



The Church of England
Diocese of Ely



READERS

A new pattern of training for Licensed Lay Ministry

From September 2014 the Diocese of Ely has entered into a new partnership with the Eastern Region Ministry Course to provide training for our candidates for Licensed Lay Ministry. This has been made possible by the new suite of Common Awards that is providing the training pathways for most Church of England ordinands and for an increasing number of candidates for Licensed Lay Ministry. All those who follow a Common Awards pathway will complete a certain number of learning modules, all of which will be credited and will lead to a certificate, diploma or degree validated by the University of Durham. Licensed Lay Ministry candidates in this diocese will normally engage in a 2 year course of study, yielding 120 credits, that will give them a Certificate in Higher Education in Theology, Mission and Ministry.

Cambridge centre

We have established a new centre in Cambridge where evening classes (currently on Wednesdays) will be teaching modules on New Testament, Church History, Doctrine, Old Testament, Pastoral Care, Ethics, and Spirituality & Discipleship. In year groups of 7-12 people, candidates for Licensed Lay Ministry will be learning alongside ordinands; the evenings begin with supper at 6pm, and include worship and two hours of learning (for which a minimum of four hours' preparation is required). The pattern of eating-praying-studying together is intentionally in the Benedictine tradition of nurturing Christian community. Each module will have one or

two assignments (depending on the length of the module: some are ten weeks, some five).

Engaging with the wider ERMCC community: Foundations for Ministry & Worship

The *Foundations for Ministry & Worship* module is delivered by four or five Saturday study days spread over the two years. It includes material on worship & liturgy, preaching and Anglicanism. There are two study days where we will join Reader candidates from the Diocese of St Albans: one in St Albans and other at High Leigh, Hoddesdon, where we are joining ordinands from across the region (who will be there for one of their residential weekends).

Tutors

A wide team of tutors will be helping to deliver the modules, including ERMCC core staff, (Reader) Ministry Training Officers from four dioceses, our existing local tutors and specialist tutors from the Cambridge Theological Federation and the universities. This new way of delivering training will enable us to tap into the very considerable networks of theological and ministerial formation that we have in our region.

Flexibility

Whilst the Cambridge class will provide the norm, there may well be candidates for Licensed Lay Ministry for whom this is either too distant or not appropriate for other reasons. We will do all we can to produce a training pathway suitable for all candidates

who may have a calling to this ministry. For some this new form of training may seem dauntingly academic. We want to assure you that this is not the intention: this is a theological formation for ministry and mission not an academic hothouse! We will assess people's academic ability and potential and it would be perfectly possible, for instance, for candidates to be tutored locally and/or the number and nature of assignments to be reduced by following a non-accredited pathway. We are joining with three dioceses whose training has been with ERMIC for a

number of years and a rich range of candidates has thrived. For those with prior theological learning, this can either be taken into account (accredited prior learning) or we can provide a course tailored for your needs. After their training (which will give them 120 credits) students would be free, of course, to continue studying towards a diploma or degree (but please note that the diocese is not able to fund this). If any proceed in later years to train for ordination then they already have half their credits 'in the bank'.

LLM Training Nomination Form

Please send more details to:

Name:

Address

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Postcode:

Telephone Number:

Email Address:

Return this form to: Jennie Woolston, Department of Ministry Administrator, Diocesan Offices, Barton Road, Ely, Cambs, CB7 4DX. Email: Ministry@elydiocese.org