

## Role Description: Benefice of Benwell & Scotswood

### 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: Team Rector of Benwell & Scotswood
- 2.2 Name of benefice: Benwell & Scotswood
- 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 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 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 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 for pastoral care, occasional offices and leading of regular public worship in the parish of Benwell & Scotswood.
- 3.7 Strategic oversight of the variety of needs and opportunities across the Team, working with and through others to develop and prioritise the missional response.
- 3.8 To support and resource the existing ministry team and develop the vocations of those already offering lay ministries.
- 3.9 To work with existing systems of governance and finance to enable growth and flourishing and look at developing these further.
- 3.10 To be bold in working with and developing the existing mission partnerships around the church buildings in the parish and be open to exploring new possibilities for both outreach and worship.
- 3.11 To identify and work with the variety of strengths in the congregation and enable growth, spiritually, missionally and numerically
- 3.12 To engage with local schools and develop a plan for closer engagement with the twelve schools across the parish
- 3.13 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 Archdeacon of Northumberland;
- b. The Churchwardens and the Parochial Church Council;
- c. The Deanery Chapter and Synod;

### 4.2 Specific

- a. The Team Vicar for Mission and the wider ministry team across the parish
- b. Leaders and Trustees of local community groups and projects, particularly those currently using parish buildings
- c. Staff and students of local schools
- d. Local community leaders
- e. Local councillors and MPs

### 4.3 Supportive

- a. The Archdeacon of Northumberland
- b. The Area Dean, Lay Chair and colleagues in the Newcastle West Deanery

- c. Work consultant or spiritual director.

## 5. Role Context

Benwell and Scotswood are dynamic and lively communities with a diversity of cultures within them. The area has relatively large and settled South Asian communities, alongside many people seeking asylum and more traditional white working-class communities. The diversity of needs are reflected in the many and varied organisations within the community, many of whom began with local churches.

There has been significant growth in the outreach of the church recently and there is a need to consolidate this and ensure it is sustainable and can continue to grow. There are distinct worship centres across the parish but a growing sense of church communities seeking to worship and serve as one. There has also been some real success in deepening discipleship and engaging people in ministry roles. The nature of the communities mean that the congregations can feel full of life, life-giving and yet fragile requiring a positive yet realistic, robust and yet responsive approach to ministry and mission.

## 6 Benefice summary as at time of compilation

Number of parishes	One
Churches and listing	St James, Benwell, grade II listed St John, Old Benwell, unlisted Venerable Bede, Benwell, unlisted St Margaret, Scotswood, unlisted
Parsonage	Detached house near to St James' church
Other buildings	Church halls at St James, Venerable Bede and St Margaret
Churchwardens	2 at each church
Ministers (including local ministry)	Team Vicar for Mission, one retired priest with PTO, one Reader, one Anna Chaplain, six ALMs (3 for worship, 3 for pastoral care)
Population (2021 census)	22,568
Usual Sunday Attendance	144 across the parish
Parish Share (2023)	£18,000, paid in full
Resolution under the House of Bishops Declaration on the Ministry of Bishops and Priest?	No
Church tradition	Liberal catholic with openness to new forms of worship and music.
Pastoral Reorganisation Proposals	None
Outreach/service to the wider community	Support for asylum seekers and refugees Foodbank based at Venerable Bede Youth projects Various community groups and links with local organisations Close links with local councillors and MPs

	Links with other faith groups Links with local schools Links with local care homes
Business element	St Margaret's rents office space and other rooms to outside organisations. Income from hire of church halls.
Ecumenical links	Involvement with local Churches Together group

## 7 Review

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