Exeter Diocese

**Training Course in**

**Spiritual Accompaniment**



**September 2023 to July 2024**

**Aims and learning outcomes**

**By the end of the course participants will have**

* Been trained in the core practical considerations of this ministry – safeguarding, boundaries, contract, ‘good practice’ etc.
* Grown in self-awareness and discernment of their own life journey as the central precondition of travelling alongside others.
* Developed essential insights in listening, responding and enabling others appropriately.
* Explored the relationship between personality, temperament, ways of praying and Christian maturity. Be able to draw on these insights to the work of spiritual accompaniment.
* Explored and reflected upon the varied expressions of this ministry within scripture and church history.
* Been assisted in the discerning of a call to the ministry of Spiritual Accompaniment.

Following a discernment process at the end of the course participants may be invited to join the regional network of Spiritual Directors.

**Information**

**Venue** The Old Deanery, The Cloisters, Exeter EX1 1HS

**Cost** £300 per year (payable in termly instalments of £100).

*Some bursary support is available. Please ask for more information.*

**Dates** 19th September, 10th October, 7th November, 5th December

9th January, 13th February, 12th March, 9th April,14th May, 11th June, 9th July.

Each day runs from 10.00am - 3.30pm.

**Course themes and topics**

Full historical, biblical and theological introduction to the ministry of Spiritual Accompaniment.

Listening to others and to God. Supervision. Psychological insights into the work of accompaniment.

Images of God and self. Discernment and calling. ‘We’re all different’ - self-awareness and temperament (using the example of the Enneagram. Struggle: grief, loss, transitions, anxiety. Issue of safeguarding boundaries.

The course concludes with a discernment process for all participants.

The final day of the course is a guided quiet day and concluding service at St Rita’s, Honiton.

**Expectations of participants**

* A commitment to full attendance is essential, including the retreat, to benefit fully from the course.
* Full participation in small group work and listening triads which are integral parts of the course.
* Time set aside for reading and reflection between sessions is also essential.

**The Course Team**

Rev David Runcorn, Rev Michael Rogers, Canon Deborah Parsons, Dr Sarah-Jane Seymour, Mrs Judy Friend, Rev Tim Treanor, Rev Mark Kitchenside, Mrs Becca Bradley-Carter.

**Further Enquiries** Rev David Runcorn. 07870 331537 [exploring.spirituality@exeter.anglican.org](mailto:exploring.spirituality@exeter.anglican.org)

**Application Form**

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| Name: |  |
| Address: |  |
| Phone number: | Landline    Mobile |
| Email address: |  |
| Occupation: |  |
| Church Affiliation: |  |
| Position (if any) held in church: |  |

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| How would you describe your sense of call to this ministry?  *(please continue on a separate sheet of paper if necessary):* |

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| Do you have a spiritual director – and how has that relationship helped you understand and model what this ministry involves? |

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| Have you attended the diocesan ‘Introduction to Spiritual Accompaniment’ course – or undertaken any equivalent study or training? *Please give details*. |

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| Is your application encouraged and supported by wise friends, your spiritual director and leadership in your church? |

Further enquiries and applications by ***30th June 2023***

To: Rev David Runcorn, 32, The Avenue, Tiverton, EX16 4HW

or (very preferably) by email to: [exploring.spirituality@exeter.anglican.org](mailto:exploring.spirituality@exeter.anglican.org)

*Please note this course is popular and invariably oversubscribed.*

*Thank you for your understanding as we make difficult choices.*

*We will contact you in July with news of your application.*

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