

Hayling Island

PROFILE



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND



Diocese
of Portsmouth

Jesus-centred, Kingdom-seeking

CONTENTS



BISHOP'S WELCOME

I am delighted you are seeking to discern whether Jesus is calling you to serve with His beautiful people on Hayling Island. Be assured of our prayers in the diocese for you and those you love as you step into a time of discerning.

The Diocese of Portsmouth is a community of communities focused and centred in Jesus, and seeking the Father's heart of love for the world. We shall be praying fervently for you as you discern your next step of faith in response to God's faithfulness.

With love, in Christ,

'As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.'

Colossians 3: 12-13

Jonathan Portsmouth



THE RT REV JONATHAN FROST,
BISHOP OF PORTSMOUTH



ARCHDEACON'S WELCOME

I wonder what people look for when they read a profile? What makes them consider that this is a ministry that God is calling them to? It is inevitable that the profile merely gives an insight, but can never present the full picture of the role being considered. This is true of this profile for Hayling Island which as Archdeacon I have been working on with the Area Dean and the three PCCs.

I have only been in role for a few months but from my experience of developing this profile it reflects the people I have met and worked with. There is a desire to welcome others into the church community and especially to find ways of engaging with and growing the faith of young families and young people. There is also a love of the three churches and the fellowship that people find within them. There is a reflection of Hayling Island itself and its beauty. However, there needs to be a recognition that there are also challenges in this role. The three PCCs are aware of these and are happy for them to be highlighted in this introduction. There has been a history of a breakdown in relationships both between the clergy and the laity and within the communities.

We are looking for an Associate Priest who, on a 3-days-plus-Sunday basis, will renew the island parishes' sense of mission and will make an impact on the Christian life here.

This appointment, which will provide continuity when the interim role concludes, comes at an important stage in the life of these three parishes and we look forward to exploring with applicants the opportunities that this presents, as well as some of the challenges to be aware of.

Bob White
Acting Archdeacon of Portsdown

OUR MISSION



Our aim is to reach out to Hayling Island as

A **WELCOMING** COMMUNITY

- A church that seeks to be open and accessible to all, inviting everyone to experience God's love and welcome, to show that Christ embraces everyone.
- A supportive, friendly, caring community in which the needs of others are recognized and acted upon.

AN **ENGAGING** COMMUNITY

- Sharing God's love and presence with the wider community, where worship is the heart of the church and people's lives.
- A community in which real life is shared, lived out and celebrated.
- Where worship is filled with a sense of God's presence and his power within us all, to enable us to better serve each other and those around us.



A **SHARING** COMMUNITY

- Where life, faith and hope are freely shared and lived out in our wider community.
- Looking out for others and giving help and support where needed.
- An outward looking, mission-minded community that cares for the needs of others.
- A church that seeks to live out the message of love, of freedom and of equality.
- A church where generosity flows in response to God's generosity – where we are all encouraged to give as well as receive.

A **GROWING** COMMUNITY

- A community with a desire to learn with and from each other.
- A church growing spiritually and in confidence as we experience God working in and through us.
- A church that welcomes new worshippers and invites others to join us and encourages us to explore new ways of being a church community.



WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR IN OUR NEW PRIEST



We are looking for a person who will renew our sense of mission, and will provide continuity and stability as the current interim priest-in-charge role concludes and a new permanent priest-in-charge is recruited. The 'Sunday' aspect of the role will entail taking a range of services at any of the benefice churches.

Our priest needs to feel at home surrounded by many personalities, able to gauge what is needed to bring new life to our church and support those already there.

We need someone who wants to make an impact on our island and community.

We do not expect the candidate to have strengths in all of these areas, but reflected across the whole team we are aiming for these qualities:

- is faithful in their own life of prayer which we would support;
- has a strong commitment and dedication to encouraging us in pastoral care and to building and expanding our outreach teams;
- has vision for the development and growth of the life of our churches;
- is open to different styles and forms of worship to enrich our worship life;
- has a willingness to work with a collaborative team;
- is able to revitalize and foster existing good connections with the young people in the schools in our community;
- has a desire to encourage mission and evangelism, meeting the community where they are and playing a full part in community life;
- is willing to strengthen ecumenical links and our partnerships with other churches, charities, and voluntary services.

WHAT WE CAN OFFER YOU

- A supportive, friendly Christian community, where you can grow and be nourished.
- A commitment to working together among our 3 parishes for the spiritual welfare of our community on Hayling.
- A willingness to work with you to go forward in our life together, to be open to make changes where necessary and to explore new possibilities.
- Our commitment to you for your own wellbeing, enabling you to have time for family and recreation, supporting you as best we can with our own experience, skills and time.

This half-time post will be part of a team that currently includes a full-time interim priest-in-charge, 2 retired priests, and 2 licensed lay ministers. We also have funding for a part-time administrator.



HOUSING

The house (not a Vicarage) offers family-sized detached accommodation comprising of an entrance hall with access to



a large meeting room/study a ground floor cloakroom. An inner hallway gives access to two reception rooms and a fitted kitchen a with utility area.

There are four first floor bedrooms, a bathroom, and shower en-suite to the master bedroom.

A driveway to the front for off road parking, large single garage, side pedestrian access to the rear garden which is mainly laid to lawn with mature shrubs and trees.

The property has a gas radiator heating system and double glazing.



WHO WE ARE



HAYLING ANGLICANS

Our three Hayling Island churches are St Andrew's Church in Eastoke, the Priory Church of St Mary's in South Hayling and St Peter's Church in North Hayling.

We are three churches each with a distinctive identity, working collaboratively as "Hayling Anglicans". Having previously operated as two distinct benefices, over the last several years we have come together under one incumbent. We have combined our administrative systems and communications and there is already significant unity between the 3 churches. Our service patterns are collaborative and during the year we share joint services and events.

In November 2022, we started our conversation about whether moving to one Parish for Hayling Island would be the right direction, and what issues needed to be looked at. We had a joint meeting of the three PCCs in summer 2023, produced a first draft of what a change to a single Parish might mean. The three separate PCC meetings discussed the issues in September 2023. This resulted in the document being amended, and the new version being made available to all parishioners in February 2024. A good number of responses to that document were received – many to say they are happy with the direction of travel – but others outlining some issues that need careful consideration. These responses are currently being assembled for PCC members to consider. The scheme has been out for consultation and the responses will now be considered by the Church Commissioners and our bishop. Although this is a lengthy process, it is more important that we get it right than rush into it.



ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, EASTOKE

St Andrew's began life as a church plant from St Mary's in the 1960's to reach out to the community in the Southeast of the Island. As well as our modern building setting us apart from the other Anglican Churches, we also have a boat stern for an altar with a boat bow as a font. Our seats are arranged in rows to represent the oars and in this way we set sail together in worship under the protection of the Holy Trinity and St Andrew the fisherman!

Our worship style is quite varied – Common Worship Holy Communion, Iona style Communion, and various types of Services of the Word led by our wonderful LLMs. We are the least formal of the three churches. Children are able to be themselves (adults too!). Most services at St Andrew's could be described as interactive.

Our congregation is always keen to learn more about the faith, our Lent Groups are always well attended, and we love a sermon with plenty of meaty teaching in it. We might be mostly Third Age and above, but our hearts and minds are younger than springtime! We also have worshipers who identify as LGBTIQ+, those with physical or mental disabilities, neurodiverse people and those from a wide range of backgrounds. We are strongly committed to inclusion at all levels of church life and ministry, and would expect our new minister to show the same firm commitment, actively and accountably.



A few years ago we discerned a particular ministry to older people, and we now run a monthly Film and Tea event for over 60's which is very popular, and in December turns into Tea and Carols – so popular we have to limit numbers. Bread Church is held on the first Sunday of each month. We make soda bread together in the hall, then, while it is baking, we have a service of the word (wreathed in wonderful aromas) and we gather afterwards to share the warm bread, with cheese, pickles and fruit.

Our hall is hired out for children's activities, music groups, support groups, exercise and slimming groups and various community functions. We are also a popular venue for other churches to hold Quiet Days and Away Days.

However, all that said, since COVID we have somewhat lost our vision and are without a clear mission plan for the future. We are well aware that our area of the Island is one of some social deprivation with social housing, drug and alcohol issues, single parent families and low incomes. We would value a minister with creative ideas as to how to reach out to people in these situations and who could re-invigorate our sense of mission.

So what else do we want in a minister, and what can we offer you? We want a person who will share with us all the joys and trials of parish life without losing your own authenticity. You will need some experience of handling the particular issues and personalities that arise in a multi church benefice. Ministry here requires a certain amount of flexibility, patience and understanding, with the ability to think on your feet and respond creatively to people's needs and ideas. And of course we need you to rejoice in and celebrate our particular brand of chaos!

For the priest that joins us, we can promise you our support, prayers, loyalty and love. We will make you welcome and help you to develop your own skills and ministry. We will always give you freedom to try new things, celebrate your successes, and support you with tissues, chocolate and hugs if things don't go to plan. But above all, we promise, you will have FUN here.

THE PRIORY CHURCH OF ST MARY'S, SOUTH HAYLING

The Priory Church of St Mary's is a church with a warm and welcoming atmosphere. St Mary's was originally built by Benedictine monks from France, and the interior was reordered very sensitively in 2010, when modern facilities were added, together with a meeting room known as the Lantern.

At present we have a weekly service of Holy Communion at 10:30 am on Sunday, with the service on the 3rd Sunday being more informal and especially welcoming for families with children. Our regular congregation averages about 40, many being elderly but with a growing number between 30 and 60 as a result of the baptisms and weddings that they have celebrated here. We want to attract younger worshippers, and are very child friendly.

During the year we have a memorial service on All Souls day and we also host the annual Remembrance service for the Island. We hold well-attended carol services at Advent and Christmas, as well as a very popular Christingle service, and the local schools also use the Church for their own carol services and concerts.



St Mary's is much sought after as a welcoming and beautiful church for weddings and baptisms, and is able to serve the community with a number of funeral and memorial services being held here each year.



With the reordering of the interior we now have an open and flexible space, which we use for many community events, such as art and photography exhibitions, concerts, and parish fairs.

Opposite the church there is a parish hall, with a stage and a modern kitchen, and a small car park. The hall is used by many Island groups for various exercise and leisure activities. Above the hall there are some small offices, let to local businesses.

The church is surrounded by the churchyard, with many trees including an ancient Yew tree, believed to be 2,000 years' old. The generous donation of an adjoining field has created an extension to the original churchyard. There are pathways through the churchyard, much used by people walking their dogs.

We have an enthusiastic PCC, and we enjoy our worship together. Tea and coffee after the service, and occasional lunches in the Parish Hall give us other opportunities to strengthen our

fellowship. We want to attract a wider range of people to join us, especially young families and children. We are looking forward with enthusiasm to welcoming a new priest to our team.



ST PETER'S CHURCH, NORTH HAYLING

St Peter's Church was originally built in about 1140 AD by the monks of Jumieges Abbey to serve the people of North Hayling. It holds the title as the oldest building on Hayling as well as the oldest peel in England from three brass bells suspended from wooden axles and half wheels.

We are in the centre of a farming community. Stoke Fruit Farm supply our local farm shop and tea rooms, and each year, when the sunflowers bloom, we have the spectacular "Sam's Sunflowers", where you pick-your-own sunflowers and maybe have a professional photograph taken.



Our three Hayling churches of St Peter's, St Mary's and St Andrew's are different, both geographically and in styles of worship, but we all have the same vision and mission under the umbrella of Hayling Anglicans.

St Peter's traditionally has an older congregation, but this is changing with several young families enjoying worship there. Young and old can learn from each other! We have a dedicated family service once a month directed at young people and a thriving Sunday School.



As a congregation, St Peter's continually tries to be outward looking. Due to its ancient origins (and royal princess buried here too!) one long-standing parishioner has described us as 'the jewel in the crown'... we have a large and growing electoral roll, which speaks volumes about how much we are loved and loving! There are 91 on our Electoral Roll and about 40 people worship together at 9:15 am on Sunday morning, 41, if you count our Church Mouse, who hides each week for the children to find!

We are not yet an Eco Church, but this is being discussed with the Fabric Committee. However, we do have a bug hotel, situated in a small plot that is left to grow wild – wildflowers were planted and a log pile for bugs, etc.

Traditionally serving the Northney village area, we continue to embrace everyone from the whole of Hayling Island and beyond. Our charity work continues to support those less fortunate in our community with our food bank, Mission to Seafarers – providing fishermen with beautiful woolly hats, and TWAM (Tools With A Mission) – collecting unwanted usable tools for refurbishment and sorting into trade tool kits to send out overseas for livelihood creation.

St Peter's is traditional in feel but very modern in outlook. Outreach and evangelism is important to us and we are always looking for ways in which to further embrace the wider community. In the past year we have hosted quiz evenings, cheese and wine evenings, afternoon teas, Lent lunches, an Easter service on the beach, a Coronation brunch, Christmas wreath making, Fashion a Fish and of course our St Peter's Singers hold concerts here. Each year we put up our Tree of Light, where people can put names of their loved ones who have passed away on a ribbon and a light bulb is placed on our beautiful tree.

We look forward to having a priest-in-charge join us who can help us foster this community spirit and indeed bring new ideas to the table. Someone who can encourage us to build relationships with our community. We are looking forward to welcoming a new Priest who has a strong sense of pastoral importance and can help us to develop this outreach.

Hayling Island is a beautiful place to live – in all seasons – and our church is a beautiful place to worship.

We are very much looking forward to coming together with the wider community and honing all our individual skills and talents for the common good. With our support, we hope our new priest can lead us forward spiritually to show our community God's love.

WHERE WE ARE



HAYLING ISLAND

Yes, we are on an Island – but only a road bridge and a stone's throw away from Langstone, and Havant with its mainline railway station and bus station and major roads. The Island lies on the south coast between Portsmouth and Chichester. The west coast of the Island lies on Langstone harbour, the east side on Chichester harbour, and the south coast is on the Solent. We are twinned with Gorron in Northern France almost due south of Hayling as the seagull flies. The island is quite flat and rural in character especially North Hayling – much of it is still farmland, and there are a number of areas which retain a village feel. The south of Hayling has more residential and commercial development and is where most of the facilities are located.

Working your way down the Island – St Peter's Church is in Northney (North Hayling) nearest the bridge; St Mary's is in the centre of the Island; while St Andrew's is in the southeast, near the beach.

Alongside our 3 Anglican churches, Hayling also has St Patrick's Roman Catholic Church, South Hayling URC, Hayling Island



Baptist Church, The Bridge Church and the Hayling Christian Centre, and all join forces under Churches Together on Hayling Island as a visible Christian presence on the Island.

A car is useful but there is a regular bus service from Hayling to Havant and beyond. The nearest rail station is at Havant (we no longer have the “Hayling Billy” – the disused rail line is now a popular bridleway and footpath). Walking and cycling are very popular on Hayling as we have no hills! There is a ferry to Portsmouth from the southwestern tip of the island, for foot passengers and cyclists only.

The above national average percentage of older people living on Hayling is reflected in the number of care homes and nursing homes, and retirement apartments. Our busy Health Centre accommodates two general practices, and we also have local First Responders.

The schools on Hayling are all rated “Good”. We have 2 infant schools, 2 junior schools and Hayling College for 11 – 16 year olds; all are located near the centre of the Island. The nearest sixth form college is Havant. There are also faith schools in Havant, Portsmouth and Chichester for a specifically Christian education. We have an ecumenical “Open the Book” team which takes Bible stories into the 2 local junior schools.

There are two small shopping centres (in Mengham and West Town) where many shops are local independent businesses, plus the usual supermarkets big and small. Some parts of Hayling are less affluent than others and, like many places, there are food banks and a debt advice centre.



Hayling has a reputation as a traditional holiday location and we do still get lots of visitors every summer but most of the population are residents who live here year round. However tourism and leisure does continue to play a big role in Hayling Island economic life with several B&Bs, hotels, holiday villages and campsites, cafes, restaurants and pubs, a funfair and amusements and a light railway. No shortage of takeaways and fish and chips, not to mention plenty of ice cream!

Surrounded by the sea, boating and marine pursuits are big on Hayling. There are marinas and boat yards and sailing clubs

for the serious sailors and a plethora of watersports on offer (we claim to be the birthplace of windsurfing). There is an RNLI station based on the Island.

Apart from the sea, we are served by a variety of sport and leisure facilities which are well used by residents and visitors alike. There are two golf courses, a community centre with grounds including a cricket pitch, as well as a renowned centre for raquet sports. Anything from bowls to Zumba is likely to be found locally. For the less sporty, there are choirs, a musical society and drama group, a little theatre, numerous art and craft groups, a horticultural society, two WI groups, U3A, a Men's Shed, and a donkey sanctuary. For young people there are sports and performance clubs and classes, also uniform groups and a newer initiative, WAVE, which is offering lots of new activities. Combine in local and national charities and Island residents are pretty busy.

HAVANT DEANERY

Hayling is at the southernmost tip of the Havant Deanery, which includes all the parishes from Waterloo to Rowlands Castle and Emsworth, as well as Leigh Park, Cowplain, Purbrook and Wecock Farm. There are areas of comparative affluence and of considerable deprivation; much of the housing was built after World War 2, but some communities are much older than that, and there is also a significant amount of new build housing. The Area Dean is the Rev Emma Racklyeft, Vicar of All Saints' Church, Denmead.



APPENDICES

WHEN, WHO AND HOW MANY

EXISTING PATTERN OF REGULAR SERVICES

	St Andrew's	St Mary's	St Peter's
1st Sunday	from 10:15am with worship at 11am Bread Church (often lay led)	10:30am Holy Communion	9:15am Holy Communion
2nd Sunday	11am Service of the Word (lay led)	10:30am Holy Communion	8am BCP Communion 9:15am Informal Worship with Communion
3rd Sunday	11am Holy Communion	10:30am Informal Worship with Communion	9:15am Holy Communion
4th Sunday	11am Service of the Word (lay led)	10:30am Holy Communion	9:15am Holy Communion
5th Sunday	11am Service with prayers for healing (often lay led)	10:30am Holy Communion	9:15am Holy Communion
Midweek	Wednesday 2pm Holy Communion (short, semi-formal)		

In addition to these regular services in each church, we also join together for shared services during the year such as Ash Wednesday, during Holy Week, Easter Dawn Service on the beach, All Souls, Remembrance (in association with the RBL), and during Advent and Christmas-tide for special services.

BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS IN 2023

	St Andrew's	St Mary's	St Peter's
Baptisms	0	7	9
Weddings	0	7	5
Marriage blessings	0	1	1
Church funerals	1	22	9
Graveside services	N/A	1	1
Committals only (funeral elsewhere)	N/A	4	0
Crematorium funerals	-----	TOTAL OF 21 all 3 parishes	-----
Gradys Chapel Services	-----	TOTAL OF 4 all 3 parishes	-----
Natural burial ground	-----	TOTAL OF 0 all 3 parishes	-----
Memorial services	0	1	1
Burials of ashes	N/A	29	10

Note: In accordance with the national fees table, all crematorium funeral fees go to the diocese, with church funeral fees split according to set amounts between the diocese and the church in which they take place. For this reason our statistics do not enable us to divide the crematorium fees into individual parishes.

WORSHIPPING COMMUNITY, ATTENDANCE AND ELECTORAL ROLL IN 2023

	Hayling Eastoke: St Andrew	Hayling South: St Mary	Hayling North: St Peter
Worshipping Community Age 70+	48 (of total 60)	60 (of total 85-90)	60 (of total 100)
Age 18-69	8	30	29
Age 0-17	4	0	11
Usual Sunday Attendance - Adults	18	33	40
Usual Sunday Attendance - Children	0	1	9
Average Oct Weekly Attendance - Adults	28	36	42
Average Oct Weekly Attendance - Children	2	1	7
Electoral Roll	39	72	84

CENSUS DATA 2021

	Hayling Eastoke: St Andrew	Hayling South: St Mary	Hayling North: St Peter
Population	4525	11075	1775
Area (sq. miles)	1.2	6.4	4.0
Deprivation rank	4530	6404	8075
% aged under 20	13.8	15.8	13.6
% aged 70 +	27.3	29.7	26.5
% white ethnicity	96.8	97.2	97.6
% Christian	52.7	54.1	56.5
% No religion	39.7	37.8	34.1

HAVANT DEANERY



The Havant Deanery consists of around 21 parishes working in 15 different benefices or informal groupings. A few are quite rural and consist of smaller villages, whilst others are in towns or larger dormitory areas. As you would expect in any Anglican deanery the churches of the deanery express a variety of spiritualities and worshipping styles.

However, there is a genuine commitment and desire in our parishes and amongst our clergy to support one another, to respect each other and to celebrate one another's successes.

We welcome the new vision of the Portsmouth Diocese to be 'Jesus-centred and Kingdom seeking'. Within our Deanery Mission Action Plan there is an intention to:

1. Plant one or two new Christian communities where the context makes this appropriate.
2. Encourage and develop leadership at all levels to enable God's Kingdom to grow
3. Share good practice and especially to invest in ministry to reach families, children and young people.

In addition, we share a common desire that no clergy should be isolated and with this in mind, the deanery chapter meets quite frequently and normally over food. We are working to develop smaller networks of mutual support amongst the clergy.

We are praying as you consider this opportunity and I would always be open to a conversation should you find that helpful as you explore this possibility on Hayling Island.

Rev Emma Racklyeft
Area Dean



INTRODUCTION TO THE DIOCESE OF PORTSMOUTH

The Diocese of Portsmouth stretches across south-east Hampshire and includes the whole of the Isle of Wight. It includes 133 parishes, from Botley in the west to Emsworth in the east, and from Blackmoor in the north to Ventnor on the south side of the Isle of Wight. It includes diverse communities, ranging from the densely populated and relatively deprived parts of inner-city Portsmouth, to rural villages in Hampshire; and from a range of seaside towns on the Isle of Wight to suburban communities west of Fareham and Gosport. In total, it covers 420 square miles and has a population of 784,000.

The Diocese of Portsmouth has 170 churches, ranging from historic listed buildings to brand new, purpose-built churches. There are around 150 clergy serving in those churches and their parishes, around 50 of whom are self-supporting. There are also around 70 licensed lay ministers who help with leading services and pastoral work. Around 13,500 people regularly worship in our churches, on Sundays and during the week. Attendance numbers have been declining over the past 10 years, but there are particular congregations that have grown. Only a tiny number of churches have been closed in recent years.

Parishes and chaplaincies within the diocese are supported by a small diocesan team, based in Peninsular House, Portsmouth. These officers support parishes and church schools, administer clergy housing and stipends, manage its property portfolio, promote social justice, handle communications, manage safeguarding procedures, and run a variety of training courses. The Diocesan Secretary oversees these staff. Separate teams of staff are employed in the bishop's office and for the three archdeacons. There is no suffragan bishop.

The diocese includes 44 Church of England schools in south-east Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. These are still mostly schools funded by the local authority, but the diocese supports them with regard to governance and admissions, building projects, Christian ethos, RE and recruitment of headteachers. The education team supports schools across both Portsmouth and Winchester dioceses, under the authority of a Joint Board of Education. Two schools on the Isle of Wight are joint Church of England/Roman Catholic schools.

Bishop Jonathan Frost was installed in March 2022, and has shared his vision for the diocese – a place where all are invited into a life-enhancing encounter with Jesus Christ. It should be a place where children, young people and young adults are given a particular priority; and where ministry to the elderly is supported by a network of Anna Chaplains, working in every locality. The vision is encapsulated by a vocational call to all Christians, which has been supported by strategic funding from the national Church of England to promote the planting of new congregations and a network of pioneer ministers. You can read more about our vision and vocation at portsmouth.anglican.org/our-strategy.



The Diocese of Portsmouth is one of the smallest dioceses in the Church of England, but has often “punched above its weight”, with senior staff and diocesan officers involved in the national Church, managing joint projects or implementing innovative ideas. Financially, the payment of parish share has always been good – but the recent Covid pandemic has resulted in some financial challenges.

There is a range of churchmanship across all traditions within the diocese, few parishes deliberately exclude themselves from deanery and diocesan initiatives, and our smaller, family feel means that most clergy and lay leaders know and respect each other.

a Rejuvenating community of Jesus-centred, Kingdom-seeking disciples



Diocese
of Portsmouth

Jesus-centred, Kingdom-seeking

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THE CHURCH
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