

Pastoral Care in the Parish

Jesus taught us to love and care for one another and that our love should be real and practical. Help and support can come from a variety of sources, whether a friend, a home group member or one of the Prayer groups or on a Sunday morning.

We are passionate about being a place where we can encourage one another to grow in Christlikeness, loving others more and showing the love of God to our community at large.

We are acutely aware that there will always be pastoral needs within our parish and the lives of our church members and so have put in place a number of ways to meet those needs. We believe that care for one another is the responsibility and duty of every member of the church family. But sometimes people will need more experienced help and support. We have a number of people trained in pastoral care who are available to lend a listening ear and give support in a more specialist way to those in need.

While it is not possible for our Rector to personally meet the pastoral needs of every member of the parish, we do realise that in some situations you may wish to speak to him. He is always willing to find time for those who need it. He is supported by Home Groups leaders and Pastoral teams.

Care through Home Groups

We believe that the members of the church are best supported by a network of mutually supportive relationships that enable us to support each other through difficult times. We achieve this primarily through our Home Groups which function as caring mini communities. These meet in peoples' homes at various times during the week and are co-ordinated by one of our Home Group leaders. These leaders are asked to be alert to people's pastoral needs and to arrange appropriate support and practical care.

If you wish to know more about the Home Groups please contact the Rector or one of the Churchwardens.

Pastoral Support Teams

We have a number of Pastoral Support Teams who support the Rector and the Home Group Leaders in the pastoral care of parishioners. We are working to ensure that Team leaders and members have received training by the Diocese and are commissioned by the Bishop and Diocese of Winchester to assist our Rector in providing pastoral care within our parish.

Team Leaders :-

- Hospital visiting: Pippa Aslet
- Elderly Care: Jenny Cooke
- Young Mums: Barbara Irving, Liz Gwynn
- Bereavement after-care: Hilly Davies, Nicky Bunker
- One to One Discipleship: Steve Howe, Barbara Irving
- Women's Pastoral Listening and Care Coordinator: Barbara Irving
- Men's Pastoral Listening and Care Coordinator: Tim Aslet

Safeguarding and Confidentiality

For your protection, the Parish has proper safeguarding procedures in place. The Rector, Parish Ministry Assistants, Home Group Leaders, and Pastoral Team leaders and members have completed the appropriate safeguarding training and are subject to UK Criminal Records Bureau (DBS) checks. When specialist help is needed (for example, from a trained counsellor) contact with appropriate agencies will be suggested.

Conversations with the Rector, Home Group Leaders and Team members are normally confidential and sensitive information is only shared for training and supervisory purposes. However, if you would like your home group or the wider church family to know of any circumstances you are facing, so that they may pray for you, please make this known.



Parish of Sherbornes With Pamber

PASTORAL CARE

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.” (John 13:34-5)

