

Paul Thompson BMus PGDipTheol MPhil

Background

Paul is a Research Fellow at the St Mary's Centre. He is married with three adult sons and has worked as a clergyman in the Church in Wales diocese of Llandaff since his ordination in 1980. At present, he is Vicar of St Denys Lisvane in Cardiff. While holding other parish appointments, he has also been Youth Chaplain in Rhondda deanery for seven years and Llandaff diocese for ten years. He studied for his initial degree in Music (BMus) at Cardiff University and went on to Theological College at The College of the Resurrection, Mirfield, reading for a Postgraduate Diploma in Theology (PGDipTheol) at Leeds University.

Research

As a result of his work as Youth Chaplain, Paul became interested in the spirituality of young people, particularly in the light of the rise in popularity of 'New Age' and esoteric spiritualities. He began a research project on 'The religious beliefs of young people' which was partly completed in an MPhil dissertation in 2004 at the University of Wales, Bangor. Paul's research now continues at Doctoral level at the University of Warwick with Professor Leslie J Francis and Dr Mandy Robbins.