



From Jill Perrett

Thank you Rev'd John and everyone at Canalside Benefice for this chance to write a few words by way of introduction.

My background is in social work, where I have worked with the elderly and adults with learning disabilities within residential settings.

I then recognised a call to some form of ministry and became Ordained serving my curacy in Salisbury Diocese in the Benefice of Mere with West Knoyle and Maiden Bradley. My first post as Vicar was in the Benefice of Atworth with Shaw and Whitley where we were blessed with recognising ministries of many kinds.

During my sabbatical I took the 30 days Spiritual exercises of Ignatius of Loyola which I found to be life transforming.

I then was appointed to a dual role post in the Diocese of Leeds, as Rector of Addingham and IME officer (training of Curates). Again, I saw ministries emerge and develop and it was a joy to witness this and to be part of people's life and faith journeys.

In 2016 I trained as a Spiritual Director / Accompanier and have offered Spiritual Direction since.

It is only recently that taking up a new role as Lay Ministries Developer in the Diocese of Bath and Wells has meant a move back to Wiltshire.

In this role I am involved in supporting, resourcing and offering training opportunities for those who are engaged in the valuable work of discerning vocations, particularly to Lay ministries. I have always been enthusiastic about people recognising their giftings and I was delighted to have been given this opportunity.

This means that I go to Deanery Synods, Chapters, Benefices and Churches to bring encouragement. It's such a privilege, a blessing and so exciting.

I have been given PtO in Bath and Wells so that I can exercise a priestly ministry in the Diocese and I look forward to ministering as a priest in Canalside and in Salisbury Diocese, also.

Married to Tony, with 4 sons, and 2 grandchildren my interests are reading, music, theatre and walking.

I would like to thank all the Churches in Canalside for their warm welcome and I look forward to worshipping and journeying with you as we seek God together.