

MINISTRY MATTERS FROM OUR DIOCESE



Welcome to Ministry Matters from the Diocese of Truro ministry team

Updating you on Ministry news within the diocese, together with information and links to learning opportunities

READER MINISTRY

Bishop Hugh writes...

Readers have a unique place in the Church of England. Established in 1866, theirs is one of the very few licensed lay ministries recognised in Canon Law, and they have an honoured place in the life of this and many other dioceses.

In this diocese there are nearly 100 Readers – who can also be called Licensed Lay Ministers – and they are an essential part of the life and ministry of many of our church communities.

Over the last year a group has been working to make sure that Reader ministry remains at the heart of the life of the church in Cornwall into the future. Alongside some practical changes, that has also meant being really clear about the particular role of Readers. That's important because, unlike in 1866, there are now lots of ways for people to take up a formal lay ministry – as well as Readers we have Local Worship Leaders, Pioneers, Chaplains and, increasingly, Local Ministers.

The description we have settled on is that Readers are community theologians who teach, preach and enable everyday faith. What we mean by that is that the church needs people who are called and equipped to help church communities to think and act as disciples, not just on Sundays, but from Monday to Saturday.



The word 'theologian' doesn't mean someone who has read lots of heavy and learned books, and who can tell you all about the detail of an obscure bible passage – it means someone who can talk about God, informed by 2,000 years of Christian wisdom and teaching, in ways that make sense for ordinary, everyday life.

Readers therefore go through a proper theological training, to enable them to be teachers, story tellers and interpreters, they are people who are deeply rooted in Scripture and spirituality and who are at home both in the church and in the world. Readers are communicators and connectors, who can help individuals and church communities grow in confident faith in their places of work, in their families and in their local communities. They are community theologians who teach, preach and enable everyday faith

If you'd like to find out more about Reader ministry, please contact **Mel Pomery** in the Ministry Team.

A NOTE FROM THE CHAPLAIN By Jim Seth

We Readers/Licensed Lay ministers are a disparate bunch with almost as many ideas about what we do as Readers as there are Readers. We are working hard in the diocese to refine the role and underline Licensed Lay Ministry as a specific vocational choice alongside all the other lay and ordained ministries.

The training of Readers and indeed the administration of Readers is evolving and this year we have seen a number of changes. Following the retirement of Robin West, the administration of Readers is now being undertaken by Mel Pomery within the Ministry Team at Church House. We are very grateful to Robin for his hard work and wish him all the best for the future.

Also retiring this summer is our Director of Reader Training, Revd. Canon Jane Kneebone. Jane has been an incredible influence on the ministries of many Licensed Lay Ministers and we are hugely grateful for her contribution. Training will continue in partnership with SWMTC and we are currently recruiting for our new Licensed Ministry Officer and Tutor to join the diocesan ministry team.

The other corner of the triangle of support for Licensed Lay Ministers is chaplaincy which is moving to a new phase. Support of those in Ministry is of such importance that we need a team to do the job and to ensure there is always someone to talk to and to help.

For more information about our wonderful ministry [click here](#).

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Pastoral Ministry Training

There will be a selection of pastoral training courses running during June, July and beyond.

Key Skills introduction to pastoral ministry course. This will be on Thursday afternoons, runs for six weeks and is for those new to pastoral ministry.

Refresher Training. This two week course is for those who would like an opportunity to top up their listening skills and revisit some of their initial training. This course will also be helpful for those who administer communion at home.

End of Life Care. This two session course looks at how pastoral ministers can support those who are approaching their death. This will run on Tuesdays 5 & 12 July at 7.00pm on Zoom.

If you are interested in any of these courses please email **Sarah Welply**.

Emergency First Aid at Work (1 day course)

Thursday 8 Sept, 9.30am-4.30pm
This course provides basic life saving first aid skills and knowledge of workplace health and safety regulations. Participants or their parishes will be required to contribute £15.00 towards the course fee.

Book here

Sunday Plus – Local Worship Leader Initial Training

This 8 session course aims to equip lay people with the skills and knowledge they need to confidently lead and create worship in their own context. During the course we will consider what is worship, structure, prayer, scripture, all age, music and more with plenty of time for discussion and sharing ideas.

Meeting together on Zoom allows us to bring together people from across the whole Diocese and usually means we have a range of styles and church traditions represented broadening the view of what worship is.

Local Worship Leaders should be supported by their PCC and will need to undertake safeguarding training to Leadership level.

If you have anyone in your congregations who is considering leading worship please contact **Lydia Remick**

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES

The next **Bishops' Study Day** will be on Wednesday 19 October 2022.

Creating and sustaining healthy personal boundaries

A workshop for clergy chapters.

A 2 hour workshop exploring:
- what it is that may prevent us from establishing such boundaries
- models of good practice, including how to communicate with congregations and others
- recognising that it is often hard to establish or change boundaries and expectations, especially when you have been in the same parish for a long time, we will discuss ideas that can help, and
- the thorny issue of what it is that drives us to lower our boundaries – and how self-awareness can help in these situations.

Please contact **Mel Pomeroy** if you think this would be helpful for your chapter.

SAVE THE DATE

CELEBRATION OF READER MINISTRY SERVICE 2022

Saturday 1 October

11am

Truro Cathedral

CONTINUING MINISTERIAL DEVELOPMENT

Online CMD programme Handling Conflict Constructively

Tuesday 12 July, 9.30am-4.15pm

This online workshop provides an opportunity to reflect on our own experiences of conflict, the challenges of leadership through the current context of change and uncertainty and the importance of effective and constructive communication in times of tension.

The day will be led by **Bridge Builders** who offer interactive and practical training events designed for people in Christian leadership roles.

There are a maximum of 20 places available. **Book your place here.**

CMD 'Bitesize' Webinars

We recently held two smaller 'bitesize' webinars: Talking Alpha and Talking Vocations.

Talking Alpha - Led by Sam Gristwood, the Head of Alpha UK for the South of England and Revd Ed Hodges, Vicar of St Matthews, Exeter, they discuss Alpha and how it can be used. They unpick a variety of approaches to Alpha and the difference Ed has seen running the programme in the South West compared to HTB.

Talking Vocations - Revd Jane Vaughan-Wilson, Diocesan Director of Ordinands, talks to a group of people about their own personal vocation journey.

Both of these webinars were recorded and are available to watch. Please contact **Mel Pomeroy** for details.

LOOKING AHEAD...

As we move out of lockdown, we are reconsidering what is required of the CMD programme within the diocese and how we can best meet the needs of those accessing it.

We are keen to hear from Clergy and Readers who would like to commit to being on a small group for a short time to help us shape this.

If you would like to be involved please get in touch with **Rebecca Evans**.

CLERGY WELLBEING

Healthy Cornwall are offering free **NHS health checks** for people between 40 and 74 who have not had an NHS health check in the last five years. The health checks cover blood pressure, cholesterol, BMI, lifestyle screening (exercise, diet, smoking and alcohol) and risk projection for cardiovascular disease, stroke or heart attack.

We are able to offer these to clergy and will seek to run it at a location most convenient for those who express an interest.

There are some further eligibility criteria. The full list of criteria will be sent to you once you have expressed an interest. If you are interested in a check please contact **Mel Pomery**.

Thank you to everyone that took part in the recent **clergy wellbeing survey**. We had a really great response, with a return rate of over 60%. The clergy wellbeing group is just finalising a report with the main results and will be sending this out to you all soon. We will be asking for your thoughts on how we use the results to inform what action we take as a result of the survey's findings.

If you have any queries, do email **Louise Court**, Director of HR or ring her on 01872 247217.

A reminder that the group is also looking for a couple of new members (they would particularly welcome you if you are a curate) so if you are interested, do get in touch with Louise!

FUNDING FOR SECURITY

Places of Worship Protective Security Funding Scheme 2022-23

The Security Minister has announced that the Places of Worship Protective Security Funding Scheme has again opened for applications.

Places of worship and associated faith community centres can apply for funding for a range of security measures.

This could include the installation of measures such as, CCTV cameras, security alarm systems and perimeter fencing to improve security protection at their site and help worshippers feel safer.

Further details and how to apply are **available online**. The deadline is 14 July 2022.

CLERGY SPOUSE GROUP

Being a clergy spouse or partner is a pretty unique position to find yourself in. With this in mind and to give opportunities to socialise in a supportive friendly environment there is a Truro Diocese Clergy Spouse Group.

The group meet about every six weeks, and so far, have met at Lis Escop and had a great meal out in Truro. The next events are a "What to expect from a spouses life" event near Launceston and a Family Beach BBQ in South East Cornwall.

For more information and to join the merry band please contact **Ruth Mounstephen**. Please pass on to spouses and partners of clergy, curates and ordinands.

CONTACT US

Sally Piper, Head of Ministry

E sally.piper@truro.anglican.org
T 01872 274351

Rebecca Evans, Ministry Development Officer

E rebecca.evans@truro.anglican.org
T 01872 360044

Mel Pomery, Ministry Programmes Coordinator

E melanie.pomery@truro.anglican.org
T 01872 360035

EXTERNAL OPPORTUNITIES

CPAS

Making Meetings Matter

21 June, 9.30am-12.30pm

[Book here](#)

Leading in Evangelism

28 June, 9.00am-12.30pm

[Book here](#)

Moving On

22 September, 9.30am-1pm

[Book here](#)

LEAD Live Q&A

Church Army

22 June, 7.00pm-7.45pm

24 June, 12.30pm-1.15pm

[Details here](#)

Living with Courage: Clasp Hands

Across a Divided Landscape

The Retreat Association

27-29 June (online)

[Book here](#)

Pioneer Practice Pioneer Practice with

Jonny Baker & Gavin Mart

20 September, Falmouth

21 September, Looe

[Book here](#)

Flourishing Ministers, Flourishing Communities

Susanna Wesley Foundation

View the [report](#) and [video](#)

[Click here to browse more external courses and resources](#)



FIND US ON FACEBOOK



FIND US ON TWITTER



FIND US ON INSTAGRAM