

#HereIAmLord

Liz Houghton was ordained on Saturday 27th June 2020 as Associate Curate to Newport North Ministry Area. This is a reflection on her Ordination and the first few weeks of curacy. Could God be calling you?



The lead up to ordination, was challenging time and it wasn't until our rehearsal that I allowed myself to realise ordination was going to happen, and what 4 people plus a videographer in a Cathedral would actually feel like.

The 'big' day arrived. I remember feeling nervous but held up by all the well wishes and prayers. As I readied myself to go into the cathedral, I read a last message, it was from a special friend, who I'd met as we explored vocation and whom would have been ordained with me under normal circumstances. It simply said, 'with you all the way'. Sounds odd, but it was if God had just whispered those words in my ear at that very moment.

The service was deeply personal, just 'us' and God..... and a live link on YouTube watched by many who'd never have made it to the cathedral under any circumstance. An unexpected blessing! Knowing that I was Bishop Cherry's first ever ordination was humbling and quite special.

I was excited for next day as I was going to meet some of my new Church family on Zoom. I have been made to feel extremely welcome; I really look forward to the time when we can all meet face to face, and perhaps fit in a little hug here and there!

2.5 weeks in, but so far, despite the challenging time, I've led morning prayer twice, a funeral, and one again next week, shared a story in Junior church, joined in with the MA Bible study, played escape rooms and done a quiz with the Youth Group, and answered some fab questions from Junior Church! I'm super excited for where God is going to lead in the future and remain open to respond to His call.