



ST. PETER
ST. PAUL
BROMLEY



Anna Chaplain

Parish Introduction and Job Description



Welcome from the Vicar

Bromley Parish Church is the historic parish church in the centre of Bromley, within the Diocese of Rochester. For over 800 years, it has stood at the heart of the town's civic and spiritual life, serving both the local community and the wider borough. Today, we are a friendly and welcoming Anglican church, drawing people from across Bromley and beyond. During the week, our chapel and churchyard provide a haven of peace amid the bustle of the town; on Sundays, our worship brings together a diverse congregation, reflecting the changing life of the community around us.

This part-time paid post of Anna Chaplain was established in 2017 and The PCC of Bromley Parish Church is eager to maintain this ministry of Anna Chaplaincy at the heart of our Church and local community. Anna Chaplains are part of a UK-wide ecumenical network ministering amongst older people across the UK with the support of BRF Ministries (formerly the Bible Reading Fellowship). The network now includes 487 Anna Chaplains who nurture, support and develop the spiritual life of older people. Most are volunteers.

The name Anna was chosen for its echoes of Anna, the widow of St Luke's gospel who appears with Simeon – faithful older people who still had a vital contribution to make in their community. This ministry focuses on the spiritual welfare of older people of any faith or none and is offered to people where they are whether at church and community events, at home or in care homes.

If you would like to have an informal conversation about this post, or to learn more about the life and worship of Bromley Parish Church, please contact the Church Office at administrator@bromleyparishchurch.org

Rev. James Harratt and the Ministry Team



Anna Chaplaincy at Bromley Parish Church: Overview

Anna Chaplaincy is a ministry of person-centred spiritual care for older people (of any faith or none).

At St Peter and St Paul's Parish Church, Bromley, the Chaplain's work focuses firstly on those older people who attend the Church for services and events, including our Lychgate Lunch Club and ecumenical Fellowship gatherings, as well as those who live in or have a connection with the Parish. 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.

Anna Chaplaincy is a collaborative ministry. The Chaplain will work closely with others supporting people in the later stages of life including the Pastoral Team, our Anna Friend and our lunch club team. The Chaplain will be a member of the Bromley Anna Chaplaincy Hub and will be encouraged to work closely with colleagues in other churches. They will belong to a national network led by the BRF Ministries. Anna Chaplains also have a wider role within the community as advocates, and champions of the contribution older people make to society often working closely with secular organisations such as Age UK.



Anna Chaplaincy role description

Main Purposes of the Post

- To offer spiritual support to older people who attend Bromley Parish Church for services, lunch club, Fellowship and other informal gatherings and those who have a link, however tenuous with our Parish.
- As appropriate to work with people living in residential and nursing homes, and sheltered housing complexes, and with their relatives and those who care for them.
- To promote the spiritual welfare of older people in the wider community, particularly those facing challenges of living independently.
- When required, to be an advocate and champion of the contribution older people make to society.
- To work with colleagues in local churches and encourage churches to celebrate and cherish older members.

Main duties and responsibilities

To older people

1. To help older people reflect on their spiritual journey, including coming to terms with painful memories, losses, and dealing with outstanding issues or new challenges.
2. As appropriate, to facilitate spiritual development and to encourage suitable prayer and Bible reading.
3. To advocate for older people in the church and wider community.
4. To assist with the organisation, planning and running of the Fellowship Group – a key opportunity for outreach to older people.
5. To assist with the development of services or events designed around the needs of older people or those living with dementia.

To relatives and friends of older people

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

To the church(es)

1. To help inform the church's work with older people.
2. To help Bromley Parish Church and, where appropriate, other churches to facilitate and recognize the contribution that older people can make to church life.
3. To encourage the church and local churches more widely 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 carers and others working with older people

1. To help them understand better the spiritual issues older people face in the latter stages of their lives.
2. To offer spiritual support to those dealing with the demanding but often rewarding task of caring for residents.

Other Duties

1. To collaborate with others within the ministry team of Bromley Parish Church, and to attend meetings as required.
2. To liaise with other Anna Chaplains locally (including attending 'hub' meetings) and further afield through the BRF's national network of such chaplains, and others engaged in similar ways of ministering among older people.
3. To keep up to date with research into issues relevant to the spirituality of ageing and attend appropriate training courses.
4. To keep records of work undertaken and to write reports as required.
5. To contribute to the worship of Bromley Parish Church.
6. To attend Supervision of work being done.

Person specification

Essential: The applicant should

1. Be a person who is a faithful and committed member of a church affiliated to the Council of Churches in England and Wales and who has:
 - a. a recognised/accredited ministry or track record of relevant work in that context;
 - b. or
 - c. relevant experience from a secular context.
2. Be a good listener able to engage with people's stories.
3. Have a commitment to, and an understanding of, the needs of people in life's later stages.
4. Be able to work creatively in developing services or events suitable for people of differing cognitive abilities.
5. Be able to liaise between older people, their relatives, Bromley Parish Church, the management of care homes, and their staff.
6. Be comfortable with being a visible and approachable presence at voluntary groups for older people in the area.
7. Be able to develop/supervise volunteers working with older people.

It is an occupational requirement for the person appointed to be a professing and practising Christian (Equality Act 2010.) Successful candidates will be required to have a DBS check before commencing employment, to have undertaken appropriate safeguarding training, and, if an ordained or Licensed Lay Minister, to have Permission to Officiate or the equivalent for their denomination.

Desirable: the applicant should

1. Be aware of the nature and provision of residential care in the area.
2. Appreciate the role of an advocate.
3. Be sufficiently ICT literate to communicate by email, do research on the internet and use Word and PowerPoint.
4. Hold a full driving licence and be a car owner (expenses provided).

Terms and Conditions

The post is for 10 hours per week 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:

Pension There is an employer contributed pension scheme

Hours of work: 10 hours per week

Holidays: Statutory holidays (NB I had six weeks but pay was adjusted)

How to apply

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

Rev'd James Harratt

Bromley Parish Church, Church Road,
Bromley BR2 0EG

How to Apply

Applications should include:

- A covering letter outlining your interest and suitability for the role
- A CV detailing relevant musical and church experience

Please send applications to: administrator@bromleyparishchurch.org

Informal conversations are warmly welcomed with:

The Revd James Harratt, Vicar – vicar@bromleyparishchurch.org

Closing date: 31st October 2026

Interviews to be arranged for November 2026



The Parish Church of Ss. Peter & Paul, Church
Road, Bromley, BR2 0EG

www.bromleyparishchurch.org

0208 464 5244