

Good morning Bishop Nicholas,
I seem to remember your consultation about community engagement ends today.
I haven't replied before because I sensed that the consultation was targeted at parishes, but want to make a stab at a contribution.

I hold 3 chaplaincies:

Chaplain to Prama

Senior Chaplain to Alabare

Officiating Chaplain, Royal Navy (serving at Royal Marines, Poole)

I have a crack at a few other projects and am on the Seedbed core team (a national initiative linking Christians ecumenically so that they might be funded to work on imaginative projects that the Church is unlikely to see as mainstream mission)

My particular interest is in chaplaincy, and how chaplaincy can bridge the gap between faith, the Church, and the Community.

From that work my suggestions are as follows:

Alabare has with Wessex Chaplaincy developed a training course for community chaplains. This might be adapted and adopted by the Diocese so that LPAs, LLMs, and clergy might opt to be trained as community chaplains. Some curates serving their title might commit to chaplaincy training during their first appointment.

Prama has developed a dementia friendly churches training course to sit alongside its dementia friendly communities initiative. It has also created a dementia friendly churches coalition. I suggest that the Diocese align itself to that coalition, and draw the training offered by Prama into its training provision.

Community Healthcare Chaplaincy is now employing 5 stipendiary chaplains attached to GP surgeries in Birmingham and Southwell. Through the Diocesan Healing Group or another appropriate body I suggest we link into this initiative, and assess whether as in the Midlands bids to the newly emerging Commissioning Bodies for GP chaplaincies might be worthwhile. The book I sent you tells the story of this emerging form of chaplaincy. The Bishop of Carlisle is the Patron of the movement.

Might be good to have a co-ordinator for chaplaincy in the Diocese who could promote good practise, etc

Yours in Christ, Jonathan

Revd Canon JPM Martin

Senior Chaplain, Alabare

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Officiating Chaplain, Royal Navy

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