

PRAYING FOR MINISTRY SEPTEMBER 2023

Almighty and everlasting God,
by whose Spirit the whole body of the
Church is governed and sanctified:
hear our prayer which we offer for all your
faithful people, that in their vocation and
ministry they may serve you in holiness and
truth to the glory of your name;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.



EMBER DAYS are set aside for prayer for vocations, and for those who serve the church in different ministries. Traditionally they are observed on the Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays in the weeks before the Third Sunday of Advent, the Second Sunday of Lent, and the nearest Sunday to 29 June and 29 September.

Please use this sheet for reflection and prayer during the **EMBER DAYS** themselves, around times of inductions and ordinations and licensing's, alone and with others in your church or Mission Area.

Let us pray

Lord, as you called your disciples, call us now. Open our ears to listen to your calling;

Open our eyes to see you; Open our hearts to your love.
Help us to hear you, to experience your presence with us and to love you. And loving you, let us serve you, our servant King.
Amen.



The harvest is plentiful but the labourers are few;
therefore, ask the Lord of the harvest to send out
labourers into his harvest."
Matthew 9:37,38



THE VARIOUS LAY LICENSED MINISTRIES WITHIN ST ASAPH DIOCESE

Evangelists take a lead within the Mission Area in working to reach new people with the gospel. They will nurture and encourage evangelism within the life of the church, preach and lead Christian discipleship courses with an emphasis on engaging with those on the fringes of church life and bringing people to faith.

Pastoral Chaplains - take a lead along with the clergy for the pastoral work in the Mission Area and may well lead teams of pastoral assistants. Where there is a prison, hospital/hospice, university/college etc. they may work as a part of the pastoral teams in these contexts as well. Some pastoral chaplains choose to specialise in areas such as bereavement care, baptism preparation, nursing homes etc. They may conduct Communion by Extension within these settings and with further training and authorisation may officiate at funerals.

Readers - take a lead within the Mission Area in educational work as well as playing an active part in leading worship and preaching. They will work with others in developing imaginative acts of worship as well as helping all members of the churches grow as disciples through leading Bible study groups and courses about the Christian faith. With further training and authorisation Readers may officiate at funerals.

Youth, Children & Families Chaplains - work within the Mission Areas developing youth, children & families work. They can work with church schools and innovative fresh expressions like Messy Church. These can be used to grow congregations of all ages. There is much work within our diocese that engages with young people in exciting and effective ways.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

- Those who are currently exploring their vocation and our team of Vocations Advisors.
- For vocations to the ordained ministry from younger candidates, and for those who will exercise leadership in the church of the future as we face the coming retirement of a large proportion of our clergy.
- For vocations to the newer licensed lay ministries – evangelist, pastoral chaplain, youth and children's chaplain.
- For an increase in commitment to discipleship and Christian maturity.
- For all the people of God in churches across our diocese as we seek to serve God in a variety of contexts – work, home, community, church.
- For those who are exploring and exercising a commissioned ministry.

THOSE PREPARING TO BE ORDAINED AS DIACONATE IN 2023

Wendy Gardner (Priest, Non-Stipendiary)

THOSE PREPARING TO BE ORDAINED TO THE PRIESTHOOD IN 2024

- Emma Dale (Priest, Stipendiary)
Annalise Davies (Priest, Stipendiary)
Gwen Dixon (Priest, Non Stipendiary Local)
Wendy Gardner (Priest, Non-Stipendiary)
Kathryn Hall (Priest, Stipendiary)
Cass Meurig-Thomas (Priest, Stipendiary)
Hugh Richardson (Priest, Stipendiary)

THOSE COMMENCING TRAINING THIS YEAR

- Mark Cooke (Pastoral Chaplain)
David Dobbs (Non Stipendiary Priest)
Lucy Farrar (Pastoral Chaplain)
Cheryl Hesketh (Stipendiary Priest)
Elin Jones (Stipendiary Priest)
Jampa King (Stipendiary Priest)
Sharon Morgan (Stipendiary Priest)
Ian Williams (Non Stipendiary Deacon)

THOSE PREPARING TO BE ORDAINED AS DIACONATE IN 2024

- Stuart Dean- Priest Stipendiary
Rebecca Ratcliffe Deacon Non Stipendiary

THOSE PREPARING TO BE LICENSED AS PASTORAL CHAPLAINS IN 2024

- Maria Morante
Joshua Schoch



We Pray For

All who will attend the Diocesan Vocations Day on Saturday 23rd September at Southsea to explore all ministries-lay and ordained For an increase in commitment to discipleship and Christian maturity across all Mission Areas.