

Benefice Profile



THE LAMP GROUP

St Leonard, Little Linford; All Saints, Emberton;
St Mary, Haversham; St Peter, Tyringham with Filgrave



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Foreword from the Archdeacon of Buckingham



The four churches of the LAMP Benefice are set in distinctively rural villages, and yet are close to the large and growing town of Milton Keynes and all the facilities it offers. The northern border of the benefice, at Emberton, also borders the thriving market town of Olney. This is a lovely place to live and an exciting place to minister. The vacancy offers many opportunities for developing the mission of these churches and the lay teams here are eager to reach out into their communities.

This is an exciting time to be joining the Newport deanery too. With the ongoing expansion of Milton Keynes and the planned Oxford-Cambridge arc, and East-West rail, this part of the world will become even more of a hub than it already is.

Because of the proposed reorganisation of the whole deanery, we seek to appoint an Interim Priest-in-Charge with the gifts and experience to prepare this benefice for its ministry and mission in the years to come. The post calls for a minister who can build relationships of trust and assess the need quickly. Further to this, the work will be to inspire and enable the laity and help them articulate a vision for the whole benefice that meets the need and enables the communities to flourish.

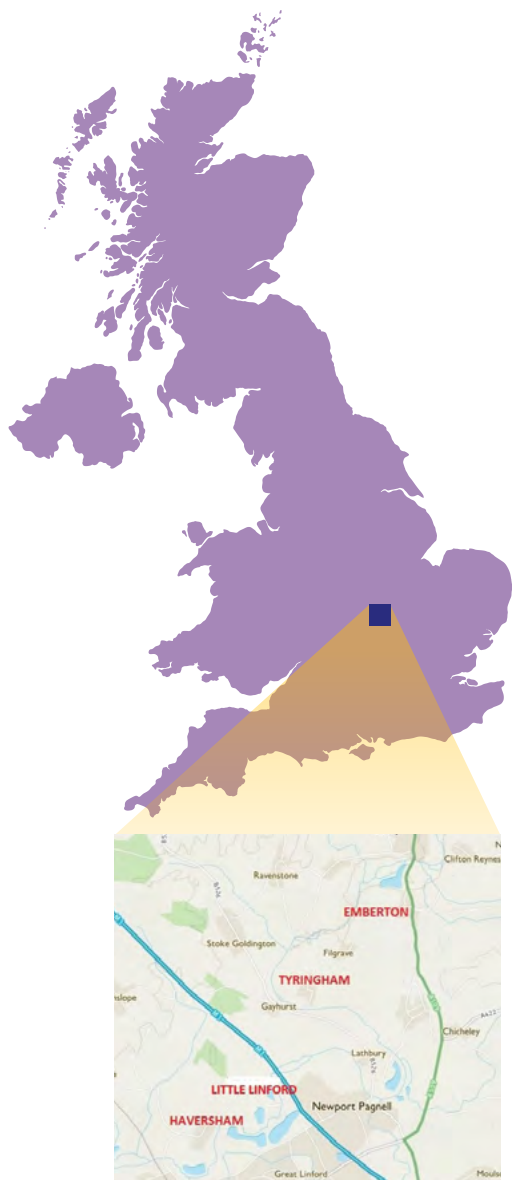
For someone who enjoys rural life and ministry and is looking for the opportunity to help a benefice reimagine ministry at an exciting time in the life of the deanery, this post offers much.

The interim priest-in-charge will be committed to furthering the diocesan vision through which we seek to become a more Christ-like Church for the sake of God's World – contemplative, compassionate and courageous – and to developing the life and missional opportunities of the benefice.

I commend this profile to you and I would welcome conversations about the role with interested candidates. ■

Ven Guy Elsmore
Archdeacon of Buckingham

Introduction



A Newport Deanery reorganisation is envisaged in the next five years as some parishes fall vacant following clergy retirements. The LAMP Group will be part of that reorganisation.

The LAMP Group of parishes stretches 6.5 miles from just north of Milton Keynes along the line of the River Great Ouse to the market town of Olney.

The area is mainly mixed farmland; arable, sheep and some cattle. A small number of villagers work on local farms, while most of those in employment work in Milton Keynes, Bedford and Northampton, and some travel further afield, or commute to London. The villages are not far from junction 14 of the M1.

Haversham (St Mary), where the Rectory is situated, is the largest village at 1,106 (population estimate 2018), a mixed community of private and some social housing. The village has a public house and a primary school. Haversham is situated to the north of Milton Keynes, a rapidly expanding 'new town' with a population of 264,479 (2019 MK Council) and a variety of schools, leisure and shopping facilities about ten minutes' drive away. Wolverton is only 1.5 miles away with shops, a supermarket and west coast main line station.

Little Linford (St Leonard) is part of the parish of Haversham with Little Linford and is a small hamlet, population approximately 45, close to the town of Newport Pagnell.

Tyringham and Filgrave (St Peter), are small villages stretching across farmland in the loop of the Great Ouse. The combined population is about 200; there is a small private school in Filgrave for the under-fives and holiday play schemes, but there are no shops.

Emberton (All Saints) has a population of 679, is an attractive compact village about 1 mile from the market town of Olney and almost equidistant from Milton Keynes, Bedford and Northampton (10-14 miles). It is the northern most village of the LAMP Group and has a strong sense of community. The hamlet of Petsoe falls within the parish. Housing is mostly private with some social housing and accommodation for the elderly. There is a village hall (the Institute), a playing field (supporting football, cricket and tennis) and a Pavilion which hosts many local events. Unfortunately, the pub closed last year, but there is strong support for running it as a community venture. The village first school has also recently closed and efforts to reopen it have failed, but there is ample schooling in nearby Olney. ■

The role



Leadership and vision

- Lead the Benefice and each of the four churches (and three PCC's) as appropriate to their individual situations. Encourage us to learn from one another and to continue to work together to our mutual benefit post COVID19.
- Help us to plan effectively for the future, to channel our ideas and evaluate our actions, so that particularly our fresh expressions offerings move with the times. Help us to work through and embrace the forthcoming Deanery reorganisation.
- Though not expected to lead the technical side of online church or social media, recognise that an online presence is something we must have and help us to further our vision and capability in this area.

Worship and mission

- Value equally the different contexts and churchmanship of the four churches. Lead worship in each church regularly and be committed to developing their spiritual lives and community involvement as appropriate in each village.
- Lead and develop the Worship team and provide support for Home Group leaders.
- Spearhead our movement outside our buildings – people do want to meet the vicar and feel he/she is genuinely interested in them and their community. Help us to grow by bringing new people to faith, particularly young people, by making Jesus relevant to our current context. Help us to focus our pastoral care initiatives.
- Embrace the Diocesan framework of becoming more Contemplative, Compassionate and Courageous churches.

Organisation and support

- Be a practical and organised administrator, at ease with technology, including social media and video conferencing.
- Offer encouragement and sensitive feedback to all who work for our churches, so that we can be directed and motivated to give of our very best at all times. ■

Person specification



We are looking for someone who:

- Is a gifted and visionary team leader (someone people naturally follow) with the ability to recognise and develop skills in others for various ministry and mission tasks and who plans ahead and effectively delegates to laity where appropriate.
- Whilst being a gifted leader, is equally a team player - someone who understands that rolling their sleeves up and “mucking in” on occasions is actually the best way to get to know us.
- Exhibits a vibrant faith, with a longing to lead people to Christ and who upholds the importance of prayer and prayer ministry.
- Has a good knowledge of scripture, who will provide a theological lead and will help us all to grow spiritually. Who can apply those scriptural messages to our changing society and all congregations from traditional through to fresh expressions, whilst being faithful to God's Word.
- Is approachable and has good people skills, preferably outgoing, who enjoys communicating with Christians and non-Christians and with all age-groups. Good listening skills are of course important too.
- Who values parochial visiting, and is happy to sit down for a cup of tea with anyone.
- Has experience in rural ministry or is open to learning and embracing the unique requirements of rural parishes.
- Looks to the future, is comfortable developing and working within planning frameworks and is as keen as us to maintain the relevance of the rural church.
- Someone who despite all these qualities remains a humble servant obedient to Christ and continually seeking His will for our churches.



The Mission of our Churches



The LAMP Group of four churches and three PCC's was established in 1997. CPAS are our patrons. Church life is co-ordinated across the group through meetings of the Rector and Churchwardens.

All Saints, St Leonards, and St Peter's largely serve the parishes in which they are located and have traditional roots. St Mary's is closer to an urban population centre, has a strong evangelical foundation and draws a significant part of its congregation from beyond Haversham village.

We are four quite different churches (all discussed separately in later sections) which provides great variety. Services span traditional sung evensong through to lay-led fresh expressions services like Café Church and Something Else on Sunday at All Saints. Most recently (just pre-lockdown), St Mary's introduced Pizza, Puppets and Praise in Haversham Community Centre. This was very well-received and, by working with the village school, attracted children who would not normally have come to church.

The ageing demographic of three of our villages, coupled with high housing prices has led to falling numbers of children in recent years. Only Haversham currently has a village school. Despite this, All Saints' monthly Sunday School (Children's church) has been running for 10 years, with the children involved in all festival services.

We believe that our different service types allow us to hear God's voice in different ways. The fresh-expressions services also provide useful stepping-stones for those exploring faith. Being predominantly lay-led, they send a clear message that we can all say something useful about the way God works in our lives. All four churches place great emphasis on having well-planned services and on making people feel welcome.

Music is very important to us. St Mary's has a music group, and All Saints has both a small choir and an active group of bell-ringers. At present members of our congregations play either the organ or keyboard at services in all four churches and music is carefully selected to complement the theme of individual services.

During the the COVID19 lockdowns we have developed Zoom services for the Benefice as a whole and are gradually working out what good worship might look like on Zoom! Services resumed in all four churches for some months last year whilst continuing to run Zoom services once a month and on fifth Sundays. Attendance is good and we are reaching people who would not be able to get to church. The COVID19 pandemic has been a wake-up call in many respects and lockdown has forced us to consider carefully "who is missing?". We are doing our best to serve everyone in some way. We now record the Zoom services or one of the church services each



week and distribute a YouTube link by email which typically shows another 20-25 views. We post a written weekly “Pause for thought” to those without technology and regular phone calls are made to those living alone or with difficulties.

A fortnightly prayer group meets on Zoom. Both St Mary’s and All Saints have active home groups.

In village communities pastoral care comes more naturally than in many towns. We do know our neighbours, both those who attend church and those who don’t, and church members have been involved to a greater extent than normal in supporting their wider communities in recent months. Particularly in Emberton, the wider village also supports the church, helping with fund-raising events like the annual fete. All the churches have good attendance at festival services but are still looking for the secret to convert these visitors to more regular worshippers.

Outreach – each church has its own charities which it supports on a regular basis. Some of the fun things we have done to raise money have included pop-up restaurants and most recently our Olympic 100 metre knitathon which worked as outreach in more ways than we could have imagined.

Looking ahead

We are emerging from a period where, whilst we have achieved many things, we have been swimming against a tide of falling congregations and suspect we have not been sufficiently focussed on longer-term planning. There is now though a real appetite to address this. St Mary’s was the first church in the Oxford Diocese to use the Diocese’s new Parish Planning Tool and is currently working through its vision to embed pastoral care in everything that is done, and to reach the residents of the village more effectively. A Parish Planning Steering Group meets monthly to progress this. All Saints has carried out a substantial re-ordering of the building and enhancement of facilities. Once COVID19 is no longer a threat, it is well-placed to broaden the use of those facilities and to physically bring more people into the building. Wider uses of St Leonard’s have also been discussed.

The last few months have though reinforced that church is not just about our buildings (much as we love them and all they signify). We recognise we need to get out of our buildings more and are looking at ways we can do that. We can’t expect people to come to us.

We also know we need to continue to build our online presence. St Mary’s has been leading the way using social media for mission recently. All Saints has had a Facebook page for some time to promote services and other events. We are looking at how we can build on our Zoom services to ensure our relevance in the online space. From a dissertation on online church written recently by one



of our worship team, we have valuable insight into the role online church plays in a rural context. But we need now to develop the vision which will take us to the next level and ensure we continue to keep abreast of trends.

The Zoom services have enabled us to get to know the people in the other three churches in a way which has not previously occurred. All Saints, St Marys and St Leonards share the hosting of these services. COVID19 has shown us we can work together at a Benefice level, that we can learn from one another, share skills and ideas and that, when we work together, we can achieve much more in terms of mission and spiritual growth than would be possible as individual churches. Working together effectively is something which is very important if we are to make the best use of our limited person-power. But we will need to establish frameworks to develop this further.

The focus of the Oxford Diocese on becoming more contemplative, compassionate and courageous churches is something we all take very seriously. We think we can do compassionate but need supporting and challenging to improve on contemplative and courageous.

We have teams in all four churches who are enthusiastic about and very committed to the long-term future of their churches. We need to refine our vision for each of these churches and for the benefice as a whole and establish ways of organising ourselves so that we can truly help one another thrive.



Ministers

Sunday worship is provided across the Lamp Group through the Worship Team which comprises the Rector, a retired Minister, Lay Ministers, and others exploring public ministry.

John Berry

Retired Minister with
Permission to Officiate

Harold Lowndes

OLM (Ordained Local Minister)

Joe Geary

Licensed Lay Minister

Wendy Reidel

Licensed Lay Minister

Louise Cook

Authorised to Preach,
St John's Certificate ■

Group information

The LAMP group

- The LAMP Group of churches was established by Order in Council in May 1997.
- The Patronage is held by the Church Pastoral Aid Society (CPAS).
- The parishes retain their independence and there are three separate PCCs.
- Sunday worship is provided across the Lamp Group through the Worship Team which comprises the Rector, a retired Minister, Lay Ministers, and others exploring public ministry.
- Church life is co-ordinated across the group through meetings of the Rector and Churchwardens.
- The combined electoral roll of the group is 103.
- We have all been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic and the way ahead financially is not clear. All parishes met their Parish Share in full in 2019, but Haversham with Little Linford and Tyringham have resolved to pay a reduced contribution from January 2020.

Ministers



John Berry:
Retired Minister
with Permission
to Officiate



Harold Lowndes:
OLM (Ordained
Local Minister)



Joe Geary:
Licensed
Lay Minister



Wendy Reidel:
Licensed Lay
Minister



Louise Cook:
Authorised
to Preach,
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Usual Service pattern

Sunday	9.30am	11.00am	6.00pm
1st	• Tyringham Holy Communion	• Haversham Parish Praise	• Emberton Something Else on Sunday
2nd	• Little Linford Morning Prayer	• Emberton Holy Communion Childrens' Church • Haversham Morning Worship	
3rd	• Tyringham Morning Prayer	• Haversham Holy Communion	• Emberton Evensong
4th	• Emberton Café Church • Little Linford Holy Communion	• Emberton Parish Praise • Haversham Morning Worship	
5th		• LAMP United Service	

4th Sunday at Emberton – Café Church alternates with Parish Praise.

Variations and additional services occur at festival times.

Occasional offices

	Emberton		Haversham with Little Linford		Tyringham	
Year	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019
Baptisms	1	1	1	0	0	0
Weddings & Blessings	5	1	1	0	0	1
Funerals & Cremations	4	3	1	3	1	0

Financial summary of our churches

Emberton

During 2020 a period of ten years of development and improvements, aimed at making the building more useful for church and community use, is coming to an end. During this period relatively little has been spent on fabric maintenance, thanks to an earlier period of major repair works, making a focus on significant improvements possible.

Improvement costs have been covered almost entirely by fund raising, some very generous gifts and grant support. This exceptional income and expenditure has had the effect of distorting the financial picture as the following figures, taken from the Return of Parish Finance for 2019, illustrate.

However, fundraising has been an essential element of All Saints' general income for many years, although there continues to be a small but regular income from a hard core of Church members.

Figures reported on the 2019 end of year Return of Parish Finance

Total voluntary giving (inc. gift aid)	£16,908
Total restricted giving	£22,359
Fundraising activities	£9,803
Dividends & fees	£5,151
Total income	£54,221
Parish Share (fully paid)	£16,323
Mission giving	£2,755
Church running costs & utilities	£10,074
Repairs & development costs	£30,507
Total costs	£59,659

Cash in bank £20,176 at the end of 2019.
There are no reserves as these funds are fully committed.

Haversham with Little Linford

Although separate accounts are prepared for Haversham and Little Linford churches there is a common theme of income diminishing over the years with annual deficits causing reserves to dwindle unsustainably. Effective 01 January 2020 the PCC resolved to halve its parish share and missionary giving and as a result during 2020 we are in surplus. The financial impact of the pandemic has been muted; our predominant income source is the regular tithes and offerings of the congregation, which have been fairly stable. Here is a summary of the 2019 accounts:

2019 (accruals basis)			
	Haversham	Little Linford	Parish of Haversham with Little Linford
Income	£43,100	£4,400	£47,500
Missionary giving	£4,100	£0	
Church running costs	£13,100	£1,500	
Parish share	£34,200	£3,800	
Expenditure	£51,300	£5,300	£56,600
Deficit	-£8,300	-£1,000	-£9,300
Unrestricted reserves	£8,600	£10,700	£19,300

Haversham with Little Linford (continued)

The following table is prepared on a cash accounting basis for the first nine months of 2019 and 2020 for each church and show the effects of the reduced Parish Share.

01 January – 30 September (cash basis)

Haversham	2019	2020	
Income	£29,700	£31,100	5%
Expenditure	£36,400	£20,600	-43%
Surplus/(Deficit)	-£6,700	£10,500	
Balance at 30 September	£8,400	£18,800	

Little Linford	2019	2020	
Income	£3,300	£1,500	-54%
Expenditure	£3,900	£2,400	-38%
Surplus/(Deficit)	-£600	-£900	
Balance at 30 September	£11,100	£9,900	

Parish of Haversham with Little Linford	2019	2020	
Surplus/(Deficit)	-£7,300	£9,600	
Balance at 30 September	£19,500	£28,700	

The treasurer's annual report and accounts for 2019 are available on request.

Tyringham

With only a small congregation we rely heavily on fundraising and donations. Collections average about £50, only going over £100 for festivals. The Parish Share at over £8,000 is our biggest expense which we have nearly always managed to pay in full, but with the Covid problems we have only paid half. ■



St Leonard's Church, Little Linford



St Leonard's has an intimate, friendly atmosphere and is the smallest of the churches. It was built in the 14th century and is tucked away at the far end of the hamlet.

The congregation is a mixture of those who live in the parish and those who come from further afield for a quiet traditional service. The congregation averages about six for morning services. Church services use both the Book of Common Prayer and traditional language forms in Common Worship. The church holds Morning Prayer on the second Sunday of the month and Holy Communion services on the fourth Sunday.



The church is a daughter church of St Mary's Haversham, the Electoral Roll is shared and Little Linford pays 10% of the parish share whilst maintaining a certain independence. Of late regular financial support of St Leonard's has struggled due to low attendance, although there is encouragement from local residents. The music is provided by a small electronic organ, played by members of the congregation. Music is chosen from "Hymns Ancient & Modern" New Standard. Members of the congregation read the lesson and services are taken from the Book of Common Prayer. There is a strong ministry team supporting this small church which has close worship links with Tyringham.

Charity giving varies but tend to support rural issues e.g. the Arthur Rank Centre at Stoneleigh and Children's charities. ■



All Saints' Church, Emberton



“Church duties such as brass cleaning, flowers and general cleaning are carried out by a small army of volunteers.”

All Saints' is the largest church in the group with a seating capacity of 100. As a village church, it draws in people from a range of Christian traditions. Our electoral roll currently numbers 29 people, but many more attend festival services and are involved in the life of the church in some way. This may be in maintaining and developing the church and churchyard, cleaning, singing at weddings, flower arranging, assisting with fundraising, outreach or helping with events organised by the Friends of All Saints'.

Built in the 14th century, All Saints' is Grade II* listed and is located in the centre of the village. The fabric of the church is well maintained, as are the large churchyard, the tower of six bells and the pipe organ. Funds raised by the Friends have enabled us to significantly improve the facilities within the church in recent years including adding kitchen and toilet facilities, a new sound system and a gathering area for informal services. The church has many beautiful features which have recently been enhanced by the donation of an engraved glass inner door. We keep the church open during the day.

The churchmanship practiced at All Saints' is middle range; our service pattern spans traditional Evensong and Holy Communion services (BCP and Common Worship) to informal Fresh Expressions services like our inter-generational Cafe Church and our evening service for adults, Something Else on Sunday (SEOS). SEOS takes a variety of forms from short courses to video nights. On occasions



*Visit the Emberton Church
Facebook page [here](#)*

it has addressed contemporary topics like Modern Day Slavery. There is also a monthly Parish Praise service, particularly suitable for families, where children take an active part.

We provide a range of special services throughout the year including the usual festival services, an outdoor Rogation Service and an Advent Toy Service, at which we collect toys for children at a local refuge. The Children's Church meets monthly in the village institute. A Home Group, which is lay-led, meets fortnightly, and has a committed long term following.

Lay involvement includes planning and leading SEOS and Cafe Church, choosing hymns, assisting with the communion chalice, leading intercessions and reading lessons. Our congregation value the variety we offer. We try to ensure each service "does what it says on the tin".

All Saints' has a small robed choir, supported at festivals and weddings by some talented 'occasionals'. The church does not currently have a regular organist but draws on people willing to play. We use Hymns Ancient & Modern Revised, 100 Hymns for Today, and Songs of Fellowship. We have a CCL licence and subscribe to Hymn Quest. Our Bell Ringers are an active band supported by ringers from neighbouring churches. They ring for morning services and run a popular mid-week practice night.

Our food and hospitality is widely appreciated. We even provided supper for Bishop Steven on his initial visit to the Deanery. We hold coffee mornings every Thursday and monthly lunches (weekly during Lent). Donations made at these lunches go to a variety of charities. We also regularly support the MK Foodbank, Tear Fund and Crisis at Christmas. Recently we raised over £1,100 for Christian Aid via our sponsored "Knitathon".

During the Coronavirus pandemic, the church has worked with others in the village under an umbrella group called "Emberton Cares" to provide support to the many families who were isolating.

We communicate with the village in a variety of ways including The Well & Towers village magazine (which includes a contribution from the Rector), Facebook, our page on the Parish Council website and via 'Emberton Echo' WhatsApp group.

Our funds come from a variety of sources including fundraising, a small endowment income and donations in various forms. Fundraising is very important but the social events and the annual fete are also a key way of bringing many people from the village and beyond into contact with the church. Emberton United Charity provides the largest single element of the endowment income. This charity also provides some low-cost housing and social support in the village. It has church representation by right, and the current Chair of its Trustees is the All Saints' Treasurer, appointed by the PCC.



The PCC meets six times a year, and there are sub-committees for both Worship and Fundraising.

The Friends of all Saints', set up ten years ago, has a different financial remit. They largely help the PCC to provide facilities which will encourage a wider use of the church building by the local community.

Emberton is a village with a strong community spirit which has a nucleus of old village families, supplemented by new people moving into the village regularly. It is a very active village with a range of social and interest groups meeting in both the Institute and the recently modernised sports pavilion. Our experience with Emberton Cares has highlighted how important it is to work with other groups and, once the pandemic is past, we will be looking for more ways to take the church out to the village, rather than waiting for them to come to us. ■



Vist our webpage at www.embertonparishcouncil.co.uk to find out more



St Mary's Church, Haversham

Visit the [St Mary's Church Facebook page](#) [here](#)



St Mary's is a church which is keen to seek God's will and be faithful to His Word, with a strong Evangelical foundation. We recognise the importance of prayer and prayer ministry, bringing our needs to God in prayer. We worship well together, and our various types of worship services are Spirit-filled, incorporate biblical teaching and provide the opportunity for the congregation to participate. The ethos of the church extends beyond services to House Groups. St Mary's embodies a loving church family who support one another pastorally, welcome visitors and are keen to reach out to the community and extend that pastoral activity. We have a valued and effective team serving the church, including the worship team, house group leaders, music group, treasurer and those with responsibility for administration and for the building and grounds.

St Mary's uses the pipe organ and a clavichord to lead the music element of worship. This is supported with a music group consisting of 10 members. The regular hymn book used is "Songs of Fellowship" which is augmented with an additional hymn/song booklet put together by the church. Other worship songs are also possible, as these, together with the service outline, can be projected onto a permanent screen at the entrance to the chancel.

We are regularly active on social media with numbers of followers and engagement with our posts is growing steadily. Overall, we are prepared to accept and encourage change in order to reach out to the community.

“In five years time we hope to be a church not confined by walls... a church which has become a more active part of the community, sharing Jesus's love”

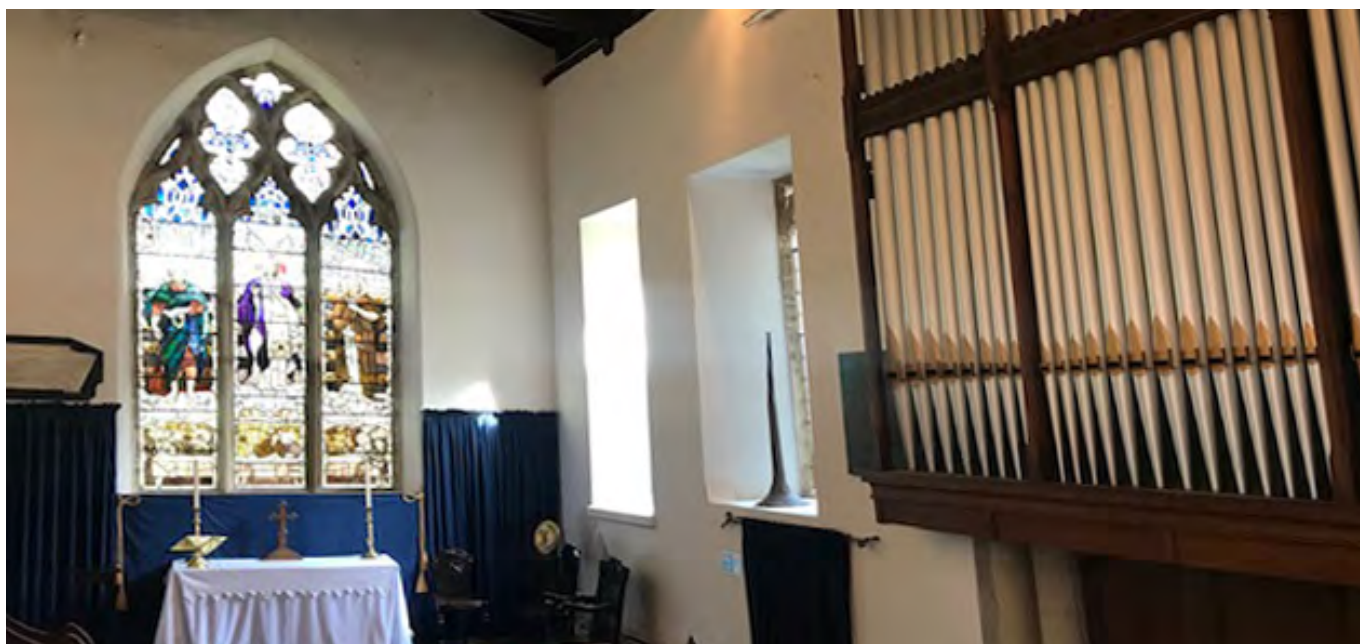
COVID19 has shown us many things. Firstly, how much we value the church building as a meeting and worship centre but also that we can function outside it when we have to and we can do things differently, whilst still maintaining a Bible-based ministry. It has shown how we can worship as a benefice. We know that God is still active despite the world situation and that we must continue to rely on Jesus for all things.

Our Zoom services have developed over time and we have reached people who have not been able to come to services in church. This is an option we must not forget going forward, as it will allow us to be more genuinely inclusive and is a very valuable way of meeting when you can't do so physically. We can still exhibit care, concern and support even if in a different manner.

Social media has been important in helping us raise the profile of St Mary's and share what we are doing, and this must continue as a form of outreach post COVID19.

In five years time we hope to be a church not confined by walls (lockdown has proved we can do that), which embraces all the lessons recently learned; a church which has become a more active part of the community, sharing Jesus's love in spiritual and practical ways and where we all use our gifts and abilities to further mission and fellowship in whatever way we can. We will be a church family that embraces difference with grace and love. As a result, we will have a growing membership of all ages, including a thriving ministry to children and young people.

We need to be prepared to do church differently, e.g. on the Green, Pizza, Puppets and Praise etc., whilst remaining evangelical, Christ-centred, true to God's Word and sticking to Biblical principles and maintaining the importance of prayer life. Various projects however will of necessity need attention, which may involve fund raising. ■





St Peter's Church, Tyringham with Filgrave



The church is admired by the many cyclists, walkers and road users, especially during the month of December when the building is bathed in floodlights

St. Peter's Tyringham with Filgrave is located within one of the most picturesque areas of the four churches which make up the LAMP Group.

Nestled along the Ouse Valley, this Victorian Grade 2* listed church boasts a well maintained twelfth century tower, along with a fine Lutyens WW1 Memorial located on the wall inside the church. It is attractively set back from the quiet country road that connects Tyringham with Filgrave. The Church was once part of the Tyringham Estate which comprises of Tyringham Hall, designed by Sir John Soane and built in 1797, now an impressive private residence, along with empathetically restored farmhouses and workmen's cottages, making up a local community of approximately 200.

The electoral roll is 18 and the PCC meets six times per year. A few years ago, the wonderful Norman and Beard organ at St Peter's church needed extensive and rather costly repairs, in order to bring it back to its former glory. Thanks to the generosity of the villagers, a large donation, and a grant, the sums required were raised and a company sourced to carry out the restoration. Unfortunately, during the repair process, the company ran into problems and sadly went into liquidation, leaving St Peter's with an unrepaired organ and only part of the funds raised remaining. In 2019, the decision had to be taken to mothball the Norman and Beard organ and invest the remaining funds in a new Cadet 21-D organ instead, as this was the most cost-effective solution.



“The Church was once part of the Tyringham Estate which comprises of Tyringham Hall, designed by Sir John Soane and built in 1797, now an impressive private residence, along with empathetically restored farmhouses and workmen’s cottages, making up a local community of approximately 200.”

The Quinquennial Inspection took place in October 2020 with no noticeable problems nor any major expenditure being anticipated. Overall, the fabric of the church is in good order. The doors are however kept locked for security reasons due to its slightly isolated location.

The church is proud to have a regular organist who selects the hymns from the book of Common Praise and a long-serving dedicated Churchwarden who ensures everything runs smoothly, from the purchase of candles, wine and bread, along with ensuring frontal changes and altar linen are correct. The Churchwarden also acts as Verger at weddings and funerals. Members of the church read the lessons and whilst sadly the previous bell-ringing team have dispersed, the set of five bells are able to proudly chime at weddings, kindly rung by visiting bell-ringing teams. There is a fabulous group of local resident volunteers who regularly look after the church grounds, mowing and strimming on a weekly basis, a person who carries out various maintenance work as and when required and a group of ladies who clean the brass, carry out general cleaning and organise displays of flowers for all services.

There is a small but dedicated congregation from across the two villages and beyond, providing two services per month: Holy Communion from the Series Two Common Worship and BCP Morning Prayer. The church also hosts Candlemas and one of the 5th Sunday services, choosing popular themes, such as Hymns of Praise, allowing church members the opportunity to fully participate in personally selecting hymns along with their reasons for doing so. Festival services are always well attended and having taken the decision to move the Remembrance Service from 9.30am to 3.00pm it has resulted in attracting a larger congregation, all of whom partake in afternoon tea afterwards.

Fundraising and charitable donations are of key significance. In terms of charitable donations, the congregation select a different Christian based charity each year, with a specific Sunday set aside for donations. There is also a collection made for the British Legion.

On the fundraising side, along with regular fundraising events such as mini-fetes, tea & cake afternoons, coffee mornings and a ‘ride or stride’ around local farmland footpaths, the creation of ‘Le Tour de Tyringham’ has grown in popularity and attendance since its humble beginnings in 2017. LTDT now has an ever-increasing following, currently over 200 of which around 90 took part in the 2019 event, raising over £5500. This has grown from 26 in its first year, when it raised £1500.

The event sees cycling enthusiasts cover a 25 or 50 mile route starting and finishing at St. Peter’s Church and taking in the beautiful surrounding countryside. Up to 11 local businesses now sponsor the event, such as Michael Graham Estate Agents and Purcell Solicitors, covering marketing, medals and raffle prize donations. There are



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around 30 residents who volunteer by either baking, marshalling, manning registration desks, selling raffle tickets and serving tea and coffee. It is a real community event which attracts many new faces each year to St. Peters and significantly helps contribute to its upkeep. Wonderful comments from the 2019 event can be found on the Facebook Event page by clicking [HERE](#).

Within the village of Filgrave, there is a small school & nursery which is leased to a private education provider. The school building is run by the De Chappuis Konig Charitable Trust, which has a board of Trustees and the Rector holds the position of Chairman. Its aims are to provide for the needs of a child who resides within the village to further their education in the form of a bursary.

Within Tyringham, there is a family owned care home set in 5 acres of beautiful countryside. It is registered for 24 residents, all with varying needs.

Both Tyringham and Filgrave come together via the Parish Meetings held once per year, along with several other meetings throughout the year via the Association known as FATS. At the FATS meetings, village matters and forthcoming events are discussed. FATS publish its own newsletter which is distributed to every household within the community a number of times per year. The community is also kept up to date on village matters via its own Facebook page – The Tyringham and Filgrave Community Centre, as well as via the Haversham and Little Linford magazine and wider reaching publications in neighbouring Olney. As there is no village hall, all meetings and events are held at either the church, the village school or residents' private properties. ■





The Rectory



The Rectory is a modern house built in 1978 and is situated opposite Haversham church. It is a well-designed house with a large garden, surrounded by fields, in the older part of Haversham village.

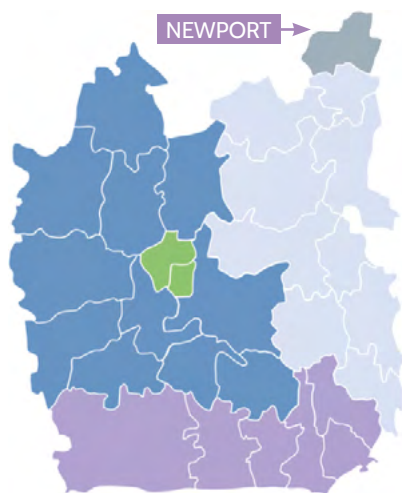
All the main rooms of the Rectory face south/west. Downstairs has a study, WC, sitting room, dining room, kitchen, and utility room. Upstairs has four bedrooms (three of which are double), a bathroom with WC and another separate WC. The house has oil fired central heating and plenty of gravelled parking.

The single garage is attached to the house as part of the old rectory lodge. The Upper Room has been available for the parish, is self-contained and is reached by a separate outside door. It has a separate electrical system from the Rectory.

The Rectory is in a beautiful part of rural north Buckinghamshire, although only a short drive from the facilities of Milton Keynes. Wildlife abounds, and seasonal plums and apples from the garden are often appreciated by the parishioners. Haversham Lakes with fishing and sailing available are nearby. ■



The Deanery of Newport



The Deanery of Newport sits in the north east corner of the Diocese of Oxford and is bounded by deaneries in the dioceses of Peterborough and St Albans. The population of approximately 32,500 is split one third, 10,900 people, across our rural communities with 19 churches, and two thirds, 21,600 people, in our two market towns of Olney and Newport Pagnell with three churches. The deanery has 5.5 stipendiary clergy covering 7 benefices, two of which are held in plurality.

As part of the Borough of Milton Keynes, there is an increasing demand for the provision of new housing in an area earmarked for major regional housing and employment growth. 'PLAN:MK', a draft 15 year building programme of 40,000 new homes, contains several proposals which impact the Newport Deanery, and we are expecting population in the deanery to expand by up to 107% over the next 20 years.

The deanery is actively working with the neighbouring Milton Keynes Deanery and the Archdeaconry of Buckingham to consider responses to current and future housing developments with informal and formal structural changes, in addition to accommodating the evolving nature of our mission and worshipping communities.

The current challenge remains the balancing of areas and churches that are investing and maintaining dynamic growth, alongside those which are struggling to sustain their church communities and attract

more lay involvement. As we respond to this, the deanery continues to explore ways of sharing resources and gifts, with established and new programmes of mission at the local level.

As a Group Ministry, the deanery is home to diverse traditions, representing almost the full range of the Anglican spectrum. This is fully respected and reflected in locally held benefice plans for mission, and supported by a strong commitment to shared deanery working wherever there are common interests and needs. Deanery Synod is well attended as a result. We believe there is much to build on here for the future. The deanery encourages shared leadership roles, with deanery-wide specialisms and/or roles assisting in the day-to-day operations which includes a vocations advisor, a marriage surrogate and an officer for retired clergy from amongst the ranks of the Deanery's clergy.

Formal and informal support exists between ordained and lay leadership with shared ministry addressing mission plans, resources and cover for sacramental ministry. This includes support for benefices in terms of filling vacancies and developing sustainable ministry patterns for the future. These are underpinned through the encouraging, enabling and releasing of our membership and congregations to minister fully to their communities as part of our living faith, becoming a more Christ-like church, and will remain a fundamental and critical element for the future. We are excited by the opportunities, and working relationships are friendly and mutually supportive.

Our Deanery Chapter meets formally ten times a year and also enjoys gathering socially. Attendance at Chapter is good and it is hoped that whoever is appointed to serve within the Deanery will take a full part in our shared life. We look forward to working with you. ■

The Revd Canon Gary Ecclestone SSC
Area Dean

Tim Edwards
Lay Chair

Diocese of Oxford



The Diocese of Oxford serves the mission of the Church in Buckinghamshire, Berkshire and Oxfordshire. The Diocese comprises more than 600 parishes, with over 800 churches, serving a diverse population of more than 2 million people located in all types of settings.

Due to the size and complexity of the Diocese, we have three Area Bishops who exercise considerable strategic and pastoral oversight for their Areas. The Bishop of Buckingham is the Rt Rev'd Alan Wilson, who has been the Area Bishop since 2003. The Archdeacon of Buckingham is the Ven Guy Elsmore who has been in post since 2016. In September 2020, Rev'd Canon Chris Bull was appointed Associate Archdeacon of Buckingham.

Since the appointment in 2017 of the Rt Rev'd Dr Steven Croft as Bishop of Oxford, a new Common Vision has emerged for the Diocese of Oxford. The vision is based on the qualities described in The Beatitudes and addresses what kind of church we are called to be:

**a more Christ-like Church for the sake of God's world:
contemplative, compassionate, courageous.**

As our Common Vision continues to emerge, we have identified together six themes for our common life. These are not a description of everything the Church does, but they do represent the areas God is currently calling us to:

- Environmental action
- Christian formation and discipleship
- Growing new congregations
- Schools, children and young people
- Addressing poverty and inequality
- Celebrate and bless Milton Keynes

These priorities are being supported centrally by resources, training, conferences, workshops, and much more. The Diocese is inviting benefices and their priests to share a vision rather than demanding a response. It wants all its clergy to flourish in ministry and to deepen their enjoyment of God.

It is hoped that all clergy appointed into the Archdeaconry of Buckingham will want to commit to the Diocesan vision, and to encouraging their benefices to share in becoming a more Christ-like church for the sake of God's world. For more detail, see www.oxford.anglican.org ■

Appendix A

The following provisional role description will apply from the date of licensing. It will be reviewed by the postholder and the Archdeacon of Buckingham approximately six months after the date of licensing. Amendments will be made where necessary, by agreement.

Provisional role description

Section One: details of post

Role title:	Interim Priest-in-Charge
Type of Role:	Full time stipendiary
Name of benefice:	LAMP Benefice
Episcopal area:	Buckingham
Deanery:	Newport
Archdeaconry:	Buckingham
Conditions of Service:	Please refer to Statements of Particulars document issued in conjunction with this role description.
Key contact:	Archdeacon of Buckingham
Clergy Terms of Service:	This role falls within the Clergy Terms of Service formally known as Common Tenure. The Archdeacon of Buckingham is the designated person by the Bishop of Oxford to issue the Statement of Particulars for the post holder.
Accountability:	Priests share with the Bishop in the oversight of the Church. Whilst, as an office holder, the individual is expected to lead and prioritise work in line with the purpose of the role, they are encouraged to inform the Archdeacon and Churchwardens about any issues exceptional or otherwise that have the potential to affect ongoing delivery of ministry.
Additional Responsibilities:	n/a

Section Two: context

Wider Context

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As our Common Vision continues to emerge, we have identified together six themes for our common life. These are not a description of everything the Church does, but they do represent the areas God is currently calling us to:

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Local Context

The LAMP Group of four churches and three parishes (with separate PCCs) stretches 6.5 miles from just north of Milton Keynes along the line of the River Great Ouse to the market town of Olney.

The churches are served by a Ministry Team of 6 (including the Rector) and church life is co-ordinated across the group through meetings of the Rector and Churchwardens.

All Saints Emberton, St Leonards Little Linford, and St Peter's Tyringham with Filgrave largely serve the parishes in which they are located and have traditional roots. St Mary's Haversham is closer to an urban population centre, has a strong evangelical foundation and draws a significant part of its congregation from beyond Haversham village.

The churches are all quite different churches which provides great variety. Services span traditional sung evensong through to lay-led fresh expressions services like Café Church and Something Else on Sunday at All Saints. Most recently (just pre-lockdown), St Mary's introduced Pizza, Puppets and Praise in Haversham Community Centre. This was very well-received and, by working with the village school, attracted children who would not normally come to church.

As the benefice faces the future, its churches are committed to:

- focussing on longer term planning to address the challenge of falling congregations
- exploring new ways of getting out of our buildings and going to where people are
- continuing to build its online presence
- work more together at a benefice level and develop the growing relationships between the churches
- develop their focus on becoming more contemplative, compassionate and courageous churches
- refine the vision for each of the churches and for the benefice as a whole and establish ways of organisation so that the churches can truly help one another thrive.

For more information, see the parish profile.

Section Three: role purpose and key responsibilities

General:

- A. To exercise the cure of souls shared with the bishop in this benefice in collaboration with colleagues, including the praying of the Daily Office, the administration of the sacraments and preaching
- B. To have regard to the calling and responsibilities of the clergy (as described in the Canons, the Ordinal, the Code of Professional Conduct for the Clergy) and other relevant legislation including
 - bringing the grace and truth of Christ to this generation and making him known to those in your care
 - instructing the parishioners in the Christian faith
 - preparing candidates for baptism and confirmation
 - diligently visiting the parishioners of the benefice, particularly those who are sick and infirm
 - providing spiritual counsel and advice
 - consulting with the Parochial Church Council on matters of general concern and importance to the benefice
 - bringing the needs of the world before God in intercession
 - calling your hearers to repentance and declaring in Christ's name the absolution and forgiveness of their sins
 - blessing people in God's name
 - preparing people for their death
 - discerning and fostering the gifts of all God's people
 - being faithful in prayer, expectant and watchful for the signs of God's presence, as he reveals his kingdom among us.
- C. To share in the wider work of the deanery and diocese as appropriate, for the building up of the whole Body of Christ.

Key responsibilities specific to the local situation

- Lead the Benefice as a whole and each of the four churches as appropriate to their individual situations, valuing equally their different contexts and churchmanship.
- Encourage the churches to learn from one another and continue working together.
- Regularly lead worship in each church to develop their individual spiritual lives and roles, within the framework of becoming more Contemplative, Compassionate and Courageous churches.
- Lead and develop the Worship team and provide support for Home Group leaders.
- Lead the churches to move outside our buildings.
- Help the churches to grow by bringing new people to faith, particularly young people, by making Jesus relevant to our current context.
- Help the churches to focus their pastoral care initiatives.
- Help the churches to plan effectively for the future.
- Help the churches to further their vision and capability for online worship.
- Be a practical and organised administrator and at ease with modern technology.
- Motivate, offer encouragement and sensitive feedback to all who participate in church life.

Other responsibilities

- Participate in the Bishop's Ministerial Development Review scheme and engage in Continuing Ministerial Development.
- Carry out any other duties and responsibilities as required in line with the benefice needs.
- Take care for their wellbeing including health and safety and building a good repertoire of spiritual and psychological strategies.

Section Four: benefice summary

The Benefice of

Benefice: LAMP Benefice

Patron(s): CPAS

PCCs: 3

Churchwardens: 5

Benefice paid staff: none

Benefice unpaid staff/ volunteers: 1 Permission to Officiate (PtO) priest, 1 Ordained Local Minister (OLM) 2 Licensed Lay Ministers (LLMs), 1 Authorised Preacher, other lay volunteers across the benefice.

Buildings: 4

Churchyard(s): 4

Church Tradition: Evangelical and traditional

Pastoral Reorganisation proposals: Deanery re-organisation planned within the next 5 years.

For more detailed information, please refer to the Parish Profile.

Section Five: key contacts for the role

Generic and specific to the role

Groups & committees

- The PCC
- Deanery Chapter
- Deanery Synod
- Deanery Pastoral Committee

In the benefice

- Churchwardens
- Ministerial Colleagues
- Head teacher(s) of local school(s)

Support structures

- Area Dean
- Area Bishop
- Area Archdeacon
- Spiritual director, work consultant, etc
- Staff at The Diocesan Office with key responsibilities for various aspects of supporting

Section Six: other

This role description is issued alongside and should be read in conjunction with the following documents:

The Ordinal

The Canons of the Church of England

Guidance for the Professional Conduct of Clergy

Bishop's Licence

Statement of Particulars issued to the office-holder on successful appointment

Diocesan Clergy Handbook

Parish Profile

Ministry Action Plans (MAPs)

Any objectives discussed and agreed between the post holder and the supervising minister

Role description signed off by: The Venerable Guy Elsmore, Archdeacon of Buckingham

Date: _____

To be reviewed next on (date): _____

