

Signed off by: Archdeacon of Liverpool
Date: 24/03/2025
Deanery: West Derby
Role title: Team Vicar, Christ Our Hope Liverpool
(All Saints Stoneycroft)

The Context:

This is a full-time stipendiary post for a Team Vicar within the large team parish of Christ Our Hope Liverpool. You will be working with a Team Rector (the Revd Helen Edwards) and 6 other team vicars (5 in post, 1 has just become vacant), as well as many other lay and ordained colleagues. Recently established central support services provide administrative, financial and buildings support across the whole team. There is a single central PCC on which the clergy team are represented by the Team Rector and 2 Team Vicars elected each year. The parish is committed to a shared clergy leadership team meeting weekly, a combined approach to governance and administration and a commitment to shared vision and leadership. Each church is to be led by a local leadership team, and all clergy and laity are encouraged to work collaboratively in shared opportunities to plant new worshipping communities, shape strategy and resource the wider mission of the church across the whole new parish. Together the vision is to be **growing Christ-centred communities that enable everyone to flourish** through the four mission priorities, embedded in prayer with supported communication and a focus to become a younger more diverse church.

All Saints is not yet formally part of the team due to the circumstances in which the previous vicar left (see the parish profile), but is working closely with the team with the plan to bring forward a scheme to join it later this year. This post is to be a Team Vicar within the team, with responsibility as the named clergy lead for All Saints. The post also carries the responsibility for developing plans and mentoring teams to plant new worshipping communities/mission initiatives into the area of the parish previously served by Holy Spirit Dovecot, which was closed for public worship in autumn 2024. The successful candidate, depending on their particular gifts and experience, would also take a portfolio lead across Christ Our Hope on one of these missional priorities: introducing people to Jesus, deepening discipleship, or developing Christian leaders.

All Saints is in the area known locally as Old Swan, a diverse residential and commercial community with good schools, shopping and transport links. The parish is in the 3% most deprived in the country, with a varied mix of housing. There is a great opportunity to build on existing links with a local primary school and with uniformed organisations that meet in the church hall.

The Priorities:

- Establish committed, positive and accountable relationships within the parish e.g. with the Team Rector, Clergy Leadership Team, Local Leadership Team & Portfolio Teams.
- Lead All Saints Stoneycroft along with the Local Leadership Team, with a particular focus in the first year on a smooth transition into the Christ Our Hope team. Ensure all governance policies agreed by the PCC are implemented and all agreed data is shared efficiently.

- Encourage discipleship and leadership development of all kinds, with a particular focus on developing a vision and team for re-planting into the area previously served by Holy Spirit Dovecot.
- Thereafter, focus on developing a clear vision and local strategy for sustainable growth, in line with the parish annual mission plan.
- Build on the invitation from the local school to develop links with the church, and further develop links with the uniformed organisations/parade services.
- Undertake other responsibilities agreed with the Team Rector as detailed in your Team Agreement.

The Leadership Role in the Diocese of Liverpool :

For many years we have been working to achieve growth in our diocese. We have used different ways to express this but the aim and direction of travel has remained the same – consistent with the whole of the Church of England. We have articulated a vision for this growth by saying:

We are asking God for a bigger church so that we can make a bigger difference: more people knowing Jesus and more justice in the world.

In our diocesan vision we have identified four priority areas for our work in mission in this season:

- Introducing people to God through Jesus Christ
- Deepening discipleship, especially by means of our Rule of Life
- Developing Christian leaders in every place
- Working for justice

This includes a focus on seeking opportunities to become a younger and more diverse Church.

Like everyone entering a new role in the Diocese, you will accept the priority of these areas, and will measure your ministry by effectiveness in these areas. You will be supported and expected to be accountable (through regular one to one and group meetings with colleagues and through the Ministerial Development Review process) for how they are being implemented within your area of responsibility.

In common with all clergy in the diocese, you will work together with others to:-

1. Establish a culture of invitation in evangelism within the local church.
2. Start new worshipping communities and maintain existing healthy worshipping communities that are accessible to all.
3. Establish a culture in the local church of expecting a deepening of discipleship and putting into practice the 6 disciplines of the Rule of Life.
4. Develop prayerfully a strategy for mission and church growth and aligning it with the Diocesan strategy Fit for Mission.
5. Identify, train, release and support new Christian leaders and teams.
6. Encourage vocations by identifying the gifts of others and assisting people to seek God's calling for their lives.
7. Develop the distinctive ministry of the local Church within the wider context of the Diocese, Deanery and local ecumenical setting by establishing and maintaining good collaborative working relationships with clergy and lay colleagues.
8. Lead your congregations both to pray for justice in the Church and the world and to recognise how, working with others, your congregations can work for more justice in the Church, your local communities, and the world.
9. Ensure that safeguarding, financial and other governance disciplines are followed.

10. Fulfil other requirements of clergy of the Church of England in the Ordinal, Canons and elsewhere, and any conditions of your license and offer letter.

Housing

The Team Vicar will be provided with housing for the better performance of their duties. The parsonage house is 7 Saints Close. This is a fairly new (2010) 4 bedroom detached house, in a quiet cul de sac behind the church (pictured in the parish profile).

This Role Description will be reviewed annually at the Ministerial Development Review (MDR) and may be updated subsequent to the MDR to reflect important changes in the ministry of the priest and the context of that ministry, including wider responsibilities in the diocese. Significant changes to this role description should be agreed with the church wardens in consultation with the PCC, in a team ministry with team clergy and with the area dean and signed off by the Archdeacon.