

**Signed off by:** Archdeacon of St Helens & Warrington  
**Date:** 23/12/24  
**Role title:** Team Vicar-Designate, Warrington (initial license as Associate Priest in the parishes of St James Westbrook and St Barnabas Warrington)  
**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***

The deanery of Warrington is undertaking 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 parishes of St James Westbrook and St Barnabas Warrington to engage fully in the programme. It is likely that within the next 12 months 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 postholder will be responsible for leading St James Westbrook, an inclusive liberal catholic parish in Hood Manor in the west of the town of Warrington with a vision for growth and discipleship. In the long term the post-holder will also become responsible for St Barnabas, a catholic/Eucharistic church nearer to the town centre, and until then will work closely with the current incumbent to develop ministry at St Barnabas.

## ***The Priorities:***

- Inspire and lead the people of the St James Westbrook in developing their witness and mission.
- Work closely with the incumbent of St Barnabas to develop ministry there, and build relationships with the community ready to take on leadership in due course/
- Lead and model excellent worship, teaching and spirituality for all ages.
- Play a full part in the Fit for Mission programme, and lead 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.*