

Priest-in-Charge of Kirk Langley; Mugginton and Kedleston; Longford and Long Lane

Part-time, permanent, stipendiary role



Archdeacon's Welcome



I am delighted that you are interested in finding out more about this unique and exciting post. We are looking for an enthusiastic priest with a pastoral heart and passion for rural ministry. Someone who can work collaboratively across these village communities to engage creatively and missionally, sustaining existing church life, developing lay ministries while also innovating and forming new partnerships and worshipping communities.

We hope to complement the pastoral work of Derbyshire Rural Chaplaincy, build upon the seasonal and agricultural cycle, explore opportunities for new community partnerships, become familiar with different forms of communication and explore possibilities for new worshipping communities such as Messy Church and forest church while also considering how we might make the churches more sustainable and viable moving forward into the future.

We are seeking a leader who can inspire others to use their gifts and work in partnership. You will find a willingness and energy to look outward, to work in partnership with others and an aspiration to grow the church through generous faith, courageous hope, and life-giving love. Building on the network of relationships that are forming across the churches in the area, you will find supportive engagement from clergy and laity.

At a pivotal time in the life of the Diocese of Derby, this role offers an innovative opportunity to work and model a new way of leading churches into growth through partnering across boundaries as together we seek to be good news for all bringing God's kingdom near in transformed lives through growing church and building community.

So do read on and if you have questions or want to know more then please be in touch with me directly nicky.fenton@derby.org and we can schedule an informal conversation.

Nicky Fenton

Area Dean's Welcome



This grouping offers an exciting opportunity to minister within rural communities. There is an opportunity to preserve the best of what we have inherited with churches that are keen to face the future together.

We are a numerically small, mutually supportive deanery operating across varied geographical and social situations, but with a firm deanery commitment to explore what mission means in the 21st century. With a comparatively new leadership team, there are plenty of opportunities for exploring what we can do together, and the successful candidate is assured of our full support.

Revd Dr James Hughes
Area Dean of Dove and Derwent Deanery

Our Vision

We are a new benefice with a shared vision of what our Lord Jesus Christ wants of us. As a group of 4 parishes with a range of communities (but with many similarities) we are bound together by a shared commitment to build our churches and parish communities in love and partnership with each other whilst acknowledging our differences.

We have committed leadership teams in each parish and a shared enthusiasm for creating a mixed ecology that will meet the needs of our existing older congregations and connect with younger people who want to explore faith and are looking for new and different forms of worship reflecting the realities of their daily lives to faith.

We are committed to outreach in the new housing developments, working with our church schools, forming new worshipping communities, and partnering with the rural chaplaincy.

We are looking to appoint a part-time stipendiary priest who will inspire and lead us in our worship, congregational life and the delivery of our missional priorities.

Key tasks will be:

- Building links and developing relationships with the 4 current church schools with a view to partnering with them to form new worshipping communities
- Nurturing and discipling church members, particularly through launching small groups, helping them to deepen their relationship with God
- Partnering with the rural chaplaincy to support the farming community
- Developing new and innovative ways of communicating across the benefice
- Support our churches in progressing through the Eco Church Awards.
- To explore sustainable models of governance
- To review whether changing status and becoming either festival churches or chapels of ease would enable the smaller churches to have the energy to flourish

Parish Populations and Congregations

Parish	Population	IMD score	USAA	USCA	Total Worshipping Community
Kirk Langley	720	11.2	17	0	40
Mugginton and Kedleston	532	10.8	12	0	12
Longford	700	10.6	14	0	19
Long Lane	163	17.9	16	0	11

Current Worship Patterns

We recognise our pattern of services might need to change and we are actively seeking to develop new worshipping communities alongside our inherited model of worship and ministry.

There are church schools in four of the parishes all actively engaged with their parish churches and we would hope our new priest can build upon and increase these links.

Currently the congregation from All Saints, Mackworth are joining Kirk Langley for worship while their church building is being rebuilt following a devastating fire.

Church	1 Sunday	2 Sunday	3 Sunday	4 Sunday	5 Sunday
Kirk Langley*	Holy Communion	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion	Morning Prayer	**
Mugginton		Holy Communion Halter Devil Chapel		Holy Communion / Morning Prayer	**
Longford ***		Morning Prayer		Holy Communion	
Long Lane ***	Holy Communion				

*There is a service of Morning Prayer or Holy Communion dependent on the availability of PTOs who support us.

** Every 5th Sunday Mackworth and Kirk Langley share a service at Mugginton of either Holy Communion or Morning Prayer.

*** Long Lane and Longford share services on alternate 1st, 2nd, and 4th Sundays.

Leadership

There are active leadership teams in all the parishes and a commitment by those teams to work together across the group of four churches to share in worship and prayer as we seek to build our congregations and adapt to changing patterns of living. There is also an active and committed Reader who takes regular services alongside retired priests who assist with Holy Communion and life events.

We all believe in the parish system and recognise that as a strong and united benefice sharing buildings, skills and services, we can preach God's word more effectively and be good news for our communities. One of the things we would like our new priest to work with us on is moving towards simpler governance structures and sharing resources across parishes.

Finance

2023	Kirk Langley	Mugginton	Longford	Long Lane
Common Fund Ask	£18830	£8761	£6596	£4431
Common Fund Paid	£6000	£8821	£3298	£4431
Total Income	£11202	£12913	£12691	£7272
Total Expenditure	£33860	£21768	£10261	£7367
Restricted Reserves	£20186	nil	nil	nil
Unrestricted reserves	£25688	£198116	£73709	£39487

Where are we now and where we need to be

The Present

Three of the parishes are very rural with only Kirk Langley having substantial housing development within its boundaries of late. Some inhabitants still work within agriculture but many are professional people who prefer to live in the wonderful countryside we all share. Our churches could be described as having falling congregations of mainly retired people. But there is a wealth of enthusiasm and support across all four churches with many people volunteering for roles, excellent community involvement and a willingness to see these churches survive for future generations. Most importantly, people are welcoming and friendly and whoever takes on this role will find genuine support across all the parishes.

The churches are currently exploring options for sustainable governance and are expecting their new priest to work with them to consider the possible options with a view to reducing the number of PCCs and working more closely together. All churches are used for baptisms, weddings and funerals. Kirk Langley and Mugginton offer a wide range of activities outside of the church. All the churches actively fund-raise and support food and other charities throughout the year.

The parishes share an excellent administrator – employed for 10 hours a week. There are lay readers within the benefice and retired priests who regularly take services so support is available. There are also links to Derbyshire Rural Chaplaincy across the Benefice.

The vicarage is in Kirk Langley and the village is well-located to reach the beautiful Peak District and the neighbouring cities of Derby and Nottingham. It also has excellent transport links to other areas of the country.

The Future

All the churches wish to find a way of encouraging younger people to explore faith and worship at our churches and working with our C of E schools would provide a way into this challenge. Kirk Langley and Mugginton offer a way into getting to know the community beyond the environs of the church through the many clubs and activities on offer.

Most of the churches have falling roles with the exception of Kirk Langley who have managed to raise their regular numbers over the past two years. Even when the Mackworth congregation leave there will still be a congregation of 30 or more.

We are looking for someone who can inspire and challenge us to lead the Benefice into the 21st Century; lead by example and enthusiasm; build on the willingness of the people already working for our churches and be able to develop our churches and congregations further. It is only a part-time post but there is lots of goodwill within the benefice – all we need is a Priest-in-Charge to encourage us to go out into the world, be good news to all and spread the Word of God's kingdom.





St Michael's Kirk Langley

St Michael's is a Grade 1 Listed building in a parish of approx. 750 residents. The current church was built in 1320 although there are Saxon origins.

The heating system was upgraded in 2018, the organ refurbished in 2022 and it has an AVA system. It has a full PCC and all the officers are in place. There are also volunteers for lesson reading, Intercessions, church cleaning, flower-arranging, brass cleaning and grass-cutting.

There is a Lay Reader who is currently supported by two retired priests. It has weekly services supported by the retained organist. The adjacent Village Hall, owned by the Diocese, provides kitchen and toilet facilities. St Michael's currently embraces members of All Saints, Mackworth who worship with us following the arson attack on their church. They will return to a rebuilt church in 2 – 3 years time.





All Saints' Church Mugginton with Kedleston and Halter Devil Chapel

All Saints is also a grade 1 Listed building with origins back to the C11th. It is a widespread parish which covers parts of Kedleston, Mercaston, Weston Underwood as well as Mugginton.

The church is in good condition with a kitchen and a toilet. It has a full PCC with most officer posts in place but no church wardens although this role is shared amongst the PCC.

Halter Devil Chapel is a small building attached to a farmhouse and only seats 28 people. Halter Devil holds monthly services.

Kedleston has a church within the grounds of National Trust-owned Kedleston Hall. Again, only occasional services are held here.





Christ Church Long Lane

This church is newer in age than the other parishes and serves the village of approx. 200 inhabitants. It has 3 services a month, sharing with Longford.

There is one church warden and a PCC with all roles in place. One member takes Communion to a few residents who cannot make it to church.





St Chad's Longford

St Chad's is also a Grade 1 Listed building with Norman origins and it serves the parish of Longford together with the neighbouring parishes of Hollington and Rodsley, totalling approx. 700 inhabitants.

There is a reduced PCC and no church wardens although PCC members and volunteers cover this role. Currently they share services with the neighbouring village of Long Lane. They have an organist for all their services.





The Schools

The Benefice is proud to have four Church of England Schools within the four parishes all of whom have a very strong Christian-ethos running through all they do. All the schools enter into community events to a greater or lesser degree through supporting summer fetes, developing Eco awareness and other community events.

Kirk Langley, Longford and Mugginton all have their own head teachers whereas Long Lane is federated with Marston Montgomery under one head. Kirk Langley is the largest school with 95 pupils, Mugginton has 70, Longford 55 and Long Lane 25. Three of the schools have been rated as Good in their recent Ofsted Inspections with Long Lane Requiring Improvement although this has made progress since the previous inspection when it was rated as Inadequate. Three of the schools have also recently undergone SIAMS Inspections with very positive results. Kirk Langley is due in 26/27.

St Michael's and Christ Church have two members of the church who visit the school to take services, once per half-term. All would love to have the Vicar visit once a month to take collective worship in school. All the schools use the churches to celebrate Christmas, Easter and Harvest together with their Leavers Services. Most have expressed a wish to use the church buildings more frequently for Collective Worship.

Moving forward we see the relationships with the school as being the main focus of our mission and ministry and we long to be able to develop new worshipping communities centred in and around the life of our schools.

Vision Statements

Kirk Langley

'Those who have insight will shine brightly like the brightness of the expanse of heaven, and those who lead the many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever.'

Daniel 12:3

Longford

To promote a love of learning for all children within a caring and supportive community based on 3 biblical texts – The Boy in the Temple, Feeding the 5000 and Corinthians 12: 12 – 27

Long Lane

'Jesus said 'Let the children come unto me.'

Matthew 19:14

Mugginton

'Love your neighbour as you love yourself.'

Matthew 22: 39

The Vicarage

The vicarage is currently situated opposite the church in Kirk Langley at 4 Church Lane, DE6 4NG.

The vicarage is a well proportioned modern four bedroomed property with a spacious study, large garden and ample off-street parking.



How to Apply

Thank you for reading this profile. We very much look forward to hearing from you and will be happy to supply any further information you may need. If you have any specific questions or would value an informal pre-application conversation then please contact: The Ven. Nicky Fenton, Archdeacon of Derbyshire Peak and Dales, nicky.fenton@derby.anglican.org

The Diocese of Derby is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults. All post holders and volunteers are expected to share this commitment. [Click here](#) for further information on our commitment to safeguarding. All appointments are subject to acceptable pre-appointment checks, including a satisfactory Enhanced DBS Check. Your data is processed in line with our [Privacy Notice](#).