



# THE PASTORAL ASSISTANTS



DB PA

## NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2017

A QUIET DAY FOR ALL  
PASTORAL ASSISTANTS

**Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2017**

St Peter's Church, Quernmore, LA2 9EL

10am – 3:15pm

Mandy Stanton, Discipleship & Lay Ministry Development Officer, Diocesan Offices, Clayton House, Walker Office Park, Blackburn BB1 2QE

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**FROM THE WARDEN OF PASTORAL ASSISTANTS,  
MRS MANDY STANTON**

Dear Colleagues,

A warm welcome to all new PAs, and those who have completed the *Resourcing Pastoral Care* course in Foulridge and Fulwood, who will be receiving this newsletter for the first time; I look forward to seeing you at future Diocesan events.

I am sure that many PAs would like to join me in extending wishes for a happy retirement to Bishop Geoff and to Jean Pearson, who has led several of our Quiet Days.

I have recently been catching up with the BBC drama series 'Broken', starring the wonderful Sean Bean as Father Michael Kerrigan, a Catholic priest trying to help people to deal with horrendous social and personal problems, while coping with his own troubled past and his feelings of inadequacy. One comment about the series is that it reminds us that we are all 'wounded healers', drawing on our own hurt and pain to help others (where we can), but also being willing to sit with other people in their pain and despair where there are no easy answers. Several Anglican priests have commented on how well 'Broken' depicts the strain of trying to live up to a calling, to not let people down, while knowing yourself to be a flawed, imperfect human being. I'm very glad that our churches have lay people sharing the pastoral care and other forms of ministry, which helps to reduce the pressure on ordained clergy, as well as allowing lay people to develop and to use their own gifts and ministries.

Practising ministry includes looking after ourselves. I hope that you are able to enjoy some time away – or at home – this summer, doing things that you enjoy and that feed and refresh your soul, perhaps catching up with friends and family, or maybe just enjoying some time for yourself. Father Michael in 'Broken' has a fellow priest who acts as his sounding board and confidant. Most of you will hopefully find that support from your incumbent or others in your church, but if you would like to talk to someone outside your parish, please contact me or your Deanery Chaplain if you have one; similarly, if you feel that having a spiritual director would help with your own spiritual journey, please ask me about this.

Our next Quiet Day will be held on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> October at St Peter's Church, Quernmore (LA2 9EL). This is a lovely church in a beautiful setting. The Quiet Day will be led by the Revd Jonathan Carmyllie, the incumbent of the West Pendleside benefice, who helps to lead the Spirituality Programme at Whalley Abbey. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

May I also remind you about our new Diocesan Discipleship learning programme, Routes of Faith, a series of six independent five week modules, beginning in September. It is for anyone who wants to know more about their Christian faith, and we hope that, by running the modules in different locations and on different evenings, as many people as possible will be able to join in at least one module. If you would like to know more, please give me a call.

Thank you for all your work,

*Mandy Stanton*

Warden of Pastoral Assistants

## **NEW PASTORAL ASSISTANTS**

Jane Cairns of St Michaels, Kirkham was commissioned on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

Mandy's quote of the season:

Grace can be the experience of a second wind, when even though what you want is clarity and resolution, what you get is stamina and the strength to hang on.

Anne Lamott

## **THE AUTUMN QUIET DAY**

The Autumn Quiet Day will be held on the 28<sup>th</sup> October at St Peter's Church, Quernmore. The day will be led by Revd Jonathan Carmyllie, the incumbent of the West Pendleside benefice, who helps to lead the Spirituality Programme at Whalley Abbey.

If you would be willing to receive general updates and the PA newsletter by email to save on paper usage and postage, please can you let Rosie Strachan know. You can do this by emailing her on [rosie.strachan@blackburn.anglican.org](mailto:rosie.strachan@blackburn.anglican.org) or by including your email address on the booking form for the Training Day.

**A full list of Chaplains and their contact details can be found below:**

**Accrington**

Revd. Lawrence Carson-Featham  
[carsonfeatham@btinternet.com](mailto:carsonfeatham@btinternet.com)  
01254 233763

**Blackburn with Darwen**

Revd. Andrew Horsfall  
[andrew.horsfall@elht.nhs.uk](mailto:andrew.horsfall@elht.nhs.uk)  
01254 736849

**Blackpool**

Revd. Deborah Prest  
[deborahprest@icloud.com](mailto:deborahprest@icloud.com)  
01253 353900

**Burnley**

Vacant

**Chorley**

Vacant

**Garstang**

Vacant

**Lancaster & Morecambe**

Vacant

**Leyland**

Revd. Nick Mansfield  
[nickthevicl@googlemail.com](mailto:nickthevicl@googlemail.com)  
01772 742367

**Pendle**

Vacant

**Poulton**

Vacant

**Preston**

Vacant

**Tunstall**

Vacant

**Whalley**

Revd. Roger Wood  
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