

**Jesus came to bring  
life in all its fullness...**

**life that includes  
physical, mental, social  
and spiritual wellbeing.**

That means we need to encourage our congregations to make the connections between faith and health, between healing and wholeness, between spiritual life and physical activities.

Not just for themselves but for the people who live and work around them.

**Do you have any registered nurses with community experience in your church?**

They will have their professional background in health care, and, if they also have faith, can help the church to make these connections in their communities.

How about appointing a "Parish Nurse" to your ministry team? ("Parish" can also mean community or neighbourhood)

Training and support are available through



**Parish Nursing  
Ministries UK**

[www.parishnursing.org.uk](http://www.parishnursing.org.uk)

## What can a Parish Nurse do?

**Visit congregational contacts** who have health-related problems, and pray with them as appropriate

**Assist** the church to offer relevant help at a person's point of need.

**Give personal health advice** and help someone to get the most appropriate treatment or care

**Liaise** with the local GP surgery staff

**Encourage** the congregation towards more healthy lifestyles

**Motivate volunteers and offer training** and opportunities for service in the community

**Support and work** with those already engaged in pastoral care

**Talk to church-based groups** about physical and spiritual health issues

**Accompany** someone to a stressful medical appointment

**Make links** with other voluntary groups and agencies

**Attend** and assist with services for healing

**Help you** and your leadership team to care for your own health

Work within the

**Code of Professional Practice**  
(Nursing and Midwifery Council)

## What will a Parish Nurse not do?

A Parish Nurse will not do dressings, injections, and invasive treatments. If these are needed they are provided by the Practice nurse, or District Nursing service.

S/he will not give advice beyond the competencies for which s/he has been trained

S/he will not put pressure on anyone to change their religion or join a particular church

**A Parish Nurse may work for any church part-time or full-time, on a paid or voluntary-with-expenses basis.**

**If you have other healthcare professionals in your church, s/he can involve them too.**

Quote from a minister:

"Parish nursing is the 21st century opportunity for mission that connects the church with community needs, in the way that Jesus did"