGE MINISTRY: DONNA MYERS	3/02/25 7-9pm	SJH			

IME5 CURATE TRAINING 2025-2026 (SECOND YEAR)

CORRECT AS OF 30/6/2025

PROJECT/EVENT	IME CURACY TRAINING	 THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND Diocese of Manchester	CHURCH FOR A DIFFERENT WORLD
ORGANISER	SHAUN REYNOLDS		

EVENT	DATE/TIME	VENUE	EVENT	DATE/TIME	VENUE
AN EVENING WITH BISHOP DAVID	23/09/25 7-9pm	Sacred Trinity	UNDERSTANDING FINANCE: CAROLYN MCGLOUGHLIN	3/03/26 7-9pm	SJH
EFFECTIVE PASTORAL CARE: MICHELE RYAN	14/10/25 7-9pm	SJH	CHURCH MUSIC - PHIL CANSDALE & PHILIP BILSON	31/03/26 7-9pm	SJH
MISSIONAL PREACHING FOR THE LONG HAUL: PHIL CANSDALE AND GUESTS	8/11/25 10am-3pm	Sacred Trinity	INTERNATIONAL MISSION: JASON LAWTON & DELIVERANCE MINISTRY GILL BARNETT	5/05/26 7-9pm	SJH
CARE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AS MISSION: GRACE THOMAS	2/12/25 7-9pm	Sacred Trinity	GROWING YOUNGER 2: EDUCATION TEAM	6/06/26 10-3pm	Sacred Trinity
LEADERSHIP WEEKEND: ANNE EDWARDS, STEPHEN MAWHINNEY & CHRIS SAUNDERS	16-18/01/26 Friday 5pm to Sunday 1.30pm	Foxhill			
THINKING ABOUT DISABILITY: DIOCESAN DISABILITY GROUP	10/02/26 7-9m	SJH			

IME6 CURATE TRAINING 2025-2026 (THIRD YEAR)

CORRECT AS OF 30/6/2025

PROJECT/EVENT	IME CURACY TRAINING
ORGANISER	SHAUN REYNOLDS



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Manchester

CHURCH
FOR A
DIFFERENT
WORLD

EVENT	DATE/TIME	VENUE	EVENT	DATE/TIMING	VENUE
GROWING CHURCHES: PHIL CANSDALE & DAN COOK	23/09/25 7-9pm	SJH	GROWING MISSIONAL LEADERS WEEKEND: VARIOUS SPEAKERS	6-8/02/26 5pm Friday to 1.30pm Sunday	Foxhill
INTERCULTURAL MINISTRY: DAVID ONABANJO	21/10/25 7-9pm	SJH	BRIDGE BUILDERS: HANDLING CONFLICT CONSTRUCTIVELY	12/03/26 10-5pm	SJH
LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF MINISTRY: ALAN SIMPSON	18/11/25 7-9pm	SJH	GROWING YOUNGER 3: EDUCATION TEAM	28/04/26 7-9pm	SJH
ECUMENICAL WORKING: DANIEL RAMBLE & RACHEL WATTS	9/12/25 7-9pm	SJH	EXPLORING CHAPLAINCY: JANE REYNOLDS, JO CALLADINE	12/05/26 7-9pm	SJH
MOVING ON: 3D COACHING, SU BLANCH.	13/01/25 10am-3pm	SJH	END OF CURACY RETREAT: RACHEL WATTS	9-10/06/26	The Briery, Ilkley
MINISTRY IN A DIGITAL AGE: GEMMA GARDINER & PHIL CANSDALE	20/01/26 7-9pm	SJH			