

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 network of Home Groups. 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. If you wish to know more about the Home Groups please see our Home Group leaflet.



Pastoral Care

Practical Care

From time to time we become aware of people who have suffered a serious illness or other crisis, who might be in need of practical support either help with shopping, lifts, meals on a short-term basis. In these circumstances we could offer help via our Helping Others team (Tel: 07732 066314) or Meal Makers (Janet Sutherland 07792 330751).

For your protection:

All Clergy, Licenced Lay Ministers and Pastoral Assistants have completed the appropriate safeguarding training and undergo continuing professional development. The Parish has proper safeguarding procedures in place. All members of the Pastoral Team 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 team members are confidential – sensitive information is only shared in general terms for training and supervisory purposes.

For contact details please see the Parish Magazine, the Parish Website www.wisleywithpyrford.org/pastoralcarenetwork or phone the parish office 01932 346345



"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another."

John 13: 34



PARISH OF
WISLEY ^{WITH}
PYRFORD

Pastoral Care in the Parish

Jesus taught us to love and care for one another and that our love should be real and practical.

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. This leaflet outlines where that support can be found.

Our Clergy

While it is not possible for our clergy 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 a clergy person. They are always willing to find time for those who need it.

Pastoral Assistants

The role of Pastoral Assistants is to support the clergy in the pastoral care of parishioners. We have a large team of Pastoral Assistants each of whom has been trained by the Diocese and licenced by the Bishop and Diocese of Guildford to assist our clergy in providing pastoral care within our parish.

Their training equips them for listening, visiting the sick and bereaved and supporting people in difficult situations. They are available to make home visits to members of the church and of the wider community to provide support, prayer and give home Communion. All conversations are treated with the strictest confidence.

If you would like to talk to a Pastoral Assistant please speak or phone either of the co-ordinators, Philippa Hewitt (01932 400182) or Alison Ingram (07776 259867)

Prayer ministry

As well as our team of Pastoral Assistants we have a small team who have been trained in listening skills through a course developed by the ACORN Christian Healing Foundation. A member of this team is available to pray with you at the end of our Sunday morning services at the Church of the Good Shepherd.

If you would like prayer please come to the Emmaus Chapel (off the main church) after the service.

Care for children and young people

Our young people and children are an important part of our church and we value their pastoral care too. We want them to receive the best and most appropriate care possible and so we have special provision for their particular needs.

Please contact either our Children's and Families' Minister or our Youth Minister.

Bereavement and post-bereavement support

When difficult times come along, particularly in the days and months after the funeral of a loved one, we are here to help you. Our clergy and licenced lay ministers are available to help you plan the funeral of a loved one and conduct the funeral whether in one of three churches and/or at a local crematorium. They will visit you at home, support you and pray with you through the grieving process.

Our Pastoral Assistants are also available for support in the longer term.

In addition "The Next Step" is a group of bereaved men and women who support each other and enjoy regular days and evenings out. For further details please contact the Parish Office.

