

## **Role Description: Benefice of Monkseaton St Peter**

### **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: Vicar of Monkseaton St Peter
- 2.2 Name of benefice: Monkseaton St Peter
- 2.3 Patronage: The Bishop of Newcastle
- 2.4 Deanery and archdeaconry: Tynemouth; 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 will 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 – Generic and Specific**

- 3.6 To take responsibility for pastoral care, occasional offices and leading of regular public worship in the parish of Monkseaton St Peter.
- 3.7 To encourage the congregation to grow in faith and in numbers through preaching, worship, teaching, prayer and service to the community, and to lead the parish in the development of its vision and strategy for growth.
- 3.8 To grow and develop an active team, recognising the talents and skills of lay people, and where appropriate making links into the diocesan authorised lay ministry initiative.
- 3.9 To bring a mission focus to the wide range of activities which take place in the life of the church and support those who lead them.
- 3.10 To engage with social justice issues in the area through the foodbank and other local initiatives.
- 3.12 To promote existing work with children and young people in the church and build on engagement with local schools.
- 3.13 To engage creatively with the community through ecumenical partnerships, relationships with hall users, and to seek out new missional opportunities and discern potential for fresh expressions of church.
- 3.14 To encourage and enable the congregation in the principles of stewardship and giving as part of discipleship.
- 3.15 To lead the parish and church community into creative and active partnership with the deanery in a time of change, and to be open to closer cooperation with neighbouring parishes and communities than previously expected and the sharing of wider responsibilities in mission.
- 3.16 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 and Archdeacon of Northumberland;
  - b. The Churchwardens and the Parochial Church Council;
  - c. The Deanery Chapter and Synod.

#### 4.2 Specific

- a. Readers and other lay leaders;
- b. Ecumenical links;
- c. The Local Ministry Development Team and Retired Clergy;
- d. Local head teachers.

#### 4.3 Supportive

- a. The Archdeacon of Northumberland;
- b. The Area Dean, Lay Chair and colleagues in the Tynemouth Deanery;
- c. Work consultant or spiritual director.

### 5. Role Context

St Peter's Monkseaton is a thriving parish church with excellent links to its local community which is a relatively wealthy suburb on the coast not far from the city of Newcastle upon Tyne. There is a strong Eucharistic tradition, coupled with a willingness to engage with different forms of worship and fresh expressions of church. Priorities self-identified by St Peter's include prayer, children's and youth work, and a wide engagement with their local community; a commitment encapsulated in their tagline '*Faith, Hope, Community*'.

St Peter's engages with the pockets of deprivation in the parish through the food bank and providing lunches for children during the school holidays, although there are some parts of the parish where the congregation recognised they do not yet fully engage. St Peter's has fostered vocations for both Readers in training and also curates serving their titles, and views providing training and growth opportunities for lay and ordained as a part of its role in the deanery and diocese.

There is a sense in which an outwardly fairly strong congregation, with good lay leadership and lay participation, has been rocked by the relatively short incumbencies of the previous two vicars (both held in warm affection but who left more suddenly than planned because of unexpected new opportunities).

St Peter's has a highly committed congregation who are involved in a wide variety of activities in the church and community, leading to significant visibility of St Peter's within the parish as a whole, with all the opportunities that brings. There is currently also significant involvement in the deanery from a range of people in the congregation. A new incumbent will need to be able to focus energy as well as be able to hold and value a range of priorities.

St Peter's engages with the diocesan vision of **growing church bringing hope**, and is well-placed to serve and resource this vision in a future when more radical mission and ministry will be required of all God's people. It is likely that less well-supported congregations and communities in the deanery, and possibly beyond, will look to the likes of St Peter's for encouragement and help. The rate of change in mission/ministry will accelerate across the diocese in the next few years and a new incumbent at St Peter's will need to be open to the

possibility of expanding parish boundaries and/or cross parish cooperation for mission in an emerging deanery plan.

## 6 Benefice summary as at time of compilation

Number of parishes	One
Churches and listing	St Peter, not listed
Parsonage	Four bedroomed semi-detached house 50 yards from the church
Other buildings	Crosskeys Community Hall
Churchwardens	Two
Ministers (including local ministry)	Two Readers, one Reader in Training Assistance from retired clergy living in the parish Lay people involved in worship, pastoral care and care of the building Office administrator
Population	14,811
Usual Sunday Attendance	135
Parish Share (2019)	£88,178, paid in full
Resolution under the House of Bishops Declaration on the Ministry of Bishops and Priest?	No
Church tradition	Traditional, centred on Eucharist
Pastoral Reorganisation Proposals	None
Outreach/service to the wider community	Links established with most schools in the parish At Easter and Christmas, details of services and seasonal literature distributed to commuters at Metro station and to local businesses Involvement with local charities and community projects Services at local nursing and care homes Church building is open during daytime and used by homeless people, with provision of tea/coffee/basic food items
Business element	Income from hall lettings
Ecumenical links	Work with local URC and Roman Catholic Churches

## 7 Review

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