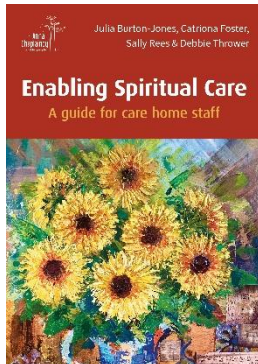


24 July 2026



## Enabling Spiritual Care

### A guide for care home staff

**Julia Burton-Jones, Catriona Foster, Sally Rees,  
Debbie Thrower**

Pb, ISBN 978 1 551 0 £9.99

Drawing on expertise developed through [Anna Chaplaincy](#), this book enables members of care home staff teams – including managers, senior staff, carers, and activity/well-being coordinators – to understand and facilitate the provision of excellent spiritual care for residents. This is a crucial aspect of holistic, person-centred care but many staff lack confidence in their ability to offer it. This practical, accessible resource seeks to demystify spiritual care and show that while not everyone has religious needs, we all have spiritual needs, which good care will seek to identify and meet. Importantly, the book explains the difference between religious and spiritual care, summed in this definition from NHS Scotland:

‘Religious care is given in the context of the shared religious beliefs, values, liturgies, and lifestyle of a faith community. Spiritual care is usually given in a one-to-one relationship, is completely person-centred, and makes no assumptions about personal conviction or life orientation. Spiritual care is not necessarily religious. Religious care, at its best, should always be spiritual.’ – *‘Spiritual care and chaplaincy’*, *The Scottish Government*, 2009

### A Christian focus

*Enabling Spiritual Care* goes on to explain the need for religious care, focusing on older people who are Christians, and provides examples of prayers, hymns, and services that can be used. There are chapters on facilitating worship with groups and individuals, offering end-of-life spiritual care and supporting those who are unable to attend a funeral. It can be dipped into as needed and it also offers advice and strategies for self-care for carers. While it focuses on spiritual care from a Christian perspective, all faiths and belief systems are respected.

### About the authors

**Julia Burton-Jones** is the training and development lead for Anna Chaplaincy.

**Catriona Foster** was a founding member of the Anna Chaplaincy national network.

**Sally Rees** pioneered Anna Chaplaincy in Wales and is now a freelance trainer for Anna Chaplaincy.

**Debbie Thrower** pioneered Anna Chaplaincy in Alton, Hampshire and, after joining the staff team at BRF Ministries in 2014, went on to develop the national network. She retired in 2024 but continues to work for Anna Chaplaincy on a voluntary basis as a vice president for BRF Ministries.

More information [here](#).

### For a review copy or author information, please contact:

Eley McAinsh, Press and Media Officer [eley.mcainsh@brf.org.uk](mailto:eley.mcainsh@brf.org.uk) or +44 (0)1865 319700 | [enquiries@brf.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@brf.org.uk)