

Options for Ministry



*Common
approaches (1)*

**Visiting
Clergy
model**

The church members run the administration and pastoral aspects of church life

Retired or non-stipendiary clergy are invited in to take Sunday worship on a roster.

*Common
approaches (2)*

**Part-time
Clergy
model**

The church employs
someone part-time
to do what they can
in that time.

Minster Models (a)

*The classic
Minster model*

A smaller church or churches are taken under the wing of a larger one.

The clergy and laity team of the “minster” church provide part-time ministry for the smaller centres.

Minster Models (b)

The Cell Church Minster model

Again, smaller Christian communities are understood to be connected to a larger central one.

“Cell churches” are formed: Groups meet in homes during the week or on Sundays.

Cell church members gather at the central church monthly, or else just for major festivals.

Lay ministry models (a)

The Cell Church Network model

Christians from a group of small communities decide to connect with each other

“Cell churches” are formed: Groups meet in homes during the week or on Sundays. These groups could take on many forms.

Cell church members gather together in one of the communities monthly, or else for major festivals. A priest may be invited in.

Lay ministry models (b)

*Local Shared
Ministry
(or “local
ministry
enabling teams”)*

Each community discerns who they believe God has gifted for particular leadership roles in their community

A ministry team is formed. *Together* they fulfil the role of “priest”. The team, rather than individuals, are licenced to that community alone.

Each member of the team is given regular support and continuing education.

A new team is called every 3 years

Lay ministry models (c)

Regional Shared ministry

Christians from a group of small communities decide to connect with each other

They prayerfully call a ministry team from across the centres. Each member is given continuing education from the Diocese.

The team (which *together* fulfils the “priest” role) ministers across the communities.

Lay Ministry Model (d)

Ecumenical Ministry

Christians from across denominations meet weekly or monthly for prayer, study and worship.

Visiting ministers and priests are invited 3-4 times a year.

Lay Ministry Model (e)

Combination model

Anglicans meet weekly or monthly for prayer, study and worship.

Sometimes they have morning prayer; sometimes there are visiting priests; sometimes services are ecumenical; sometimes LLMs use extended communion or hold Agape meals.

Chaplaincy Model (a)

Chaplaincy Hub model

One small centre is chosen as a hub where a part-time or non-stipendiary priest is based as Chaplain to the surrounding centres.

The Chaplain role is to be a presence in the communities, available to all for conversations, crises and celebrations. They may provide input for times of worship, prayer and study, but would not be a priest in charge of any church. Local Christians would be part of the chaplaincy ministry through prayer, service and linking people to the Chaplain.

Chaplaincy Model (b)

Rural chaplain

A whole rural area together funds a “circuit priest” or “rural chaplain”.

The chaplain’s main role is to visit widely, ensuring all know s/he is there for them. Each small community should be visited at least fortnightly. They may be offered a service every 3 months, not always on Sundays, and not always in a church.

Chaplaincy Model (c)

Confraternity model

Local Christians see themselves as chaplains to their community.

Ecumenical groups meet weekly or fortnightly to discuss community and pastoral needs; to pray for them; and to support each other in finding ways to address them.

Chaplaincy model (d)

*The Scattered
People of the
Good Shepherd*

Small communities and isolated individuals become part of the "Scattered People of the Good Shepherd."

A co-ordinating chaplain keeps in regular contact with all through visits, phone calls, emails, a facebook group, zoom calls.

Twice a year everyone gathers for a central celebration of worship and bible study and fellowship.

Shared Priests model (a)

Pioneer Priest

A group of centres combine resources to fund two stipended positions

One priest has responsibility for coordinating worship and lay ministry teams

The second pioneer priest focuses solely on outreach and new ways of being church and spreading the Gospel.

Shared Priests model (b)

Diocesan Teams

A very large area including numerous churches join forces to fund a ministry team

The team works with LLMs and retired priests to provide worship, pastoral care, and administration.

Within the team will be outreach and children's ministry specialists.

Online Worship model

Individuals log in to watch a church which streams its services online.

Zoom Church model (a)

Individual Zoom priest

The difficulty of distance is overcome by a priest or preacher joining a small congregation over Zoom.

If a formal service is wanted, LLMs can lead the congregation for Morning Prayer or Extended Communion. Alternatively, a less formal study-group format can be followed.

The sermon or study is given or led by the priest or preacher over Zoom, followed (if desired) by discussion.

Zoom Church model (b)

Group Zoom

Two or more small congregations invest in a large computer screen each.

Each congregation gathers in their own church, hall or a home, and joins the Zoom call.

A service leader from among them or from outside leads them through worship together. They may share the whole service or have times together and times where others are muted and they share among their own group.

Green Shoots

Any new gathering of 2 or more people for prayer, Bible study and outward-looking lives, not directly connected to a parish.

This could take countless forms. Study groups, children's services, Taize services, knitting circles, regular café or pub meetings...

The leader would be licensed to the Bishop, but the group allowed to develop its own shape.