



Castor Bending

Hello! I am looking forward to beginning my training for ordination this autumn – it has been a long journey: I initially felt called to ordained ministry at the age of 17, and I am now 40! So, it is exciting to be moving on to this next stage and seeing what God has in store.

I grew up in Tadley and attended St Luke's as a child and St Paul's as a teenager. I was a member of Tadley Youth Drama and Christchurch Players Pantomime, and was also involved in other ecumenical projects through my teens. I studied Theology at The University of St Andrews, Scotland, but in my final year I had some serious health struggles. This led me to put my ordination plans aside after graduation, and I 'fell into' a career in IT and web development while I worked on stabilising my chronic health problems.

I moved to Basingstoke and was a part of the Community Church for a while before moving to All Saints' Church where I have been for the last ten years. While at All Saints', I have been preaching, part of the welcome, pastoral and prayer teams, leading a small group and on the PCC and Deanery Synod.

I still live in Basingstoke with my two cats, Ruben and Luna. In my free time, I love playing Dungeons and Dragons or board games with friends, video gaming and visiting National Trust places. I dabble with arts and crafts now and then, and enjoy journalling.

I will be training with Sarum College, Salisbury, and working in placement across Tadley Benefice for two days a week. It's great to be 'back' in Tadley, and I am very much looking forward to getting to know you all!