
Lay Ministry Training



Course Prospectus

2025

Foreword

From Bishop David

I've been involved in lay training schemes of one sort or another since my own days as a parish priest in Rotherham in the 1990s. The take-off of interest in such schemes in more recent years here in the Diocese of Manchester has been a marvellous sign of how the Holy Spirit is equipping men and women for service and ministry in the Church.

I can promise anyone interested in these courses that any such training will be demanding and stretching but that it will inevitably draw you deeper into Christ. You will learn from each other as well as from those charged with leading the course. You will grow in knowledge, in experience and in confidence.

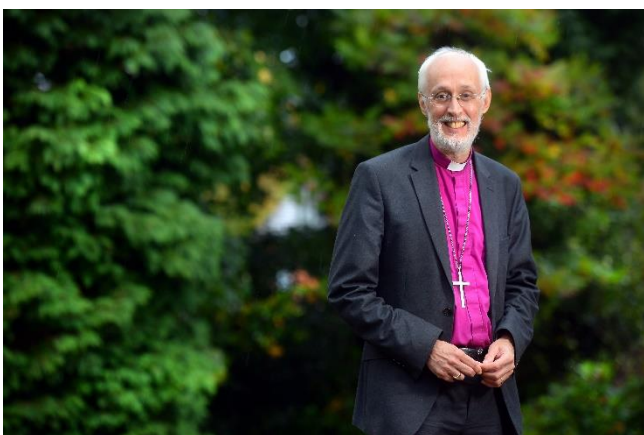
To put it more bluntly you'll be growing more closely into the likeness of Christ for which you and all of us are destined.

Yours ever,



The Rt Revd Dr David Walker

Bishop of Manchester



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General Information

Introduction

What is the general lay training pathway?

Alongside Authorised Lay Ministry (ALM), we now offer the general lay training pathway for those wanting to access lay training and development more informally. The pathway involves a more simplified application process than ALM but will still require a supportive recommendation from an appropriate parish representative. Post training, we strongly encourage some form of locally recognised celebration or commissioning, with the ongoing support and care of the participant remaining under the oversight of the local parish. It will also be the responsibility of the local parish to ensure that the appropriate safeguarding training and DBS checks are in place for any resulting ministry roles or duties

What courses are on offer for 2025?

There are currently 9 courses available for application, all of which will run between April and July at a variety of venues around the diocese. For more information and details on each course please refer to the following outlines.

- Children and Families
- Ecology and creation
- Parish Admin, Finance and Governance
- Prayer and Spirituality
- Youth Work
- Community Outreach and Social Justice
- Mission and Evangelism
- Pastoral Outreach and Listening
- Worship and Liturgy

Please note that we do our best to make the training courses as accessible as possible to all participants. However, if there are not enough candidates to run selected venues then alternative arrangements may need to be made or courses may be cancelled.

APPLICATION CLOSING DATE

The application closing date for general lay training applications is Sunday 06 April, 2025

Course Aims, Goals and Expectations

Course Aim

To empower, enable and equip lay leaders to become courageous and missional whole life disciples, capable of ministering effectively and collaboratively in their local parish churches, communities and frontlines.

Course Goals

- To provide participants with a safe and unique learning environment where they can develop and grow alongside fellow Christians from a variety of different church traditions and backgrounds.
- To empower participants to develop their calling and gifts as lay leaders and to deepen their ongoing journey of faith as missional whole-life disciples in the everyday stuff of life.
- To enable participants to grasp the importance of mission, including the knowledge and skills they will need to minister effectively, courageously and collaboratively in their own local contexts and frontlines.
- To equip participants with the tools they will need to grow and thrive in their ministries and the resources and support required to remain healthy and fruitful.

Course Expectations

Attendance

To be eligible for a course completion certificate, all participants must maintain a minimum attendance rate of 75%. This is to ensure that a base level of training has been met and that all participants are equally equipped.

Leading Opening Prayers/Reflections

During the course we encourage participants to take turns in planning and leading a short time of opening prayers/reflections. Further guidance and support for this will be provided.

Learning Journal

Participants are encouraged to keep some form of reflective learning diary/ journal. This is intended to take no longer than 15-20 minutes after each session and is part of developing the skills of reflective practice. Further support and guidance on this will be provided.

Reading

There is no expectation for course participants to do lots of extra reading. However, for those wanting to delve a little deeper there will be suggested resources and recommended reading lists provided. Participants will also be given full access to the borrowing library at St Johns House.

Learning Task

As part of the course, participants may be given the opportunity to prepare and submit a short learning task set by the tutor. This could be a short book review, a presentation or a similarly related task. Guidance and support for this will be provided.

Parish Visitation(s)

As part of reflective practice and personal development we ask that all participants arrange at least one parish visitation during the course. This tends to work best if it is to a parish that is different from their own context in terms of tradition and practices. Guidance and support on this will be provided.

Ministry Training Courses

Children and Families

Learning Goals

- To explore and learn more about the social development of children and young people and its impact on our ministry and work with them.
- To explore and understand some of the key principles of relational children's and youth work so that participants can contextualise these to their local parishes, projects and communities.
- To make space for participants to dream and get excited about potential programmes of children's and youth work applicable to their context, and then be able to identify key resources that would enable them to develop and deliver these.
- To equip and train participants in specialist areas of children's and youth work, such as mental health, messy church, faith development and schools work.
- To ensure that all participants are up to date and understand current guidelines and best practice in youth and children's' work.
- To equip participants in rethinking their contextual approach to the 'departure' after confirmation and secured secondary school places.

Course Delivery and Venues

The EQUIP programme offers a precious opportunity to learn from your fellow ministers, deepen your understanding of youth and children's ministry, and sharpen essential skills. We've thoughtfully designed a curriculum that serves both children's and youth leaders, ensuring a rich, collaborative learning environment. Moreover, we'll provide focused sessions addressing the unique challenges and opportunities of specific age groups, allowing you to customise your learning experience to your ministry's needs.

Our flexible course structure is designed to fit your busy diary. 2 sessions will be online and the venues for our in-person sessions will be secured once applications come in, ensuring that participants won't have to travel too far and that any travel restrictions can be taken into consideration'

Session Dates

Launch Night: Thursday 03 April, 6.45-9pm @ Online

Equip Weekend: Friday 16 May (Evening), Saturday 17 May (Full Day) and Sunday 18 May (Half Day) @ Final timings and Venue tbc (once applications are in)

Follow Up: Thursday 12 June, 6.45-9pm @ Online

Final Gathering: Saturday 06 September, 10am-4pm @ Venue tbc (once applications are in)

Course Tutor

For more information and details about the course, please feel free to contact:



Rick Otto

Diocesan Children's Officer

E: RickOtto@manchester.anglican.org

Going Deeper

If you would like to get a flavour of this course and learn a little bit more about what we will be covering, then please feel free to check out some of the following books and resources.

Books

Ivy Beckwith and David Csinos, Children's Ministry in the Way of Jesus

Ivy Beckwith, Post Modern Children's Ministry

John Westerhoff, Will Our Children Have Faith (Revised Edition)

Rebecca Nye, Children's Spirituality

Mark Griffiths, Changing Lives: The Essential Guide to Ministry with Children and Families

Grove Booklets: <https://grovebooks.co.uk/search?q=children>

Web Resources

Diocese of Manchester Children and Family Resources (Facebook Group)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/236487611079373>

Resource Website

<https://padlet.com/rickotto/equip-resources-rr2h76255w9cc4gs>

Community Outreach & Social Action

This elective is delivered by our partners at Greater Together Manchester (GTM). GTM is a charity that looks to support churches and their communities to address issues of social justice, developing community outreach projects and finding new ways to support and serve vulnerable people in our neighbourhoods.

Learning Goals

- To give participants an understanding of the major challenges facing communities in the UK today, and how the church can work with other partners to respond appropriately.
- To enable participants to understand why fighting for social justice is a vital part of the Christian faith and the mission of the church.
- To introduce participants to examples of best practice across the Diocese and offer learning opportunities.

Course Delivery and Venues

Sessions will be delivered as a combination of Wednesday evenings and Saturdays, with parish visits and some additional at home learning. Teaching locations will likely be dispersed across the Diocese as we look to learn from existing projects and initiatives.

The content of this course will be influenced by the interests of the participants. If there is a particular social issue in your parish or a particular area of work you are interested in, please mention this in your application as this will help us shape the course content.

Examples of the “Big Topics” we can cover are Food Poverty, Housing & Homelessness, Supporting Migrants (including Refugees and Asylum Seekers), Financial Inclusion and Welcome & Hospitality, Working with Other Faiths. We will also look at the practical skills and knowledge you need to have to develop and run a community project, how you find funding, what good partnership working looks like, and how you work well with and support people with lived experience.

Session Dates

Session 1: Introduction to Community Outreach and Social Justice

Wednesday 23 April, 7-9pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Session 2: Know Your Church, Know Your Neighbourhood

Wednesday 07 May, 7-9pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Session 3: Big Topics 1

Wednesday 14 May, 7-9pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Session 4- Parish Visit

Saturday 17 May, 10am- 12pm @ Location tbc

Session 5 – Big Topics 2

Wednesday 4 June, 7–9pm @ Online (via Zoom)

Session 6 – Planning, Funding and Sustaining Your Project

Wednesday 18th June, 7–9pm (via Zoom)

Session 7 – Trauma Informed Practice

Saturday 28 June, 10am– 4pm @ Location tbc

Session 8 – Parish Visit & Big Topics 3

Saturday 12th July, 10am - 2pm @ Location tbc

Session 9 – Final Wrap Up Session

Wednesday 23 July, 7pm – 9pm @ Location tbc

Course Tutor

For more information and details about the course, please feel free to contact:



Lily Axworthy

CEO of Greater Together Manchester

E: lily@greatertogethermanchester.org

Going Deeper

If you would like to get a flavour of this course and learn a little bit more about what we will be covering, then please feel free to check out some of the following books and resources.

Books

BARCLAY, D. and HILHORST, S. (2019) Holy Alliances: Church-Secular Partnerships for social good. Available online.

BARNA GLOBAL. (2018) The UK Church in Action: Perceptions of Social Justice and Mission in a Changing World. PDF available on request.

LOUDON, E. (2020) 12 Rules for Christian Activists: A Toolkit for Massive Change. Canterbury: Canterbury Press.

PURCELL, L. and PURCELL, S. (2016) Church of the Poor? A call to action for churches in the UK. Available online.

SPENCER, N. (2016) Doing Good: A Future for Christianity in the 21st Century. Available online.

THORLBY, T. (2017), Assets Not Burdens: Using church property to accelerate mission. Available online.

WALKER, D. (2017) God's believers. How people engage with God today and how the church can help. Abingdon: The Bible Reading Fellowship.

WELLS, S., Rook, R. and Barclay, D. (2017) For Good: The Church and the Future of Welfare. Canterbury: Canterbury Press.

Web Resources

Church Urban Fund Look Up Tool: <https://cuf.org.uk/lookup-tool>

Mapping GM: <https://mappinggm.org.uk/>

Ecology & Creation

For the first time this year, the course will also be collaborating with colleagues in Finland. Therefore, we are delighted to say that we will be joined by participants from our partner diocese in Tampere. This will, no doubt, enrich our conversations and the learning we can make as we consider each other's contexts

Learning Goals

- To develop a theological understanding of creation care alongside an understanding of the current issues regarding the climate emergency.
- To identify how creation and ecology present missional opportunities for engagement in all aspects of church life, such as pastoral care and worship.
- To equip people with resources that enable them to practically engage in creation care within their own context.

Course Delivery and Venues

For ease of convenience and to reduce travel, most of the sessions will be delivered online via Zoom on a Tuesday evening. However, the elective will involve some field trip visits to some key eco projects around the diocese and a special Saturday Eco Retreat Day.

Session Dates

Session 1: Introduction- Looking at Our Contexts

Tuesday 29 April, 7-9pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Sessions 2, 3 & 4: Creation, Ecology & The Bible (Eco Retreat Day)

Saturday 10 May, 10am-3pm @ Venue tbc

Session 5: Creation & Ecology as Mission

Tuesday 13 May, 7-9pm Online (Via Zoom)

Session 6: Engaging with Children, Young People & Schools

Tuesday 20 May 7-9pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Session 7: Field Trip- A Rural Eco Church

Tuesday 27 May, 7-9pm @ St Paul, Constable Lee, Rossendale

Session 8: Pastoral Care, Climate Grief and the Role of Churches

Tuesday 03 June, 7-9pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Session 9: Creation, Ecology & Worship

Tuesday 10 June, 7-9pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Session 10: Eco Church- Process & Measurements

Tuesday 17 June, 7-9pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Session 11: Eco Stepping Stones & Next Steps

Tuesday 24 June, 7-9pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Session 12: Field Trip- An Urban Eco Church

Tuesday 04 July, 7-9pm @ Christ Church, Brunswick, Manchester

Course Tutor

For more information and details about the course, please feel free to contact:



Revd Grace Thomas

Canon Missioner at Manchester Cathedral and

Diocesan Environment Officer

E: revgracethomas@gmail.com



Matthew Barber-Rowell

Transformation Support Officer (Ecology)

E: MatthewBarber-Rowell@manchester.anglican.org

Going Deeper

If you would like to get a flavour of this course and learn a little bit more about what we will be covering, then please feel free to check out some of the following books and resources.

Books

Robert Bauckham, *The Bible and Ecology*

Church of England Liturgical Commission, *A Time for Creation*

John Bimson, *The Book of Job and Environmental Ethics* (Grove Booklet)

Grace Thomas & Mark Coleman, *Climate Action as Mission* (Grove Booklet)

Websites

A Rocha Eco Church: <https://ecochurch.arocha.org.uk/>

Christian Climate Action: <https://christianclimateaction.org/resources/>

Green Christians website: <https://greenchristian.org.uk/>

Diocese of Manchester, Eco Diocese:

<https://www.manchester.anglican.org/faithlife/ecodiocese/>

Mission and Evangelism

Learning Goals

- To explore what mission and evangelism are and where they sit within the context of our diocesan and parish vision strategies.
- To develop a deeper understanding of what the Good News is and how it can be shared confidently and appropriately in different contexts.
- To increase participants confidence in planning for mission and enabling evangelism to happen within their own local church contexts and communities.
- To support participants in how to identify, engage and train others to get involved in mission and evangelism.
- To explore the different ways of embedding and sustaining a culture of mission and evangelism within our church communities.

Course Delivery and Venues

To give the widest possible chance for engagement, this course will be delivered via a hybrid mix of in person and online sessions. 4 sessions will be delivered online (via Zoom) on a Wednesday evening, with the addition of 2 in person Saturdays (in Little Lever, Bolton) and 2 field trips to different venues around the diocese.

During the course, participants will also be asked to work towards developing an action plan for mission and evangelism in their parish. Guidance and support will be provided for this.

Session Dates

Sessions 1-3: Introducing Mission and Evangelism, The Joy of the Good News, Prayer and Worship as Evangelism

Saturday 03 May, 10.30am-4pm @ St Matthew, Market Street, Little Lever, BL3 1HH

Session 4: Moving Our Churches From 'Maintenance' to 'Mission'

Wednesday 07 May, 6.45-9pm @ Online via Zoom

Session 5: Embedding and Sustaining a Missional Culture in Our Churches

Wednesday 14 May, 6.45-9pm @ Online via Zoom

Session 6: Mission, Evangelism and Inclusion (Field Trip)

Tuesday 03 June, 8-9.30pm @ St James and Emmanuel, Didsbury

Session 7: Mission and Evangelism with Children and Families (Field Trip)

W/c 09 June, date, time and venue (tbc)

Session 8: The Church's Sacraments and Life Events as Marks of Mission

Wednesday 18 June, 6.45-9pm @ Online via Zoom

Sessions 9: Beyond the Traditional Church: Evangelising on the Fringes

Wednesday 25 June, 6.45-9pm @ Online via Zoom

Sessions 10-12: Leaders in Mission, Catching Fish, Action Plans and Next Steps

Saturday 05 July, 10.30-4 @ St Matthew, Market Street, Little Lever, BL3 1HH

Course Tutors

For more information and details about the course, please feel free to contact:



Revd Fr Robert Eloff OC

Incumbent at St Matthew, Little Lever (Benefice)

E: reloff@outlook.com



Sister Dorothy Needham

Church Army Evangelist

Going Deeper

If you would like to get a flavour of this course and learn a little bit more about what we will be covering, then the main two books we will be focusing on are by James Mallon:

- Divine Renovation: From a Maintenance to a Missional Parish
- Thriving Faith: Discipleship in Uncertain Times

Please note that you don't need to buy these books as short readings will be provided in preparation for each week's session.

Books

Mark Greene, Fruitfulness on the Frontline: Making a Difference Where You Are

Neil Hudson, Scattered and Gathered: Equipping Disciples for the Frontline

Jeffrey John, Living Evangelism: Affirming Catholicism and Sharing the Faith(Out of print but available second hand)

David Make and Paul Weston, The Word's Out: Principles and Strategies for Effective Evangelism Today

Stephen Cottrell, From the Abundance of the Heart: Catholic Evangelism for All

Pope Francis, The Joy of the Gospel (Evangelii Gaudium)

Robin Gamble, Jesus the Evangelist: Doing it HIS WAY in my World

Online

Sacramental Evangelism Network: <https://sacramentalevangelism.wordpress.com/>

National Church: Evangelism Resources: <https://churchofengland.org/more/church-resources/evangelism-and-discipleship>

London Institute of Contemporary Christianity: <https://licc.org.uk/ourresources/>

Rowan Williams Address to the Synod of Archbishops in Rome:
<http://rowanwilliams.archbishopofcanterbury.org/articles.php/2645/archbishops-address-to-the-synod-of-bishops-in-rome.html>

Missional Leadership Podcast: <https://www.youtube.com/@MissionalLeadershipPodcast>

Divine Renovation Podcasts: <https://www.youtube.com/@divinerenovationministry>

NT Wright on The Mission of God in the Gospel of John

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KhXaxkgaKjs&ab_channel=LanierTheologicalLibrary

Parish Administration, Finance and Governance

Learning Goals

- To help participants understand the importance of administration as a ministry and the vital role it plays in supporting God's work in the parish and wider diocese.
- To enable and resource participants to feel more confident in managing and dealing with matters of church governance, and to understand where support and assistance can be found.
- To equip participants with an understanding of how parish and diocesan finances work and to highlight the support and resources available.
- To highlight the importance of generous giving as part of supporting the Church's mission, including fundraising, gift aid and the support available to assist this work.
- To resource participants with the information and guidance required to manage other key parish issues such as health & safety, safeguarding, GPDR and publicity.

Course Delivery and Venues

To give the fairest possible opportunities for participation and engagement this course will be delivered via a hybrid mix of in person and online sessions. Most sessions will be delivered online (via Zoom) on a Thursday evening with the addition of 3 Saturdays placed at different venues around the diocese.

Session Dates

Course Induction Evening

Tuesday 09 April, 7.15-8.15pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Sessions 1-3: The Ministry of Administration, The Who's Who of Church Governance & All Things PCC

Saturday 10 May, 10am-2pm @ St John's House, 155-163, The Rock, Bury, BL9 0NE

Session 4: An Introduction to Faculties and Church Law

Thursday 15 May, 7-9pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Session 5: Looking After Your Church Building, Including a Brief Introduction to Health & Safety and Church Insurance

Thursday 22 May, 7-9pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Session 6: An Introduction to Diocesan & Parish Finances

Thursday 5 June, 7-9pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Session 7: Parish Visitation: An Example of Repair and Reordering

Saturday 7 June, 10am-2pm @ Christ Church, Brunswick

Session 8: An Introduction to Parish Data & Statistics

Thursday 12 June @ Online (Via Zoom)

Session 9: Dealing with Life Events- Births, Deaths & Marriages

Thursday 19 June, 7-9pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Session 10: An Introduction to Generosity and Thanksgiving, including Financial Giving & Fundraising

Thursday 26 June, 7-9pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Session 11: An Introduction Church Communication, Publicity & the Diocesan Website

Thursday 03 July, 7-9pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Session 12: An Introduction to Electronic Giving, Online Resources, Data Sharing and Storage

Thursday 10 July, 7-9pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Session 13: Managing Demands, Relationships and Personal Wellbeing. Including Next Steps and 'Mop Up'

Saturday 12 July, 10am-2pm @ St John's House, 155-163, The Rock, Bury, BL9 0NE

Course Tutors

For more information and details about the course, please feel free to contact:



Carolyn McGloughlin

Parish Support Officer (Finance)

E: CarolynMcGloughlin@manchester.anglican.org



Rob Chilton

Parish Support Officer (Transformation)

E: robertchilton@manchester.anglican.org

Going Deeper

If you would like to get a flavour of this course and learn a little bit more about what we will be covering, then please feel free to check out some of the following books and resources.

Books

Church Representation Rules: 2022, Church House Publishing

A Handbook for Churchwardens & Parochial Church Councillors, Kenneth MacMorrison

The Churchwarden's Handbook: A Practical Guide, Ian Russell

Churchwardens: A Survival Guide, Martin Dudley

An ABC for the PCC: A Handbook for Church Council Members, John Pitchford

Websites

Manchester Diocese, Finances: <https://www.manchester.anglican.org/finance/>

Church Representation Rules (online toolkit) <https://www.churchofengland.org/more/policy-and-thinking/church-representation-rules>

The National Church: Generosity and Learning Hub:
<https://www.churchofengland.org/resources/building-generous-church/webinars-and-training/generosity-learning-hub>

Parish Resources: <https://www.parishresources.org.uk/>

Pastoral Outreach and Listening

Learning Goals

- To enable participants to develop their understanding of pastoral care from a Christian perspective.
- To encourage participants to grasp the missional opportunities for church growth involved with pastoral care.
- To equip participants with the confidence and pastoral skills they need to be able to serve their parish and local community.
- To make sure that participants do all the above safely and in line with current safeguarding guidelines and best practice.

Course Delivery and Venues

Sessions will be delivered at a variety of venues around the diocese including a mixture of in person and online training. Most sessions will be on a Tuesday evening online via Zoom with the addition of 4 in person Saturday training days.

Session Dates

Session 1: The Biblical Principles of Pastoral Care

Tuesday 29 April, 6.45-9pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Session 2: Pastoral Care with Children and Young People

Tuesday 06 May, 6.45-9pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Session 3: Acorn Listening Day

Saturday 10 May, 10am-2pm @ St Wilfrid's Church, Ford Ln, Northenden, M22 4WE

Session 4: Home Visiting (Including Safeguarding)

Tuesday 13 May, 6.45-9pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Session 5: Setting up and Supporting Pastoral Care Teams

Tuesday 20 May, 6.45-9pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Session 6: Pastoral Care with the Elderly (Dementia Awareness)

Tuesday 03 June, 6.45-9pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Session 7: Life Events & Pastoral Outreach (Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals)

Saturday 07 June, 10am-2pm @ St Wilfrid's Church, Ford Ln, Northenden, M22 4WE

Session 8: Bereavement Care Awareness

Saturday 21 June, 10am-2pm @ St John & St Mark's Church Hall, Parkinson Street, Bury, BL9 6NY

Session 9: Inclusive Pastoral Care with LGBTQIA+ and Asylum Seekers

Tuesday 24 June, 6.45-9pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Sessions 10&11: Chaplaincy Day & Next Steps

Saturday 05 July, 10am-3pm @ St John's House, 155-163 The Rock, Bury, BL9 OND

Session 12: Mop Up (If Required)

Tuesday 08 July, 6.45-9pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Course Tutors

For more information and details about the course, please feel free to contact:



Dr Angela Akers

ALM @ Mossley Benefice

E: angelahakers@hotmail.co.uk



Revd Andrew Bradley

Incumbent @ Northenden Benefice & Chaplaincy Coordinator at the Christie NHS Foundation Trust

E: stwilfridspic@gmail.com

Going Deeper

If you would like to know a little bit more about this elective and what it will be covering then please feel free to check out the following books and resources. You are also welcome to choose one the following for your course learning task, which is to provide a short book or resource review to the group.

Books

Anne Long, Listening

Joyce Huggett, Listening to Others

Mike Mitton, A Heart to Listen: Becoming a Listening Person in a Noisy World

Frank Wright, Pastoral Care Revisited

Alastair Campbell, Rediscovering Pastoral Care

Peter MacIntosh, Listening is Healing: A Practical Guide to Pastoral Care

Adrian Plass, Jesus: Safe Tender Extreme

Bob Whorton, Reflective Caring: Imaginative Listening to Pastoral Experience

Care for the Family, The Grief Journey

Web Resources

Acorn Christian Healing Foundation: <https://acornchristian.org/>

Bereavement Care Awareness course: www.careforthefamily.org.uk/

Dementia Friends: <https://www.dementiafriends.org.uk/>

Prayer and Spirituality

Learning Goals

- To develop and grow participants' own prayer life so that prayer becomes a way of living and being in the everyday stuff of life.
- To teach and nurture a wider understanding of prayer through all its different styles, practices and traditions, including the practice of daily prayer journaling.
- To resource and equip participants so that they can confidently develop their own ministry in prayer and spirituality, in collaboration with their clergy.

Course Delivery and Venues

Most sessions will be delivered online (via Zoom) on a Wednesday evening with the addition of 3 Saturdays that will be run in person at different venues around the diocese.

All participants will be required to keep a reflective prayer journal throughout the course. Guidance on this will be given and participants will not be asked to submit their journal. During the Prayer Retreat in Daily Life, participants will be asked to put into practice what they have learned in the "Ways of Praying" session and will have regular guidance from a prayer companion via telephone or Zoom. Participants will also be asked to complete a short book review to share with the group and to prepare a prayer station for the final session.

Session Dates

Session 1: Introduction to Prayer and Spirituality

Saturday 26 April, 10am-1pm @ Sacred Trinity Church, Chapel Street, Salford, M3 5DW

Session 2: Resourcing Your Individual Prayer Life

Wednesday 30 April, 6.45-9pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Session 3: How to Pray with and For Others (Part 1)

Wednesday 07 May, 6.45-9pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Session 4: Ways of Praying (Retreat Day)

Saturday 10 May, 10am-4pm @ St James Church, Stenner Lane, Didsbury, M20 2RQ

Session 5: Prayer Retreat is Daily Life

Running from 10-21 May (More information and details to follow)

Session 6: Prayer for Wholeness and Healing

Wednesday 21 May, 6.45-9pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Session 7: How to Pray with and For Others (Part 2)

Wednesday 04 June, 6.45-9pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Session 8: Planning Prayer Stations, Quiet Days and Retreats

Wednesday 11 June, 6.45-9pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Session 9: Making Prayer Inclusive (Including Disability Awareness)

Wednesday 18 June, 6.45-9pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Session 10: Prayer and Spirituality with Children & Young People

Wednesday 25 June, 6.45-9pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Sessions 11 & 12: Putting Theory into Practice (Participant Workshop), Including Next Steps, Action Plans and Role Descriptions

Saturday 28 June, 10am-3pm @ Sacred Trinity Church, Chapel Street, Salford, M3 5DW

Course Tutor

For more information and details about the course, please feel free to contact:



Sheila Tolley

ALM @ St James, East Crompton

E: sheilatolley32@gmail.com

Going Deeper

If you would like to get a flavour of this course and learn a little bit more about what we will be covering, then please feel free to check out some of the following books and resources.

Books

Stephen Cottrell, How to Pray: Alone, With Others, at Any Time, in Any Place

Margaret Silf, Landmarks: An Ignatian Journey

Evelyn Underhill, Evelyn Underhill's Prayer Book

Pete Grieg, How to Pray: A Simple Guide for Normal People

Timothy Keller, Prayer: Experiencing Awe and Intimacy with God

Miranda Threlfall-Holmes, The Little Book of Prayer Experiments

Web Resources

Pray as You Go: <https://pray-as-you-go.org>

Pathways to God: <https://pathwaystogod.org/>

Church of England, Service of Daily Prayer: <https://tinyurl.com/w8frb6r>

Northumbria Community (Daily Office): <https://www.northumbriacommunity.org/offices/>

Lectio 365- Devotional Resource App: <https://www.24-7prayer.com/dailydevotional>

Sacred Space, Daily Guided Prayer: <https://www.sacredspace.ie/>

Worship and Liturgy

Please note that the ALM Worship and Liturgy course can count towards the first year of Licensed Reader Ministry training. If you would like to know more about this please contact Revd Neil Whittaker from the Vocations Team on: NeilWhittaker@manchester.anglican.org

Learning Goals

- To reflect on worship being connected to, and being authentic with, the rest of our lives.
- To explore the breadth and depth of Christian worship, from its biblical roots through to modern day expressions.
- To gain an understanding of how liturgy can provide a framework for encountering the Divine.
- To gain practical knowledge around different styles and contexts of worship – service of the word, contemplative, all age, healing etc.
- To support participants understanding of, and their creating and leading of, appropriate acts of worship within their own churches and communities

Course Delivery and Venues

The majority of sessions will be delivered in person on Wednesday evenings and Saturdays at a variety of venues around the diocese, including St John's House in Bury. Sessions will be made available on-line if you can't get to the venue, but the preference is in person.

Towards the end of the course, participants will be asked to create and submit an Order of Service for a service of their choosing. Guidance and support will be provided for this.

Session Dates

Sessions 1 & 2: Introductions, Using Music and Songs

Saturday 10 May, 10am-3pm @ St Johns House, 155-163 The Rock, Bury, BL9 0NE

Sessions 3 & 4: Worship and Biblical Context, The Seasons in Anglican Liturgy

Saturday 17 May, 10am-3pm @ St Johns House, 155-163 The Rock, Bury, BL9 0NE

Sessions 5: All Age Worship, Worship in Schools

Wednesday 21 May, 7-9pm @ St Johns House, 155-163 The Rock, Bury, BL9 0NE

Sessions 6 & 7: Putting Together a Service of the Word, Leading a Service Well

Saturday 7 June, 10am-3pm @ Church of the Resurrection & St Barnabas, Beswick, M11 3UT

Optional Session: Ecology, Creation & Worship (Joint with Ecology course group)

Tuesday 10 June, 7-9pm @ Online (Via Zoom)

Session 8: Worship in Care Homes for Younger and Older People

Wednesday 11 June, 7-9pm @ St Johns House, 155-163 The Rock, Bury, BL9 0NE

Session 9: Healing & Reconciliation

Wednesday 18 June, 7-9pm @ St Cross, 611 Ashton New Rd, Clayton, M11 4RX

Session 10: Making Worship Accessible

Wednesday 25 June, 7-9pm @ St Johns House, 155-163 The Rock, Bury, BL9 0NE

Sessions 11 & 12: Taize, Using Art & Poetry, Anything 'Parked' and Next Steps

Saturday 12 July, 10am-3pm @ Church of the Resurrection & St Barnabas, Beswick, M11 3UT

Course Tutors

For more information and details about the course, please feel free to contact:



Ian Banks

Reader at Walmersley Road, Bury (Benefice)

E: ian.banks150@talktalk.net



Revd Sarah Riding

Curate (SSM) at St Cross with St Paul, Clayton (Benefice)

E: sarahriding@sky.com

Going Deeper

If you would like to get a flavour of this course and learn a little bit more about what we will be covering, then please feel free to check out some of the following books and resources.

Books

Earey, M. & Myers, G. eds, (2001). Common Worship Today - An Illustrated Guide

Earey, M. (2018). Liturgical Worship / (2000) Producing Your Own Orders of Service

Giles, R. (2004). Creating Uncommon Worship / Times and Seasons. Creating Transformative Worship Throughout the Year

Leach, C & J. (2008). How to Plan and Lead All-Age Worship (Grove Booklet)

Lloyd, T. (1999). A Service of the Word (Grove Booklet)

Moger, P. (2009). Crafting Common Worship: A practical, creative guide to what's possible.

Page, N. (2004). And now let's move into a time of Nonsense: Why worship Songs are Failing the Church. Paternoster.

Thomas, P. (2018). Using the Book of Common Prayer

Tarrant, I. (2012). Worship and Freedom in the Church of England: Exploring the Boundaries (Grove Booklet)

Ward, P. (2005). Selling Worship: How what we sing has changed the Church

Wells, S. Ed. (2018). Liturgy on the Edge

Web Resources

Church of England, Common Worship: <https://tinyurl.com/y2gv2coq>

Church of England, Book of Common Prayer: <https://tinyurl.com/y287st42>

Church of England, New Patterns for Worship: <https://tinyurl.com/yg7q9w4f>

Northumbria Community: www.northumbriacommunity.org

Wild Goose Resources: <https://www.wildgoose.scot/>

All Age Worship Resources: <https://www.allageworshipresources> and <https://engageworship.org/>

Diocesan Worship & Liturgy (Facebook Group): <https://www.facebook.com/groups/167024153908590>

Youth Work

Learning Goals

- To explore and learn more about the social development of children and young people and its impact on our ministry and work with them.
- To explore and understand some of the key principles of relational children's and youth work so that participants can contextualise these to their local parishes, projects and communities.
- To make space for participants to dream and get excited about potential programmes of children's and youth work applicable to their context, and then be able to identify key resources that would enable them to develop and deliver these.
- To equip and train participants in specialist areas of children's and youth work, such as mental health, messy church, faith development and schools work.
- To ensure that all participants are up to date and understand current guidelines and best practice in youth and children's' work.
- To equip participants in rethinking their contextual approach to the 'departure' after confirmation and secured secondary school places.

Course Delivery and Venues

The EQUIP programme offers a precious opportunity to learn from your fellow ministers, deepen your understanding of youth and children's ministry, and sharpen essential skills. We've thoughtfully designed a curriculum that serves both children's and youth leaders, ensuring a rich, collaborative learning environment. Moreover, we'll provide focused sessions addressing the unique challenges and opportunities of specific age groups, allowing you to customise your learning experience to your ministry's needs.

Our flexible course structure is designed to fit your busy diary. 2 sessions will be online and the venues for our in-person sessions will be secured once applications come in, ensuring that participants won't have to travel too far and that any travel restrictions can be taken into consideration'

Session Dates

Launch Night: Thursday 03 April, 6.45-9pm @ Online

Equip Weekend: Friday 16 May (Evening), Saturday 17 May (Full Day) and Sunday 18 May (Half Day) @ Final timings and Venue tbc (once applications are in)

Follow Up: Thursday 12 June, 6.45-9pm @ Online

Final Gathering: Saturday 06 September, 10am-4pm @ Venue tbc (once applications are in)

Course Tutor

For more information and details about the course, please feel free to contact:



Canon Susie Mapledoram

Assistant Director of Education / Youth Officer

E: SusieMapledoram@manchester.anglican.org

Going Deeper

If you would like to get a flavour of this course and learn a little bit more about what we will be covering, then please feel free to check out some of the following books and resources.

Books

Doug Fields, Your First Two Years of Youth Ministry

Kenda Creasy Dean, Almost Christian

Kenda Creasy Dean, Starting Right: Thinking Theologically about Youth Ministry

Andrew Root, Revisiting Relational Youth Ministry

Sara Savage, Sylvia Collins-Mayo, Bob Mayo and Graham Cray, Making Sense of Generation Y

Grove Booklets Youth Series: <https://grovebooks.co.uk/search?q=youth>

Web Resources

Diocese of Manchester Youth Work Resources (Facebook Group)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/229564611523231>

Resource Website

<https://padlet.com/rickotto/equip-resources-rr2h76255w9cc4gs>

How to Apply

Further Information and Application Forms

Further Information

For further information and details on the various courses or any other matters relating to lay training and development, please contact:



Jamie Mackenzie

Local Ministry Officer

Mobile: 07553 374 130

Email: jamiemackenzie@manchester.anglican.org

Application Forms

Application forms can be downloaded from the diocesan website.

<https://www.manchester.anglican.org/development-and-training/general-lay-courses/>

APPLICATION CLOSING DATE

The application closing date for general lay training applications is Sunday 06 April, 2025

Frequently Asked Questions

Does the training involve any assignments, tests or exams?

There are no assignments, tests or exams on the courses. There may be a limited amount of prep work that is optional between sessions, but the ethos of the course is more focused on group discussions, reflective practice and real-life application. However, for those wanting to take things deeper there will always be suggestions for further reading, resources and ongoing development.

How much does the training cost?

There are no training costs as all course fees are met by the diocese. However, parishes are expected to support their candidates if help is required with basic costs such as travel expenses. Where finances are a barrier to participation, parishes are encouraged to contact the Local Ministry Officer for further advice and support.

Does the training have an age limit?

The training has no age limits but special consideration would need to be given to anyone applying under the age of 18 to ensure that they are appropriately supervised and have the full permission of their parent/guardian.

Can you still apply if your parish is in vacancy?

Yes, during vacancies/ interregnums the application reference required from the parish can be completed by the Churchwarden, Licensed Reader, Team Rector, Mission Community Leader, Area Dean or another suitable minister/ church leader.

What do I get at the end of my training?

In recognition that all lay training is something that should be encouraged and celebrated, participants will receive a course completion certificate signed by the Diocesan Head of Lay Training and Development. It is then up to the participant and the local parish to discern how best to utilise the training in terms of potential ministry roles and duties. Further support for this will be provided by the Local Ministry Officer.

How is general training different from Authorised Lay Ministry training?

Participants may find themselves training alongside Authorised Lay Ministers (ALMs) on the same course. ALM is a different lay training pathway that includes a more in-depth application process, extra training requirements and a recognised higher level of leadership and safeguarding responsibility. After training ALMs are authorised by the Bishop of Manchester to carry out a mutually agreed ministry role back within their local parish context. An ALM's authorisation lasts for 3 years after which time it can be reviewed. For more details about ALM please see the diocesan website:

<https://www.manchester.anglican.org/development-and-training/alm/>

Who is responsible for DBS checks?

As for all other unlicensed church officers, it is the responsibility of the parish and PCC to ensure that any required DBS checks are completed and kept up-to-date. If you require any further advice or support with this please contact: hr@manchester.anglican.org

Who is responsible for safeguarding training?

As for all other unlicensed church officers, it is the responsibility of the parish and PCC to ensure that any required safeguarding training is completed and kept up-to-date. If you require any further advice or support with this please contact:

safeguardingtraining@manchester.anglican.org

When is the application closing deadline?

The application closing date for general lay training applications is Sunday 06 April, 2025.

Our Vision

To be a worshipping, growing and transforming Christian presence at the heart of every community.