

MONTHLY PARISH MAGAZINE MAY 2017



⊕ **Holy Saviour Church, Croydon**

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SUGGESTED DONATIONS 50p



Holy Saviour Gallery

Palm Sunday with
Procession and donkey
Sunday 9 April 2017

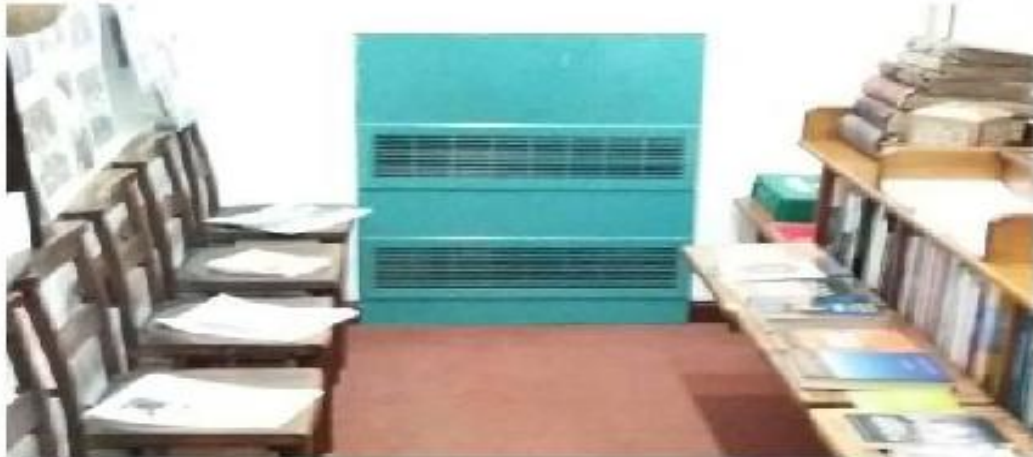


Easter Day
Big breakfast that
followed
7am Service of
First Light
Sunday 16 April 2017



Mothersing Sunday
Holy Saviour Church
26 March 2017







JULY 1964







Sunday Services 10am Holy Communion with Sunday School

Weekday Services Wednesday 10am Holy Communion

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Rev's End

May 2017

Do you have a vocation? Yes!

Every person is called by God and it is this call which we often refer to as a '**vocation**' from the Latin 'vocare', which means 'to call'. First and foremost, it is the calling of all Christians to represent Christ in and to the world. Our response to God's call, involves our reflecting the love of God to others in our own contexts and situations. For most Christians, their calling is lived out by taking an active part in their local church and sharing in the mission, tasks and activities of that church. But for some, this vocation has a specifically ministerial dimension and involves **being formally licensed or commissioned as a lay minister or being ordained as a priest or deacon in Youth Ministry, Church Army, Spiritual Direction or Religious Life, amongst others.**

Licensed Ministry

Licensed lay ministers work in a voluntary capacity within their church or chaplaincy and local community.

Many have secular careers alongside licensed lay ministry. Lay ministers come from a wide variety of backgrounds, bringing with them diverse skills and interests.

The focus of each person's ministry will vary according to their gifts, experience, knowledge and the needs of their church and community.

The forms of licensed lay ministry currently offered by the Diocese of Southwark are:

Reader Ministry

Readers are licensed by the Diocesan Bishop as lay ministers of the Church of England.

Under the supervision of their vicar or chaplain, they:

- may exercise a teaching and preaching ministry

- may be involved in the preparation of liturgy and conducting worship
- assist the clergy in the mission and ministry of their local church and community.
- through their direct contact with people
- by encouraging and enabling others to exercise a caring ministry.
- by raising awareness of pastoral needs within their local church/chaplaincy and community.



Reader Training
Reader training is done currently through St Augustine's College of Theology, formerly the South-East Institute for Theological Education (SEITE). The course is

validated under the National Church of England Common Awards Scheme. *Candidates for reader ministry must be 62 years or younger at the point of entering training.*



Southwark Pastoral Auxiliary (SPA) Ministry

Southwark Pastoral Auxiliaries (SPAs) are lay men and women commissioned to help develop caring and pastoral work on behalf of the Church. SPAs are called to **demonstrate God's care and concern for the world in practical ways.** Under the supervision of their vicar or chaplain, they may do this:

SPA ministry can be very diverse. Some SPAs work mainly within their local church; others work mainly within the local community, based at a local care agency or project. In many cases, it is a combination of the two.

SPA Training

SPA training takes two years with the Bishop's Certificate forming the first year. This training takes place through weekday evening sessions, but there

are also some weekend residential courses and occasional Saturday sessions.

For non-stipendiary ministry, candidates must be 57 years or younger at the point of entering training if doing a three-year course or 58 years or younger at the point of entering training if doing a two-year course. The retirement age is 75 years after you may be a 'SPA Emeritus'.

Ordained Ministry

There are three orders of clergy ministry in the Church of England, Deacons, Priests and Bishops. Deacons and Priests are ordained by the Bishop, and given authority to lead and Minister to God's people in a variety of contexts.

Some Deacons and Priests exercise their ministry in a voluntary capacity and are often referred to as 'Non-Stipendiary Ministers' or 'Self-Supporting Ministers'.

While others are given a stipend to enable them to minister full-time.



Deacons

According to the Church of England's Ordination Services, Deacons are ordained 'so that the people of God may be better equipped to make Christ known'. Christ is the pattern of their calling and their commission; as He washed the feet of His disciples, so they must wash the feet of others.' Deacons may preach, teach, baptize, and lead the church community in prayer. They may have a particular care for the vulnerable and marginalized. Some Deacons are 'distinctive', and remain as Deacons



throughout their ministry in a non-stipendiary/self-supporting capacity.

Priests

Priests are ordained to lead the



people of God 'in the offering of praise and the proclamation of the Gospel.

They share with the Bishop in the oversight of the Church ... they are to sustain the community of the faithful by the ministry of word and sacrament, that all may grow into the fullness of Christ.' Priests remain Deacons, and continue to serve and care for the people of God throughout their ministry, albeit with a different

emphasis. Priests exercise a diverse ministry in parishes, cathedrals, hospitals, schools and colleges, prisons, the armed services and in diocesan roles.

Training for Ordained Ministry

There are a variety of training pathways available to those preparing for ordained ministry. The length

of time in training depends on various factors, including a candidate's age and whether or not they train full-time or part-time. However, training will take a minimum of two years full-time and up to four years part-time. After Ordination, a period of three or four years is served in a parish as Curate, where ministerial training continues, whether nationally or locally deployable, in order to gain the roundest possible experience as a resource for the Church. Curates are required to serve in a different parish from their 'sending' parish.

For stipendiary ministry, candidates must be 52 years or younger at the point of entering training if doing a three-year course; or 53 years or younger at the point of entering training if doing a two-year course.



Religious Life

As well as the ordained and licensed lay ministries already described, the Church of England has a good number of religious communities made up of monks and nuns.

There are essentially two types of religious community (for both men and women) **contemplative** and **active**. The main difference between

these two forms is that active communities undertake some form of outside ministry for example medical care or chaplaincy, while contemplative communities stay within their religious houses and take prayer as their ministry.

Some Anglican communities follow a rule or way of life inspired by one of the ancient orders such as the Franciscans or Benedictines, while others are independent and have their own rule.

The members of each community take vows, which usually include some combination of **poverty, chastity, obedience, stability and conversion of life**.

All communities will have a training period for newcomers, usually called the 'novitiate', which lasts between two and four years, in which the discernment of God's call to the particular community with its distinctive way of life is tested. There then follows another period of about three years under vows before life vows are made.

Youth Ministry

Many churches or other community organisations employ workers trained to engage with young people, children and families, sometimes

as part of a formal ministry team. Their vocation is to nurture and encourage young people in the Christian faith and to provide a strategic vision for them within the local community.

For more info visit,
<http://www.going4growth.com/home>



Church Army Evangelist

The Church Army is a mission-focused society, which seeks to transform lives and local communities, and to enable people to come to the Christian faith through the work of its evangelists, staff and supporters.

Church Army evangelists work alongside local churches in a wide variety of contexts and projects throughout Great Britain and Ireland. For more information, visit the Church Army website

http://www.churcharmy.org.uk/Groups/244756/Church_Army/Church_Army/Church_Army.aspx.



EVANGELICAL SPIRITUAL DIRECTORS NETWORK

Spiritual Direction

Spiritual direction is the practice of being alongside people as they seek to deepen their faith and their relationship with God; or to learn and grow in their own personal spirituality.

As such, spiritual direction is a very important part of Christian life. Spiritual Directors have a key calling in helping others to grow in their Christian discipleship. For more information about spiritual direction visit the Ministry of Spiritual Direction website-www.spiritual-direction.co.uk.



You are a very faithful congregation and God has called you by name!

God Bless
Rev Catherine