

Supporting Lay Ministry

Liturgical Assistants and Lay Pastoral Ministers

- a) Suitable lay persons may be nominated by their priest to serve as a Liturgical Assistant (LA) or Lay Pastoral Ministers (LPM). LAs and LPMs must be baptised, communicant Anglicans and are required to complete Safe Ministry screenings and undertake ongoing training.
- b) Liturgical Assistants are authorised to serve as acolytes and communion assistants. LAs are trained by their priest and are nominated annually through their inclusion in the parish's annual returns.
- c) Lay Pastoral Ministers are licensed to lead non-sacramental services, assist with the administration of communion, undertake pastoral visitation, and minister to children and youth. LPMs may preach when suitably qualified, invited by the priest, and with the Archbishop's approval. LPMs are licensed for three years and must attend one annual [LPM Training](#) session. Applicants and those renewing their license must complete [Form 9](#).
- d) Lay persons appointed to chaplaincy roles in Anglican schools, agencies, or sector ministries must hold an LPM licence. Enquiries should be directed to the [Diocesan Chaplaincy Coordinator](#).

Vocations

- a) Parish clergy and chaplains should maintain vocational awareness and be attentive to those who may be showing signs of a call to ordained ministry. Where such a sense arises, they should initiate a pastoral conversation and, where appropriate, encourage involvement in the liturgy or other voluntary ministries. They should also encourage participation in opportunities for Christian learning and faith formation, including courses, retreats and other relevant events, and may invite individuals to attend diocesan ordinations to deepen their understanding of ordained ministry.

Where it is judged appropriate to proceed further, individuals should be directed to contact the [Vocations Advocate](#). Such encouragement should ordinarily be offered only when the person is a baptised and communicant Anglican, is established within the worshipping community, demonstrates spiritual maturity and love for Christ and the Church, shows potential capacity for theological study and formation, and has expressed an interest in exploring a possible vocation to ordained ministry.