

Role Description: Benefice of Wallsend St Peter and St Luke

1 Introduction

The role description gives an outline of the responsibilities of a position. These may develop while someone is in post and this document will need to be kept up to date. It should be reviewed as necessary at Ministerial Development Review, alongside the setting of objectives.

2 Details of post

- 2.1 Role title: Priest in Charge of Wallsend St Peter and St Luke
- 2.2 Name of benefice: Wallsend St Peter and St Luke
- 2.3 Patronage: The Bishop of Newcastle
- 2.4 Deanery and archdeaconry: Tynemouth; Northumberland
- 2.5 Initial point of contact on terms of service: The Archdeacon of Northumberland

3 Role purpose: General

- 3.1 To share with the Bishop in the cure of souls.
- 3.2 Ever prayerful and mindful of the responsibilities laid upon you in the Ordinal, the Canons, national Safeguarding policies, and all other relevant legislation, in accordance with the Archbishops' statement *Guidelines for the Professional Conduct of the Clergy*, your ministry will be shaped by the Diocesan vision Seeking, Sharing, Sending and marked by a generosity of spirit, an engagement with the people and situations you serve, and an openness to the promptings of God's love.
- 3.3 Your priestly vocation demands the careful preparation for, and the leading of public worship, the imaginative proclamation of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and the loving service of all God's people entrusted to your care. Together with your priestly colleagues and lay ministers, you will work collaboratively to enable the gifts of all God's people to be developed in the Service of his Kingdom.
- 3.4 In your priestly ministry you will take an active part in the Diocesan strategy Seeking, Sharing, Sending. This will include collaborative parish conversations and planning for mission and ministry as well as working with colleagues across the Deanery and more widely in the life of the Diocese. A number of supports are available to you through the provision of work consultants, spiritual directors and Continuing Ministerial Formation programs, and you will be expected to participate in the scheme of Ministerial Development Review.
- 3.5 Above all, you will remember that we are called to minister by a gracious, generous self-giving and loving God, as together we seek the Kingdom, share the faith, search for truth, serve our neighbour and follow Jesus in his suffering love for the salvation of all people.

Role Purpose – Generic and Specific

- 3.6 To take responsibility for pastoral care, occasional offices and leading of regular public worship in the parish of Wallsend St Peter and St Luke.
- 3.7 To encourage the congregation to grow in faith and in numbers through preaching, worship, teaching, prayer, and service to the community, and to lead the parish in the development of its vision and strategy for growth.
- 3.8 To grow and develop an active team, recognising the talents and skills of lay people, and where appropriate making links into the diocesan authorised lay ministry initiative.
- 3.9 To bring a mission focus to the wide range of activities which take place in the life of the church and support those who lead them.
- 3.10 To engage with social justice issues in the area through local initiatives.
- 3.11 To encourage and enable the congregation in the principles of stewardship and giving as part of discipleship.
- 3.12 To encourage and develop existing work with children and young people in the church and build on engagement with local schools, particularly St Peter's Church of England Primary School.
- 3.13 To engage creatively with the community through existing relationships with hall users, ecumenical partners and Osborne House and to seek out new missional opportunities and discern potential for new worshipping communities.
- 3.14 To lead the parish and church community into creative and active partnership with the deanery in a time of change, to be open to closer cooperation with neighbouring parishes and communities than previously expected in the sharing of wider responsibilities in mission. Active engagement with Deanery Chapter, Synod and the Deanery Development Group is expected. There may also be a role coordinating with the other Society parishes across the Archdeaconry.
- 3.15 To be pro-active in ensuring that you continue to access new resources for your ministry and that personal spiritual nurture, refreshment and development is given priority.

Key contacts and relationships

4.1 Generic

- a. The Bishop of Newcastle, the Bishop of Beverley and the Archdeacon of Northumberland;
- b. The Churchwardens and the Parochial Church Council;
- c. The Deanery Chapter and Synod;

4.2 Specific

- a. The ministry team across the churches

- b. Staff and students of local schools, particularly St Peter’s C of E Primary
- c. Leaders and Trustees of local community groups and projects, particularly those currently using parish buildings
- d. Local community leaders
- e. Local councillors and MPs

4.3 Supportive

- a. The Archdeacon of Northumberland
- b. The Area Dean, Lay Chair and colleagues in the Tynemouth Deanery
- c. Work consultant/pastoral supervisor and spiritual director.

5. Role Context

Wallsend is a town with a clear identity and proud history that has been through significant change, particularly in the last twenty to thirty years. The churches too have been affected by these changes and now serve a variety of contexts from clear deprivation to relative affluence. The churches are still a part of community life and looked to in times of celebration and grief, well-placed to serve the community, but cultural and social change continues to erode this, as in many communities. A new incumbent will need to be able to focus energy and build strong partnerships with others in the town.

There have been some unresolved differences around worship and tradition that still can linger and recent leadership in the churches has faced ill health and abrupt changes in personnel, but there is a keen appetite to continue and develop a trajectory of renewal and growth. The rate of change in mission and ministry has accelerated across the deanery and diocese and a new incumbent at St Peter’s and St Luke’s will need to build on steps towards closer cross-parish cooperation for mission as discerned through the deanery planning process.

6 Benefice summary as at time of compilation

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| Number of parishes | One |
| Churches and listing | St Peter, grade II* listed St Luke, grade II listed |
| Parsonage | Four bedroomed detached house |
| Other buildings | Meeting room at St Peter’s Church hall at St Luke’s |
| Churchwardens | Two at each church |
| Ministers (including local ministry) | Retired priest with PTO |
| Population (2021 census) | 9,000 |
| Usual Sunday Attendance | St Peter 15 St Luke 28 |
| Parish Share offered (2024) | St Peter £3,500, paid £4,000 St Luke £8,000, paid £8,500 |

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| Resolution under the House of Bishops Declaration on the Ministry of Bishops and Priest? | Yes, under the oversight of the Bishop of Beverley |
| Church tradition | Anglo-Catholic |
| Pastoral Reorganisation Proposals | None |
| Outreach/service to the wider community | Church school (St Peter's) Air Cadets Wallsend squadron Walking With charity Support for local, national and international charities |
| Business element | Income from church hall lettings |
| Ecumenical links | Wallsend Council of Churches |

7 Review

The Archdeacon will review this role description with you when you have been in post for six months.