

## Role Description: Benefice of Cramlington

### 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: Team Rector of Cramlington
- 2.2 Name of benefice: Cramlington
- 2.3 Patronage: The Bishop of Newcastle
- 2.4 Deanery and archdeaconry: Bedlington; 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, with the existing ministry team, for pastoral care, occasional offices and leading of regular public worship in the parish of Cramlington.
- 3.7 Develop a Mission Action Plan with and for the whole parish to prioritise and encourage church growth and turning outwards in mission.
- 3.8 Strengthen discipleship and increase engagement with God and the Christian faith, through Life Groups, prayer and other outreach initiatives.
- 3.9 Encourage and develop lay vocations and ministries, particularly in relation to ministry with the Hope Centre, children's and youth work, and pastoral care.
- 3.10 Strengthen and develop relationships with local schools, particularly Cragside Church of England Primary.
- 3.11 Develop presence and engagement within the town centre and wider community, looking at possibilities of new worshipping communities. St Thomas Newcastle Church is designated as a resource for supporting the establishment of new worshipping communities and is available to support and lead on initiatives with the Team Rector and PCC.
- 3.12 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 and the Archdeacon of Northumberland;
- b. The Churchwardens and the Parochial Church Council;
- c. The Deanery Chapter and Synod;

### **4.2 Specific**

- a. The Team Vicar (currently a half-time post although plans for a full-time and the wider ministry team including two licensed Readers and retired lay and ordained colleagues)
- b. Life Group Leaders
- c. Hope Centre Volunteers and partners
- d. Headteachers of local schools, particularly Cragside and Cramlington Learning Village

### **4.3 Supportive**

- a. The Archdeacon of Northumberland
- b. The Area Dean, Lay Chair and colleagues in the Bedlington Deanery
- c. Work consultant or spiritual director.

## 5. Role Context

Cramlington is largely a 'new town' developed in the 1960s with a large and well-served commercial centre, surrounded by seven large housing estates. The parish church of St Nicholas is adjacent to the commercial centre with good connections to it. St Nicholas's is still the 'town church'. There are a good number in the town who know the church as 'theirs' and look to it at times of pastoral need and civic occasion.

This is a role with huge potential and opportunity, working with a congregation willing to grow in faith and numbers from the contemporary worship, evangelical tradition. There have been some major changes in the parish in recent years, with the closure of the local church plants in 2020 and a focus on mission through the Hope Centre which opened in 2019. The congregation are ready to build a vision for the next stage of their life together witnessing to God's love in Jesus and serving the people of Cramlington.

## 6 Benefice summary as at time of compilation

Number of parishes	One
Churches and listing	St Nicholas's, grade II listed
Parsonage	Modern detached house 10-15-minute walk from church
Other buildings	Parish centre attached to the church building Hope Centre (leased from the council)
Churchwardens	Two
Ministers (including local ministry)	Team Vicar, retired priest with PTO, two Readers and one Reader emeritus
Population	35,000
Usual Sunday Attendance	84
Parish Share offered (2023)	£60,000, paid in full
Resolution under the House of Bishops Declaration on the Ministry of Bishops and Priest?	No
Church tradition	Evangelical
Pastoral Reorganisation Proposals	None
Outreach/service to the wider community	Hope Centre used for social ministries, including food bank, baby bank, bereavement support Links with some local schools Outreach events at church Support for local, national and international charities
Business element	Income from hall lettings
Ecumenical links	Informal links with other local churches (Roman Catholic, Methodist, Salvation Army, Church of the Nazarene)

## **7 Review**

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