



# The Diploma Course

*Distance Learning for Vergers*



The Guild's Distance Learning Course is a four-year home-study system open to Full Members of the Guild, supported by local tutors/mentors chosen by individual students. It is evaluated by a Board of Assessors, consisting of both internal and external staff. The administration of the course is provided by the Training Registrar with the whole scheme monitored by the Training Committee, with the Training Officer as Chairman. The sections of the course, each designed to take a year to complete, are set out below, and you should find an application form with this leaflet. If the form is missing, or if you wish to speak to somebody before enrolling, both The Training Officer and Registrar are happy to discuss the course with members before they sign-up; the contact details are on the reverse of this leaflet.

### THE COURSE IS DIVIDED INTO TWO MAIN SECTIONS:

- ◆ The **FOUNDATION UNIT**, on successful completion of which Students are awarded a Foundation Certificate. They can then choose to move on to the second part:
- ◆ The **PASTOR, HISTORIAN, AND ADMINISTRATOR UNITS**, on successful completion of which the Diploma of the Guild is awarded.  
Graduates are then entitled to wear the Guild academic hood, which is usually presented at the Guild Congregation during the Annual Training Conference, and to use the post-nominal letters Dip. GV.

### 1 FOUNDATION UNIT

The **FOUNDATION UNIT** consists of sixteen assignments, covering preparation for worship, care of the building, records and archives, care of the churchyard, and care of the people of God.

On successful completion of the Unit, the Guild's Foundation Certificate is awarded. Some students cease study at this point but many choose to continue to the Diploma stage.

WHY NOT JOIN TODAY ?

### 2a PASTOR UNIT

The **PASTOR UNIT** consists of ten assignments, covering the pastoral situations in which vergers may find themselves, biblical material to read and reflect on, and an exploration of their own spirituality.

### 2b HISTORIAN UNIT

The **HISTORIAN UNIT** consists of eighteen assignments covering the history of church building and architecture, the history of worship, the lineage of the Eucharistic liturgy, and the purpose of a congregation.

It is anticipated that this unit will be the most heavily illustrated volume that the student will produce.

### 2c ADMINISTRATOR UNIT

The **ADMINISTRATOR UNIT** consists of sixteen assignments covering communications, forms and registers, the structure of the Church of England and where it fits into the worldwide Church, and the role and importance of people in the life of the Church.