

## DIOCESE OF LEEDS

### Interim Priest in Charge of the Benefice of Birkby St John and Woodhouse

#### Role Description

#### 1. Details of Post

<i>Role Title:</i>	Interim Priest in Charge of the Benefice of Birkby St John and Woodhouse
<i>Deanery:</i>	Huddersfield
<i>Archdeaconry:</i>	Halifax
<i>Episcopal Area:</i>	Huddersfield
<i>Initial point of contact on terms of service:</i>	Archdeacon of Halifax

#### 2. Role Purpose

##### General

- To share with the Bishop both in the cure of souls and in responsibility, under God, for transforming lives, congregations and communities in these parishes in line with the current priorities established by the bishop.
- To be a spiritual leader in both parishes, having regard to the calling and responsibilities of the clergy as described in the Canons, the Ordinal, the Code of Professional Conduct for the Clergy and other relevant legislation.
- To collaborate within the deanery in mission and ministry and in such reshaping of ministry as resources and opportunities may require.
- To work with the PCCs towards the development of the local church in line with each parish's vision and the Diocesan strategy.
- To build on each church's passion for drawing people into a life of faith and hope, so that these parishes may be a place and community of Christian hope, spirituality and discovery.
- To seek ecumenical cooperation wherever possible.
- To gain a good working understanding of the Diocese and the support it provides.
- To encourage Christian stewardship of people's time, money and abilities so that the ministry of the church is strengthened and enabled.
- Whilst maintaining a distinctively Christian witness, to make new positive links and develop the existing links with community and external organisations based in the parish, so that full use is made of opportunities for outreach and service to the community.

#### 3. Specific

These parishes are looking for a priest who will

- be a spiritual and pastoral leader, committed both to our rich Eucharistic and liturgical life and to developing new worship initiatives to encourage people to connect and grow in faith
- develop our spirituality and the understanding of our faith in clear and easily accessible terms
- be a good communicator who can reach the wide variety of nationalities who worship with us
- increase outreach towards the disadvantaged and needy, in particular with regard to asylum seekers
- relate to children and young people on their own terms, to develop their sense of belonging to a community of faith

- Engage with the local schools and seek new opportunities for working with children and families
- be an active and visible presence in the community leading, growing and facilitating good community partnerships
- be a person with the organisational skills to oversee and lead significant projects around buildings and community outreach
- grow interfaith links especially with regard to local Muslim, Sikh, Buddhist and Hindu communities

#### **4. Role context and any other relevant information**

This benefice of two churches is well established. The congregations are hopeful and ready to move forward under the leadership of a new priest, and keen to see their congregations grow in number and depth of discipleship, to see their links with schools and community organisations flourish.

#### **5. Key Contacts:**

*The Bishop of Huddersfield*  
*Archdeacon of Halifax*  
*The Area Dean*

The Rt Revd Smitha Prasadam  
 The Ven Bill Braviner  
 The Revd Canon Rachel Firth

To be reviewed six months after commencement of the appointment, and at each Ministerial Development Review, alongside the setting of objectives.