Application Form - Exploring Faith Accompaniment

if you require further information prior to completing this form, use the contact details below)			
Name:			
Address:			
Telephone	: Email: Zo	om?	Y/N
Brief Pers	sonal Statement (continue on a separate sheet if necessary) ship, involvement/role, experience of spiritual direction, interest in	: curr	rent
Referee : Name :	Please provide contact details of a person willing to support your apenail:	pplicat	tion

Applicants will be contacted by a member of the course team for an informal interview prior to acceptance on the course. Applications should be forwarded to... Rev'd Paul Payton, Warden of Spiritual Directors frpaulp@yahoo.com
21, The Mews, Chapel Walk, Burnley BB12 8JF Mob: 07866696891

Closing date for applications: Friday, July 23rd.



Exploring Faith Accompaniment (Spiritual Direction)



'Why are you sitting here?' 'I am not sitting. I am on a journey!'

(Sayings of the Desert Fathers & Mothers)

September 2021 to January 2022 Blackburn Cathedral Conference Suite

Sponsored by The Anglican Diocese of Blackburn this 10-day foundation-level, non-denominational course seeks to...

- > nurture deeper listening to and reflection on the movement of the Holy Spirit to support the growth of faith and discipleship
- > draw upon the wisdom and insights of Christian traditions of spiritual accompaniment and practice
- > grow a new generation of faith accompaniers with potential to serve and meet the needs of the Church in the contemporary world.
- form the first, stand-alone element of a 2-part formation programme. Part B - which will run from February to July 2022 - will, subject to a process of discernment, be open to course participants who complete Part A.

What do we understand by Spiritual Direction?

As companion and accompanier, the spiritual director helps facilitate a listening and reflective trialogue between director, directee and the Holy Spirit. Central to the encounter is the sense of a shared journey towards a deeper awareness and discernment of the call to faithful living and discipleship.

How is the course delivered?

The course is designed to offer a balance of practical and reflective activity. Working in individual, small-group, and whole-group settings a range of learning approaches and resource materials and media will encourage participants to engage at different levels.

In a supportive, prayerful, non-judgemental, and confidential learning environment the invitation is to work with a variety of experiences which aim to promote deepening awareness and insight.

What are the main elements of the Course Programme?

There are 4 strands of growth and formation which run through each session and across the whole course...

- 1. <u>Listening and Reflecting</u> building core skills and confidence in the practice of spiritual accompaniment
- 2. <u>Awareness of Self and Others</u> exploring, sharing, and gaining insight from our experiences of the journey of life and faith
- 3. <u>Traditions and Themes</u> learning from the wisdom and experience of others
- 4. <u>Spiritual Engagement and Practice</u> the place of prayer, scripture, liturgy, sacrament, and spiritual direction in sustaining our discipleship

The course assumes a desire to deepen the journey of faith and participants are expected to have (or be actively seeking) a spiritual director before the course commences. If you need support for this, contact the Warden.

Is there a form of course assessment?

This is a non-accredited course and completion does not in itself qualify participants to practise as spiritual directors but may confirm a call to further explore this ministry (Part B).

On completion course participants will receive a certificate of attendance. Participants are encouraged to build up a non-assessed, peer-reviewed portfolio of resources that may be useful for the future.

Course Schedule

The course will run between 10.00am and 4.00pm at the Blackburn Cathedral Conference Suite on the following Mondays...

2021: September 6^{th} and 20^{th} October 4^{th} and 18^{th}

November 1st, 15th and 29th December 6th

2022: January 10th and 17th

NB Covid-related health-and-safety procedures current at the time of the course will be in place.

Course Tutors

The course will be facilitated by a core team of experienced lay and ordained tutors supported by visiting speakers.

Practical Points

Participants will need to supply their own refreshments - including drinks - for the day. There are numerous local eateries including the cathedral's own *Checks and Greys*. On-site parking may be available. Blackburn bus and train stations are within walking distance of the cathedral campus.

What are the costs?

The course fee is £450 which can be paid in 2 instalments.

Those continuing to Part B will incur additional costs.

Financial support may be available through your own church and, for those in Licensed Ministry in the Diocese of Blackburn, through the diocesan training budget. There are small bursaries for those unable to access funds from other sources. Please contact the Warden for further details.