

Priest in Charge of St Peter's Belper

Thank you for considering this post.

This is an exciting and challenging time for the Diocese of Derby. As the Church of England is renewing its calling to be centred on Christ Jesus and shaped by Him, the Diocese of Derby echoes that call as we re-articulate a vision for the next 5 years:

Vision: The Kingdom of God: Good News for All
Outcomes: Deepening relationship with God; Making new disciples; Serving local communities, Challenging injustice
Priorities: contexts of social and economic deprivation, growing younger and more diverse, being greener
Values: Generous Faith - Courageous Hope – Life-Giving Love

In each deanery, parishes and benefices are engaging in Mission Action Planning towards a more missional and sustainable future that embed our desired outcomes in every context. We are looking to appoint a priest who can work collaboratively across these churches. The new Priest in Charge will be someone who thrives when leading transformational change across rural communities with the skills to enable sustainable missional growth.

These parishes have remained strong through the vacancy and are seeking to grow in their discipleship and ability to engage pastorally and missionally with their communities. A particular focus is helping them develop their existing relationships with schools, children and young people and forming further new worshipping communities. To do this, the churches have identified their need to further train and develop their existing workers and volunteers. The headteacher at St John's school is actively interested in working with the church to form a FLOURISH or other new worshipping community. We are also preparing for a Growing Faith Hub in the area and want to explore how missional good practice within these parishes can be shared more widely. There are significant opportunities to engage with environmental issues and see how the expertise and experience gained as a Gold Eco Award church can resource other churches. Parishes across Dove and Derwent deanery are facing significant missional transition with opportunity to reconsider shaping of ministry and resource that is fruitful and sustainable.

We are looking to appoint a gospel hearted, compassionate and persistent enabling leader to build up ministry across these churches and support them in the exploration of partnerships and new missional opportunities. This is an ideal post for someone who is passionate about evangelism, outreach and church growth, who thrives when leading a sizeable ministry team, is experienced in children's, schools and youth work and who is energised by the possibility of being creative and innovative in response to identified needs and opportunities.

We are praying for someone who will work generously within and beyond these parishes, to equip, shape and resource growing church and building community that God's Kingdom may come.

Be assured of my continuing prayers for you as you discern God's call.

+ Libby Derby