



The Burning Bush—Online article archive

Church of England Bishop defends transsexual curate



The Bishop of Hereford, Anthony Priddis, has defended the decision to ordain a transsexual woman as a priest.

Assistant curate "Sarah" Jones, 43, from Ross-on-Wye in Herefordshire, was born as Colin Jones and spent the first 33 years of her life living as a man.

Bishop Anthony Priddis said Ms Jones - who is due to be ordained on Saturday - was "made and loved by God".

Assistant curate "Sarah" Jones and the Bishop of Hereford, Anthony Priddis

Ms Jones was a "superb candidate" who had the gender realignment surgery "many years ago - long before she explored the possibility of being ordained", Mr Priddis said. But Don Horrocks, of the Evangelical Alliance, said the Bible made it "absolutely clear that God created human beings as male and female".

"Therefore there is absolutely no Christian acknowledgement of the 21st century human idea that it's possible somehow for a person to take charge of their own destiny and to decide what their own sexuality is," he added.

The Bible condemns as perversion, a man wishing to be a woman. What a quagmire of uncleanness the Church of England and associates such as the Church of Ireland, have become. It is utterly inexcusable for any professing Christian to be in fellowship with it.