

Diocese of Durham

Role description signed off by: The Venerable Bob Cooper

Date: 11/3/22

To be reviewed 6 months after commencement of the appointment, and at Ministerial Development Review, alongside the setting of objectives.

1. Details of Post

Role Title:

Priest-in-Charge

Name of benefice:

Herrington (St Aidan), Penshaw and Shiney Row and Burnmoor(St Barnabas)

Deanery:

Chester Le Street and Houghton

Archdeaconry:

Sunderland

Initial point of contact on terms of service:

Diocesan Secretary

2. Role Purpose

The vision of the Diocese is 'Blessing our communities in Jesus' name for the transformation of us all'. Within this are the 4 core priorities are Care for God's Creation, Energizing Growth, Children and Young People, and Poverty. These are outlined and expressed in the Diocesan vision and strategy documents.

General

- To share with the Bishop in the cure of souls in these parishes, in line with the Diocesan Vision, Priorities and Plan described above.
- To be the Parish Priest to this parish, having regard to the calling and responsibilities of the clergy of the Church of England as described in the Ordinal, the Canons, national safeguarding policies, and all other relevant legislation, and in accordance with the Guidelines for the Professional Conduct of the Clergy 2015 and its successors.
- To work with the PCC towards the development of the local church (both people and buildings) so that it is sustainable, and effective in mission.
- To ensure that a high standard of worship, preaching and pastoral care is provided so that people are more able to live as disciples of Christ.
- To nurture discipleship and develop the ministry of all God's people, through training, cooperation, delegation, support and example, so that they take more responsibility for the mission and ministry

of the parish; and seeking to identify potential future leader and ministers. Where there is a Shared Ministry Development Team to work with it as described in the SMDT agreement.

- To encourage all church members to participate in generous giving for the mutual support of one another across the diocese, and the wider Church of England.
- To collaborate within the deanery in mission and ministry and, through the Deanery Plan, participate in the shaping of ministry as resources and opportunities may require.
- To be proactive and persistent in seeking the fullest degree of ecumenical cooperation wherever possible.

Specific

- To help the PCCs and the congregations to develop a coherent vision for mission with Jesus at the centre, showing leadership in this area while working collaboratively.

To achieve a 0.5 time presence in Burnmoor and 0.5 presence in Shiney Row and Penshaw.
- To enable the congregations to work well together, growing and thriving within the overall leadership of one Priest –in-Charge.
- To enable people to grow as disciples, nurturing new and established Christians through relevant teaching and helping the churches to become better at discipleship-development.
- To encourage and enable lay ministry, recognising the vocation of all God’s people, identifying and developing the gifts that God has given his people.
- Working to develop in particular mission and ministry among children, young people and families, and to work well with local schools
- To be creative and innovative in leading worship, including further exploration of non-Eucharistic worship, whilst also being mindful of the needs of those who value existing, traditional forms of worship.
- To provide real unifying leadership for the congregations, in a way that also develops mutual understanding local leadership, discipleship and confidence. This may involve some conflict resolution.
- To actively seek partnerships and collaboration with local people and organisations in pursuing the mission of the church.

3. Key contacts

The Archdeacon of Sunderland, The Area Dean and ministerial colleagues, The Churchwardens, Parish Officers and members of the PCC

4. Role context and any other relevant information

There is work to be done within the churches on finding unity (not uniformity) between the congregations. This will involve vision, skill and listening; it could also include potential conflict resolution.