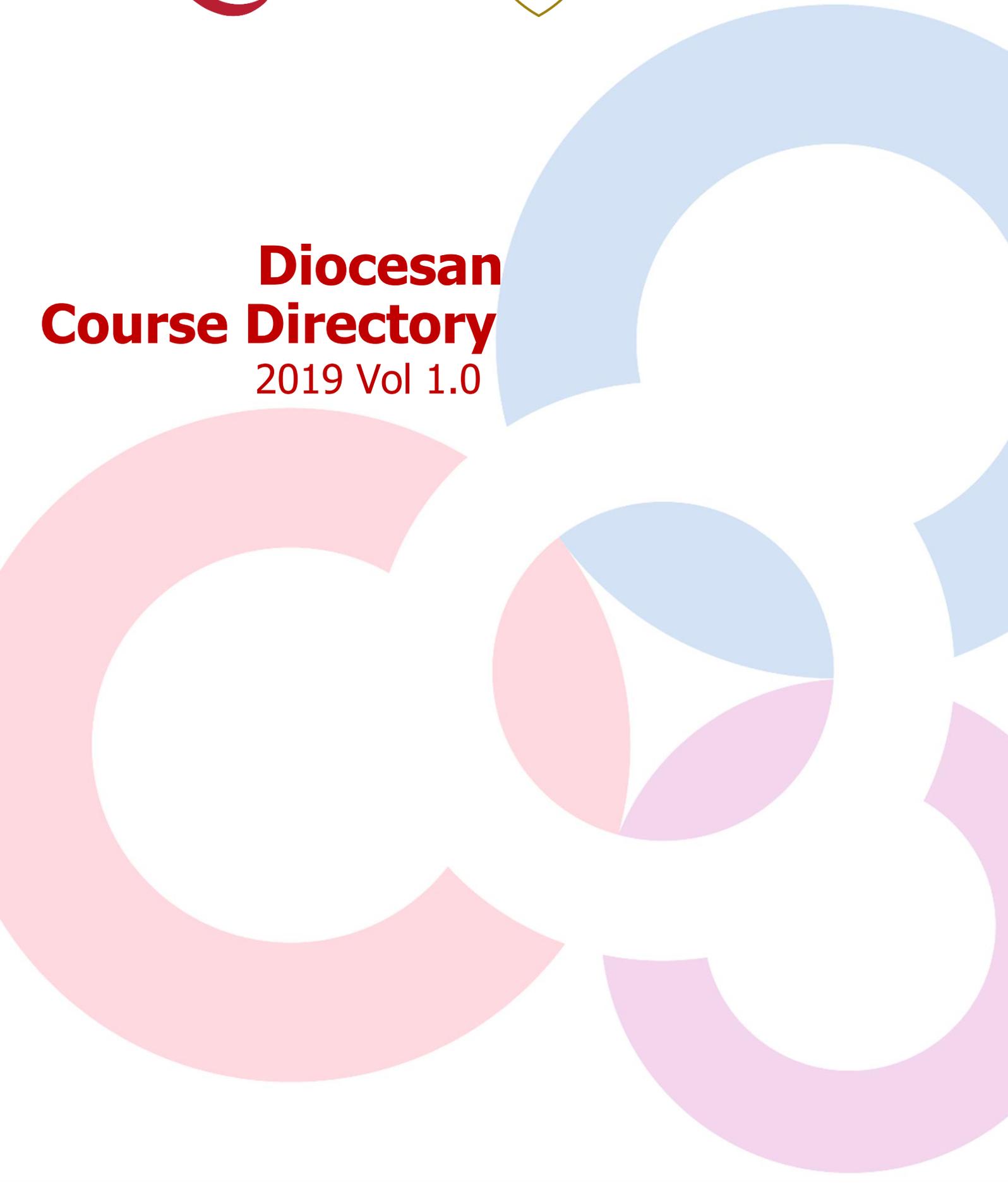


R Diocese of
Rochester



**Diocesan
Course Directory**
2019 Vol 1.0





The Diocese of Rochester is affirming that we are Called Together in the areas of **Growing Disciples**, of **Enriching our Communities** and of **Resourcing our Mission and Ministry**. This Directory offers many opportunities for all who are responding to a call to grow as Christian people or specifically as clergy, lay ministers, church wardens and church treasurers, those involved with the children and young people and with those who are older to engage in courses and events which will help our formation and flourishing as God's people in this Diocese.

God is the Creator of all, grow your church in faith; God the Son who saves the world, enrich us with your mission and ministry; that we may be a blessing throughout and beyond this Diocese, for we are called together to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Contents

Vocations..... 4

Vocations Courses..... 4

Working in Church Schools..... 5

August..... 6

September..... 7

October..... 8

November..... 10 10

December..... 11

Going further – Vocation – Diocesan 'Pathways'

Vocations

Sometimes words can be a bit scary – perhaps one of the scariest is “vocation”. To many people it is priests or monks or nuns that come to mind when the word is used, someone who seems super spiritual or simply not us. Yet the word simply means “calling” and that means that vocation, our calling in Christ, is not an optional extra for those considering ordination, or the religious life or authorised ministry, but about all of us. We are all called by God.

All of us are called by God to be disciples and to grow in our understanding of what faith is about. God equips each of us with gifts and skills, so that we can be part of the body of Christ, serving others. As we journey through life we always need to ask the question: “Am I using my gifts fully? Sometimes we will be able to answer “yes” but, at other times, we may feel that there is more that we can do to live out God’s calling. That is where Vocation Advisers come in!

Vocations Courses

During the year the Vocations Team puts on a number of events and holds regular vocations days under the title: *It's Your Calling*. *It's Your Calling* is held three times each year, once in each Archdeaconry, and takes place during the day on a Saturday. It is aimed at those exploring where God may be calling, and looks at our journey and the gifts that God has given us, as well as the Biblical understanding of vocation. The day gives an opportunity to meet others on a similar quest and to take time to think where God could be calling. After *It's Your Calling*, there is an opportunity to make contact with a Vocations Adviser, for an informal chat.

Vocations Advisers are not there to promote one type of ministry, but to listen to your story and to help discern what God might be saying; they are there for you. If at any time you would like to speak with a Vocations Adviser, you should first speak with your incumbent and then contact the Vocations Adviser in your Archdeaconry.

Working in Church Schools

For those wanting training about working in church schools, please see the training offer from the Rochester Diocesan Board of Education to be found at

<http://www.rdbe.org.uk/news/135/77/Training-Programme-2018>

If you have any questions about your church school or about the training we offer and how it might be helpful for you please contact one of the team directly,

John Constanti, Director of Education
john.constanti@rochester.anglican.org

Virginia Corbyn, Assistant Director of Education
virginia.corbyn@rochester.anglican.org

Teresa Spearink, PA for John and Virginia and the Board of Education
teresa.spearink@rochester.anglican.org

You can also find lots more helpful information on the Rochester Diocesan Board of Education website: <http://www.rdbe.org.uk/>

August

September

3 September 10am-1pm Diocese of Rochester at St Benedicts Centre, West Malling ME19 6JX

Keeping Christmas alive for 40 days with the **Revd Lindsay Llewelyn-Macduff**.

"With the secular feast of Christmas more or less finishing on the 25th of December it can be tricky enough keeping 12 days of Christmas with any conviction (or energy). Now that the Feast of the Incarnation extends to the 2nd February how do we keep Christmas alive for 40 days without killing ourselves?"

To book: <http://bit.ly/2SFnDSD>

Closing date: 21 August

Open to: Clergy and Lay Ministers

19 to 22 September

Spiritual Direction Residential A residential retreat for those currently undertaking the 2-year Spiritual Accompaniment programme.

To book: By Invitation

26 September 6pm-8pm Diocese of Rochester at Diocesan Office, Rochester

Help – my parish is in vacancy with the **Revd Canon Chris Dench** and **Karen Senior**.

An opportunity to learn and share with other lay ministers who are experiencing an interregnum, looking particularly at managing transition, peoples' expectations, and yourself in what can be both a challenging and exciting time.

By Invitation

Open to: Licensed / Authorised Lay Ministers, Churchwardens

30 September to 4 October

Rochester Leadership Programme Open to clergy who are in their 3rd- 4th year of ministry by invitation from the Bishop. Please contact Canon Chris Dench if you would like further information.

By Invitation. For more information, contact Chris.Dench@rochester.anglican.org.

Open to: Clergy

October

5 October 10am – 4pm Diocese of Rochester at Christ Church, Orpington

Lay Ministry Conference a day for Lay Ministers

Speakers include The **Rt Revd Simon Burton-Jones**, Bishop of Tonbridge

To book contact: tricia.cliffe@rochester.anglican.org

Closing date: 28 September

Open to: All Lay Ministers

5 October 9:30am-3.30pm It's Your Calling at St John the Baptist Meopham , DA13 0AA

Vocations Day with the **Revd Canon Pamela Ive** and the Vocations Team

It is aimed at those exploring where God may be calling, and looks at our journey and the gifts that God has given us, as well as the Biblical understanding of vocation

To book your place, visit : <https://www.rochester.anglican.org/ministry/vocations/its-your-calling/> where you can download the application form, from mid-May onwards.

Open to: Everyone. You will need your incumbent's approval to attend this event and an application form submitted. For further information, contact Revd Canon Pamela Ive, Diocesan Director of Ordinands /Vocations: pamela.ive@rochester.anglican.org

8 October 10am-1pm Diocese of Rochester at St Benedicts Centre, West Malling ME19 6JX

Unconscious Bias with the **Revd Jane Winter** and team.

The course will introduce participants to the concept of Unconscious Bias, recognising this as something we all carry across many areas of life. We will understand why Unconscious Bias is part of how our brains work. We will introduce areas of Unconscious Bias that have a direct impact on ministry and consider ways in which we can both recognise our biases and move to be a more inclusive church with integrity.

To book: <http://bit.ly/2DtEFJ2>

Closing date: 1 October

Open to: All

16 October 10am-1pm St Benedicts Centre, West Malling ME19 6JX

Looking to your next post?

Are you discerning what happens next in your ministry? The Clergy Transitions Service provides free, confidential, personal support for Clergy who are at a vocational crossroad, or who are looking for a fresh opportunity.

Helen Averill, the Implementation Manager, will be delivering a development workshop to support the discernment process, help navigate the competing stresses of applications and interviews, and think about starting well. The session will be interactive and thought provoking.

A former Head of HR for Westminster Abbey and with considerable experience as a coach and mentor, Helen set up the Clergy Transitions Service in July 2018.

To book: <http://bit.ly/30RzZa3>

Closing date: 9 October

Open to: Clergy. Maximum: 15

22 October 10am-1pm St Benedicts Centre, West Malling ME19 6JX

Preaching about Stewardship with the **Revd Chris Stone** and team.

'Oh no! Not the giving sermon!'. Preaching on stewardship, particularly when it means preaching on the question of money, is something many say they approach with apprehension. Some even question whether we should preach on such a topic. In this session, **Canon Chris Stone** (a Trustee of the College of Preachers) shares a number of different approaches to preaching that aim to help growth in giving and growth in faith. There will also be hints and tips, plus opportunities for discussion and practice.

To book: <http://bit.ly/2DGS00I>

Closing date: 15 October

Open to: Clergy, LLM & Readers

November

6 November 10am-12.30pm St Benedicts Centre, West Malling ME19 6JX

Spirituality: Centering Prayer with the **Revd Barry Linney**.

Centering prayer is a method of moving our developing relationship with God beyond the mental egoic level of discursive meditation, to an intuitive level which lays aside thoughts and opens the mind, heart, body and emotions to God. Thomas Keating, who developed it, sought to distil the teachings of the spiritual masters of the Christian tradition, and offer it as the first rung on the ladder of contemplative prayer which rises step by step to union with God.

To book: <http://bit.ly/2SrKIYM>

Closing date: 30 October

Open to: All

7 November 5pm-7pm Diocesan Office 1 Boley Hill, Rochester. ME1 1SL

What does being a Governor entail in a Church School?

We are running 3 discrete sessions in the forthcoming year for governors in our Church schools. Depending on your particular role on your Church school governing body, you are invited to attend any or all of these. **The free induction session** will be particularly helpful if you are new to your role as a governor. If you were to attend sessions 2 or 3, there is a cost which you would need to speak to your school about covering through their budget for governor training.

Session 1 - Induction on key roles and responsibilities including: Statutory Duties, Governor engagement in school development planning – SEF and SDP approval; Monitoring; Data; Ofsted/ SIAMS; Safeguarding.

Session 2: 2 March 2020. The focus is Church school development and effectiveness, including the SIAMS inspection schedule. (*Same time and venue*)

Session 3: 11 June 2020. The focus is on headteacher appraisal (not all governors will be directly involved in this). (*Same time and venue*)

To book: Teresa.Spearink@rochester.anglican.org

Closing date: 24 October

Open to: Clergy

14 November 10am-1pm St Benedicts Centre, West Malling ME19 6JX

Mental Health with Deborah Watkins

This half day experiential workshop aims to increase knowledge, understanding and confidence in addressing mental health challenges and having conversations with people who may be experiencing mental ill health. There will be opportunities to explore ways to support your own and others' mental and emotional well-being.

To book: <http://bit.ly/2SAGYV6>

Closing date: 5 November

Open to: Clergy

19 to 21 November The Oast Houses, Northiam

New Posts Conference working with clergy who are new to post exploring transition, setting vision, managing change while being intentional in ministry

To book: By Invitation

Open to: Clergy who have recently begun a new post.

December

4 December 10am-1pm Diocese of Rochester at St Benedicts Centre

Shared Wisdom

An opportunity to learn from the research and insights of others within the diocese.

To book: <http://bit.ly/2DJTWpr>

Closing date: 27 November

Open to: All