



A PROFILE OF:

# DEACON PAUL GREEN

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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## A CALLING TO SERVE AS A DEACON

I was quite happy with my life as a mental health nurse in Sheffield, having completed my MSc and was looking forward to developing my career further.

It was at that point that my mother was diagnosed with terminal cancer while my wife's parents were both showing symptoms of dementia. The next few years were taken up with caring responsibilities and my own aspirations took a back seat.

When my mother was dying, I was struck by the comfort she received from the hospital chaplain's visits. A voice inside me seemed to say 'You could do something like that.'

Shortly afterwards, I happened to be at an ordination Mass in Westminster Cathedral and the idea of becoming a deacon just popped into my head. It was one that wouldn't go away so eventually I applied for the formation programme.

Fast forward four years and I was ordained on the anniversary of my mother's death, 31 July 2021. After completing a chaplaincy course, I left nursing and now combine a part time role as a hospital chaplain with parish ministry. It's a very different life from the future I once planned but one that is more joyful and fulfilling than I ever imagined.

