

The Bishop's Statement

Vicar of St. Andrew's, Catford

The Diocese of Southwark - Christ Centred & Outward Focused

St. Andrew's Church sits at the heart of the Corbett Estate, a 19th century predominantly suburban, residential area. The church is part of a community 'hub' comprising the Corbett Community Library and Sandhurst Primary School. With its recently refurbished church hall - which hosts a range of activities including uniformed groups, the church is perfectly placed to build a strong local presence, and to form connections with other community groups.

St. Andrew's cherishes its catholic tradition, and values inclusivity and diversity. It is also keen to develop its work with children, young people and families. In recent years, the parish has become more outward looking, and the congregation have lots of creative ideas and energy for outreach. They have strong lay leadership - both on the PCC and Ministry Team, and are keen to strengthen the role and profile of lay leaders. St. Andrew's has enormous potential for growth.

The parish is part of a large, supportive deanery, where clergy colleagues have strong relationships. The deanery is keen to find ways to work together, to support one another, and to share resources. Parishes in the Woolwich Episcopal Area are underpinned by a Diocesan Team that offer a multitude of skills and resources.

The priorities for this parish reflect those in the renewed *Southwark Vision*, which sets out our commitment to being a diocese which is Christ-centred and outward focussed. Our vision for the next decade focusses on investing in parishes, developing ministry, growing our churches, becoming younger and more diverse, deepening our discipleship, and seeking healing for our communities and the wider world. The new priest will be committed to this vision, and to the values that support it.

This role offers the new incumbent a fantastic opportunity to work alongside an enthusiastic, capable congregation to develop engaging worship, build a thriving all age congregation, and to become the heart of the local community.

Hopes for a new priest:

- Rooted in Christ, seeking to grow in their own faith and encourage others on their faith journey
- Committed to the liberal catholic tradition, and keen to breathe new life into worship
- Eager to develop and support the lay leadership of the church
- Proven track record of engaging with children and young people
- A person who values inclusivity and has the cultural competency to encourage diversity
- Outward looking and eager to be present in both the church and the community
- Has strong interpersonal skills and will help to build community

*The Right Reverend Christopher Chessun, Bishop of Southwark
The Revd Bridget Shepherd, Acting Archdeacon of Lewisham & Greenwich
July 2024*

Southwark Vision

<https://southwark.anglican.org/about-us/who-we-are/southwark-vision/>

Southwark Parish Support Fund

<https://southwark.anglican.org/giving/parish-support-fund/>

This post is open to ordained Anglican priests signed off for incumbency status, with the right to work in the UK.