



Retreat Grant

Application Information

Who can apply for the Retreat Grant?

The Diocesan Discretionary Retreat Grant is intended to support those who are hold a license currently in post in a parish/chaplaincy/pioneer context/cathedral, whether Self Supporting or Stipendiary Clergy.

How much can I claim?

Up to £250 is being offered by the diocese on an annual basis. If attending a couple different smaller events, please save up and apply all at once. All grants are discretionary, but please do apply and we will always seek to support you in this way if we can.

What sort of retreats or Christian Conferences are covered?

Retreats occurring at an abbey, monastery, or retreat house will be supported. You can also apply for funds for spiritual direction or Christian Conferences such as New Wine or Greenbelt. Unfortunately, we cannot offer retreat money for a trip to a holiday home or personal property.

What is not covered?

Books are not funded by the Retreat allowance.

Travel expenses are not covered by the Retreat budget and should be claimed with normal parish expenses.

CMD Training is funded separately. There is a separate CMD Grant Form you can apply for in addition to the Retreat Grant that is being offered.

Sabbaticals and Study Leaves are funded separately. (Please see guidelines and application forms available from Marietta Forman or on the diocesan website).

How do I claim?

Please complete the application form available from Marietta Forman or the diocesan website and send it to marietta.forman@derby.anglican.org. Invoices and/or receipts must be included before funds will be transferred.

Can my application be retrospective?

No. Please apply in advance of the retreat or conference. Receipts or invoices are needed for the Finance Department to reimburse you for your money.

When do I apply?

Please apply within the calendar year in which the retreat or conference takes place. It is not possible to carry money over from year to year. Unfortunately, we cannot reimburse expenses from the previous year, nor can we process requests for the following calendar year. Therefore, please hold onto your application until January of the subsequent year.

Is there a deadline?

Applications should be placed with the Ordained Ministries Development Officer by **30th November** for that calendar year to allow the budget to be properly managed as year-end approaches (The Diocesan Board of Finance works to a calendar year).

Timeline once you apply

- We look at the forms and authorise shortly after you apply.
- We then apply to Finance for payment. This usually takes around 3 weeks to process.
- If for any reason your claim isn't successful, we will be in touch straight away.

Personal Details & GDPR?

You can find details as to how we use and retain your details on our Diocesan Website.

Questions?

Please feel free to contact Marietta Forman or the Revd Dwayne Engh. They will attempt to answer any questions you may have.

Complaints?

If there is a complaint about how the grants were approved and/or distributed, please contact Claire Lees, Director of People & Ministry Development for the Diocese of Derby.

Further Information & Rationale

Time and space for spiritual refreshment is vital for spiritual leadership. Daily prayer time is obviously essential - but it is also important for clergy to make space for longer periods for prayer, reflection, and spiritual refreshment - and to do this away from home and parish/workplace.

It is expected that clergy will make time for an annual retreat, for spiritual direction or for attending a Christian Conference. If the minister is parish based, the officers of the parish, especially the churchwardens, should ensure that their clergy have an annual opportunity to make a retreat of a week's duration in addition to holidays.

What is a Retreat?

A retreat is a **planned time of spiritual refreshment** giving you the opportunity to rest, unwind, and explore your spiritual life through reflection and prayer. It offers the **chance to reflect in an unhurried way** on your life, your relationships, and your experience of God; to ponder the meaning of what has happened to you, and to prepare for the future.

Retreats **involve a good deal of silence** because many people have discovered, through the centuries, that it is in the quiet that they can best find themselves and God.

An individually guided retreat will often have daily spiritual direction throughout the retreat. Other **guided retreats** will sometimes have a theme, with a leader giving short presentations and resources to provide guidance and structure to each day. It may also include (optional) daily conversation with others in a group, some kind of shared activity, or individual meetings with a retreat guide.

Alternatively, you can also choose to simply spend a few days on your own at a retreat venue of your choice.

Where would I go?

You go and stay somewhere quiet and apart from your usual daily life, typically in a retreat house or abbey or monastery. **Retreat houses** provide a peaceful atmosphere and good accommodation at a modest price. Check out the Retreat Association website for suggestions.