

Role Description

Role title: Team Vicar
Parish: Church St Helens
Deanery: St Helens
Archdeaconry: St Helens & Warrington
Signed off by: Archdeacon of St Helens & Warrington
Date: January 2026
Next formal review date: 2 years from issue

This Role Description will be reviewed annually with the Team Rector and shared with the Archdeacon with a formal review by the Archdeacon together every two years. At other times the Role Description may be updated by agreement 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 in consultation with the PCC, churchwardens and/or local leadership team(s), as appropriate.

This Role Description should be read alongside the local Team Agreement agreed between the Team Rector and the post-holder. The Role Description along with the Team Agreement will form the basis for reflection in the MDR Review which is compulsory once within a two year period.

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

This includes a focus on seeking opportunities to become a younger and more diverse Church.

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 regular one to one and group meetings with colleagues as described here and through the Ministerial Development Review process) 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 recognise 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. Fulfil other requirements of clergy of the Church of England in the Ordinal, Canons and elsewhere, and any conditions of your license and offer letter.

The Context:

Church St Helens is a new partnership of 11 former parishes across St Helens in to one larger single parish with a shared clergy leadership team, combined approach to governance and administration and a commitment to shared vision and leadership with lay people in the Navigation Team, Growth Team and across portfolios of specific areas of ministry eg children and youth work.

Church St Helens have a vision of:

Renewing Hope through the four mission priorities, embedded in prayer with supported communication and a focus to become a younger more diverse church.

The Priorities:

- Lead Christ Church Eccleston and St Thomas' Eccleston, along with the leadership teams in those communities.
- Develop a clear vision and local strategy in line with the parish annual mission plan including developing established worshipping communities and starting new worshipping communities and justice initiatives.
- Encourage discipleship and leadership development of all kinds, focussed on creating teams with purpose and accountability
- Establish committed, positive and accountable relationships within the parish including with the Team Rector, Clergy Leadership Team, local Church Leadership Team and Portfolio Teams.
- Ensure all governance policies agreed by the PCC are implemented and all agreed data is shared efficiently
- Undertake other responsibilities agreed with the Team Rector as detailed in your Team Agreement which will be agreed in consultation with you.