



# Team Rector

## Christ Our Hope Liverpool

### Role Description

Signed off by: Archdeacon of Liverpool  
Date: January 28<sup>th</sup> 2026  
Role title: Team Rector, Christ Our Hope  
Deanery: West Derby  
Archdeaconry: Liverpool

#### **TEAM RECTOR IN A LARGER SINGLE PARISH – a rare opportunity**

We're recruiting a new kind of Team Rector for this large and pioneering team. The invitation is to join us on a journey of faith, fellowship, and empowerment as we strive to create a nurturing environment where all individuals can grow spiritually and personally. Together, the churches and people of this parish aim to cultivate a sense of belonging, support, and love that uplifts each member to reach their full potential in Christ.

In 2022, West Derby Deanery was one of the first deaneries in the Diocese of Liverpool to commit to the Fit for Mission programme. Fit for Mission is resourced through the Strategic Transformation Fund and is a locally led transformation project aimed at making better provision for sustainable mission and ministry. In the deanery there are 10 churches, from a variety of church traditions and serving a variety of different communities, which have come together to become a new single parish, resourced by a team ministry with 7 team vicars, plus curates, readers and Support Services staff. The Parish Operations and Enterprise Manager and Support Services Team offer support from the centre, resourcing churches, freeing up time and energy for local mission and ministry. After a period of 2 years working 'as if', pastoral reorganisation was completed in March 2025.

The Parish of Christ our Hope includes large swathes of varied housing, in communities on either side of an approximately 3-mile stretch of Queens Drive (A5058) Liverpool, from Norris Green to Childwall. The 2018 census recorded a total population of 90,492 living in 37,306 households across an area of 7.82 miles. According to the Index for Multiple Deprivation, of the 10 original parishes, 3 are in the most deprived 1%, 5 in the most deprived 5% and just two are outside of the deprivation figures. Whilst there is growing diversity in terms of ethnicity, statistics reveal a largely white population, with statistics ranging from 92.5 to 97.1%, and Christianity is the recorded faith of between 75 and 83.2% of the population. Included in the parish are Victorian terraces, many post-war outer estates, and some areas of suburban development, including an estate built in the 1980s.

Becoming fitter and stronger to do God's work is not about becoming a homogenised group, but is about embracing our locality and rich diversity, supporting each other as we work towards our missional priorities, tackle key challenges, and grow closer together as brothers and sisters in Christ. The Team Rector is the leader of this clergy team, chair of the PCC, and has oversight of mission and ministry across the whole parish.

The Team Rector is not currently associated with any particular church or worshipping community. In these early years of COHL, we have been able to release the Rector to have capacity to manage the change and help to reset our culture and missional priorities. Going forward, the aim is for the Rector to focus on our missional vision across the whole parish. At times, the Rector may need to offer additional support when there is a team vicar vacancy, or going forward, may also want to shape the Rector role to include local leadership in one of our churches or worshipping communities.

These are early days for this role, and it is being developed in changeable times in the Church of England. The role of the Rector is to lead in these times, shaping the parish and the resources available to it, to best serve the mission of God across Christ our Hope Liverpool. We value diversity in unity and encourage each worship community to act locally as we support centrally. The Team Rector plays a key role in supporting centrally, to resource and strengthen each church and worshipping community to act locally.

This Role Description should be read in conjunction with the Parish Profile.

**Key Priorities and responsibilities include:**

- Leading the whole parish in an intentional missional focus on (a) Mission and discipleship planning (b) Growing and maturing the giving base (c) Stewarding our buildings and other assets for new income
- Further embedding a culture of clergy accountability and systems to make accountability and support real.
- Supporting, mentoring and managing team members leading in different areas of mission, discipleship and evangelism, and social justice ("portfolio working") to build and share expertise.
- Development of lay ministry, including programmes to develop and support lay people in missional leadership
- Enabling and supporting the establishment of the Youth and Children's Hub (funded for 3-4 years, beginning 2026).
- Knowing the people of the parish through worship, meetings, and developing a cohesive approach across multiple churches.
- Ensuring we get the right buildings (including churches and halls etc) – which we will need to develop, maintain, close etc and a viable plan to do so sustainably.
- Developing financial sustainability and accountability, prioritising enterprise to resource mission, supporting local decision-making and budgeting.
- Further developing the Support Services Hub to equip COHL and to offer support to all parishes within West Derby Deanery.

**The Leadership role in Liverpool Diocese:**

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 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 in the local Churches as the body of Christ of active discipleship in service, witness and leadership.
2. Lead congregations to develop prayerfully a strategy for mission and Church growth, including aligning the local Church missional strategy with the Diocesan strategy.
3. Implement a disciple-making process appropriate for the local context.

4. Identify, train, release and support new leaders and teams.
5. Identify and encourage the gifts of others, assisting people to seek God's calling for their lives.
6. Follow as part of your own discipleship the Diocesan Rule of Life, and also to encourage members of your congregations to commit to the Rule of Life themselves.
7. Develop the distinctive ministry of the local Church within the wider context of the Diocese and Deanery, and also the local ecumenical setting, and as part of that context to establish and maintain good collaborative working relationships with other clergy and with 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.

## **Housing**

This is a full time post on common tenure terms and conditions. Housing will be provided for the better performance of the postholders duties.

The house designated for this post is Holy Spirit Vicarage, Dovecot Road, L14 7QJ. This is a modern detached property set back from the road with lawns and driveway, with a private enclosed garden.

There are 3 downstairs reception rooms, kitchen, utility room, WC, and upstairs 4 bedrooms and a family bathroom. It is situated opposite a convenient parade of shops.

(It is worth noting that the church around the corner has now been closed and sold, so there would be no sense of ongoing responsibility for this building).

A video walk through of this house can be viewed here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B1tzIUGHQuK>

*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.*