

**Rev'd Helen Rodwell**

I was born in Birkenhead on Merseyside and moved to the Forest to teach Domestic Science in Cinderford in the 1960's after Teacher Training in Gloucester.

On retirement I trained at the West of England Ministry Training course in Cheltenham for ordained ministry and was ordained a deacon in 2009 and a priest in 2010, serving as a non-stipendiary priest in the benefice of Christchurch Forest of Dean with English Bicknor. I am now retired but with the Bishop's permission to officiate at services.



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My son and family live in America and, when possible, I enjoy visiting and spending time with my two grandchildren, aged 5 and 9.

I have enjoyed living in the Forest of Dean since 1967 when I started teaching at Double View School in Cinderford before taking up a post in West Glos College of FE/Royal Forest of Dean College. In time I became Head of Hospitality and Catering and enjoyed taking students on many work experience visits to France, Italy and Spain.

My hobbies include gardening, cryptic crosswords and reading.

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My life is deeply rooted in my Christian faith. Through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we are offered such support for the present and such hope for the future. When faced with many challenges in my life, Jesus has been a constant and unfailing companion on my journey and someone on whom I can totally depend.

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I enjoy all aspects of worship – leading, preaching, reading and sometimes simply being a member of our congregations.

Over the years I have come to enjoy a range of styles of worship – from the beauty and poetry of traditional Book of Common Prayer, to the more relaxed contemporary worship and enjoy opportunities for both within this benefice.

I have felt greatly privileged and fulfilled by opportunities for pastoral ministry when meeting with people at significant moments in their lives – especially bereavement and funeral ministry and wedding preparation.