

Bromley Anna Chaplain to Older People

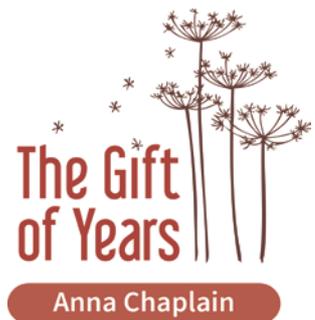
Introduction

The name Anna name was chosen for its echoes of Anna, the widow of St Luke's gospel who appears with Simeon – both of them role models of faithful older people who believed God's promises. The Anna title resonates with the fact that much of the work is with those who have suffered various losses, and bereavement.

Locally, the role continues to be about promoting the spiritual welfare of all older people primarily, those contacted through BPC's services and outreach into the community, and Care/Nursing homes. Anna Chaplaincy is for people of strong, little, or no faith at all. The ministry extends to people facing challenges in their own homes, and communities, as well as to those in residential care.

The Anna Chaplain is a friend, guide, and interpreter, helping people navigate the choppy waters of older age. Keeping up to date with the latest research and burgeoning literature on the subject of ageing means that such a chaplain can help train others in their listening skills and approach to pastoral visiting.

Recruiting an Anna Chaplain under the banner of Bromley Parish Church will establish this ministry in the centre of Bromley town, as well as linking with similar groups in the Rochester Diocese, and working in tandem nationally with the Bible Reading Fellowship's, 'The Gift of Years' (website www.thegiftofyears.org.uk). This is set within the context of a mutually supportive network of chaplains and others involved in similar ministries in other parts of the country.



Anna Chaplain to Older People job advertisement

St Peter and St Paul's Church, Bromley invites applications for the paid, part-time post (15 hours per week) of an Anna Chaplain to Older People.

The Anna Chaplaincy is an ecumenical post, promoting the spiritual welfare of older people. It is a pioneering role offering spiritual support to older people. Initially, it is envisaged that the Chaplain will focus on those older people (from all churches or none) who attend Bromley Parish Church for services, lunch club, Fellowship, Saturday drop-in Coffee mornings, and grandparents bringing children to 'Toddler Praise. As appropriate, the Chaplain will also work with people living in residential and nursing homes, and sheltered housing complexes and with their relatives and those who care for them. A regular monthly service has already been established by Bromley Parish Church in a local Care Home.

An Anna Chaplain potentially also has a wider role within the community as an advocate, and champion of the contribution older people make to society. The Chaplain is encouraged to link up with 'Bromley Churches Together', and to encourage all churches to celebrate and cherish the older members of their congregations.

The applicant would be part of a growing national network of such chaplains, developing links with our national partners the Bible Reading Fellowship, through The Gift of Years- 'resourcing the spiritual journey of older people.'

It is an occupational requirement for the person appointed to be a professing and practising Christian (Equality Act 2010.)

Ideally, applicants should either be ordained, or be a recognized/accredited lay minister in a church affiliated to the Council of Churches in England and Wales. Consideration would also be given to a suitably qualified person still in training for ordination, or training as a Rochester Diocesan LLM

Enhanced DBS and references will be required.

The post is for a fixed term of three years from the commencement of the employment. There is a six month probationary period. Subject to funding this post may continue beyond the initial three years.

Pay £11,000 per annum

For further details please contact

Rev Anne Jablonski

The Parish Office

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Phone 020 8460 6275

Closing date for applications is Tuesday 26th September 2017

Interviews to be held on Tuesday 3rd October 2017

Bromley Parish Church

Job Description

Job Title: Anna Chaplain

Main Purpose of the Post

To offer spiritual support to older people (from all churches or none) who attend Bromley Parish Church for services, lunch club, Fellowship, Saturday drop-in Coffee mornings, people who receive Home Communion, and grandparents bringing children to 'Toddler Praise' and those who have a link, however tenuous with Bromley Parish Church.

As appropriate, the Chaplain will also work with people living in residential and nursing homes, and sheltered housing complexes, and with their relatives and those who care for them. A regular monthly service has already been established by Bromley Parish Church in a local Care Home.

Time permitting, the Anna Chaplain will also have a wider role within the community as an advocate, and champion of the contribution older people make to society. The Chaplain would also promote the spiritual welfare of older people in the wider community, particularly those facing challenges of living independently. The Chaplain is encouraged to link up with Bromley Churches Together, and to encourage all churches to celebrate and cherish the older members of their congregations.

Main Duties and Responsibilities

To older people

1. To help older people: reflect on their spiritual journey, including coming to terms with painful memories, multiple losses, and dealing with outstanding issues and life's unfinished business.
2. To offer spiritual support so that older people can better live peacefully in their later years, and prepare to face their own death.
3. As appropriate, to facilitate spiritual development and to encourage suitable prayer and Bible reading.
4. To act as an advocate for the needs of older people in the church and the wider community.

To relatives and friends of older people

1. To help and support relatives to understand better the spiritual issues that older people face in the latter stages of their lives.
2. To help and support relatives with their task of caring for older people in their family.

To the churches

1. To help inform the churches' work with older people.
2. To help churches identify, use, facilitate and recognize the contribution that older people can make to church life.
3. To encourage churches to recognize the changing needs of older people and to support the work undertaken with them.
4. To encourage and enable younger generations to consider what constitutes 'ageing well' and so prepare for more positive experiences in older age.

To Care Home and Nursing Home staff working with older people

1. To help staff to understand better the spiritual issues older people face in the latter stages of their lives.
2. To offer spiritual support to staff dealing with the demanding, but often rewarding, circumstances that they may encounter when dealing with older people in their care.

3. To help staff and managers of care homes in the formulation and implementation of the values underlying the care they offer.

Other Duties

1. To collaborate with others within the ministry team of Bromley Parish Church, and to attend ministry team meetings as required. To liaise with other Anna Chaplains locally and further afield through 'The Gift of Years' national network of such chaplains, and others engaged in similar ways of ministering among older people.
2. To keep up to date with research into issues relevant to the spirituality of ageing. To attend appropriate training courses in order to continue ministerial development and aid personal spiritual growth.
3. To keep records of work undertaken and to write annual reports. To log data which contributes to evaluation of the impact of such ministry, and use 'The Gift of Years' Reflective Evaluation Tool to aid theological reflection.
4. To take part in, and contribute to, the worship of Bromley Parish Church and Churches Together in Bromley.
5. Regularly, to attend Supervision of work being done.

Job Location: The successful applicant will work from home. She/he will have to travel to visit people in their own homes and attend meetings, conferences and training.

Person Specification

Essential

1. Be an ordained minister or a recognized/accredited lay minister, local preacher or lay church worker, in a church affiliated to the Council of Churches in England and Wales, or someone with qualifying life experience who is training for ordination or LLM in the Rochester Diocese.
2. Be a good listener able to engage with people's stories.
3. Have a commitment to, and an understanding of, the needs of older people in the later stages of their lives and participate in end-of-life ministry.
4. Be able to work creatively, cultivating a range of liturgical styles suitable for people of differing cognitive abilities.
5. Be able to act as a liaison between older people, their relatives, Bromley Parish Church, the management of care homes, and their staff.
6. To be comfortable with being a visible and approachable presence at voluntary groups for older people in the area.
7. Be able to develop and supervise volunteers working with older people.

Desirable

1. Have an understanding of the nature and provision of residential care in the area.
2. Be able to conduct funeral ministry
3. Appreciate the role of an advocate, and be willing to engage with the local media.
4. Be ICT literate in order to communicate by email, do research on the internet and use Word and PowerPoint.
5. Hold a full driving license and be a car owner (expenses provided).

Summary of terms and Conditions

The post is for a fixed term of three years from the commencement of the employment. There is a six month probationary period. Subject to funding this post may continue beyond the initial three years.

Pay £11,000 per annum

Pension There is an employer contributed pension scheme

Hours of work: 15 hours per week

Holidays Statutory holidays

How to apply

Please send a letter, your cv and the names and contact details of two referees to

Revd Anne Jablonski
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Bromley
BR2 0XH