



# Working with us in the Diocese of Lincoln

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Clergy recruitment pack  
2026

Oversight Minister of Skegness and  
Assistant Archdeacon of East Lindsey

[Lincoln.anglican.org](http://Lincoln.anglican.org)

**This post is subject to Safer Recruitment & People Management Guidance**

# A letter from the Bishop

A Time to Change Together (TTCT) is a vision of our shared future in the Diocese of Lincoln. As a family of churches, serving one another and reaching our local communities with the good news of God's kingdom, we are committed to collaborative partnerships, relationships of generosity, and growth.

Now that the groundwork has been laid, we are in the happy position of recruiting clergy to a range of creative and adventurous ministerial posts. Therefore, in this recruitment pack, we are beginning to articulate both what we are looking for in our clergy and also what we can offer you in return.

We are committed to continue to build a culture of trust in a time of uncertainty in the Church and in the world. This demands from all of us the qualities of kindness and candour, rooted in personal and theological integrity. We are looking for colleagues who will model these qualities themselves and seek to grow them in others.

The Diocese of Lincoln needs clergy who are:

**Confident** – rooted in prayer and scripture, with a story to tell of their faith.

**Mission focused** – passionate about growth in depth of discipleship and numbers.

**Collaborative** – genuinely open and willing to work with and learn from others.

**Adventurous** – seeking to proclaim our historic faith afresh in this generation.

**Resilient** – knowing when to take risks, accept failure and try again.

**Capable** – demonstrating reliability in the skilled serving of transformation in Christ through the Five Marks of Mission within Local Mission Partnerships.

If you feel you have those attributes and would like to join us in our journey, we would love to hear from you.

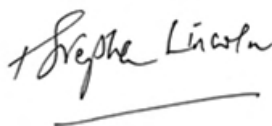
Our offer to you is founded on:

- A diocesan strategy which seeks grassroots renewal and flourishing, not top-down restructuring.
- A vision for ministry which is about gifts and calling, not trying to do 'everything, everywhere, all at once.'
- Leadership which prioritises the life of our parishes and the wellbeing of our ministers.
- A reputation for, and commitment to, excellence in our clergy housing and maintenance.
- An approach to the common fund which is about covenant and generosity.

As you read through this recruitment pack, you will discover so much more that our Diocese can offer to you, as you consider the next stage of your journey in the service of God's Church.

I hope that you will take seriously the invitation to join us and explore the opportunities to serve in the Diocese of Lincoln.

Yours ever in Christ,



# What we offer

**The Diocese of Lincoln** is a family of hundreds of local churches, schools, chaplaincies and projects across the historic county of Lincolnshire offering worship, growth in faith and discipleship and wide-ranging care and support to young and old in its communities.

Our aim is to grow the Church, in both numbers and depth, through attention to what we see as our core tasks of faithful worship, confident discipleship and joyful service, with the vision of being a healthy, vibrant, sustainable church which leads to transformed lives and communities across greater Lincolnshire making a difference in God's world. To that end as a diocese we shall support, encourage and enable local parishes, schools and mission partnerships to fulfil, within this framework, their own unique calling to serve in mission the community in which they are set.



*Edward King House*



*2025 Racial Justice Sunday service at Lincoln Cathedral*



A clear vision for our shared future as a diocese



A Bishop's Staff team and colleagues in the Parish Support Office who are committed to you



Beautiful countryside in which to live and work



Top 10 Dioceses for stipends



48 hours time away recommended each month



Supported annual retreat



Access to Employee Support Programme (EAP) & loyalty benefits program (opt in/out)



Access to Health Cash Plan (Westfield) for you and your dependants (opt in/out)



Programme of installation of solar panels and electric car charging points at vicarages



Garden maintenance support



Total redecoration on appointment including carpeting of public rooms in vicarages



Direct access to the Diocesan Registrar



# A Time to Change Together

## The Diocese's major change programme

The Diocese's vision is to be a healthy, vibrant and sustainable church transforming lives in Lincolnshire. Recent years have been challenging for the diocese. In response to this, we have developed effective programmes which offer the opportunity to both Lincoln Diocesan Trust and Board of Finance Ltd (LDTBF) staff and those in the parish focused colleagues to contribute together significant, positive change towards our vision. We hope that you will want to come to the Diocese and join in this exciting work that is Kingdom-focused and that, while demanding, we believe to be deeply fulfilling.



*Bishop Stephen's enthronement*

Time to Change Together, an integrated approach to growth, deployment, staffing, costs, investments, and voluntary giving launched in 2022, is starting to deliver major benefits in terms of working practice and support for our voluntary and paid staff in the parishes, and in levels of income and in care of our precious and vast range of church buildings, that they better serve the community in which they are set. Resourcing the Urban Church is applying modern approaches and external and internal funding to planting and revitalising churches in the urban centres of the diocese. Over the next decade it will drive numerical growth and strengthened care in major centres such as Scunthorpe, Grimsby, Lincoln and Grantham as well as to market towns across the diocese.



*Worship for everyone at Boston Holy Trinity*

More information about our new Deanery Partnerships, Local Mission Partnerships and other elements of Time to Change Together can be found on [www.lincoln.anglican.org](http://www.lincoln.anglican.org). This includes detailed information about our new approach to oversight and focal ministry, which is locally discerned and co-ordinated by the Deanery Partnerships, and is helping clergy and lay colleagues to re-picture their ministry according to God's call today.



*Ministry Experience Scheme 2025*

# Our Values

## OUR VALUES

The Diocese of Lincoln is the Church of England in Lincolnshire, North Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire. The diocese covers 2,670 square miles and has a population of a little over 1 million. Our vision is to serve our communities in such a way that people may come to know the love of God and have their lives transformed. In order to do this, we know that we need to be a healthy, vibrant and sustainable church.

Our values are that we need, as a diocese, to be faithful in worship, confident in discipleship and joyful in service. The LDTBF, known as the Parish Support office, is here to support those vision and values in a cost effective way and with the highest quality of customer service.

## ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE STRATEGY

The diocese through its churches, chaplaincies and projects is deeply committed to the flourishing of the whole population and embedded in every community across Greater Lincolnshire. Through, for example, our church schools growing children, young people and households we are committed to healthy, inclusive structures in society. The diocesan environmental policy, including a commitment to carbon net zero by 2030, informs all our work from buildings and investments to ministerial and faith training. We have a carefully implemented ethical investment policy for our historic assets. The diocese invests heavily in continuously improving the quality of our safeguarding performance.



*Pet Worship Service, Dry Doddington*



*Choristers , Waltham*

## LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The LDTBF has a good record of supporting staff in their professional development. Equally, parish focused colleagues are encouraged through the College of St Hugh to develop their skills, including through degree or further degree level study, both to help their performance in role and to enhance their opportunities for career and ministry progression.

## EQUALITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSION STRATEGY

The LDTBF continues to work on its performance in terms of equality, diversity and inclusion, particularly in monitoring, training and review. There is a regular forum for Global Majority Heritage clergy and ministers and the diocese is currently establishing chaplaincy for LGBTQIA+ colleagues. The majority of the LDTBF team are women and we are particularly looking to support women clergy to take oversight roles. A Time to Change Together's emphasis on partnership includes commitment to partnership between congregations and ministers of different church traditions. Respect is key to us, as is the valuing of conscience and an approach to diversity and inclusion that is rooted in the gospel rather than in statistics or quotas.



*International Women's Day 2025*



# How will I be Supported?

## Wellbeing and Continuing Ministerial Development



### WELLBEING

We offer many initiatives that safeguard your spiritual and mental health, including:

- New Employee assistance program (EAP) with numerous rewards and benefits locally and nationally.
- Opt in Health Cash plan that covers things like dental, diagnostic and optical costs for you and your dependant children. You also have the option to upgrade your coverage and add partners at your own cost.
- Local counselling sessions accessed through the Wellbeing and CMD Officer.
- We run regular Wellbeing training events.
- We recommend you take all of your annual leave.
- We are among the first Dioceses to adopt a 36 hour rest period, with one quiet day.
- Two consecutive days off once a month as a mid-week weekend away.
- We encourage all parishes in vacancy to consider how they will support the wellbeing of their prospective clergy and their family through engagement with the Covenant for the Care and Wellbeing of Clergy document 'Big Conversation Document for the Local Church'.
- A clear and agreed policy of parental and shared parental leave.

### CONTINUING MINISTERIAL DEVELOPMENT

Our Wellbeing and CMD Officer, who is an ordained member of the College of St Hugh staff team, can offer advice and assist with a wealth of support and training including:

- Care, wellbeing and flourishing for ministers & their families at all stages.
- Ongoing training of ordained and lay ministers.
- Supervision, mentoring, coaching, and consultancy opportunities.
- Resources for developing vocational gifts and skills.
- Ministerial Development Review programme.
- Sabbatical planning for clergy; funding for study and retreats.
- Our new peer and lay facilitated MDR process includes significant focus on the wellbeing, flourishing, and thriving of the clergy person and their family.
- We provide opportunity for all clergy to join a facilitated Reflective Practice/Pastoral Supervision Group.
- We offer access to Coaches, Work Consultants and Mentors.
- 3 year First Incumbency Support and Training process.
- Regular opportunities to gather as colleagues within a large diocese, to offer mutual support.

# The Bishops and Our Vision

The Diocese is served by three Bishops. The Bishop of Lincoln the Rt Revd Stephen Conway is the Diocesan Bishop.

Our Suffragans are the Ven Jean Burgess , Bishop Designate of Grimsby and The Rt Revd Dr Nicholas Chamberlain, Bishop of Grantham. Each Bishop has an office based at Edward King House in Lincoln and our Suffragans are also focused respectively in the North and South of the county.

They work together along with the Senior Team and Parish Support Office to lead and serve the people of the Diocese of Lincoln.

More information can be found on [www.lincoln.anglican.org](http://www.lincoln.anglican.org)



As bishops, our vision is to grow and develop us all as deeply scriptural, praying and worshipping communities and ministers. We want to look outside of ourselves to love the people of our parishes, so that we can share with them the joy, light, hope and love of Jesus. Our covenant is to work together as a team, so that we may use our gifts with you to:

- Grow in numbers and in faith.
- Encourage new and occasional worshippers to become committed disciples.
- Continue with, and develop engagement with children, young people and families in our community, through church, and in our Church schools.
- Offer ourselves and our church building to bring our community together, and meet the challenges of a growing population.



Our aspiration is for the Church in Greater Lincolnshire to be faith-filled, open, active and deeply invitational. Our calling from God is to love, lead, teach and guard the people of our communities prayerfully and practically, as Christ loves them, and to call them to follow Him. We seek to be friendly, approachable, prayerful and helpful.



*Commemorating 30 years of Priesting Women*

# Your Role

Every post has an understanding of its role that is shaped according to its context, alongside the Statement of Particulars that is required by law. A central feature of A Time to Change Together has been to gather information about the needs and aspirations of the over 600 different church communities of the diocese and to shape the distribution of ministers accordingly. In this way, new teams of Authorised Lay and Licensed Lay Ministers (Readers), together with other volunteers such as church wardens or clergy and Readers with Permission to Officiate are being built across Greater Lincolnshire.



## OVERSIGHT MINISTRY IN LINCOLN

Oversight ministers have the legal and pastoral responsibility for all the churches to which they are licensed – their Parish Partnership. They also share the strategic leadership of their Local Mission Partnership with other Oversight Ministers and some lay leaders. Generally each Oversight Minister will also be the Focal Minister (practically leading a particular church) of 1 or 2 churches in their Parish Partnership, but not the Focal Minister of all churches in their oversight. Find out more about Oversight Ministry in Lincoln at [Lincoln.anglican.org](http://Lincoln.anglican.org)

## THE CORE PRINCIPLES OF TIME TO CHANGE TOGETHER

- churches working together with complementary strengths in wider mission partnerships
- equal valuing of all ministries
- no-one ministers alone
- as much responsibility as possible is devolved or delegated to the local area
- every church has an incumbent but few have their own incumbent

## Being an Oversight Minister in the Diocese of Lincoln means:

- equipping the people of God for the mission & ministry of God
- being the wider church in the local communities and churches
- having authority to shape worship, nurture and mission in a group of churches
- providing sacramental ministry along with others
- identifying, discerning & developing focal and other leaders
- delegating & clarifying responsibilities
- building collaborative and mutually supportive teams in your places of oversight
- collaborating in the Local Mission Partnership to create a richer pattern of churches
- supporting, resourcing & overseeing leaders
- establishing healthy patterns of relationship at every level
- modelling a prayerful, self-caring, generous but realistic model of life and leadership

In this phase of Time to Change Together, we are therefore working to release incumbents and others with oversight responsibility by discerning who might hold focal roles in our different communities. In this way we are moving beyond what can be the debilitating impact of Multi-parish Benefices and building a more genuinely collaborative, supportive and missional future.

## YOUTH WORK

The Diocese has a new team of youth and children's enablers, working in parishes and across Deanery Partnerships, with a co-ordinator in the College of St Hugh.

## MISSION

Every Deanery Partnership now has a Mission Enabler who will work with the Bishop of Grimsby to support the growth of the Church in Mission in Greater Lincolnshire.



# Assistant Archdeacon

Our Assistant Archdeacons form a leadership team for the Deanery Partnership, alongside a Lay Co Lead appointed by the Bishop, to support the local journey towards healthy, sustainable and flourishing church communities.

They support the development of mission and ministry across the Deanery Partnership in worship, witness, discipleship and service for and amongst the relevant people, communities, congregations, schools and issues.

They also advocate for and embed the Diocese of Lincoln's commitment to collaborative ministry, growth and generosity in ways that are appropriate to the local context.

Forming part of a regional leadership team in the north and south of the diocese with the relevant Suffragan Bishop, Archdeacon, they work with fellow Assistant Archdeacons and Lay Co Leads to act as a bridge and ambassador for the Deanery Partnership across the Diocese, including with senior leaders.

They also work closely with and support the work of the Archdeacon by undertaking specific legally designated duties as requested.

The legal authority for this role will be a Bishop's Commission, similar to that given to Rural Deans.

This is an additional responsibility under Common Tenure and will form part of the minister's existing stipendiary role.

## Current Assistant Archdeacons & Lay Co-Leads

<b>Boston -</b>	The Revd Can Sudharshan Sarvanathan Mr Chris Ladner
<b>Lincoln -</b>	The Revd Can Jim Prestwood Dr Peter Elsmore
<b>North East Lincs -</b>	The Revd Can Julie Donn Mrs Ruth Brewin
<b>North Kesteven -</b>	The Revd Lorna Brabin-Smith Mr Richard Vickers
<b>North Lincs -</b>	The Revd Can Liz Brown Mr Martyn Whithouse
<b>South Holland -</b>	The Revd Can Carolyn Bailey Mr Nigel Bacon
<b>South Kesteven -</b>	Vacant Mr Howard Jones
<b>West Lindsey -</b>	The Revd Can Steve Johnson Mr Steve Cartwright
<b>East Lindsey -</b>	The Revd Chris Lilley Mr Paul Brewster

## SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

- To build and lead a collaborative team for the Deanery Partnership, comprising clergy, lay ministers, mission enablers, administrators, trainers, children and youth workers and other local roles.
- To accompany the formation and development of Local Mission Partnerships, including through monitoring, care and support.
- To co-convene meetings, training events, worship and study, in collaboration with colleagues.
- To be involved in the negotiation of resources for mission and ministry, including in the deployment of stipendiary posts.
- To be involved in recruitment and appointment processes.
- To advise on local need for any kind of provision or activity in support of healthy and sustainable mission and ministry.
- To work with churches in the discernment of their Church Types and assist them in planning and providing for their common life, according to those types.
- To support local engagement with church schools and the Diocesan Board of Education.
- To advise the Bishop and senior colleagues, in consultation with Rural Deans, of the wellbeing of ministers lay and ordained.

## RESPONSIBILITIES THAT MAY BE DELEGATED

- To conduct visitations in local churches.
- To collaborate with Local Mission Partnerships in the planning of worship and deployment of ministry teams.
- To address complaints at a local level.
- To provide oversight and support for Rural Deans and Assistant Rural Deans.
- To serve as Vice Chair of the AMPC as necessary.
- To support churches and ministers on matters concerning the maintenance of the church, churchyard, and church hall.
- To work with the Archdeacon and Rural Dean to facilitate pastoral reorganisation.
- To represent the Archdeacon at services of Licensing or Institution/Collation, inducting and installing new clergy as required.
- To represent the Archdeacon on Safeguarding Case Management Groups or the Diocesan Safeguarding Advisory Panel as required.

# The Coastal Mission Partnership

## INTRODUCTION

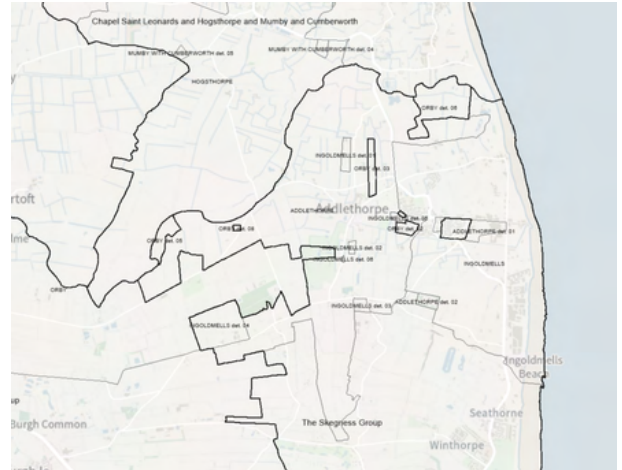
The Coastal Local Mission Partnership, as the name suggests, occupies part of the coastal area of East Lindsey, and also the rural areas of villages and the market town of Alford lying inland. It has a total population of c43,000. There are 23 churches in total. The Local Mission Partnership is made up of two different types of communities. The coastal area is naturally dominated by the tourist industry, with the major resorts of Skegness and Mablethorpe and smaller resorts of Sutton on Sea and Chapel St Leonards and Ingoldmells. Inland lies an intensive and prosperous farming area.

Skegness together with the new benefice of Chapel St Leonard's, Hogsthorpe, Ingoldmells and Addlethorpe form the southern part of the LMP. It is envisaged that the two stipendiary clergy will cover the southern part of the LMP, and collaborate in agreed areas where their particular gifts are relevant.

Similar arrangements are envisaged for the Northern part (one based in Alford and the Mablethorpe and Sutton on Sea Benefices).

The whole LMP has benefitted significantly from Linc Funding (low income communities), particularly because of the problems of older traditional seaside resorts. This will enable the provision of the 4 full-time stipendiary posts.

It is intended that collaborative working, sharing of ideas and resources will continue to develop over time. We also look forward to a growth in the overall life of our Deanery Calcewaith & Candleshoe with the recent appointment of a new Rural Dean. The Deanery also includes the "Society" benefice of Burgh le Marsh and Wainfleet; whilst not part of this LMP it does actively seek participation in existing Deanery and Diocesan structures in a meaningful and collaborative way.



*Southern Node Map*

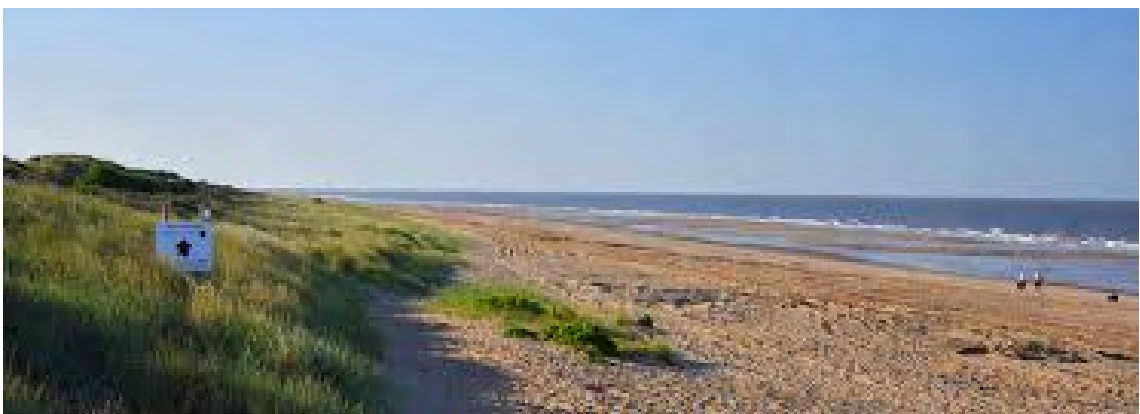
As part of the Coastal Local Mission Partnership, all churches in the Diocese of Lincoln have been invited to identify their distinctive calling using five types:

**Local Mission Churches:** these provide a focus for worship, mission, and belonging.

- St Matthew's is a Local Mission Church
- St Clement's is a Community Church

The incumbent will hold the cure of souls and the associated legalities and governance for these churches.

**Community Churches:** these provide local centres for prayer and worship.



# Introduction

We are a group of three churches, namely St Matthews and St Clement in Skegness and St Mary at Winthorpe, of which only St Matthew has a Holy Communion service every Sunday. We are on the East coast of Lincolnshire within the East Lindsey District Council area. The Group covers an urban area with its immediate rural hinterland.

Situated on the drier side of the Country, our miles of beautiful beaches and the nearby Lincolnshire Wolds attract people from all over the UK. Our local population of 30,000 grows to approximately 250,000 daily during the summer, due to holiday visitors. Our coast has the largest concentration of static caravans in Europe.



The Lincolnshire Coast is a popular retirement destination with a large percentage of the working population being engaged in tourism and its supportive industry. Butlins Resort employs up to 1,200 people, 50% of whom live on resort, it is now virtually a year round business, with many themed week-ends and mid-week breaks, including Spring Harvest the Christian Celebration.

Like most seaside towns, the Group has pockets of social deprivation. Issues include the lack of full time employment and affordable homes; financial hardship, substance abuse, rural isolation and access to health services.

We are looking for a vicar with drive and enthusiasm, in tune with the modern world, who can communicate effectively with all age groups.



There are three churches:

- St Matthew, Skegness (Holy Communion service every Sunday)
- St Clement, Skegness (Tuesday services twice a month)
- St Mary, Winthorpe (currently closed for worship)

Our facilities include the 'Community Gateway' an open versatile space in St Matthew's Church which also has a meeting room, a kitchen, toilet facilities and the Parish office.

At St Clements church there is also a community hall, which has full catering facilities, and it is hired out to groups in the community and also for private functions.



# Example Service Rota

The rota illustrates the current planned service pattern.

We will work with the leadership of the new incumbent to provide a service pattern that meets the needs of parishioners and priest in equal measure.

All the services are currently held at 11am.

Churches	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
St Matthew's	HC	HC	HC	HC
St Clement's		SW		SW

## KEY

### HC

Holy Communion (Lead by visiting clergy)

### SW

Service of the Word led by Authorised Lay Ministers or Churchwardens; these include Café Church, Hymns and Prayers, Messy Church, Morning/Evening Prayer, Morning Worship with Sunday School

## OTHER SERVICES

- When there is a fifth Sunday, this is also a Holy Communion Service at St Matthew's

# Our Worship & Outreach

## WORSHIP & SERVICES

The pattern of worship across the Group is based primarily on Common Worship. The clergy group have a rota system in place for leading Holy Communion services, weddings, baptisms and funerals.

A pastoral care team has recently been formed, comprising of two retired ordained ministers and an ALM. They are reaching out to those who are housebound and in care homes, and offer holy communion and fellowship.

## CHAPLAINCY

We currently offer the following support through our Chaplaincies.

- Our **Children and families' Chaplaincy** includes a Toddlers group and Messy Church.
- The **Bereavement Chaplaincy** includes Memorial Services.
- To the Town Council, one of our Readers being **Chaplain to the Mayor of Skegness**.



## CHURCH GROUPS

### Martha's

The Martha's group of church volunteers offer a welcoming service at social and fund raising functions at our churches, by providing home-baked delicacies and seasonal light meals as well as a regular coffee morning social event.

## ACROSS OUR 3 CHURCHES WE ARE WORKING WITH

- 1 Readers
- 4 ALM's



*Mothers' Union Delivering Christmas Stocking to local foodbank*

### Mix and Make Group

This group meets weekly in the church hall to provide friendship and creativity time in a social environment, enjoying various crafts and are currently involved in a project to make hundreds of poppies for the Skegness branch of RBL. This is a community based group for anyone to attend and provides a welcoming atmosphere to support people suffering loneliness. Current members demonstrate steps to new hobbies which can help to build confidence in others. The group also offers opportunities for members to participate in decorating the church for events throughout the year.

### Mothers' Union

This group meets once a month, following a short Christian service. They have guest speakers and then raffle donations will go to the chosen charity or need. The group have supported various causes in the community, such as knitting hats and scarves for local school children, providing clothing and nightwear for a children's hospital ward and making 'fidget' blankets for local nursing homes. They also support National and International causes.

### Friends and Heroes

For children aged 5-11 years on a Sunday morning during the Holy Communion service at St Matthews church to participate in bible study and activities.

# Our Pledge, Your Qualities

**We are** fully supportive of the ordination of women and would welcome interest from men or women looking to share this vision.



A warm welcome and help for the priest and if applicable the priest's family to settle in and become part of the community



Hard working and organised PCCs and lay ministry team and congregation eager to grow in faith, knowledge and the fruits of the spirit.



A lively programme of church and village events throughout the year displaying joyful Christianity in the wider community.



To co-ordinate lay ministry under the guidance of the priest to enhance mission within the resources available; and to grow these resources wherever possible



Give the priest space to develop his or her own ideas and consider any new ideas and challenges with enthusiasm, flexibility and positivity.



Communicate with, and listen to, our priest.



Support the priest if he or she wishes to take an annual retreat.



Support the priest in taking regular days off and annual leave.

- An ordained priest within the Church of England
- Willingness to engage in further training to enhance the growth of both ministry and discipleship.
- A spiritual leader who can motivate and inspire others to spread God's word with faith, hope, love and enthusiasm
- Who will encourage people to explore and develop their own spirituality in order to serve God in the church and our community
- To continue and increase the links with children and young people, taking us into educational establishments.
- Contribute to the wider life of the parishes and the Deanery
- To be a caring and approachable pastor
- Willing to embrace and develop the possibilities of new technology
- A team builder with the ability to delegate and communicate at all levels.
- Capable of prioritising and focusing on key strategies with good time-management and self-organisation skills · IT proficient, for example with Microsoft Office, email, social media etc.
- An understanding of and commitment to good safeguarding practice, equality, diversity and inclusion; Able to embed good practice in the life of the parishes, seeking to protect the most vulnerable in our communities.
- Is able to drive and has daily access to a vehicle.



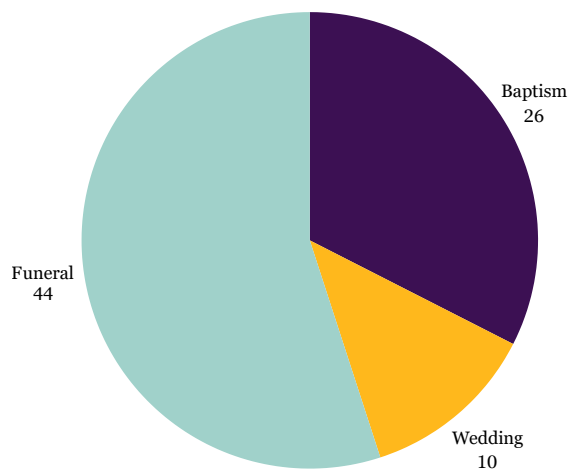
## INFORMATION POINT

St Matthews church and office is open on a Friday morning between 9am and 12 noon. The parish secretary is available for telephone contact Monday to Friday, 9am to 12 noon.

## OCCASIONAL SERVICES

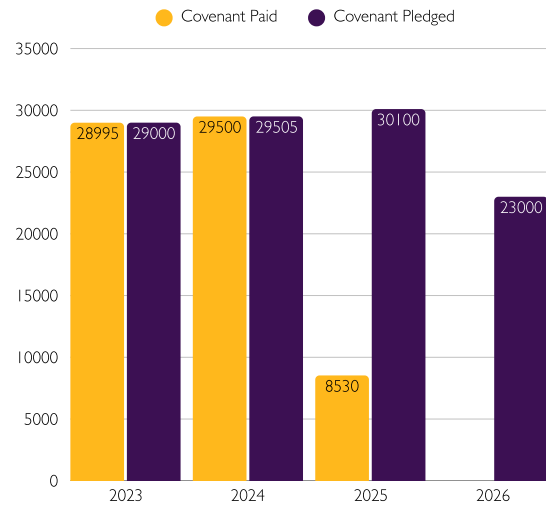
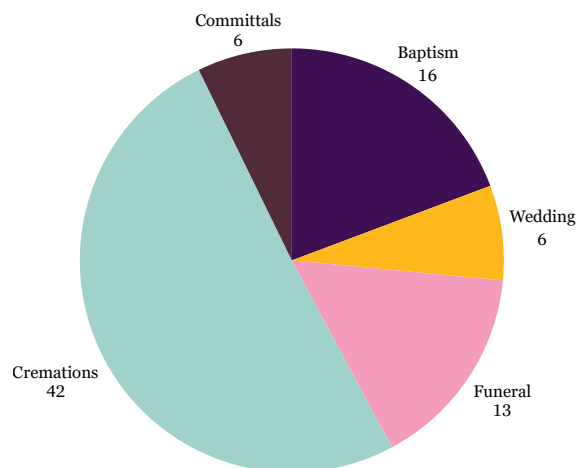
In 2023 we had 26 christening services, (some were multiple baptisms) 10 Weddings and 44 Funerals, (the Deacon and Readers take many of these services.) These may be at local crematoriums or graveside only. In 2023 St Matthews hosted a Roads Victim service and also a harvest festival.

Occasional Offices 2023



In 2024 we had 16 baptisms, 6 weddings, 13 funerals and 42 cremations, 6 committals and 1 dedication. We also had a Memorial service for the bereaved.

Occasional Offices 2024



## PARISH SHARE

In 2025 a pledge is being paid, and it is proposed this be increased for 2026.

## EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

There are primary schools in Skegness, a Grammar school and Academy for secondary education with a brand new Skegness College for further training built in 2025.



# Our Churches

## **SKEGNESS, ST MATTHEW'S**

St Matthew's was built in the 1880s and is a Grade 2 listed building of the early English style and built with Ancaster stone. Thanks to the 9th Earl of Scarborough it is uniquely placed in the centre of a roundabout. The Earl donated the land for the church when he laid out his plans for the town and he wanted the church to be the focal point and its spiritual centre. That was fine when the fastest vehicle was horse-drawn, today getting to church can be more exciting than he intended! The church stands within sight of the Pier on the sea front and the main shopping area.

As we enter the Mission Communities era, St Matthew's was designated as the Key Mission Church for the Group. The facilities of the building are of a modern standard with toilets, a fully serviced kitchen, a meeting room, an office in which the Parish Secretary works and the Gateway area – an open versatile space used for fellowship after services, displays and events, lunches and larger meetings. The font has been moved to make a Baptistry at the front of the South aisle.

Our organ built by Rushworth and Draper is recognised as one of the best in the country. We have a loop sound system and a Steinway grand piano that is used by pianists of all ages in community concerts.



The present main altar by Sir J Ninian Comper was completed in 1952 to commemorate the Festival of Britain of the previous year.

On a sunny day the church is bathed in colour from our stained glass windows, which include one by Comper that depicts St Francis of Assisi. The east windows are memorials to the 9th and 10th Earls of Scarborough and date from 1948, replacing others that were war damaged.

The town War Memorial stands in the church grounds and is used during the annual Remembrance Service. A Civic Service for the council is held in St Matthew's, known to all as the 'Church on the Roundabout'.

The church is blessed with volunteers who welcome the congregation and visitors for worship, coffee mornings, community events including concerts and art exhibitions.

The average Sunday service attendance is 40 - 50 people, including 2 - 5 children, but special services such as Easter and Christmas attract greater numbers.





# Our Churches

## **SKEGNESS, ST CLEMENTS**

Master Thomas'de Perar, the first rector of Skegness vacated his post in 1290, the board in the church informs us. It is believed the first parish church of Skegness was built in 1280, but this was destroyed in the flood of 1526. The present St Clement's church is believed to date from around the middle of the 17th century, with stone in the tower dating from the earlier church and was the parish church of Skegness until Victorian times when St Matthew's was built. Rectors of Skegness did not live in the parish until 1880.



St Clement's is a Grade II listed building in reasonable condition. The church sits in its own grounds, comprising a large cemetery, a redundant Scout/Guide/Brownie Hall and a Community Hall with a carpark. The graveyard is mainly closed now, with volunteers maintaining the grounds and has public rights of way running through it. The Hall is available for hire to Clubs, Organisations and individuals and is used for sport, leisure and parties. St Clement's church is set in the St Clement Ward of the town, which is an area of high deprivation.



The small loyal congregation see themselves as friendly with a warm welcome ready for visitors. It is a designated celebration church and currently hold a mid-week service twice a month, with occasional seasonal services and it is open for weddings, funerals and baptisms.

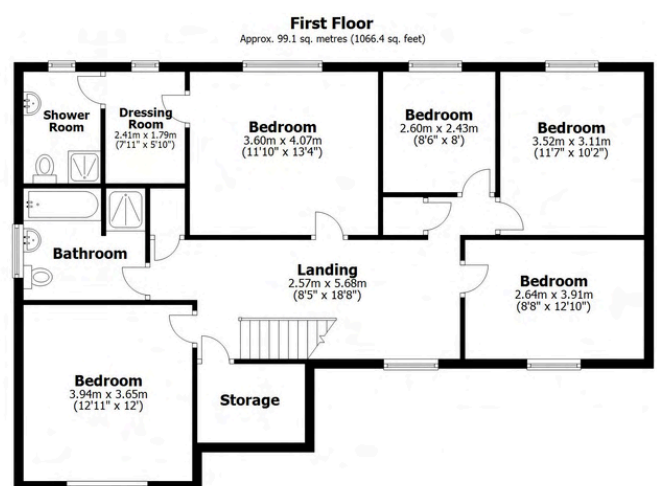
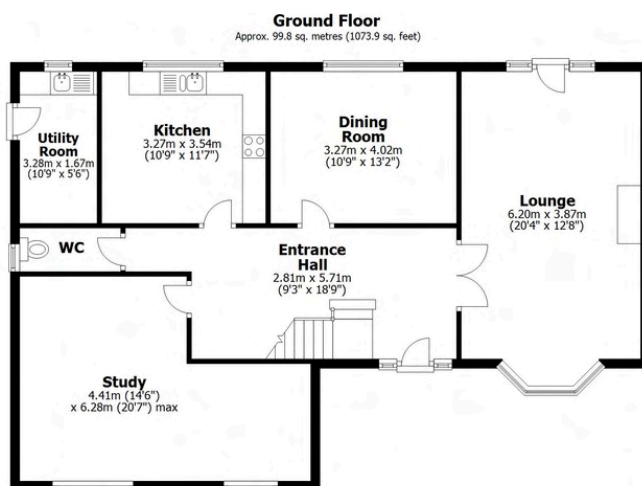




# The Vicarage

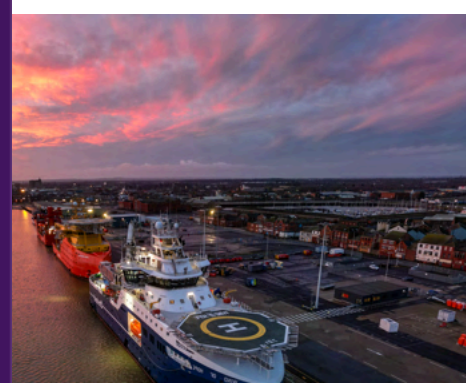
## Your Family Home

- Well appointed 4 bedroom Vicarage
- Separate Family Accommodation
- Double Garage
- Change of appointment works scheduled
- Double glazing units throughout
- Part of Diocesan net zero carbon initiative (Solar Panels to be installed)
- Gas central Heating
- Based in Winthorpe, Skegness with excellent road links, schools and local amenities
- Fully maintained property
- Dedicated diocesan property team



Total area: approx. 198.8 sq. metres (2140.2 sq. feet)

This plan is for layout guidance only. Not drawn to scale unless stated. Windows and door openings are approximate. Whilst every care is taken in the preparation of this plan, please check all dimensions, shapes and compass bearings before making any decisions reliant upon them. All interested parties must verify their accuracy independently.  
Plan produced using PlanUp.



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**This post is subject to Safer Recruitment & People Management Guidance**

