

**Signed off by:** Archdeacon of St Helens & Warrington  
**Date:** April 2026  
**Role title:** Team Vicar, Wigan Team Ministry  
**Deanery:** Wigan  
**Archdeaconry:** Wigan & West Lancashire

### ***The Leadership role:***

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

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 the Ministerial Development Review as well as through regular meetings with your colleagues) 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 recognize 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. Collaborate with others to develop a flourishing children and youth ministry.

### ***The Context***

Wigan North West is one of 7 parishes in the Wigan Team ministry in the Diocese of Liverpool. With a population of 26,807, the parish serves the communities of Pemberton, Kitt Green, Norley Hall and Marsh Green in the Northwest part of Wigan and the village of Orrell which lies three miles to the west of Wigan town centre. These neighbourhoods sit astride the M6 motorway at its junction with the M58, offering easy access to nearby cities like Liverpool and beauty spots such as the Lancashire coast and Lake District.

While the Church Urban Fund ranks the parish at around the tenth percentile of most deprived in England, it is a diverse place. Pemberton, with its long historical connection with coal mining, is one of the district centres of Wigan borough with a busy high street and nearby high school. Kitt Green and Marsh Green are residential areas, marked in places by significant deprivation yet strong sense of community, and also the site of one of Europe's largest food processing plants. Orrell has a very different village feel and is one of the most desirable places to live in the borough, with Orrell Water Park, two outstanding sixth form colleges and a growing selection of independent bars and restaurants.

Church Wigan was established in January 2020, bringing the 29 former parishes, with 2,200 members and 50+ buildings, into a single team ministry with seven parishes in a ground-breaking new 'hub' structure. However, more significant than the structural shift is the emerging culture of discipleship, mission and pioneering new worshipping communities.

The post-holder will work closely with the lay and clergy colleagues as leader of the North West parish, while also making a contribution to the wider team according to their gifts and skills.

### ***Priorities:***

- Build on the foundations to encourage the congregations of the parish to grow together in faith and step out in mission.
- Reinforce trust and relationship among existing church members, enabling them to renew a joyful confidence in their faith and deepen the rhythms of discipleship in their lives.
- Grow team at every level, empowering teams to discern the leading of the Spirit and join in.
- Wisely use the many tools now available thanks to the recent national investment in Liverpool Diocese.
- Be the 'chief communications officer' in the parish, providing a sense of direction by lifting people's gaze onto Jesus and what he is doing.
- Oversee the exciting redevelopment of the buildings of St John's and St Barnabas as they are adapted to be sustainable centres of mission.

*This Role Description will be reviewed biennially 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.*