

Signed off by: Archdeacon of St Helens & Warrington
Date: 29/7/24
Role title: Vicar, St Margaret's Orford & Priest-in-Charge, St Andrew's Orford
Deanery: Warrington
Archdeaconry: St Helens & Warrington

The Leadership role:

For many years we have been working to achieve growth in our diocese. We have used different ways to express this but the aim and direction of travel has remained the same – consistent with the whole of the Church of England. We have articulated a vision for this growth by saying

**we are asking God for a bigger church so that we can make a bigger difference:
more people knowing Jesus and more justice in the world.**

In our diocesan vision we have identified four priority areas for our work in mission in this season:

- Introducing people to God through Jesus Christ
- Deepening discipleship, especially by means of our Rule of Life
- Developing Christian leaders in every place
- Working for justice

Like everyone entering a new role in the Diocese, you will accept the priority of these areas, and will measure your ministry by effectiveness in these areas. You will be supported and expected to be accountable (through the Ministerial Development Review as well as through regular meetings with your colleagues) for how they are being implemented within your area of responsibility.

In common with all clergy in the diocese, you will work together with others to:-

1. Establish a culture of invitation in evangelism within the local church.
2. Start new worshipping communities and maintain existing healthy worshipping communities that are accessible to all.
3. Establish a culture in the local church of expecting a deepening of discipleship and putting into practice the 6 disciplines of the Rule of Life.
4. Develop prayerfully a strategy for mission and church growth and aligning it with the Diocesan strategy Fit for Mission.
5. Identify, train, release and support new Christian leaders and teams.
6. Encourage vocations by identifying the gifts of others and assisting people to seek God's calling for their lives.
7. Develop the distinctive ministry of the local Church within the wider context of the Diocese, Deanery and local ecumenical setting by establishing and maintaining good collaborative working relationships with clergy and lay colleagues.
8. Lead your congregations both to pray for justice in the Church and the world and to recognize how, working with others, your congregations can work for more justice in the Church, your local communities, and the world.
9. Ensure that safeguarding, financial and other governance disciplines are followed.
10. Collaborate with others to develop a flourishing children and youth ministry.

The Context

Orford lies north of the town centre of Warrington and south of the M62: it is a large residential district with both owner-occupied and ex-council housing, but also includes some commercial and third-sector activity including a retail park and college. St Margaret's is a church of Anglican catholic tradition in a residential area, with a faithful regular congregation, good pastoral links, and an excellent church school. St Andrew's is a small church in the modern catholic tradition in an estate context, with a church school and good community links.

Both churches have experience in recent years of growth, and there are good mission opportunities ready to be taken in each parish. Both communities have also recently experienced significant change: they will require a priest who will give them stability and confidence while also continuing to lead them into a changing and outward-looking future.

The deanery of Warrington is beginning the diocesan Fit for Mission programme, a significant and bold programme of cultural and structural change to remove barriers to missional effectiveness. The priest appointed will play a central part of Fit for Mission in Warrington, working closely with clergy colleagues across the town and helping the Orford parishes to engage fully in the programme. It is likely that within the next 2 years there will be proposals to create a team parish across the whole of Warrington, and the priest appointed would become part of that team. The Warrington deanery is aware of a weakness in catholic spirituality and leadership among the clergy team and is keen that the priest appointed in Orford will meet that need.

The Priorities:

- Inspire and lead the people of the Orford churches in developing their witness and mission.
- Lead and model excellent catholic worship, teaching and spirituality for all ages.
- Play a full part in the Fit for Mission programme, and lead the Orford churches in doing the same.

Other Key Responsibilities:

- Pay attention to financial sustainability, and develop stewardship & other income.
- Engage fully with deanery and diocesan structures.
- Build relationships with other schools and other community institutions.
- Develop and release leaders to do new things.

This Role Description will be reviewed biennially at the Ministerial Development Review (MDR) and may be updated subsequent to the MDR to reflect important changes in the ministry of the priest and the context of that ministry, including wider responsibilities in the diocese. Significant changes to this role description should be agreed with the church wardens in consultation with the PCC, in a team ministry with team clergy and with the area dean and signed off by the Archdeacon.