

The Rt Revd Libby Lane
Bishop of Derby



Vacancy for Rector of Melbourne, Ticknall, Smisby, and Stanton by Bridge

Thank you for considering this post. This is an exciting time to be joining the Diocese of Derby. The outworking of our vision and strategic outcomes and priorities across the life of diocese offers challenge and opportunity for every post holder.

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 with a re-articulated vision to 2030:

Vision: *The Kingdom of God: Good News for All* seen in: *Transformed Lives: Growing Church and Building Community*

Outcomes: Deepening relationships with God, serving our local contexts, challenging injustice, and making new disciples.

Priorities: Contexts of social and economic deprivation, growing younger, growing more diverse, and 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 in Melbourne, Ticknall, Smisby & Stanton by Bridge and contribute to the life of Mercia deanery.

The benefice is in a beautiful part of South Derbyshire. The four parishes all have their distinctive identities which the new Incumbent will want to celebrate and draw out. In the middle of the benefice is the historic market town of Melbourne where Melbourne Parish Church is part of the Greater Churches Network. Tentative steps towards sharing life and ministry across the benefice exist, including sharing worship on fifth Sundays and sharing a Benefice Administrator. The former incumbent, offered faithful priestly ministry, developing the liturgy of the benefice and creating links between occasional offices and children's activities. The next Incumbent will find a group of churches in good heart looking for resilient priestly leadership to take them into the next phase of their shared life.

We very much hope that you will consider applying.

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

Yours, in Christ,

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