

# LICENSED LAY MINISTRY



The Diocese of London encourages the involvement and leadership of lay people (anyone who is not ordained) in the ministry and mission of the Church. One of the ways it does that is through appointing Licensed Lay Ministers (formerly known as Readers).

Licensed Lay Ministers (LLM) are licensed, which means that they are given responsibility by the Bishop, and they are accountable to him or her. As public representatives of the Bishop, LLMs also represent the Church. As lay people, they are well-placed to offer ministry outside of the traditional confines of church. As Ministers, they serve the Church and its people.

# How to become a Licensed Lay Minister

## Core Criteria

Licensed Lay Ministers will fulfil three core criteria in their ministry. When selected they will show potential to:

1. Clearly know and express the good news of Jesus Christ
2. Teach and train others in the Christian faith
3. Be leaders in ministry and mission, in partnership with incumbents and other lay leaders in the parish

## Education and Training

Those called to the role of Licensed Lay Minister will normally undertake three years of academic and formational education and training. That will consist of two years of theological study followed by the St Edmund's LLM training course, which consists of a number of Saturdays over a year.

Students are required to complete several projects during the year focused on a particular area of interest and agreed with the course leader. These could be submitted in a variety of appropriate forms such as art, poetry, music, video, audio or traditional essay writing. Students will meet their personal tutor regularly for support during the course.

## Course Entry Requirements

- Passing the two year St Edmund's Course in Christian Studies or other approved education
- Recommendation by Parish Priest and PCC (or equivalent) through Diocesan discernment process for training for LLM ministry

## Next Step

Talk it over with your parish priest or chaplain who will be able to advise on next steps.

## Further Resources

- National website for LLMs (LLMs are also called Readers):  
[www.readers.cofe.anglican.org](http://www.readers.cofe.anglican.org)
- Diocese of London:  
[www.london.anglican.org/support/licensed-lay-ministry](http://www.london.anglican.org/support/licensed-lay-ministry)

## Additional Information and Enquiries

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