



Adviser for Spirituality and Formation (Full Time)

INTRODUCTION & CONTEXT

The role of the Diocesan Pastoral Team (DPT) is to assist in the implementation of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan in accordance with the mind of the Bishop, and to support Deaneries and Parishes in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Arundel and Brighton in the formation of effective lay leadership. The team currently has specialist advisers, experienced in parish work, covering the following areas: Spirituality & Formation; Inclusion; Liturgy; Marriage & Family Life; Mission & Unity; Social Action and Youth.

The Adviser for Spirituality and Formation will work as a member of the Diocesan Pastoral Team, and will be based in Crawley. The role will involve travel around the Diocese, and some evening and weekend work.

The Adviser for Spirituality and Formation will be supported by a Priest Adviser and a Commission, and will work closely with the Episcopal Vicar for Formation.

OVERVIEW OF ROLE

It is recognised that the impact on catechesis and formation in parishes will be more effective when locally directed.

To this end, it will be important for the mission of the whole Diocese for a network of highly trained catechists to be established. This will demand formation for small groups from each Deanery, who will then cascade their skills at local level. Such formation will need to be doctrinally robust and the revised role will entail the co-ordination of such a programme. While the CCRS Course may provide much of what is required, it will be appropriate for at least two people in each Deanery to attain to a higher level of qualification, likely to be outsourced.

The post will also oversee an increased provision for the CCRS Course across the Diocese, in which role the post-holder will liaise with the Education Service, and with the Co-ordinator for Prison Chaplaincy in the Diocese (since the CCRS is a requirement for the appointment of Prison Chaplains).

In addition the support of parent-led catechesis, and its increasing provision across the Diocese, will be required. In time, such oversight will be able to be handed on to the Deanery Catechetical Teams.

Prayer is vital for the Mission of the Church. This new post will facilitate the provision of effective formation in Prayer in different centres across the Diocese.

The post holder will be required to oversee the Formation of small teams in each Deanery, able to provide Weeks of Guided Prayer; to liaise with the Spirituality Network

to establish a network of trained Spiritual Directors across the Diocese; to provide opportunities for Days of Recollection and, using existing residential centres, Retreats.

IMPORTANT RELATIONSHIPS

The Bishop

The Episcopal Vicar for Formation

The Priest Adviser for Adult Formation

All members of the Pastoral Team and DABCEC support staff

The Diocesan Safeguarding Officer

Chief Operating Officer

KEY TASKS

- Co-ordinating formation for guided prayer in every deanery.
- Co-ordinating retreat and other spiritual formation opportunities across the Diocese.
- Co-ordinating the formation of Deanery Catechetical teams in accord with the direction of the Bishop.
- Co-ordinating the provision of CCRS across the Diocese.
- Supporting parishes and Deaneries in the development of structured programmes of catechesis according to best practice.
- Facilitating training and ongoing support across the Diocese for those involved in Catechesis.
- Promoting catechetical resources to accompany the liturgical seasons of the year.
- Working collaboratively with other members of the Diocesan Pastoral Team.
- Representing the Diocese at national and regional level where appropriate.
- Facilitating opportunities for reflection and prayer for those involved in Catechesis.

This post is developmental in its nature. Reviews will be necessary to enable modifications and amendments to be made in full consultation with the post holder.