



The Diocese of
Southwark

Kingston Episcopal Area Office

The Rt Revd Dr Martin Gainsborough
Bishop of Kingston

Kingston Episcopal Area Hub
Trinity House, 4 Chapel Court,
Borough High Street,
London SE1 1HW

bishop.martin@southwark.anglican.org
020 8545 2442

www.southwark.anglican.org

30 April 2024

Dear Prospective Colleague,

For the right person this is a fantastic post in leafy suburban London!

St Matthews offers good sense, a lively faith, and a desire to be seven days a week Christians, building stronger relations with their community.

The Tolworth, Hook and Surbiton Team, which comprises three churches, strikes just the right balance between being stronger together, including offering fellowship and collegial support across the team, while respecting the distinctive characteristics of the different churches.

Within the team, the parish of St Paul's Hook is in vacancy. It is anticipated that when a new Team Rector is appointed, he or she will be involved in discussions about an appointment at St Paul's and about how ministry resources can be used strategically across the team.

In so far as what a church looks for in a leader says a lot about them, or what they aspire to be, the words 'dynamic', 'passionate' and 'people-friendly' speak volumes.

You will need a love of Jesus, determination and vision to work with others to tackle the challenges which St Matthew's identify. But the challenges are not that different from those faced by many churches (numbers, money, buildings, volunteers) and are eminently tackle-able with commitment and vision for this new season.

The parish says it seeks a "guiding light" as they "grow together in the shared journey of faith". The guiding light is surely Jesus Christ by which we see clearly but as a follower of Jesus Christ committed to that shared journey of faith might you be the person they are looking for?

I have been Bishop Kingston for just over a year and am very much enjoying working across the Episcopal Area. The communities it serves are diverse and full of interest, with clergy who bring energy and imagination to their ministry. There is a real sense of collaboration and creativity. Anyone appointed to this post will find good support in the colleagues to work locally in the deanery and across the diocese.

You have read this far so if you sense the Spirit's prompting, please pray about it and do be in touch with me or the Archdeacon if you have any questions.

With all good wishes and prayers,

+ Martin

Rt Revd Dr Martin Gainsborough, Bishop of Kingston

The Diocese of Southwark

The South London Church Fund and Southwark Diocesan Board of Finance is a company limited by guarantee (No 236594)

Registered Office: Trinity House, 4 Chapel Court, Borough High Street, London SE1 1HW. Charity No 249678

Company Secretary: Nicola Thomas