

Information for Retreat Grant Application

The retreat grant is offer to all clergy by the Diocese of Derby to support their wellbeing and spiritual renewal by financially supporting an annual retreat.

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.

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 or to engage with an online retreat or a series of quiet days through the year or to attend a Christian conference such as New Wine or Greenbelt or go on a pilgrimage or engage in more regular spiritual direction.

The choice is yours. Please feel free to decide what would best support your personal wellbeing and spiritual life at this time and do whatever will energise and give your life and provide the kind of environment that is most likely to help you encounter God in a deep and transformative way.

Who can apply for the Retreat Grant?

The Diocesan Retreat Grant is intended to support all ordained clergy currently active in any form of post, whether Self Supporting or Stipendiary.

How much can I claim?

Up to £250 is being offered per person on an annual basis. All grants are discretionary, but please do apply and we will always seek to support you in any way we can.

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.

How do I claim?

Please complete the application form available from the diocesan website and send it to ministrydevelopment@derby.anglican.org

Invoices and/or receipts must be included before funds will be transferred.

Can my application be retrospective?

Yes, but please note that the CMD Grant Budget is a limited pot, and these grants are subject to funds being available.

Is there a deadline?

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

It is not possible to carry money over from year to 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 the Rev'd Susie Curtis with any questions.

Complaints?

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

claire.lees@derby.anglican.org