



The Diocese of
Southwark

The Bishop of Southwark

The Rt Revd Christopher Chessun

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Vacancy in the benefice of Sanderstead, All Saints w Hamsey Green, S Anthony

In considering whether to offer this post to any applicant, the Bishop will wish to satisfy himself that the applicant is able and willing to work positively and purposefully with the [Diocesan Vision](#).

The Benefice

All Saint's is an historic church, with a modern outlook on mission and ministry. The parish profile speaks of extending God's welcome to all, proclaim Jesus, serving our community, and sharing in God's mission in this part of South Croydon'. The outlook of the parish is to witness to the gospel and to be well connected to the local community, active in mission both there and more widely. It is hoped that once the incumbent for this post is settled, there will be an appointment of a pioneer minister who will serve the parish and the wider area. The new incumbent needs to be able to lead and enable the church to tell the story of faith in Sanderstead in a way which recognises its heritage, develops the current warm fellowship of church and community partners and yet looks to a more missional future, taking the Anglican five marks of mission seriously, including serving those in need and with them challenging injustice in society. The parish is well resourced with an active and supportive team of clergy and lay ministerial colleagues. Although the majority of members are in the 60+ age group, it is the expectation of the church that the new incumbent will work with the team to attract and welcome families and children and young people.

The Deanery

The parish is part of the Croydon South Deanery. The Area Dean writes:

Croydon South Deanery covers the southernmost part of the Borough of Croydon. Although mostly affluent, there are some more hidden pockets of social deprivation. The life of the deanery is expressed through its synod where our meetings generally focus on an area of mission in a way that is encouraging and sometimes challenging to the parishes, and the clergy chapter meetings which aim to be a place of mutual encouragement, sharing and prayer. We do not have a deanery mission action plan, but prefer to encourage each church in the mission we have in our parishes. The spectrum of churchmanship in the deanery avoids any extremes and clergy and people enjoy meeting together when there is an opportunity. Clergy are happy and willing to stand in for each other if possible when the need arises through sickness or holidays.

Revd Paul Roberts

The Archdeacon writes

The Archdeaconry of Croydon comprises the four Deaneries of Croydon North, Croydon Central, Croydon South and Croydon Addington, a total of 40 parishes. The archdeaconry includes all of the London Borough of Croydon, and three parishes in West Wickham in the London Borough of Bromley.

The Croydon archdeaconry includes areas of suburbia, and substantial deprivation in inner city and estate areas. The parishes of the archdeaconry reflect the whole range of Anglican experience.

The churches of the Archdeaconry are responding well to the challenges of the aftermath of the pandemic, and there is much commitment to proclaiming the gospel in fresh ways and forming fresh communities of faith alongside our more traditional forms of church.

The Venerable Dr Rosemarie Mallett, Archdeacon of Croydon

The needs of the Diocese & the wider church

All appointments in the Southwark Diocese take place within the context of the diocesan *Hearts on Fire* vision. As this unfolds, it is providing a challenge to all parishes and worshipping communities to ensure that their lives and activities are all shaped around the call of the gospel, and our participation in God's mission in the world. The other strategic document affecting the whole diocese is the *Strategy for Ministry*. Under this banner the diocese is emphasising the call to growth, both numerical and spiritual, to a renewed partnership between all members of the church in ministry, and to increased collaborative working beyond parish borders, and particularly in deaneries. As the Strategy for Ministry document will inform diocesan and Area policy over the next few years, it is important that all clergy in the diocese have a good understanding of its aims and objectives (it can be read on screen or downloaded from the diocesan web pages).

Finance

As of 2016, a new system of financial contributions will be introduced across the Diocese, called the Parish Support Fund. The parish is currently contributing a little below the parish costs of a full time incumbent, which is as a result of the pandemic and its effect on parish finances. If the diocese is to maintain its mission and ministry, and if we are to put in a missional post to this parish, it is essential that a parish like Sanderstead is able not only to meet its own costs, but also to contribute to ministry in places of significant social need.

Collaborative Ministry

I am looking to appoint clergy in this Area who are able to articulate their vision for the mission of the church in the places to which they are called, and who have a vision for the church's growth. In whatever tradition or location, I look to hear from the clergy how they will work together with lay members of the church and with their neighbouring parishes and colleagues. I am looking for people with active and developing spiritual lives who are able to be an example of discipleship to the people of God. I take very seriously my own responsibilities as pastor to the clergy, and will always endeavour to make myself available to support them in their ministry.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christopher Chessun". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

The Rt Revd Christopher Chessun
Bishop of Southwark

4 May 2022