

Role Description: Benefice of Kingston Park

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 (0.5FTE) of Kingston Park
- 2.2 Name of benefice: Kingston Park
- 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 Seeking, Sharing, Sending 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 ministerial 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 Seeking, Sharing, Sending. 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 (with others) for the delivery of regular public worship, occasional offices and pastoral care in the parish of Kingston Park.
- 3.7 To integrate quickly into the existing leadership team at St John's, particularly in relationship with the Methodist Deacon. To clarify roles, gifts, skills and interests and hold particular responsibilities within the team.
- 3.8 To lead the worshipping community in the development of its vision and strategy, recognising and sustaining current ministry, and seeking to promote and develop work with young people, children and families in order to continue to be growing younger and more diverse.
- 3.9 To grow and develop discipleship and 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 increase the presence of the church and engage creatively with the community through pastoral offices and in building relationships with Kingston Park Primary School, community initiatives and users of the building, and to discern potential for fresh expressions of church.
- 3.11 To oversee the good governance of a diverse worshipping community, increasing participation and enabling strong connections with different partners.
- 3.12 To lead the parish and church community into creative and active partnership with Newcastle Central Deanery in a time of change, and to be open to closer cooperation with neighbouring parishes and communities, particularly with those sharing in new housing developments such as the neighbouring Christ the King Team.
- 3.13 To encourage and enable the congregation in the principles of stewardship and giving as part of discipleship and to encourage the Church Council budget to reflect the parish's vision.
- 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 and the Archdeacon of Northumberland;
- b. The Churchwardens and the Parochial Church Council;
- c. The Deanery Chapter and Synod;

4.2 Specific

- a. St John's Ministry Team, including Jill Henderson as half-time stipendiary Methodist Deacon
- b. Church Secretary
- c. Head, staff and pupils of Kingston Park Primary School

4.3 Supportive

- a. The Archdeacon of Northumberland

- b. The Area Dean, Lay Chair and colleagues in the Newcastle Central Deanery
- c. Work consultant and/or spiritual director.

5. Role Context

Kingston Park is a pleasant residential area to the north west of Newcastle city centre, well-connected, with a good standard of housing. Despite being a relatively new estate there is clear sense of identity and a community focus with the retail area, of which the church building is a visible part. Kingston Park has always attracted a wide range of visitors due to its retail offer and the population in the area is also now increasing. St John's has always been at the heart of the estate and is clearly the local church for everyone.

This is an exciting moment in the life of St John's after a difficult period exacerbated by Covid and staffing changes. There is an active mission focused team, and this role calls for a willingness to be flexible and to be prepared to fit-in to what is already working and what is beginning to emerge. There is also a role here in discerning opportunities for growing discipleship and mission, enabling congregational reflection on these opportunities and inspiring participation and ownership of them. An openness to other Christian denominations' patterns of worship and church organisation is essential, holding and celebrating the gifts the Anglican tradition offers, alongside recognising the opportunities of partnership working that an LEP offers.

6 Benefice summary as at time of compilation

Number of parishes	One
Churches and listing	St John the Evangelist, unlisted
Ecumenical links	Four-way Local Ecumenical Partnership with the Baptist Union, the Methodist Church and the United Reformed Church, but one congregation.
Parsonage	1970s detached house a short walk from the church.
Other buildings	None. Church building includes office space and meeting rooms.
Churchwardens	Two
Ministers (including local ministry)	Two Readers, a Methodist minister and two local preachers.
Population (2021 census)	7,261
Usual Sunday Attendance	80
Parish Share (2023)	£17,100, paid in full. This is part of a £64k total Assessment for ministry costs across the denominational partners.
Resolution under the House of Bishops Declaration on the Ministry of Bishops and Priest?	No

Church tradition	Various traditions and denominations within the congregation. Use of vestments is at the discretion of the minister.
Pastoral Reorganisation Proposals	None
Outreach/service to the wider community	Use of building by community groups; Support for local food bank; Support for asylum seekers; Links with local primary school; Links with local care home, with services held there; Support for national and international charities.
Business element	Income from use of building

7 Review

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