

Role Description: Benefice of Newcastle Holy Cross

1 Introduction

The role description gives an outline of the responsibilities of a position. These may develop while someone is in post and this document will need to be kept up to date. It should be reviewed as necessary at Ministerial Development Review, alongside the setting of objectives.

2 Details of post

- 2.1 Role title: Interim Minister of Newcastle Holy Cross
- 2.2 Name of benefice: Newcastle Holy Cross
- 2.3 Patronage: The Bishop of Newcastle
- 2.4 Deanery and archdeaconry: Newcastle West; Northumberland
- 2.5 Initial point of contact on terms of service: The Archdeacon of Northumberland

3 Role purpose: General

- 3.1 To share with the Bishop in the cure of souls.
- 3.2 Ever prayerful and mindful of the responsibilities laid upon you in the Ordinal, the Canons, national Safeguarding policies, and all other relevant legislation, in accordance with the Archbishops' statement *Guidelines for the Professional Conduct of the Clergy*, your ministry will be shaped by the Diocesan vision – Growing Church Bringing Hope – and guided by our values of being open to God's transforming love, generous with God's transforming gifts and engaged in God's transforming work in the world.
- 3.3 Your priestly vocation demands the careful preparation for, and the leading of public worship, the imaginative proclamation of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and the loving service of all God's people entrusted to your care. Together with your priestly colleagues and lay ministers, you will work collaboratively to enable the gifts of all God's people to be developed in the Service of his Kingdom.
- 3.4 In your priestly ministry you will take an active part in the Diocesan strategy – Growing Church Bringing Hope: Next Steps. This is particularly important for this time-limited interim post and must include collaborative parish conversations and planning for mission and ministry as well as working with colleagues across the Deanery and more widely in the life of the Diocese. A number of supports are available to you through the provision of work consultants, spiritual directors and Continuing Ministerial Formation programs, and you will be expected to participate in the scheme of Ministerial Development Review.
- 3.5 Above all, you will remember that we are called to minister by a gracious, generous self-giving and loving God, as together we seek the Kingdom, share the faith, search for truth, serve our neighbour and follow Jesus in his suffering love for the salvation of all people.

Role Purpose – Specific

- 3.6 Bringing good news: to work with the congregation to assess the current role of the church in the community and scope the possibilities and potential for mission and growth.
- 3.7 To grow, develop and mobilise a collaborative ministry team, recognising the talents and skills of lay people, and drawing on the diocesan authorised lay ministry initiative.
- 3.8 To bring a mission focus to the range of activities which take place in the life of the church, support those who lead them and discern together future priorities.
- 3.9 To build confidence and growth in faith through preaching, worship, teaching, prayer, and encourage the congregation in the principles of generous giving as part of discipleship.
- 3.10 To enable confident and creative engagement with the community and to seek out new missional opportunities and discern potential for fresh expressions of church.
- 3.11 To support the PCC in developing policies and actions which care for creation and meet the challenge of the Church of England's aim to be Carbon Neutral by 2030.
- 3.12 To encourage and develop existing work with children and young people in the church and build on engagement with local schools.
- 3.13 To take responsibility for pastoral care, occasional offices and leading of regular public worship in the parish.
- 3.14 To lead the parish and church community into creative and active partnership with the deanery in a time of change, working in effective cooperation with neighbouring parishes and communities and sharing in the wider responsibilities in mission. Active engagement with Deanery Chapter, Synod and the Deanery Development Group is expected.
- 3.15 To ensure that you continue to access new resources for ministry and that personal spiritual nurture and refreshment is given priority in your ministry.

Key contacts and relationships

4.1 Generic

- a. The Bishop of Newcastle, the Bishop of Berwick and the Archdeacon of Northumberland;
- b. The Churchwardens and the Parochial Church Council;
- c. The Area Dean Deanery Chapter and Synod;

4.2 Specific

- a. The Reader
- b. Youth Church Leaders
- c. Ministry teams in neighbouring parishes, particularly Fenham St James and St Basil

4.3 Supportive

- a. The Archdeacon of Northumberland
- b. The Area Dean, Lay Chair and colleagues in the Newcastle West Deanery
- c. Work consultant and spiritual director
- d. National Interim Ministry network

5. Role Context

This is a time limited, Interim Ministry post to offer resource and support to enable ‘turnaround’ after an extended period of vacancy. The congregation at Holy Cross has suffered loss in confidence over this time including the impact of the Covid 19 Pandemic. Nevertheless, there is huge potential in this well populated, diverse suburb of the city. A real area of growth during this time have been exciting new developments in work with young people.

There is a clear need to assess and encourage potential new directions for mission and ministry in this area. ‘Growing Church Bringing Hope: Next Steps’ diocesan process will encourage evaluation and partnerships with other organisations and neighbouring parishes. There are already links with the neighbouring Parish of St James and St Basil Fenham and the possibility of sharing in mission initiatives across Fenham, but also other relationships to explore within the deanery.

6 Benefice summary as at time of compilation

Number of parishes	One
Churches and listing	Holy Cross; unlisted
Parsonage	Detached four bedroomed house adjacent to church
Other buildings	Jubilee Hall and parish hall
Churchwardens	Two
Ministers (including local ministry)	One Reader
Population	7,650
Usual Sunday Attendance	59
Parish Share (2020)	£30,000 (76%)
Resolution under the House of Bishops Declaration on the Ministry of Bishops and Priest?	No
Church tradition	Liberal Catholic
Pastoral Reorganisation Proposals	None
Outreach/service to the wider community	Support for local, national and international charities. Support for local food bank. Links with local Care Home.

Business element	Letting of parish hall
Ecumenical links	Member of Churches Together in Fenham, which shares worship, social activities and projects.

7 Review

The Archdeacon will review this role description with you when you have been in post for six months.

Date: May 2021