



THE PASTORAL ASSISTANTS



DB PA

NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2017

A TRAINING MORNING FOR ALL PASTORAL ASSISTANTS

Saturday 18th March

Holy Trinity Church, Preston Old Road, Hoghton,
PR5 0SJ

9am – 1pm

Or

Friday 24th March

All Saints Church, North Drive, Anchorsholme,
FY5 3HT

9am-1pm

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,

In the last newsletter, I mentioned the introduction of a new, practical course for pastoral visitors, Resourcing Pastoral Care. I am pleased to say that the first course is now running at Foulridge, near Colne, and we hope to run it again in the Preston area after Easter. The course provides an introduction to Christian pastoral care, including sessions on the pastoral care relationship, listening to God and self, listening to others and safe practice.

The aim of the course is to equip more people to carry out this important work. We are all aware of the pressures on clergy, but it can equally be overwhelming to be a lone P.A. in a parish where there is a high level of need for pastoral support. If you know of people in your church or deanery who might benefit from this course, please let me know, and we may be able to run it near you in the future.

One of my favourite quotes at the moment, which many of us might benefit from, is from the Resourcing Pastoral Care course:

'Do not feel totally, personally, irrevocably responsible for everything. That's my job.'

Love, God'

The Quiet Day held on Saturday 1st October at Shireshead led by Jean Pearson was, as ever, thought-provoking and an opportunity to find time and space to be quiet and to listen to God.

We asked those present at that Quiet Day about their preferences and suggestions for future training days, and received a number of helpful comments. I am also grateful to Lesley Wooding for volunteering to help with the planning and administration for future PA training days. Based on comments received, we are trying an experiment for the next Training Day: it will be a morning-only event, and will be run twice (with the same content both times) in different locations, once on a Saturday and once during the week. We hope that this will allow more people to attend. The subject of the morning will be Dementia Care, and the

speaker will be Ed Saville, Social Justice co-ordinator for Blackburn Diocese. Details elsewhere in this newsletter.

Thank you for all your work,

Mandy Stanton

Warden of Pastoral Assistants

THE AUTUMN QUIET DAY

The Spring Training Morning will be running twice this year and will be held on Saturday 18th March at Holy Trinity Church Hoghton and Friday 24th March at All Saints Anchorsholme. It is always helpful to know numbers attending, so please return your booking form to Rosie by Monday 13th March.

The Training Mornings will be led by Ed Saville, Social Justice co-ordinator for Blackburn Diocese.

PASTORAL ASSISTANT EMERITUS

Since the last Newsletter, Andrea Francis from Stalmine has been awarded PA Emeritus status.

RIP

Marjorie Bevan, PA in Lancaster died in January. Marjorie was a PA for 20 years and became Emeritus in 2012. We remember her family at this sad time and give thanks for her ministry. Una Bolton, PA at St. Bartholomew's Gt. Harwood, died peacefully on Friday 3rd February. Una had been a PA for 20 years and was known to many people. Una had been ill for over a year with pancreatic cancer, and although had been managing well, her condition deteriorated in the last two weeks. No funeral details are available at present: contact Mandy Stanton or the Revd Colin Penfold, vicar of Great Harwood, if you would like to know when this will take place.

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 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:

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Blackburn with Darwen

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Blackpool

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Burnley

The Venerable Dr. Stephen Adesanya
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Garstang

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Lancaster & Morecambe

Vacant

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Pendle

The Venerable Dr. Stephen Adesanya
(see Burnley)

Poulton

Revd. Stephen Grey
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Tunstall

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Whalley

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