



THE CORONATION MAY 6th 2023

....an opportunity for prayer

If you're as young as I am (66!), you will never have experienced a Coronation in your lifetime. I am very excited about it, having had a copy of the 1953 Order of Service, including all of the music, for many years. We now know the time of the Coronation Service will be 11.00 a.m. Many places will be streaming it live – if you're involved in that, do suggest that it could

be done as a Service (processing in at the start, standing and joining in with the hymns, etc.). When we did that at the Cathedral for the Queen's Funeral Service, people said it felt like they were really there.

Many places will hold local Celebration or Vigil Services, either on the Sunday before, or the evening before, and these will often be designed to include as many local organisations as possible, and to focus on those areas for which the King has long shown an interest.

There are also likely to be Community Lunches on the Sunday, and there may be opportunities for churches to coordinate their Sunday Services with these. And there are rather unformed plans for 'The Big Help Out' on the Monday, celebrating community service and volunteering. Look out for more information on this. The resources are all available on the Church of England website www.churchofengland.org

Now to Prayer:

Church House Publishing has produced a wonderful prayer resource for the 28 days leading up to the Coronation (which started on Easter Day), called 'Daily Prayers' available from them at £1.50. Each day has a theme, many of them reflecting the King's interests, as well as exploring elements of the Coronation Service, and Jesus as the Servant King. This is a great opportunity to pray for the King and Queen Consort, and to encourage others into prayer.

Canon Gary Philbrick: Assistant Archdeacon of Winchester, Chaplain to Winchester Cathedral.



Other newcomers expected

We are expecting the new Diocesan Bishop to be announced at some point in June. Candidates were shortlisted on the 21st of March with Interviews taking place on the 27th and 28th April

The new Archdeacon of Bournemouth, Ven Jean Burgess, will also join us in June. She comes from the Diocese of Manchester having spent 5 years as Archdeacon of Bolton and Salford serving a diverse mix of churches in rural and urban areas. Previously she had had a varied career in nursing.

Your prayers are asked for our new colleagues as they prepare for their new roles.

Struggling to make ends meet?

... some ideas of where to look for help and support

Clergy Support Trust

Clergy Support Trust is an independent charity originally founded in 1655. It focusses on the wellbeing of Anglican clergy and their families, supporting thousands of households each year. In 2022 it paid out £4.8 million pound in support services and financial grants to over 5,400 households.

Some ways they can help in times of need

Emergency grants - for unexpected expenses, such as replacing a broken appliance, fixing a car, school-related expenses or heating costs.

Wellbeing support - to encourage work/life balance with grants towards holidays, retreats, respite breaks, fitness and leisure or sabbaticals.

Mental and physical health - could support counselling, occupational therapy assessments, mobility aids, adaptations or other therapies.

Financial support grants (means tested) - to help in a time of financial hardship whether for a specific need such as furniture or for general living expenses.

Debt support - if you are worrying about your level of personal unsecured debt, their partner organisations may be able to help.

Are you eligible?

Filling out a simple, confidential eligibility form will soon establish this. The two main things that make people ineligible are owning a property and at the same time having more than £16,000 in savings or, if you do not own a property, having more than £200,000 in savings.



Contact

telephone 0800 389 5192;

www.clergysupport.org.uk;

grants@clergysupport.org.uk

Diocesan Clergy Welfare Fund

When other sources of support have been unable to help, applications can be made to the Diocesan Clergy Welfare Fund (DCWF). Applicants must be ordained, and either licenced to a benefice, have PTO, or are fully retired from ministry. There is not an application process, as such, no forms to fill in etc. Anyone who wishes to make an approach to the bishop for a grant from this fund would need to email the bishop's chaplain philip.krinks@winchester.anglican.org setting out their

Claiming Fees from the Diocese

Fees for Weddings and Funerals

Some times churches need help with weddings and funerals and clergy who have PTO and are willing to do this can claim a proportion of the fee charged, that is the part of the fee that goes to the Diocese. The fees shown below are the ones most commonly claimed.

Marriage Service in Church £153.00

Funeral Service in Church with cremation £100

Funeral Service at Crematorium £125

Full details of fees can be found on the Diocesan website.

<https://winchester.anglican.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/OCCASIONAL-OFFICES-CLAIM-FORM-2023-1.pdf>

Fees for Taking Sunday Services

The Clerical Registry helps put churches in touch, mostly with retired clergy, holding PTO, when they need clergy to take service in the absence of their own clergy or during a vacancy. A fee is payable for doing this, which has risen from £35.50 to £38.00 from April 1st. Travelling expenses are also payable. For more information about the Clerical Registry contact: clerical.registry@winchester.anglican.org

Grants and Christmas Gifts

Grants and gifts have been available for clergy widows and widowers for a number of years but those who are eligible to claim for them have not always known of their existence.

Grants The Winchester Diocesan Board of Finance (WDBF) will give a grant of £500 to assist with funeral fees to the widow/widower of any member of Clergy (Retired, SSM, Stipendiary, Chaplain etc) who dies whilst resident in the Diocese. This means that even if they have never ministered here, they are still entitled to the grant; the WDBF taking the view they are responsible for any clergy widow/widower residents in the Diocese. Claims must be made to the WDBF within 12 months of the death.

Christmas Gifts Clergy widow/widowers, who have served in the Winchester Diocese (who fall within the policy) are entitled to receive a Christmas Card and a gift of £120.

Applying for and renewing PTO . . . with support from the Bishop's Office

What is PTO ?

The ministry of PTO clergy is hugely valued by the Bishops of the diocese and by local clergy, churchwardens and congregations. Clergy who do not currently hold the Bishop's License are encouraged to discern whether they might be willing offer to minister, either regularly or occasionally, with the Bishop's Permission to Officiate. If you are undecided about offering for PTO ministry, you are encouraged to

contact local colleagues, your Area Dean or the Bishop's Office to discuss this. If appropriate, they can put you in touch with one of the Bishops for a discussion about how this fits with your current sense of call to ministerial work. A Permission usually lasts for three years, but it can be shorter, after which it is renewable by mutual agreement between you and the Bishop.

Applying for PTO for the first time

Clergy who are applying for a Permission are supported by the Bishop's Office at Wolvesey, and the person to contact is Lynda Mumford, who is the Personal Assistant to the Bishop of Winchester, on

Lynda.Mumford@winchester.anglican.org or on 01962 897089. (Others involved in the Bishop's Office include: the Administrative Assistant to the Bishop, Anna Farquharson; and the Bishop's Chaplain.

Steps in making an application

1. **Make an Application** to the Bishop
2. **Gain a DBS clearance**
3. **Fill in a Safeguarding Declaration**
4. **Book on to the relevant Safeguarding Training**
5. **Identify a person to whom you can relate month to month in ministry, known as the 'Designated Responsible Person'**. This is sometimes the Incumbent of a benefice in which you regularly minister, or it can be someone else, such as an Area Dean.

Don't be put off by the paperwork

As usual with Church of England processes, there are Forms to fill in! These will be provided to you. If you have recently moved to the diocese and have not yet had the chance to meet with one of the Bishops or Archdeacons, this would also be arranged. Usually this will be a meeting with the Suffragan Bishop, which also provides the opportunity to discuss whether you have gifts in particular areas of ministry and where these might be used in service of the wider diocese.

Renewing PTO

If after three years you are willing to renew your PTO, again Lynda is the person to contact. Usually you will be prompted to consider this midway through the third year. The DBS and Safeguarding Training cycle is also three yearly, so those will need to be renewed (Steps 2, 3 and 4 opposite). There is also the chance to discuss, usually with the Designated Responsible Person, any desired changes in the pattern of ministry, and to record these (an update of Step 5 opposite).

Safeguarding Training

We recognise that the need to undertake this training every three years can sometimes feel like a barrier to PTO ministry. It is not intended to be a barrier, but rather it has been designed at national level as a useful way of refreshing knowledge, honing instincts and staying current with the latest practices. Many clergy, both licensed and PTO, do find themselves involved in pastoral situations with safeguarding aspects, sometimes of a complex kind, so this remains an important aspect of ministry. We make the process of booking in to and undertaking the training as smooth as possible

Working with you

We do welcome questions, comments and suggestions about the PTO process from readers of Oldhabits. Please be in touch with the Bishop's Office via Lynda with these. We look forward to working with many of you on PTO applications and renewals over the months ahead, and send our prayers and good wishes and those of Bishop Debbie for you all

Philip Krinks (Bishop's Chaplain)

Lynda Mumford (Personal Assistant to the Bishop of Winchester)

Don't underrate the importance of Safeguarding

I was reluctant to take this course, even more so when I read just how much time I would have to give to the pathway. As a PTO, who doesn't take services outside the parish where I live, I didn't understand why I would need to go through so thorough a course. I was wrong. I found this course very helpful and informative. I have learnt a great deal and been reminded of the importance of safeguarding within the church and all organisations.

Reverend Andy Edmeads (Retired PTO)

Eight Themes set out by new chair of the Retired Clergy Association

The Rt Revd Colin Fletcher has taken over as the new chair of the “Retired Clergy Association” of the C of E and has identified eight major themes that he will concentrate on:

1. Pensions

There has been a 10.1% increase in pensions from 1/4/23, an increase that only tracks inflationary pressures in such areas as food and energy. People living on their own are especially effected by increases in energy costs. Those experiencing particular difficulties are encouraged to contact the Clergy Support Trust. clergysupport.org.uk

2. Housing

There are many complex issues that arise when looking at housing provided, in one way or another by the Pension Board. Rent increases continue to be an area of concern with current rent rises of 10%. A booklet “Your Guide to Retirement Housing” is available. www.churchofengland.org

3. Safeguarding Training

When some retired clergy only take the occasional service while others virtually run parishes there is always going to be disagreement over what is an appropriate level of safeguarding training. A disagreement which is reflected in varying practices between Dioceses.

4. The Ministries of the Retired

The pressure on the parish system would have become overwhelming without the support of PTO clergy particularly in rural areas. Discussions are to take place with the National Director of Ministry on visions for retirement ministry.

5. Residential and Care Provision

“St Lukes for Clergy” Wellbeing can offer help with improving clergy wellbeing and mental health www.stlukeforclergy.org.uk. The Pension Board presently offer 7 community living schemes across the country. www.churchofengland.org. The College of St Barnabas offers holistic care in a Christian community. www.st-barnabas.org.uk

6. Clergy Discipline Measure

It has been far too easy to use the Clergy Discipline Measure as a threat or a weapon against clergy. It has now been reformed to ensure it can no longer be used in this way.

7. Fees

To look for greater consistency in fees paid to retired clergy.

8 Newsletter

To continue to support the RCA members newsletter as an invaluable resource for information and reflection. www.rcacoe.org

Visitor Chaplains

Winchester Cathedral attracts many visitors throughout the year. Some come because it is an historic building on the tourist trail but others come looking for a place for quiet reflection perhaps because things don't seem right in their lives or perhaps because they are mourning the loss a relative or friend.

During the mourning period for HM Queen in September last year the Cathedral saw a remarkable influx of people through its open doors. A group of clergy and licensed laity worked together to welcome visitors over the threshold, being there for them if they should want someone to talk to and pray with. The success of this ministry of presence and welcome has led the Cathedral to try to set up a rota of Visitor Chaplains, as they are called, to continue this ministry and they are now looking for clergy and others to join the rota

They have asked if any retired clergy might be interested in joining this rota perhaps being “in residence” as it is called, on a weekly, monthly or annual basis for a day or half a day. If this opportunity to minister is something you might be interested in you are invited to get in touch with Gary Philbrick to arrange to find more about what is involved. Those who have been involved have commented that during quieter periods they have found the opportunity to reflect themselves as a welcomed bonus.



Oldhabits is produced by the
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