

The Rt Revd Richard Inwood  
Acting Bishop of Southwell and Nottingham

### AD CLERUM - HEALING & DELIVERANCE MINISTRY

- 1) Ministry to the sick and troubled is an essential part of the Church's ministry, and a particular privilege of those who are ordained, but to be shared, with due sensitivity, with lay people who have received some appropriate training and preparation. This ministry is one of prayer and sacrament, word and care. Clergy in particular will recognise that the Ministry of Healing is exercised regularly as part of their pastoral ministry.
- 2) Deliverance Ministry is a part of the Ministry of Healing and should not be separated from the wider context of the Church's Ministry to those who are ill.
- 3) The Ministry of Deliverance should only be carried out by persons authorised by the Bishop, who have been trained nationally and are insured for this specific ministry.
- 4) The report, A Time to Heal (A Contribution towards the Ministry of Healing) Church House Publishing 2000, contains a useful section on Deliverance from Evil (pages 167 – 181). The introduction states –  
“One aspect of healing is deliverance from evil. Evil is manifested in society in such things as racism, violence, poverty and in various forms of discrimination. It is also experienced by individuals who feel personally afflicted by evil and who turn to the church for ministry ... The Ministry of Deliverance is helped by a multidisciplinary approach in which pastoral and sacramental care and the insights of theology, psychology and psychiatry lead to holistic and good practice.”
- 5) Ministries of Deliverance are part of the wider healing and pastoral ministry. In the course of the Healing Ministry situations sometimes occur in which Deliverance Ministry may be appropriate. In order to discern this, the help of an adviser must be sought. In particular, whilst initial consultation, groundwork, prayer and support may be carried out by the local ministers, no exorcism should be attempted without such consultation and only ever with Episcopal authorization.
- 6) The name of an adviser may be obtained by the minister from the Bishop of Sherwood's office. The approach to the bishop's adviser should then be made by the local minister who is in pastoral contact, **not** by the person seeking help.

