

SPOTLIGHT ON...

ALICE EKA

Alice sees herself as an ambassador of Christ at work and among her family and local community. She may be found giving a work colleague a tour of the Cathedral, introducing a family member to the Bible, leading morning and evening prayers streamed live on Facebook, leading a Bible study group on Zoom, and phoning friends in need of prayer and comfort after the death of loved ones.



Training consists of a CertHE (Level 4) course, usually taken part-time over two years through St Augustine's College of Theology, followed by further practical training and reflective practice for two years. The CertHE includes biblical and theological studies as well as courses in worship and preaching.

Note that all those discerning a call to Reader ministry will have to undergo a DBS check and safeguarding training.



Next steps

If you think you might be called to serve God in Reader ministry, talk with your incumbent or chaplain. They will be able to help you discern God's calling and support you through selection and training.

If you would like to have an informal conversation about your sense of call to lay ministry, please e-mail the Revd Dr Raewynne Whiteley, Deputy Director of Discipleship and Lay Ministry, at raewynne.whiteley@southwark.anglican.org. She can also tell you more about training and guide you through the discernment process.



Southwark Readers' service in 2020.

Find out more about Reader ministry in Southwark on our website at southwark.anglican.org/mission-ministry/ministry/discipleship-ministry/lay-ministries/reader



The Diocese of
Southwark



Loving God
Walking with Jesus
Led by the Spirit
Luke 24:13-35



The Diocese of
Southwark

Reader ministry

Are you called to
encourage others
in their faith?

Walking
Welcoming
Growing

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GERRY DALEY

Gerry summarises his Reader ministry as being about Table, Book, and Road. He assists at the altar (table), and leads other services including pet blessings; he preaches regularly, based on the Bible (book), and he lives the gospel on the road, that is, in his daily life and work.



Are you called to encourage others in their faith?

Readers are lay people who, following a call from God, are trained and licensed by the Church to teach the faith, enable mission, and lead in church and society.

Are you someone who:

- is enthusiastic about their faith?
- makes connections between faith and everyday life?
- wants to help others grow as disciples?
- wants to encourage the Church in mission?

If the answer is yes, God might be calling you to ministry as a Reader.

“Readers are trained and equipped as lay theologians to interpret the texts of Holy Scripture in the contexts of today’s Church and world.”

— Bishop Christopher

Readers enable Christians to live out their Christian faith in the places where they spend the majority of their time. As people who move daily between the worlds of work, home, social networks and church, Readers can teach the faith and play a part in leadership such that all God’s people grow in confident and humble witness to God’s kingdom.



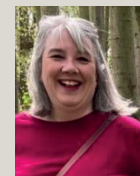
Readers typically collaborate with their incumbent to reach out to the church and the local community. Reader ministry might include:

- leading services of the Word
- preaching
- leading Bible studies
- pastoral care
- funeral ministry.

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TONI CLARK

As a Reader, Toni feels privileged to preach God’s word and lead services in church but also sees her calling to be a Christian in her workplace. She is a full-time civil servant, open about her faith and that she is a Reader, which, she says, leads to some interesting discussions.



What does becoming a Reader give you?

- Affirmation of God’s call by the wider Church.
- Tailored training and ongoing support for your ministry.
- A learning community of others doing the same thing.
- An opportunity to reflect as you go.

Readers are usually based in their home parish, where they are part of the ministry team, and are usually supervised by their incumbent. They may also be called on to minister in other local churches.

The discernment and selection process for Reader ministry is coordinated by the Vocations Team in collaboration with the Discipleship and Ministry Team.

*Walking
Welcoming
Growing*