

Diocese of Durham

Role description signed off by: Archdeacon of Sunderland

Date: 30.07.22

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

Details of Post

Role Title:	Priest-in-Charge
Name of benefice:	St Andrew's Leam Lane
Deanery:	Gateshead
Archdeaconry:	Sunderland
Initial point of contact on terms of service:	Diocesan Secretary

1. Role Purpose

The vision of the Diocese is 'Blessing our communities in Jesus' name for the transformation of us all'. Within this the four core priorities are to:

- Energise Growth
- Engage with Children, Youth and Young People,
- Challenge Poverty and
- Care for God's Creation.

These are outlined and expressed in the Diocesan Mission Strategy, 'Renewing Pilgrimage'.

General

- To share with the Bishop in the cure of souls in these parishes, in line with the Diocesan Vision, Priorities and Strategy described above.
- To be the parish priest of 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*. Specifically, the parish priest must give due regard to safeguarding policy and practice.
- To work with the PCCs towards the development of the local churches (both the people and their buildings) so that the churches are sustainable and effective in mission.
- To ensure that a high standard of worship, preaching and pastoral care is provided so that people are enabled 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 parishes; to seek to identify potential future leaders 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. (See further under “Role Context below.”)
- To be proactive and persistent in seeking the fullest degree of ecumenical cooperation wherever possible.

Specific

- To continue to help the churches to work well together, growing and thriving, while sharing ministers and resources across the group.
- To be open, creative and innovative in leading worship, including all-age worship, whilst also being mindful of the needs of those who value existing and traditional forms of worship.
- To continue to grow and develop ministry amongst children, young people and families.
- To work alongside and support the schools.
- To encourage and support those engaged in ministry in support of refugees, and to demonstrate love and compassion to those seeking asylum.

3. Key Contacts

Churchwardens:

PCC Secretary:

Area Dean – Revd Yvonne Greener

Clergy of the deanery, Area Dean and Archdeacon of Sunderland

4. Role Context

This is a genuinely exciting role, with real opportunities for community engagement and mission. There are opportunities to engage and re-engage with local schools and local Anglican churches, but also ecumenical partners.

There are large opportunities for mission to be found in the occasional offices particularly with reference to baptisms and funerals.

St Andrew's is a church that prays AND plays together they do enjoy a good social event and attendance of the clergy at these events is crucial.

The mission and outward focus has waned in the recent past but the parish are excited by the prospect of engaging in mission, particularly with young people and families.

Finance in the parish is good in the sense of paying parish share however this is mainly raised through the social events. An emphasis on stewardship would be welcome.

St Andrew's is located between the parishes of Eighton Banks and Heworth and all of the parishes would like to be able to enjoy a degree of support and working together in an informal way to ensure that support is given and ministry (lay and ordained) will flourish. It is expected that the new priest would be a deanery contributor but also work particularly closely with the people and clergy of Heworth and Eighton Banks.

Though the parish describe themselves as "middle to slightly high" their archdeacon would describe them as liberal catholic (vestments and reservation).