

I am the newest member of the team, here at Saint Luke's. My special interest is the mission of the church: mission in the context of the community Saint Luke's services.

Alongside my role as Mission Partner, I am also training for the priesthood and God willing, and subject to the usual end-of-training reviews, I hope to be ordained as a deacon in July 2008. As a licensed lay minister, I also contribute to the prayer, worship and pastoral life of the church.

Prior to joining Saint Luke's I spent seven years at Saint Martin's in the Bull Ring in various capacities including, head of a subsidiary charity, a director on the board of the centre for Health and Healing, a trustee of Saint Martin's Arts and a lay minister.

My current mission-focussed ministry is Saint Luke's response to 'being church' in what some people call the post modern age and other describe as post Christendom. Whatever might be your particular view on the challenges of living in the 21st century, there is a general consensus that the wider Christian church has not kept pace with our fast-moving and ever-changing society. The result is that society has become more fragmented and secular and the church has become more 'estranged' from the very people it should be serving.

Hence in 2004 the Church of England published a report called mission-shaped church (please visit <http://www.cofe.anglican.org/news/pr6705.html> for further information) and in so doing set out its vision for all churches to review their mission and ministry plans.

Saint Luke's review process will be a missionary journey for everyone in our church family and it will begin with discerning the *mission dei* (God's mission) in the belief that God is already present in Kingstanding and that our vocation is 'your kingdom come, your will be done'.

Gracious Father your servant Luke taught us the joy of your healing love for all people. May the compassion of Christ so shine through our lives that your kingdom may grow here in Kingstanding.