

Our New Curate, Joseph Fernandez

Joseph will start his ministry among us in July 2015. Please pray for Joseph, Elisabeth and the children as they prepare to come and join us and Joseph completes his final year of training. Here is Joseph's introduction to himself and his lovely family.



Colin has asked me to provide a short biography by way of introduction. I am originally from Lisbon, Portugal, I am 44 years old, married to Elisabeth for 20 years, and have two children, Rebecca (15) and Gabriel (2). My family are my encouragement and support.

Nearly 20 years ago after completing my degree we moved to the UK in order to further my studies, but instead I ended up doing several jobs over the years. I worked as an assistant manager in a jewellery, estate agent, butler, chauffeur, personal assistant and estate manager.

I started my vocational discernment when I was 13 and eventually joined the Carmelites as a Postulant, followed by the Dominicans as a novice. When this did not work out, I thought that it would be the end of ordained ministry, but God was not quite done with me.

A few years ago we started going to St Aldates church in Oxford, and it was there that I felt God calling me (again). I started the vocational discernment process and was eventually recommended for training at Ripon College Cuddesdon.

I am delighted with the opportunity to serve my curacy at St Andrew's Wraysbury and St Michael's Horton, and to be part of your walk of faith in Jesus Christ. Elisabeth, the children and I are looking forward to being part of God's mission in your communities. There is so much to say and I hope we will get to know one another and share testimonies. It is my prayer that together we will be able to bring Christ to the community and the community to Christ.

As I embark on my final stage of training, and I continue to grow in faith and the knowledge of God, we pray that the Lord may continue to equip us for the ministry that await us.