

Thank you for your interest in the parish of North Thornaby.

This is a parish within the catholic tradition of the Church of England. It has been faithfully served for twenty years by its recently-retired priest, who unfortunately was hampered latterly by health issues. The congregation is of modest size but loyal, and there has been effective pastoral contact with young people. There is real potential for fresh leadership to release a sense of energy and expectation for growth, together with increased confidence in looking outwards, beyond the internal life of the congregation.

The accompanying profile document is based on the PCC's own statement and reflects the hopes and priorities its members share.

North Thornaby is a community that has evolved over a long time and has a distinct identity. Thornaby borders the River Tees and stands at the very north of the Diocese of York. It lies within the Borough of Stockton-on-Tees.

The incumbent is an important figure to whom many people beyond the congregation, living and working in the parish, can relate. The appointed priest will need to come with commitment to ministering in the context of a community of this kind: the parish is by no means a monochrome housing estate, but rather comprises substantial variety. Even so, there are long-standing challenges of economics and wellbeing, as the parish is ranked by the Church Urban Fund within the 6th percentile of most multiply deprived nationally.

As the PCC has formally petitioned the Archbishop of York, this post is open to male clergy only. The Archbishop has delegated the making of the appointment to me, but I shall involve the Bishop of Beverley fully in doing so. Appointment is subject to a satisfactory enhanced DBS disclosure.

Please do consider prayerfully whether you may be called to serve this parish and its people.

✂Paul Whitby