

Role Description: Benefice of Christ the King

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: Team Vicar in the Christ the King Team Ministry with responsibility for St Columba, North Gosforth (0.5FTE)
- 2.2 Name of benefice: Christ the King
- 2.3 Patronage: TR: Christ the King Patronage Board; TVs: Bishop and Team Rector
- 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 of Newcastle 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 district of St Columba, North Gosforth in the Christ the King Team Ministry.
- 3.7 To lead the worshipping community in the development of its vision and strategy, recognising and sustaining current ministry, and seeking to promote and develop work with young people, children and families in collaboration with the Children and Families Worker.
- 3.8 To grow and develop discipleship and local ministry, recognising the talents and skills of lay people in worship, service and outreach, and where appropriate, making links into the diocesan Authorised Lay Ministry initiative.
- 3.9 To increase the presence of the church and engage creatively with the community through pastoral offices and in building relationships with Greenfields Primary School, community associations and users of the building such as Toddlers and the Warm Hub, along with discerning potential for new worshipping communities.
- 3.10 To share in leading the church district and wider parish community into creative and active partnership with Newcastle Central Deanery in a time of change, and to be open to closer cooperation with neighbouring districts, parishes and communities, particularly with those sharing in new housing developments.
- 3.11 To encourage and enable the congregation in the principles of stewardship and giving as part of discipleship.
- 3.12 To be pro-active in ensuring that you continue to access new resources for your ministry and that personal spiritual nurture, refreshment and development is given priority.

Key contacts and relationships

4.1 Generic

- a. The Bishop and the Archdeacon of Northumberland;
- b. The Churchwardens and the District Church Council of St Columba, North Gosforth;
- c. Team Rector, clergy colleagues, the Children and Family Worker in the Christ the King Team Ministry;
- c. Christ the King PCC
- d. The Deanery Chapter and Synod;

4.2 Specific

- a. Greenfields Community Primary School and North Gosforth Academy
- b. Hall users
- c. Affiliated church groups such as the ATC and MU
- d. North East United in Christ Fellowship

4.3 Supportive

- a. The Archdeacon of Northumberland
- b. The Area Dean, Lay Chair and colleagues in the Newcastle Central Deanery
- c. Work consultant or spiritual director.

5. Role Context

The local community of Wideopen and Seaton Burn comprises two old colliery villages with council housing, 50s and 60s semi-detached housing estates with lots of bungalows and a largely older population. There are also some newer estates which have largely attracted younger families. There are good community facilities, connections south into the city centre as well as into the countryside and coast north of the city which makes this a fruitful place to live and minister. The history and current context of the parish also demands a willingness to both honour the past and respond to the developing community profile, holding continuity whilst also responding creatively to those who are unaware of community history but wanting to build a sense of belonging now.

St Columba's was built from a clear vision to be a church for the local community growing out from two previous congregations along with a partnership with a Methodist congregation which has since moved elsewhere. This culture of wanting to be of and for the community remains despite significant change and challenge, not least the Covid pandemic. The Team Rector has brought a sense of collaboration in mission and ministry and a vision for growing the church communities across the team in number and in service to the communities in which they are set.

6 Benefice summary as at time of compilation

Number of parishes	One
Churches and listing	St Columba, North Gosforth, unlisted St Aidan, Brunton Park, unlisted St Cuthbert, Brunswick, unlisted St Matthew, Dinnington, grade II listed
Parsonage	Detached house in church grounds
Other buildings	Church Hall at St Columba's
Churchwardens	Two at each church
Ministers (including local ministry)	The Team Ministry includes a Team Rector (based at St Aidan, Brunton Park), a Team Vicar (i/c St Cuthbert, Brunswick and St Matthew, Dinnington), a curate in training, a Children and Families worker working across the parish, Authorised Lay Worship Leaders, a Reader, a retired priest based at St Columba's and two other retired priests.
Population	10,770 (25042 for Christ the King parish)
Usual Sunday Attendance	St Columba 27
Parish Share (2024)	£30,000, paid in full

Resolution under the House of Bishops Declaration on the Ministry of Bishops and Priest?	No
Church tradition	Modern Catholic
Pastoral Reorganisation Proposals	None
Outreach/service to the wider community	Weekly Warm Hub in colder months Engagement with local primary school Support for local, national and international charities
Business element	Church hall lettings
Ecumenical links	Member of Churches Together group Links with North East United in Christ Fellowship

7 Review

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