

Milton and Blandford Deanery Lay Pastoral Assistant (LPA) Training Course 2023

God calls every baptised Christian into ministry, and equips them to work together with others as the Body of Christ. This is about much more than their involvement within and around the church buildings or activities. It's about what they do and what they are as Christians, seven days a week.

LPA's are trained and authorised to engage in pastoral ministry on behalf of the local church, working as part of a team of clergy and laity.

They may work with children and young people, the sick, the recently bereaved and the elderly and housebound. They may take communion to those unable to come to church. Many benefices have teams of LPA's, some of whom specialise in a particular area. All LPA's focus on pastoral care, but an individual's ministry varies according to their gifts and skills, and the local situation. In all cases the ministry calls for a loving and compassionate heart, and a willingness to listen and support those in need.

Milton and Blandford Deanery are running an authorised diocesan course to train new LPA's this Autumn at Shroton church, beginning with a taster session on 21st September 2023, which your parish priest will attend, followed by ten fortnightly sessions, all running from 7pm to 9pm.

If you feel you have a calling to this ministry, please speak to your parish priest, who will discern and affirm whether this is the right vocational path for you.

Candidates will then need to complete a [registration form](#) by 31st August.

For further information on this rewarding role please [click here](#)

