

Diocese of York

Role Description: Vicar, the Moorlands Benefice

1 Introduction

This role description takes into account the Parochial Church Councils' statements of the condition, needs and traditions of the parish (the 'parish profile'). It should be reviewed 6 months after the commencement of the appointment, and if necessary at Ministerial Development Review, alongside the setting of objectives.

2 Details of post

2.1 Role title	Vicar (0.2 stipend)
2.2 Name of benefice	Moorlands
2.3 Deanery and archdeaconry	Whitby, Cleveland
2.4 Initial point of contact on terms of service	The Diocesan Human Resources Adviser
2.5 Patron	The Archbishop

3 Role purpose: Generic

- 3.1 To share with the Archbishop and the Bishop of Whitby in the cure of souls in the benefice.
- 3.2 To be the priest of the benefice, having regard to the calling and responsibilities of the clergy of the Church of England as described in the Ordinal, the Canons, national Safeguarding policies, and all other relevant legislation, in accordance with the Archbishops' statement Guidelines for the Professional Conduct of the Clergy.
- 3.3 To work with other ministers and with members of the Parochial Church Councils in the development of the Church's mission and ministry, having regard to the need for sustainability and effectiveness in mission in each place, and jointly where appropriate.
- 3.4 To ensure that a high standard of worship, preaching and pastoral care (appropriate to each setting) is provided.
- 3.5 To nurture discipleship and develop the ministry of all God's people, through training, co-operation and support, encouraging all people, as appropriate, to take responsibility for the mission and ministry of the parishes, and seeking to identify potential future leaders and ministers.
- 3.6 To be personally committed to, and to promote the Diocesan vision of 'Living Christ's Story', prayerfully working to engage with the five marks of mission in the parishes and to explore with the congregations how they can respond effectively to the Diocesan goals of: becoming more like Christ; reaching those we currently don't; growing churches of missionary disciples; and transforming our finances and structures.
- 3.7 To collaborate with others in the deanery in mission and ministry, and through deanery planning, participate in the future shaping of ministry according to the resources and opportunities available, and to be pro-active and constant in seeking the fullest possible degree of ecumenical co-operation and commitment.

4 Role purpose: Specific

- 4.1 To help the parishes continue to work together and to play a full part in the deanery.
- 4.2 To increase outreach and mission, especially through the Pastoral Offices.
- 4.3 To ensure good use of all church buildings and offer welcome to local people and holidaymakers.
- 4.3 To value the strong links with the two local primary schools and with the Methodist church.
- 4.4 To be supportive of community events and church-based social and fundraising activities.
- 4.5 To encourage and enable lay ministries of all kinds, in conjunction with the Diocesan Ministry and Mission Team.
- 4.7 To sustain generous financial giving through Free Will Offer.

5 Key contacts and relationships

- 5.1 *Generic and local*
 - a The Archbishop, Suffragan Bishop and Archdeacon
 - b The Churchwardens and the Parochial Church Councils
 - c The Area Dean, Lay Dean, Deanery Leadership Team, Chapter and Synod
 - d Diocesan and archdeaconry advisers in specialist areas
- 5.2 *Locally based assistant ministers and colleagues*
 - a Deacon, the Revd Sally Wilson
 - b LLM, David Ferguson and SLM, Kevin Wall
- 5.3 *Supportive*
 - a The Area Dean
 - b The Diocesan Director of Mission and Ministry
 - c The Archbishop's Adviser and Co-ordinator of Pastoral Care

6 Role Context

The Deanery Leadership Team will continue to consider the best way to offer ministry across a largely rural deanery. This may result in future pastoral reorganisation, but at present there are no plans that will affect this benefice.

7 Benefice summary as at time of compilation

Number of parishes 2

Churches and listing	St Michael and St George, Castleton (2); St Hilda, Danby (2*); St Peter, Commondale; St Mary, Moorsholm; Christ Church, Westerdale (2)
Parsonage	
Other buildings	
PCCs	2
Churchyards	4, all open
Population	1811
Average Sunday attendance	25
Free Will Offer 2026	£4,400
Schools	2 Primary (one is C of E)
Expenses	Paid in full
Letter of Request / Extended Episcopal Oversight?	No
Liturgical practice	Central with vestments

8 Review

The Archdeacon will review this role description with you when you have been in post for six months.

Date: 20 February 2026