

Role Description: Benefice of Kingston Park St John

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: Priest in Charge (half time) of Kingston Park St John
- 2.2 Name of benefice: Kingston Park St John
- 2.3 Patronage: The Bishop of Newcastle
- 2.4 Deanery and archdeaconry: Newcastle Central; 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 marked by a generosity of spirit, an engagement with the people and situations you serve, and an openness to the promptings of God's love.
- 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 development of Mission Action Plans, in the work of the Deanery through the Deanery Development process and more widely in the life of the Diocese. A number of supports are available to you through the provision of work consultants and spiritual directors, 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 Kingston Park St John, as an Anglican minister and partner alongside, and in cooperation with, a Methodist minister colleague, recognising respective denominational duties of care.
- 3.7 To work creatively and positively with all ecumenical partners invested in St John's, and in particular to serve in fruitful partnership with the 0.5 (FTE) ordained Methodist minister colleague, in deepening relationships and realizing the potential of ecumenical collaboration.
- 3.8 To encourage and lead the congregation to grow in faith and in numbers through preaching, worship, teaching, prayer, and service to the community and lead the parish in the development of its vision and strategy for growth, and particularly seeking to extend work with children and young people.
- 3.9 To grow and develop local ministry that recognises the talents and skills of lay people, and encourages, motivates and enables their use in worship, service and outreach.
- 3.10 To lead the parish and church community in creative and active partnerships in the deanery, Methodist Circuit and Baptist and URC networks.
- 3.11 To help the parish develop its links with the local community, including local schools, and share actively in local community development.
- 3.12 To seek out new missional opportunities, discern potential for fresh expressions of church, and to be pro-active in engagement with new housing developments.
- 3.13 To be pro-active in creating time for personal development and spiritual well-being.

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. Methodist Colleague sharing leadership responsibility;
- b. St John's wardens, staff and retired clergy;
- c. Lay leaders and volunteers;
- d. ECC and PCC.

4.3 Supportive

- a. The Archdeacon of Northumberland;
- b. The Area Dean, Lay Chair and colleagues in the Newcastle Central Deanery;
- c. Local Advisory Group (representing all four denominations), ecumenical colleagues and networks;
- d. Work consultant or spiritual director.

5. Role Context

This is a 0.5 FTE post within a well-established Anglican, Methodist, Baptist and URC local ecumenical partnership. The person appointed will work in partnership with a half-time Methodist minister, with appropriate and agreed division of responsibilities. The half-time Methodist minister has been in post since September 2018 and is planned to continue in post until August 2024. A willingness to work positively and clearly within an ecumenical setting is crucial, whilst holding a distinctive Anglican vocation together with genuine respect for partner denominations.

Priorities self-identified by St John's include: developing and strengthening links with the community; building on relationships with the groups using the church building; and fostering the growth of the congregation in corporate and personal spirituality, discipleship and witness.

The St John's church building is modern, flexible and in a key location. Helping the church community to seize new opportunities to engage with new housing developments, the retail park and existing housing estates will be central to growing church bringing hope here.

The prospect of two 0.5 FTE posts, one Methodist and one Anglican, serving together offers real scope for reimagining church and reshaping mission and ministry for the future. This requires a genuinely collaborative approach between lay and ordained, as well as ecumenically.

6 Benefice summary as at time of compilation

Number of parishes	One
Churches and listing	St John, unlisted
Parsonage	1970s detached house a few minutes' walk from the church.
Other buildings	The church building includes meeting rooms, office, kitchen and toilets.
Church Wardens	Two
Ministers (including local ministry)	Half time Methodist minister, also two retired Methodist ministers in the congregation. One Reader, two other accredited lay preachers. Lay involvement in worship and pastoral care. Finance and Property Group looks after the building and finance. The church has a

	secretary, vergers, bookings secretary and also employs a part-time Children's Worker.
Population	6,959
Usual Sunday Attendance	77
Parish Share (2018)	£31,473 (towards Anglican Parish Share) of £45,984 towards all denominational costs
Resolution A, B, C	None
Church tradition	Low church, drawing on traditions of other denominations.
Pastoral Reorganisation Proposals	None
Outreach/service to the wider community	Strong links with Kingston Park Primary School and with children's and youth groups that use the church building. Links with local businesses and organisations are being developed. Social events at church are open to the local community. The church has run community activities on Kingston Park Green. Support is given to local charities, with members of the congregation involved, and to national and international charities.
Business element	Income from use of meeting rooms by outside groups.
Ecumenical links	Local Ecumenical Partnership (Anglican, Methodist, Baptist and URC)

7 Review

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

Date