

Role Description – Priest-in-Charge, Reepham and Wensum Valley Benefice

1. Details of the post:

Role Title: Priest-in-Charge Name of benefice: Reepham and Wensum Valley
Deanery: Ingworth & Sparham Archdeaconry: Lynn

2. Wider Vision and Context:

The vision for mission and ministry in the Diocese of Norwich, is for us to be
Transformed by Christ: Prayerful, Pastoral and Prophetic.

Full details <https://www.dioceseofnorwich.org/about/about-vision/>

The Bishop's Senior Staff have agreed to implement the national Church's strategic aims and bold outcomes, prioritising 'Growing Younger and More Diverse' as we create 'A parish system revitalised for mission so that churches can reach and serve everyone in their communities'.

3. Local Vision and Context

The benefice is made up of the parishes of Reepham (population 2,670), Attlebridge with Alderford (219), Great Witchingham (706), Salle (107), Swannington (321), Thurning (64), Weston Longville with Morton-on-the-Hill (380) and Wood Dalling (205). The overall resident population is 4,672.

There are three schools within the benefice: Reepham Primary (roll 210), Great Witchingham Church of England Primary (roll 73) and Reepham High School (roll 1,031).

The vision of the benefice is to make Jesus known at the Heart of the Community. The parishes seek to work collaboratively in their commitment to growth in numbers, growth in depth of faith and weaving the church into the heart of the local communities. They seek to be joyful, hopeful and prayerful.

4. Responsibilities

General:

- A. To exercise the cure of souls shared with the bishop in this benefice in collaboration with your colleagues and to have regard to the responsibilities of clergy as set out in the Canons, the Ordinal (*see overleaf), the Code of Professional Conduct of the Clergy, [Guidance for Clergy \(formerly Clergy handbook\) - Diocese of Norwich](#), the Covenant for Clergy Care and Wellbeing [Clergy wellbeing - Diocese of Norwich](#) and other relevant legislation.

Specific:

- Listen and work with the benefice to discern a fresh vision and priorities
- Forge a team from across the benefice, both clergy and lay, to help deliver that vision
- Discern the gifts each has to bring and equip all to contribute to the plan
- Develop a fresh ministry for children and young people, drawing them towards faith through activities and teaching
- Create pathways into the church community for people of all ages, considering especially those newly retired and newcomers to the benefice
- Weave the life of the church into the fabric of the local community and ensure that church activities become a natural expression of that community
- Encourage a joy in the Christian life in the benefice

5. Key contacts

Groups & Committees	Parish	Support Structures
PCCs	Churchwardens	Rural Dean: Revd Andrew Whitehead
Deanery Chapter	Ministry Team: 3 Clergy with PTO – Ven Arthur Hawes, Canon Peter Halls, Revd Tim Weston 2 Licensed Lay Ministers – Jane McClarty, Helena Crockford 1 Licensed Lay Minister with PTO – Sue Page 2 Authorised Worship Assistants – Julie Dacre, Richard Cooke	Archdeacon: Ven Catherine Dobson
Deanery Synod	Heads of Reepham Primary, Reepham High and Great Witchingham Church of England Schools	Bishop of Lynn: Rt Revd Dr Jane Steen
	Parish Administrator	Parish Support Team - Diocese of Norwich

6. Diocesan New Incumbents Programme

The Diocesan Mission & Ministry department offers two training events for those new to incumbency in the Diocese. Both are residential courses, one on skills for incumbency and one on new incumbency, more focused on person in role.

The Archdeacons of the Diocese are also reinstating the diocesan new incumbents' induction programme following the pandemic.

1. *From the Ordinal

'Priests are called to be servants and shepherds among the people to whom they are sent.

With their Bishop and fellow ministers, they are to proclaim the word of the Lord and to watch for the signs of God's new creation.

They are to be messengers, watchmen and stewards of the Lord; they are to teach and to admonish, to feed and provide for his family, to search for his children in the wilderness of this world's temptations, and to guide them through its confusions, that they may be saved through Christ for ever.

Formed by the word, they are to call their hearers to repentance and to declare in Christ's name the absolution and forgiveness of their sins.

With all God's people, they are to tell the story of God's love.

They are to baptize new disciples in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and to walk with them in the way of Christ, nurturing them in the faith.

They are to unfold the Scriptures, to preach the word in season and out of season, and to declare the mighty acts of God.

They are to preside at the Lord's table and lead his people in worship, offering with them a spiritual sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.

They are to bless the people in God's name.

They are to resist evil, support the weak, defend the poor, and intercede for all in need.

They are to minister to the sick and prepare the dying for their death.

Guided by the Spirit, they are to discern and foster the gifts of all God's people, that the whole Church may be built up in unity and faith.'

'In the name of our Lord we bid you remember the greatness of the trust that is now to be committed to your charge.

Remember always with thanksgiving that the treasure now to be entrusted to you is Christ's own flock, bought by the shedding of his blood on the cross.

It is to him that you will render account for your stewardship of his people.

You cannot bear the weight of this calling in your own strength, but only by the grace and power of God. Pray therefore that your heart may daily be enlarged and your understanding of the Scriptures enlightened.

Pray earnestly for the gift of the Holy Spirit.'

[Common Worship Ordination Services | The Church of England](#)