



The Bishop's Statement

Associate Vicar of St George's Waddon in the Parish of Croydon

The Bishop's Statement is in relation to the post, the needs of the diocese and the wider interests of the Church. In considering whether to offer this post to any applicant, the Diocesan Bishop will wish to satisfy himself that the applicant is able and willing to work positively and purposefully with the [Diocesan Vision](#).

The Benefice

St George's is a small church in the heart of the Waddon community estate. The church is keen to build on its well-established relationships within the local area, and to share the love of God with all who live in this sociable and increasingly diverse community.

The new priest at St George's will have a passion for estates ministry, which presents both challenges and opportunities. They will work collaboratively with the lay leadership to lead the parish with a focus on mission and growth.

As part of the parish of Croydon: St John the Baptist, the new priest will work collaboratively with the team at the Minster in serving the whole parish and will play a full role in deanery and diocesan life.

The Deanery

The parish is part of Croydon Central Deanery. The Revd Dr Geoff Dumbreck, Area Dean writes:

Croydon Central Deanery comprises ten parishes which represent the whole breadth of Anglican liturgical styles and theological traditions. Within this breadth, the clergy of the deanery relate very well together and meet regularly as a Chapter for support, study, prayer, fellowship and food! The Deanery Synod seeks to encourage and enable parishes to keep mission at the heart of their life and this aim determines the content of Synod meetings. The deanery includes the town centre with its civic offices and extends from the more economically deprived, ethnically diverse areas to the north to the more prosperous, predominantly white middle class areas to the south.

Ecumenical relationships with other denominations in the deanery and wider Borough are strong and are facilitated by the Croydon Churches Forum (CCF). As the successor body to Churches Together in the Borough of Croydon (CTBC), CCF offers a light-touch way of enabling the churches in Croydon to get to know one another, work together on common mission where appropriate, and keep churches informed so we can pray effectively for each other. There are regular CCF Leaders' Breakfasts and evening prayer meetings where everyone is invited.

The needs of the Diocese & the wider church

All appointments in the Southwark Diocese take place within the context of the diocesan vision: [Christ Centred, Outward Focused](#). This next evolution of our vision comes as we continue to walk together, discerning God's wisdom and guidance in our shared pilgrimage of faith. Keeping Christ as

our centre and the focus of unity, we will continue to turn outwards - seeking to support, encourage, resource and learn from one another as we serve our parishes and God's world. Church is formed when people gather around the person of Jesus Christ, drawn to worship him and join in his work as he meets human hurts and hopes. Jesus walks with us and is also waiting for us in places of mission, healing, reconciliation, learning and worship. It is important that all clergy in the diocese have a good understanding of the aims and objectives of the vision.

Finance

As of 2016, a new system of financial contributions towards the parish share was introduced across the Diocese, called the Parish Support Fund (PSF). All parishes and churches are invited to contribute with generosity, and to aim at least to meet their own ministerial costs. St George's Waddon made a pledge of £13,493 for 2025, a 5% increase from their 2024 pledge. However, this contribution was 14% of their indicative costs. With the ministry provision of a priest with a full stipend, this parish's indicative costs for 2026 will be £94,400. Whilst the current times are challenging for parish and diocesan finances, we encourage all parishes to give both generous and realistic pledges in proportion to their means and each year to aim to take a step towards becoming self-financing. We would expect the new priest to work with the lay leaders and congregation to encourage a pattern of generous giving and nurture and strengthen the church's financial position.

Collaborative Ministry

I am looking to appoint clergy in this Area who can articulate their vision for the mission of the church in the places to which they are called, and who have a vision for the church's growth. In whatever tradition or location, I look to hear from the clergy how they will work together with lay members of the church and with their neighbouring parishes and colleagues. I am looking for people with active and developing spiritual lives who can be an example of discipleship to the people of God. I take very seriously my own responsibilities as pastor to the clergy and will always endeavour to make myself available to support them in their ministry.

A handwritten signature in grey ink, reading '+Rosemarie Mallett'.

The Right Reverend Dr Rosemarie Mallett, Bishop of Croydon

January 2026