



# FOUNDATIONS FOR MINISTRY



## What is Foundations for Ministry?

FFM is an exciting and vibrant course open to anyone active in church life who feels some sense of vocation or calling to Christian Ministry but needs some time and space to unpack what that might mean and look like. The course runs over three terms, September-June, and includes an induction evening, 23 core sessions and three additional Saturday course days.

The sessions are led by a range of speakers who are there to help you:

- ◆ **Make connections** between who you are, what you believe and how you can apply your faith to the everyday stuff of life.
- ◆ **Understand** more about Christian ministry, your spiritual gifts and how you can identify your ministry SHAPE.
- ◆ **Discover** your call to mission, where God wants to use you and how you can remain fruitful in your ministry.

## What is the course aim?

To provide you with a solid foundation so that you can continue to develop and explore your calling both to Christian ministry and to the life-long adventure of being a disciple of Jesus.

## What are the course goals?

- ◆ To provide a safe, supportive and stimulating learning environment for you to explore, identify and develop your gifts, vocation and calling.
- ◆ To offer a you unique opportunity for co-learning alongside others from a variety of different church traditions and backgrounds.
- ◆ To enable you to grow in confidence and courage when it comes to talking about and expressing your faith with others.
- ◆ To help you identify a tool bank of skills and resources that will enable you to grow and be fruitful in your Christian life and ministry.
- ◆ For you to feel closer to God and more aware of His purpose for your life.

## What is the course structure?

- ◆ **Term 1: Theology and Identity.** Making connections between who you are, what you believe and how you are called to apply your faith to the everyday stuff of life.
- ◆ **Term 2: Ministry SHAPE.** Exploring your calling to Christian ministry and how you can identify your own spiritual gifts and ministry SHAPE.
- ◆ **Term 3: Mission and Fruitfulness.** Unpacking the call to mission and how you can sustain and remain fruitful in your Christian life and ministry.

## Venues and Dates for 2022/23

### St Mary the Virgin, Bury Parish Church, Bury BL9 0LA

**Induction Evening:** Monday 19 September, 6.45-9pm

**Core Sessions:** Mondays, 6.45-9pm

Autumn: September 26; October 3, 10, 17, 31; November 7, 14, 21

Spring: January 2, 9, 16, 23, 30; February 13

Summer: March 6, 13, 20, 27; April 17, 24; May 2, 8, 15

**Retreat Day:** Saturday 3 December, 10am-2pm @ All Saints, Bury

**Vocations Day:** Saturday 04 March, 10am-2pm @ St Bride's, Old Trafford

**Celebration Service:** Sunday 21 May, 3-4.30pm @ Bury Parish Church

### St Andrews, Droylsden, Manchester M43 6BH

**Induction Evening:** Wednesday 21 September, 6.45-9pm

**Core Sessions:** Wednesdays, 6.45-9pm

Autumn: September 28; October 5, 12, 19; November 2, 9, 16, 23

Spring: January 4, 11, 18, 25; February 1, 15

Summer: March 8, 15, 22, 29; April 19, 26; May 3, 10, 17

**Retreat Day:** Saturday 26 November, 10am-2pm @ Church of the Resurrection and St Barnabas, Eastlands

**Vocations Day:** Saturday 04 March, 10am-2pm @ St Bride's, Old Trafford

**Celebration Service:** Saturday 20 May, 10-12pm @ St Andrew's, Droylsden



*"You too are built upon the foundation laid by the apostles and prophets, the cornerstone being Christ Jesus himself" - **Ephesians 2:20***

# Frequently Asked Questions

## Who can apply?

The FFM course is open to all lay people in the Diocese of Manchester but it should be noted that it is not a Christian basics/discipleship course or a beginner's introduction to theology. FFM is a course specifically designed for those active in church life who have already been rooted and established in their Christian faith; to help them further explore their gifts, vocation and calling to Christian ministry. We encourage anyone considering application to discuss this firstly with their vicar or supporting minister. This is to ensure that the course is suitable and that they will get plenty of backing and support.

## Are there any assignments, tests or written work?

There are no assignments, tests or essay type written work on the course. The main focus for learning is based around interactive presentations, group work, open discussions and lots of opportunities for personal reflection. We do encourage those that want to go deeper to keep a simple learning journal and to engage with some short linkwork exercises between sessions. However, this is optional and for personal use only. We don't ask for any work to be submitted or require anything to be marked or graded. Along the way, we will suggest some good books and further resources but everyone is supported to engage with the course at the level that works best for them.

## How much does the course cost?

The course costs £60 per person which can be paid for upfront or in three termly instalments. We encourage parishes to cover this cost but if this is an issue please contact us for more information as we don't want finances to be a barrier to anyone coming on the course.

## How do I apply?

For further information about the course and how to apply please see the diocesan website:

[www.manchester.anglican.org/ffm](http://www.manchester.anglican.org/ffm)

Or contact:

**Jamie Mackenzie**

*Local Ministry Officer*

✉ [jamiemackenzie@manchester.anglican.org](mailto:jamiemackenzie@manchester.anglican.org)

☎ 07553 374 130

**APPLICATION  
CLOSING DATE**

**5 September  
2022**