Within each of us lies a desire to find meaning beyond the moment... to discover our true selves... to grow closer to God... and to one another.

Spiritual accompaniment can help you satisfy that longing.

Listening
Silence
Contemplation
Deepening
Finding Meaning
Freedom
Connection

EXPLORE SPIRITUAL ACCOMPANIMENT

Diocese of Canterbury
CHANGED LIVES • CHANGING LIVES
Explore

Spiritual accompaniment encourages you to explore a close relationship with God. In the midst of a busy life, many people find it difficult to notice God’s actions in their daily affairs. Yet at the deepest level, all of us long for a more conscious experience of God’s presence and love.

Discern God’s presence

In spiritual accompaniment, you reflect deeply on the experience of your daily life. Gradually as you contemplate, you may begin to recognise God’s presence and grace in your life. You may come to realise how God’s spirit is truly with you every day and everywhere. You discover that God has been waiting for you to seek this closer relationship.

Spiritual accompaniment really is not about being ‘directed’. Rather, it is very much about being encouraged to draw closer to God. Spiritual accompaniment invites you to this relationship.

Meet with the Spiritual Accompanier

The privilege and the responsibility a Spiritual Accompanier is to journey with you as you deepen your relationship with God. The journey takes place in the context of confidentiality. Most Spiritual Accompaniers have extensive training and formation and are seasoned in the art of spiritual direction. Spiritual Accompaniers continue tending their spiritual life by engaging in ongoing education, confidential supervision, and also meeting regularly with a Spiritual Accompanier.

You and your Spiritual Accompanier will agree on the location, time and frequency of meetings that is convenient for both of you.

Gifts of Spiritual Accompaniment

You may come to spiritual accompaniment for a variety of reasons:

- Identify and trust your own experience of God.
- Integrate spirituality into your daily life.
- Discern and make choices.
- Share your hopes, struggles and losses.
- Discern your response to God’s call to serve the world.

Some spiritual accompaniers will accept a donation, but no one seeking accompaniment will be excluded because of cost.

After three or four sessions you will have the opportunity to evaluate the relationship. Whether your relationship with the Spiritual Accompanier continues for many years or for only a short period of time, it is very important to be comfortable with the Spiritual Accompanier you choose. What is shared between you is held in confidence.

Seek and find a Spiritual Accompanier

Canterbury Diocese has a network of experienced Spiritual Accompaniers.

If you are interested in exploring with a Spiritual Accompanier please contact:

**Ashford Archdeaconry**
Mrs Anna-Stina Ponsford
annastinaponsford@gmail.com
07932165546

**Canterbury Archdeaconry**
The Revd Lesley Hardy
lesleyhardy2@mac.com
01622 833263

**Maidstone Archdeaconry**
The Revd Robin Williamson
rhw.williamson@gmail.com
01622 682959

**Website:**