

Role Description: Benefice of Monkseaton St Mary

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 Mary
- 2.2 Name of benefice: Monkseaton St Mary
- 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 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 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 Mary.
- 3.7 To be a catalyst for change and growth to enable St Mary's to realise its potential for service and mission in the wider suburban.
- 3.8 To lead the parish in the development of its vision and strategy, seeking to promote and develop existing work with children, young people and families and build on engagement with local schools.
- 3.9 To grow and develop sustainable local ministry, recognising the talents and skills of lay people in worship, service and outreach, and where appropriate making links into the diocesan authorised lay ministry initiative.
- 3.10 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.
- 3.11 To engage creatively with the community through, community relationships and hall users, and to seek out new missional opportunities and discern potential for fresh expressions of church.
- 3.12 To encourage and enable the congregation in the principles of stewardship and giving as part of discipleship.
- 3.13 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 cooperation with neighbouring parishes and communities in the sharing of wider responsibilities in mission.
- 3.14 To be pro-active in ensuring that you continue to access new resources for your ministry and that personal spiritual nurture, refreshment and development is given priority.

Key contacts and relationships

4.1 Generic

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

4.2 Specific

- a. Local community leaders
- b. Head teachers of local schools
- c. Ecumenical partners

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 Mary's Monkseaton is a thriving church, strong on hospitality, generous and inclusive, in the modern liberal Anglo-Catholic tradition. It does liturgy and sung worship to a high standard. Set in the desirable seaside town of Whitley Bay, the church seeks to engage with its wider community, and places strong emphasis on lay and clergy partnership, seeking to release the gifts of all into ministry and mission, so we seek someone who will discern, support and encourage the considerable potential that exists among the people of the parish, whilst also fully validating and utilising the gifts of those already active.

In common with many churches, St Mary's seeks to grow younger in terms of its age demographic and to go out further into its community. It is well placed to engage well with both these challenges as it brings to life the wider diocesan intention of growing church bringing hope. Whilst still living with the effects of the Covid 19 pandemic, St Mary's is a church in good heart with a generous spirit, well-resourced in terms of people as well as finance.

6 Benefice summary as at time of compilation

Number of parishes	One
Churches and listing	St Mary, unlisted
Parsonage	Early 20th century five bedroomed semi-detached house approximately 400m from the church
Other buildings	Hall adjacent to the church
Churchwardens	Two
Ministers (including local ministry)	Curate in training, one Reader and one Reader in Training. A number of active retired clergy. Lay people are involved in all areas of church life. Part time paid parish administrator.
Population	8,500
Usual Sunday Attendance	60
Parish Share (2021)	£75,000, paid in full.
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	Good links with local schools.

	<p>Support for the local food bank and a number of local, national and international charities. Members of the congregation are involved in local community groups.</p> <p>Working with a local shopping mall to develop the role of Christians in the community.</p> <p>Working towards silver award for Eco-Church.</p>
Business element	Income from hire of the church and hall
Ecumenical links	Member of the coastal group Churches Acting Together

7 Review

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