

Installation of new Rector for the Bride Valley and Chesil Benefice

Reverend Andrew Rawding

St Mary's Church, Burton Bradstock, Sunday 14 July 2024

Reverend Andrew Rawding followed a call to holy orders after ten years of military service as a British Army Officer in the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers. He studied theology and ministry at Cranmer Hall, University of Durham, and was ordained deacon in St Paul's Cathedral in the Diocese of London in 2002. He was then ordained priest in 2003 in St Andrew's Church, Enfield, where he served his curacy. After his curacy Andrew spent several years in peace and reconciliation work in Northern Ireland, before joining the Royal Navy as a chaplain in 2007. He served in frigates, then completed commando training at Lympstone and became Padre to 40 Commando Royal Marines in Taunton. As Padre he spent six months with the Royal Marines in Afghanistan in 2010, after which he resigned to spend more time with his family. From 2011 to 2021 Andrew was Rector of Brackville, Donaghendry, and Ballyclog in the Diocese of Armagh, Church of Ireland. Andrew has spent the last three years studying social work full-time at Queen's University, Belfast. Since January he has been working in 'Care for the Elderly' wards in the Mater Hospital, Belfast. Andrew graduated on 3rd July with a first-class honours degree in social work. Andrew is married to Loveday, a soulmate from growing up in north London, and is father to seven amazing children, and five stepchildren.



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Rev'd Canon David Baldwin (Rural Dean)
Rev'd Penny Sayer (Archdeacon of Sherborne)
Rev'd Andrew Rawding (Rector)

Rev'd Margaret Preuss- Higham (Associate Priest)
The Rt Rev'd Stephen Lake (Bishop of Salisbury)
Rev'd Liz Howlett (Associate Priest)