

Role Description: Benefice of Newcastle Christ Church with St Ann

1 Introduction

The role description gives an outline of the responsibilities of a position. These may develop while someone is in post and this document will need to be kept up to date. It should be reviewed as necessary at Ministerial Development Review, alongside the setting of objectives.

2 Details of post

- 2.1 Role title: Vicar of Newcastle Christ Church with St Ann
- 2.2 Name of benefice: Newcastle Christ Church with St Ann
- 2.3 Patronage: The Bishop of Newcastle
- 2.4 Deanery and archdeaconry: Newcastle Central; Northumberland
- 2.5 Initial point of contact on terms of service: The Archdeacon of Northumberland

3 Role purpose: General

- 3.1 To share with the Bishop in the cure of souls.
- 3.2 Ever prayerful and mindful of the responsibilities laid upon you 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*, your ministry will be shaped by the Diocesan vision Seeking, Sharing, Sending and marked by a generosity of spirit, an engagement with the people and situations you serve, and an openness to the promptings of God's love.
- 3.3 Your priestly vocation demands the careful preparation for, and the leading of public worship, the imaginative proclamation of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and the loving service of all God's people entrusted to your care. Together with your priestly colleagues and lay ministers, you will work collaboratively to enable the gifts of all God's people to be developed in the Service of his Kingdom.
- 3.4 In your priestly ministry you will take an active part in the Diocesan strategy Seeking, Sharing, Sending. This will include collaborative parish conversations and planning for mission and ministry as well as working with colleagues across the Deanery and more widely in the life of the Diocese. A number of supports are available to you through the provision of work consultants, spiritual directors and Continuing Ministerial Formation programs, and you will be expected to participate in the scheme of Ministerial Development Review.
- 3.5 Above all, you will remember that we are called to minister by a gracious, generous self-giving and loving God, as together we seek the Kingdom, share the faith, search for truth, serve our neighbour and follow Jesus in his suffering love for the salvation of all people.

Role Purpose – Generic and Specific

- 3.6 To take responsibility for pastoral care, occasional offices and leading of regular public worship in the parishes of Newcastle Christ Church and Newcastle St Ann;
- 3.7 To nurture the congregations, providing opportunities for them to continue to deepen their faith and serve their communities, identifying priorities through mission action planning;
- 3.8 To engage fully in the communities of Shieldfield and Battlefield, their various population groups and organisations, building connections and increasing the presence and impact of the church;
- 3.9 To be a visible presence on Northumbria University campus, building relationships with students and staff and exploring opportunities for new worshipping communities in the parish churches with the university populations;
- 3.10 To work, in consultation with the Chaplaincy Coordinator of Northumbria University in one or more of the following strands of work: pastoral and spiritual care of students; pastoral and spiritual care of colleagues; outreach to the wider university community to help with well-being and welfare; promotion of chaplaincy and faith advice; involvement in university policy making and monitoring as appropriate; involvement in serious welfare matters as appropriate;
- 3.11 To strengthen relationships between the parish and Christ Church C of E Primary School, helping them live out their vision: Reach for the Stars: Living Life in all its fullness, including being a member of the governing body and regularly leading collective worship;
- 3.12 To lead the parishes and church communities into creative and active partnership with the deanery in a time of change. To be open to closer cooperation and the sharing of wider responsibilities in mission with other neighbouring parishes and communities. Active engagement with Deanery Chapter, Synod and the Deanery Development Group is expected;
- 3.13 To ensure that you continue to access new resources for ministry and that personal spiritual nurture and refreshment is given priority in your ministry.

4 Key contacts and relationships

4.1 Generic

- a. The Bishop of Newcastle and the Archdeacon of Northumberland;
- b. The Churchwardens and the Parochial Church Council;
- c. The Deanery Chapter and Synod;

4.2 Specific

- a. Chaplaincy Co-ordinator of Northumbria University
- b. Head teacher, pupils and staff of Christ Church C of E Primary School
- c. The Archdeacon of Northumberland to supervise the chaplaincy work at Northumbria University.

4.3 Supportive

- a. The Area Dean, Lay Chair and colleagues in the Newcastle Central Deanery
- b. Pastoral Supervisor
- c. Spiritual Director.

5. Role Context

Shieldfield and Battlefield contain some of the most diverse and young populations in Newcastle City. They incorporate the regenerated Quayside and Ouseburn areas alongside significant pockets of deprivation as well as purpose-built student accommodation. This is a lively, exciting neighbourhood, very close to the city centre and yet with its own unique cultures.

Both church buildings are significant landmarks in their areas. St Ann's attracts historical, architectural and ecological interest groups. Christ Church's proximity to the C of E primary school and Northumbria University make it a key community asset with existing community links ripe for development. The link with Northumbria University chaplaincy role is a new initiative and includes support from the Archdeacon of Northumberland who has oversight of chaplaincy in the diocese. It is hoped, through this role, to link more closely the life of the church with some of the 38,000 students enrolled at Northumbria University and those living and working in the parish.

6 Benefice summary as at time of compilation

Number of parishes	Two
Churches and listing	Christ Church, grade II* St Ann, grade I
Parsonage	Detached 1950s brick house
Other buildings	Church hall at Christ Church (attached to church)
Churchwardens	One in each parish
Ministers (including local ministry)	No licensed ministers
Population	Christ Church 8,956 St Ann 2,387
Usual Sunday Attendance	Christ Church 12 St Ann 10 to 12
Parish Share (2025)	Christ Church £8,577 St Ann £9,936
Resolution under the House of Bishops Declaration on the Ministry of Bishops and Priest?	No
Church tradition	Anglo-Catholic
Pastoral Reorganisation Proposals	None
Outreach/service to the wider community	Close relationship with Christ Church Primary School. Some links with local community groups and

	<p>projects. Church members are involved as volunteers.</p> <p>Events in churches for local community, including students.</p>
Business element	Income from hall users
Ecumenical links	Churches Together group including RC, and Methodist.

7 Review

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