



Vacancy in the Warlingham with Chelsham and Farleigh Team Ministry
.5 stipend Team Vicar (to be held alongside .5 Ministry Parish Ministry
Development Officer in the Croydon Episcopal Area)

Bishop's Statement in relation to the benefice, the needs of the diocese and the wider interests of the Church.

The Appointment

This role is an important opportunity to explore new possibilities in mission and ministry. St Christopher's Warlingham was built for mission, and it is for that purpose that it needs renewing, serving its local area and inspiring the future of the Team. The linking of this post with the Croydon Area's officer for parish ministry development indicates that the postholder needs to be capable both of leading growth in their own context, and of enabling others to do so in very different contexts. If you are the person to fulfil this post, you will need to be comfortable with the label of 'reflective practitioner', and able to reflect theologically on your own practice, and on how others might also explore new possibilities within their own theological tradition and specific context.

The needs of the Diocese & the wider church

The Diocesan Vision sets out our shared vision for a future in which we will see:

- growing churches, new worshipping communities and new Christians
- deepening discipleship: engaged, prayerful and informed Christians
- growth in vocations to existing and new ministries
- generous giving and prayer supporting all we do
- justice and peace built up, and violence challenged, in our local and global community
- a shared commitment to the integrity of creation
- a church for all which reflects our diverse community in membership and leadership.

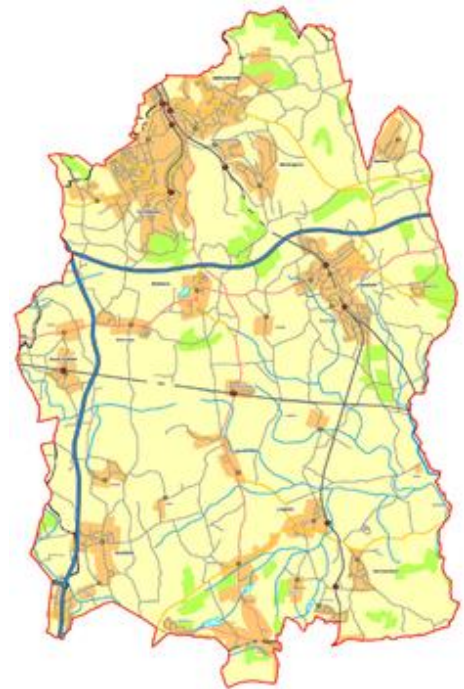
Across a varied diocese, that vision will be worked out in different ways in different places. In every setting, though, we are expecting each parish to reflect in some way all of the Five Marks of Mission; to be encouraging and developing the ministry of the whole people of God; and to be working collaboratively with fellow Anglicans, other Christians and their local communities in the service of the gospel.

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The Deanery

The Area Dean writes: Tandridge Deanery is the newest, largest (by area) and most rural deanery in the Diocese of Southwark. It was formed from the former deaneries of Caterham and Godstone in late 2016, and consists of 26 churches, serving small towns and villages. The churches of the deanery still occupy a central place in their communities, often with a breadth of church tradition reflected in their congregations, and with many opportunities for engagement with their parishes through occasional offices and other events. Stretching from the southern edge of Croydon to the southernmost parishes in the diocese, bordering West Sussex, the deanery is socially and demographically mixed. It covers the same area as Tandridge District Council, and we are looking forward to the opportunities this will create for working together with this and other secular agencies on shared projects.

Our Deanery Mission Action Plan has *Inspiring churches* as its strapline and inhabits values of being *Inclusive, Collaborative and Supportive*. The Deanery Leadership Team is exploring ways in which the deanery can provide support, training and resources for parishes, as well as facilitating the exchange of knowledge and expertise. Our Synod meetings are lively and engaging, and Chapter is warm and supportive. In addition to our regular Chapter meetings, we have a newly formed WhatsApp group for clergy, quiet days and social events. You would be made most welcome among us.



The needs of the Diocese & the wider church

All appointments in the Southwark Diocese take place within the context of the diocesan vision. As this unfolds, it is providing a challenge to all parishes and worshipping communities to ensure that their lives and activities are all shaped around the call of the gospel, and our participation in God's mission in the world. The diocese is emphasising the call to growth, both numerical and spiritual, to a renewed partnership between all members of the church in ministry, and to increased collaborative working beyond parish borders, and particularly in deaneries.

Collaborative Ministry

I am looking to appoint clergy in this Area who are able to articulate their vision for the mission of the church in the places to which they are called, and who have a vision for the church's growth. In whatever tradition or location, I look to hear from the clergy how they will work together with lay members of the church and with their neighbouring parishes and colleagues. I am looking for people with active and developing spiritual lives who are able to be an example of discipleship to the people of God. I take very seriously my own responsibilities as pastor to the clergy, and will always endeavour to make myself available to support them in their ministry.

+Jonathan Croydon