



Diocesan Course Directory 2020



The Diocese of Rochester is affirming that we are Called Together in the areas of **Growing Disciples**, of **Enriching our Communities** and of **Resourcing our Mission and Ministry**. This Directory offers many opportunities for all who are responding to a call to grow as Christian people or specifically as clergy, lay ministers, church wardens and church treasurers, those involved with the children and young people and with those who are older to engage in courses and events which will help our formation and flourishing as God's people in this Diocese.

God is the Creator of all, grow your church in faith; God the Son who saves the world, enrich us with your mission and ministry; that we may be a blessing throughout and beyond this Diocese, for we are called together to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



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Vocations

Everybody has a vocation. Jesus calls us as disciples to grow more like him but each of us is unique with a unique set of gifts and we are called to discern what our unique vocation might be. For some it will be a call to live out their faith in a particular way in their secular job, family or wider community. For others it will be a call to serve within the church in some way which may or not be in an authorised or licensed ministry, lay and ordained.

Our vocation changes over time and we constantly need to be listening for the voice of God and the promptings of the Holy Spirit. God equips each of us with gifts and skills, so that we can be part of the body of Christ, serving others. As we journey through life, we always need to ask the question: "Am I using my gifts in the way in which God intends for me to do so? Sometimes we will be able to answer "yes" but, at other times, we may feel that he is calling us to discern if we have another. We may not be sure about how are called to serve and we need to spend time discerning that. That is where Vocation Advisers come in!

Vocations Courses

During the year the Vocations Team puts on a number of events and holds regular vocations days under the title: *It's Your Calling*. [It's Your Calling](#) is held three times each year, on a Saturday. It is aimed at those exploring where God may be calling and looks at our journey and the gifts that God has given us, as well as the Biblical understanding of vocation. The day gives an opportunity to meet others on a similar quest and to take time to think where God could be calling. After *It's Your Calling*, there is an opportunity to meet with a Vocations Adviser, for an informal chat. For those exploring licenced lay or ordained ministry that is a requirement.

Vocations Advisers are not there to promote one type of ministry, but to listen to your story and to help discern what God might be saying; they are there for you. If at any time you would like to speak with a Vocations Adviser, you should first speak with your incumbent and then contact your [Deanery Vocations Adviser](#) or the Lead Vocation Adviser for your Archdeaconry.

Revd Canon Pamela Ive

Diocesan Director of Ordinands and Vocations

Working in Church Schools

For those wanting training about working in church schools, please see the training offer from the Rochester Diocesan Board of Education to be found at

<http://www.rdbe.org.uk/news/135/77/Training-Programme-2018>

If you have any questions about your church school or about the training we offer and how it might be helpful for you please contact one of the team directly,

John Constanti, Director of Education

john.constanti@rochester.anglican.org

Virginia Corbyn, Assistant Director of Education

virginia.corbyn@rochester.anglican.org

Teresa Spearink, PA for John and Virginia and the Board of Education

teresa.spearink@rochester.anglican.org

You can also find lots more helpful information on the Rochester Diocesan Board of Education website: <http://www.rdbe.org.uk/>

January

8 January 2020 09:30am for 10am-1pm at St. Benedicts Centre, West Malling ME 19 6JX

Managing the APCM with the **Venerable Dr Paul Wright**, Archdeacon of Bromley and Bexley.

The aim of this event is to provide clergy with some resources in order for them to Chair what can be a very significant and challenging occasion - in a way that provides a vision, while dealing with the governance of the local church.

To book: <http://bit.ly/32RgyhY>

Closing date: 2nd January 2020

Open to: Clergy

13 January 2020 09:30am for 10:00am -15:30pm at St Benedicts Centre

Quiet Day - Woman at the Well icon

Led by Revd Barry Preece, Chair of the Retreat Association

The Retreat Association Icon of *'The Woman at the Well'* (John 4: 4-42)

...on display at Rochester Cathedral: 4 December 2019 -12 January 2020.

The icon has been written by John Coleman (who has also written icons for many churches and Cathedrals) specifically for the Retreat Association in order to encourage more people to take time out in prayer and quiet reflection. The story was chosen for its multi-layered themes of rest, reflection and inspiration, as well as for its universal appeal.

To book: <https://tickets.myknowchurch.co.uk/gb/MzAxLTl3MA/t>

Closing date: 6 January

Open to: All

14 January 2020 Training Incumbents Session, St Benedict's Centre, West Malling

Training Incumbents in Canterbury & Rochester Dioceses -All Years

Led by Revd Anthony Hammill IME2 Coordinator

An opportunity for training incumbents to receive input, including the next module in the IME2 programme.

By invitation only

25 January 2020 IME Day School, St George The Martyr, London SE1 1JA

KIME Curates in Canterbury, Chichester & Rochester Dioceses -All Years

Led by Revd Anthony Hammill IME2 Coordinator

The first teaching session for the spring IME2 programme for Curates in Rochester, Canterbury and Chichester dioceses.

By invitation only

23 January 2020 09:30am for 10:00am -1pm at St Benedicts Centre

Collective Worship Training

Led by Virginia Corbyn, Deputy Director of Education, Rochester diocese.

Leading inclusive, invitational and inspiring collective worship in your local primary school

It is probably one of the most challenging slots in the week to have to lead the act of worship/assembly for pupils aged 4 to 11 years and the school staff. This session will look at the ways in which the Diocese has developed materials to support you through this challenge so that you can make the most of this valuable opportunity to link with the children and young people in your parishes within their school context.

To book, contact: Teresa.Spearink@rochester.anglican.org

Open to: Clergy & Church workers only *who lead worship in their local primary school/s*

February

8 February 09:30pm -15.45pm Diocese of Rochester at St Andrew's, Maidstone Road, Paddock Wood TN12 6DZ

It's Your Calling

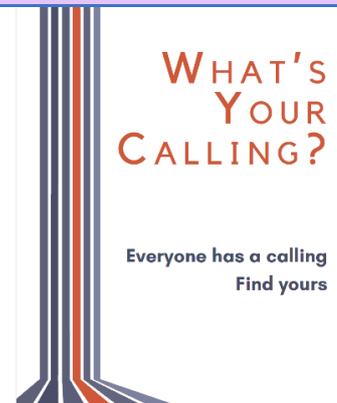
with Revd Canon Pamela Ive, Diocesan Director of Ordinands & Vocations & team

It is aimed at those exploring where God may be calling and looks at our journey and the gifts that God has given us, as well as the Biblical understanding of vocation. The day gives an opportunity to meet others on a similar quest and to take time to think where God could be calling.

Open to: All

To book: via the website.

Closing date: 1 February



12 February 2020 09:30am for 10:00am -1pm at St Benedicts Centre

Unconscious Bias Open to: All

Led by Diocesan Trainers Sue Jelfs & Revd Mark Montgomery

The session will introduce participants to the concept of Unconscious Bias, recognising this as something we all carry across many areas of life. We will understand why Unconscious Bias is part of how our brains work. We will introduce areas of Unconscious Bias that have a direct impact on ministry and consider ways in which we can both recognise our biases and move to be a more inclusive church with integrity.

To book: <http://bit.ly/2OF9L7b>

Closing date: 5 February

22 February 2020 BAME [Black & Minority Ethnic] Vocations Day

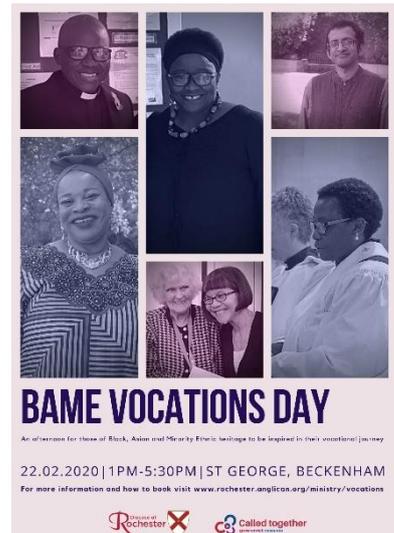
12:30am for 1:00pm -5:30pm. St George Beckenham, High Street BR3 1AX

Led by The Revd Ade Lawal Priest-Vicar at Rochester Cathedral.

Guest Speaker: Rosemarie Davidson-Gotobed, National Advisor of BAME Vocations in the Church of England, based in London.

This event is the *first of its kind in the diocese*. It aims to bring people of BAME heritage from the local church together to talk about vocation in the Church of England.

The purpose of the day, is to be inspired in your vocational journey, be equipped with knowledge about the various ministries in the Church and informed about the current state of BAME vocations in nationally. This day will be conducted within a context of prayer. We hope to be joined by participants from both Chichester and Canterbury Dioceses. Speakers will be drawn from different areas of ministry across the diocese.



Open to anyone who is interested in Ordained or Lay Ministries.

Closing date: 8 February

To book: <https://tickets.myknowchurch.co.uk/qb/MzAxLTl2NA/t>

25 February 10am-1pm Diocese of Rochester at St Benedicts Centre

Avoiding Burnout in Ministry

with the **Revd Andrew Axon**, Vicar of Lamberhurst and Matfield & Area Dean for Paddock Wood.

A whole morning is being offered in February on the theme of ministry burnout. This is a real issue for clergy, lay ministers and all those that volunteer their time and talents to serve the church. Sharing from his own personal story and using helpful research and resources, Andrew Axon will look at what causes ministry burnout and how we might best avoid it. There will be an opportunity to talk and pray after the sessions for those that would find it useful.

To book: <http://bit.ly/2QnjRuM>

Closing date: 17 February

Open to: Clergy and Lay Ministers

29 February 2020. 09:30am for 10:00am -4pm at Christ Church Chislehurst BR7 5JJ

Bishop's Study Day. Theme - Gathered and Scattered: *fruitfulness in the whole of life*

The invitation of Jesus hasn't changed. It's still 'Come follow me'. The important question for all of us to answer is what that means for our own lives, our everyday lives, our Monday-Saturday lives.

Neil Hudson from LICC will explore how we can help one another to gain a bigger vision for our own lives; to inspire but also to offer some very practical things that ordinary church congregations can do to live that out in the reality of everyday life.

*This will be supplemented by a panel discussion with **The Rt Revd Simon Burton-Jones, Bishop of Tonbridge** and an opportunity to think about what happens next.*

Led by Revd Dr Neil Hudson... ... who is the Director of Church Relationships at the London Institute for Contemporary Christianity. For the past 12 years he has led a team of people who have inspired, trained and resourced churches who have wanted to become communities where whole life disciples develop and flourish. *Imagine Church: releasing whole-life disciples* (IVP 2012), reflected on this process.

His latest book: *Scattered & Gathered: equipping disciples for the frontline* (IVP 2019) reflects all the learning that has happened working with churches over the past decade. Alongside working with LICC, Neil is also a church minister in Salford. He has been part of that church community for the last 30 years. During that time, he also worked at Regents Theological College for 12 years, initially as a lecturer and then as Vice-Principal.

To book: Free and can be booked via: <http://bit.ly/2SAucTu>

Closing date: February 20

Open to everyone

March

5 March 5pm-9.00pm Diocese of Rochester at Diocesan office

Help! My Parish is in Vacancy

with Karen Senior, Warden of Lay Ministry & Revd Canon Chris Dench, Diocesan Director of Formation & Ministry

When the Vicar leaves, parishes begin a new chapter, and there are often questions asked of Lay Ministers and Churchwardens – but they might not have been through this experience before either. An evening for Lay Ministers and churchwardens whose parishes are beginning a vacancy, an opportunity to reflect on the challenges of their own roles until a new appointment is made.

By invitation only

13 - 15 March 5pm-9.00pm Diocese of Rochester

LLM Pre Selection Residential Retreat

with Karen Senior, Warden of Lay Ministry & Revd Canon Chris Dench, Diocesan Director of Formation & Ministry

For Licensed Lay Ministers in training: a retreat weekend which includes a one to one conversation with The Right Reverend James Langstaff, Bishop of Rochester and time to reflect on God's calling.

By invitation only

16 March Vocations Roadshow at St Benedict's Centre 10 am -12 noon

26 March Vocations Roadshow at St Justus Church Rochester, 6:30-8:30pm

with Revd Canon Pamela Ive, Diocesan Director of Ordinands & Vocations & team

An event run by the Vocation Team and DDO Team to help you encourage vocations in your parishes and deaneries. *All authorized ministers and clergy are welcome* and all forms of vocation both lay and ordained will be looked at and any questions which you might have we will try to answer.

There are big changes in the way in the discernment for ordination happens starting from this Autumn (2020) and it is important for parishes to be part of this so come along and find out how we can help and support you in **encouraging** vocations.

To book: peter.cornell@rochester.anglican.org

Closing date: 10 March

19 March 2020 09:30am for 10:00am -1pm at St Benedicts Centre

Being & Becoming the Baptised People of God: *Christian Initiation*

Led by Revd Lindsay Llewellyn Macduff, Chaplain to the Bishop of Rochester and Diocesan Worship Development Adviser

A day to look at our theology and practice of Baptism – how we engage families and congregations in living the life of the Baptised People of God.

To book: <http://bit.ly/2OoSpu2>

Closing date: 10 March **Open to: All**

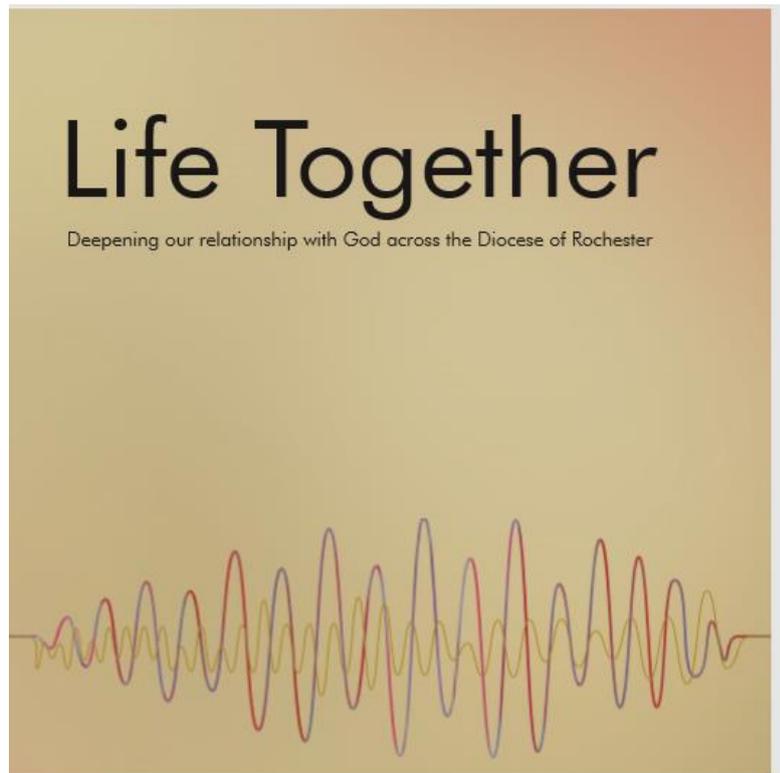
28 March 09:00am - 3.00pm Diocese of Rochester at St Benedict's Centre

**Rochester Leadership Programme (RLP) for Lay Ministers -Introductory session
with Karen Senior, Warden of Lay Ministry & Revd Canon Chris Dench**

Trialling an adaption of the Rochester Leadership Programme for Lay Ministers from each Archdeaconry.

By invitation only

April



'They **devoted** themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.'

Acts 2:42



Whoever is within it, or however it expresses itself, a Life Together group, is about Christians **joining together** to support each other, and being **committed** to the activities of the community or group.

May

9 May 09:30pm -15.45pm Diocese of Rochester at Christ Church Chislehurst BR7 5JJ

It's Your Calling

with Revd Canon Pamela Ive, Diocesan Director of Ordinands & Vocations & team

It is aimed at those exploring where God may be calling and looks at our journey and the gifts that God has given us, as well as the Biblical understanding of vocation. The day gives an opportunity to meet others on a similar quest and to take time to think where God could be calling.

To book: see website

Closing date: 1 May

Open to: All

WHAT'S
YOUR
CALLING?

Everyone has a calling
Find yours

12 to 14 May The Oast Houses, Northiam

New Posts Conference

with Revd Canon Chris Dench, Diocesan Director of Formation & Ministry

For Clergy who have recently begun a new post.

By Invitation only

Saturday 16 May Licensing Service, 2:30pm at Rochester Cathedral

A new cohort of Licensed Lay Ministers will be licensed by The Right Reverend James Langstaff, Bishop of Rochester.

20 May 2020 St Benedict's Centre, West Malling 09:30am -1:00pm

Help with looking for your next post. Year 3 Curates in Canterbury & Rochester Dioceses

Hosted by Revd Canon Chris Dench

Guest Speaker: Helen Dimmock MBE, Honours and Appointments Secretariat

By invitation only

June

11 June & 9 July 2020 09:30am for 10:00am - 4pm at St Benedicts Centre

Resilience

Led by Ruth Adams

To book: <http://bit.ly/2PeWnXz>

Closing date: 2 June

Open to: All

18 June 2020 09:30am for 10:00am -1pm at St Benedicts Centre

Unconscious Bias

Led by Diocesan Trainers

The session will introduce participants to the concept of Unconscious Bias, recognising this as something we all carry across many areas of life. We will understand why Unconscious Bias is part of how our brains work. We will introduce areas of Unconscious Bias that have a direct impact on ministry and consider ways in which we can both recognise our biases and move to be a more inclusive church with integrity.

To book: <http://bit.ly/2RmYjil>

Closing date: 10 June

Open to: All

23 June 10am-1pm Diocese of Rochester at St Benedicts Centre

The Ministry of Deliverance: things that go bump in the night
with the **Revd Matthew Buchan** and the **Revd Jim Charles**.

Opportunity for clergy to learn more about the ministry of deliverance and the approach in the Diocese of Rochester in a parochial context.

To book: <http://bit.ly/2V5U5h8>

Open to: Clergy

July

2 July 2020 09:30am for 10:00am -1pm at St Benedicts Centre

Working with Volunteers

Led by Revd Nathan Ward

The course is an introduction to practical ways in which to recruit, support and reward volunteers at different times and stages in their lives. It will introduce principles and practice of effective volunteer management and translate them into practical strategies and processes for organisations. The course is divided into six topics which will be recruitment, training and supporting volunteers, affirming and rewarding volunteers, developing a culture of participation, mentoring new leaders.

To book: <http://bit.ly/2HKjpkU>

Closing date: 24 June

Open to: All

8 July 10am-12.30pm Diocese of Rochester at St Benedicts Centre

Spirituality: Different Ways of Praying for your Concerns with Sue Smith & Margaret Wooding-Jones

Sue and Margaret are members of the Rochester Spirituality Network taskforce group 'Stream', contribute to the work of promoting spirituality within the Diocese.

'During this day we will be exploring how to encourage ourselves and others in intercessory prayer, particularly when we find it hard to express our hopes and longings and when words seem hopelessly inadequate. We will also look at how the use of 'prayer stations' in our churches can encourage churchgoers and non-churchgoers alike, to bring their petitions to God.'

To book: <http://bit.ly/2DMxmwD>

Open to: All

14 July Bishop's Certificate Celebration of Learning 6:30pm at Bishopscourt

Led by Revd Jane Winter, Assistant Director of Formation & Ministry (learning & discipleship)

An annual event at which students completing the Bishop's certificate receive their certificates from the Bishop in the context of an informal Service of the Word. This joyous occasion marks the completion of the Bishop's Certificate programme. The certificates acknowledge the local ministry of the recipients which includes the Bishop's permission for occasional preaching and leading of worship. Students are supported by family, friends, members of their congregations and the Formation and Ministry team.

By invitation only

August

**Could you foster or adopt a child
in need of a home for good?**



Finding a home for every child who needs one homeforgood.org.uk/kent

September

8 September 2020 09:30am for 10:00am -1:00pm at St Benedicts Centre

Training Incumbents Day in Rochester & Canterbury Dioceses - All Years

Led by Revd Anthony Hammill IME2 Coordinator

By invitation only

12 September 2020 IME Day School, Canterbury

KIME Curates in Rochester & Canterbury Dioceses - All Years

Led by Revd Anthony Hammill IME2 Coordinator

By invitation only

14 September 2020 09:30am for 10:00am -1:00pm at St Benedicts Centre

The Secret Life of Groups

Led by Revd Claire Allwood

"As church leaders we spend much of our time working in and with groups. This training offers an opportunity to begin exploring our experiences in groups, the roles we and others take up, anti-task behaviour, how we might understand and respond to it. In short how might we and those with whom we work thrive more in groups. Participants are invited to bring along examples of their group experiences."

To book: <http://bit.ly/2SAucTu>

Closing date: 5 September

Open to: All

October

2 – 4 October Diocese of Rochester

Rochester Leadership Programme for Lay Ministers – Part I

with Karen Senior, Warden of Lay Ministry Revd Canon Chris Dench

Trialling an adaption of the Rochester Leadership Programme for Lay Ministers from each Archdeaconry.

By invitation only

9-11 October 2020 KIME Residential

KIME Curates in Rochester & Canterbury Dioceses -All Years

Led by Revd Anthony Hammill IME2 Coordinator

By invitation only

13 October 2020 09:30am for 10:00am -1pm at St Benedicts Centre

Unconscious Bias Led by Diocesan Trainers

The session will introduce participants to the concept of Unconscious Bias, recognising this as something we all carry across many areas of life.

We will understand why Unconscious Bias is part of how our brains work. We will introduce areas of Unconscious Bias that have a direct impact on ministry and consider ways in which we can both recognise our biases and move to be a more inclusive church with integrity.

To book:

Closing date: 10 June

Open to: All

19 October 09:30pm -15.45pm Diocese of Rochester at St John Meopham

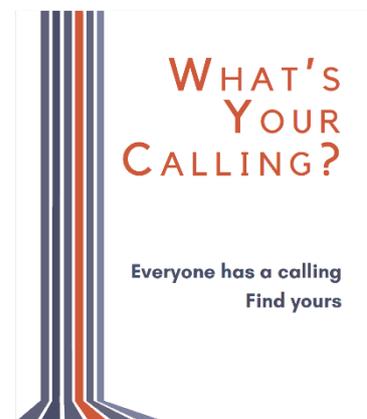
It's Your Calling

with Revd Canon Pamela Ive, Diocesan Director of Ordinands & Vocations & team

It is aimed at those exploring where God may be calling and looks at our journey and the gifts that God has given us, as well as the Biblical understanding of vocation. The day gives an opportunity to meet others on a similar quest and to take time to think where God could be calling.

To book:

Closing date: 10 October



Open to: All

November

Tuesday 3 November 10am-12.30pm Diocese of Rochester at St Benedicts Centre

Spirituality: God in my Day with the **Revd Pat Percival & Elaine Wilkins**

Praying with Events in my day

Elaine and Pat are Spiritual Directors and, as members of the Rochester Spirituality Network taskforce group 'Stream', contribute to the work of promoting spirituality within the Diocese. "Reviewing your day is a way of becoming more aware of where and how you meet God in everyday life.

It is also a prayerful way to let the day go into God's hands, so that you don't carry your anxieties and frustration unobserved and unhealed into sleep and into the new day.

This way of reflecting has its origin in the Ignatian tradition and is referred to as 'Examen'."

To book: contact <http://bit.ly/2YIIVUR>

Open to: All

7 November Diocese of Rochester Lay Ministers' Conference. Venue tbc

A day of sharing and inspiration with contributions from speakers and activities concerning all lay ministry matters. Bishop James will be attending.

Open to: All Authorized/Commissioned/ Licensed Lay Ministers

November 2020 09:30am for 10:00am -3:30pm at St Benedicts Centre

Disability & Discipleship encouraging disabled people to flourish in our churches

Led by Revd Rachel Wilson

To book:

Closing date:

Open to: All

17 to 19 November The Oast Houses, Northiam

New Posts Conference

For Clergy who have recently begun a new post.

By Invitation only

December

4 December 09:30am-1pm Diocese of Rochester at St Benedicts Centre

Shared Wisdom

To book: contact

Open to: All

Website: <https://www.rochester.anglican.org>

