

# Role Description

## Vicar – West Derby the Good Shepherd



**Signed off by:** Archdeacon of Liverpool  
**Date:** June 2019

**Role title:** Vicar  
**Name of benefice:** West Derby the Good Shepherd  
**Deanery:** West Derby  
**Archdeaconry:** Liverpool

### *The Context*

The Church of the Good Shepherd is a parish serving the communities of Norris Green and Croxteth north west of Liverpool City. It is located in an area of high deprivation though with a strong community identity. Good Shepherd is a small church community but with big occasional office engagement, social events, community action and a fully used church hall. The church is also a founding member and engaged in the work of the Triple C charity. Triple C seeks to build community involvement in the running of community groups and activities and to contribute to the regeneration of the local area.

The Good Shepherd describe themselves as an open minded traditional church. In recent years they have been experimenting with informal worship as well as more traditional styles with organ and robes. They are well served by with a Self Supporting Minister, Lay Reader and volunteers from the congregation in all areas of the church life.

This is an exciting opportunity for a visionary and pioneering priest to build on the extensive community engagement and develop a new vision and strategy for mission.

### *The Leadership role:*

As a leader in the Diocese of Liverpool, as well as the local tasks you need to do in your context, the Bishops and senior clergy of our diocese expect you to:-

- constantly advocate diocesan strategy
- sign people up to the Rule of Life (10,000 disciples)
- nurture existing congregational leaders (1,000 leaders)
- identify and release new leaders (1,000 leaders)
- identify and commission teams to plant new congregations/worshipping communities (100 congregations)
- build and lead a leadership team to shape and implement local missional strategy
- create a positive culture of accountability
- establish connections between worshipping communities
- attend to financial health of your worshipping communities.

In your leadership of the Church of the Good Shepherd you will be a visionary and inspire the church community to pioneer new mission opportunities. Developing and implementing a detailed vision and strategy for growth which engages lay leadership will be the most important task you will undertake within the first twelve months of your role.

You will also continue and extend the well established and significant partnerships with neighbouring churches and community groups in particular with the Triple C Charity.

## **The Priorities:**

- Collaboratively develop a vision and strategy for mission
- Maximise the missional opportunities of occasional offices
- Review and strengthen governance
- Develop an initiative to review the time, treasure and talent commitments to build an even firmer financial foundation for mission and ministry
- through compassionate and collaborative leadership encourage, inspire, equip and release people into ministry and leadership

## **Other Key Responsibilities:**

- encourage and grow the involvement of children and young people in the life of the community
- in parish, deanery and diocesan contexts develop opportunities to build a bigger church making a bigger difference
- play an active role in the Deanery Chapter and Deanery Synod
- through sensitive listening offer both pastoral care of God's people and promote the culture of welcome

*This Role Description will be reviewed annually at the Ministerial Development Review (MDR) and may be updated subsequent to the MDR to reflect important changes in the ministry of the parish 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 and with the area dean and signed off by the Archdeacon.*

## **Being part of the Clergy Team in Liverpool Diocese**

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. Bishop Paul has articulated a vision for this growth by saying

**“We are asking God for a bigger church so we can make a bigger difference”; said another way, “We long to see more people knowing Jesus and more justice in the world.”**

To achieve this vision we are working to develop:

- **100 new congregations**
- **1000 new leaders**
- **10,000 new disciples**

Further, we are asking every worshipping Christian in our diocese to:

1. Sign up to the Bishop of Liverpool's rule of life which will encourage and support us to Pray, Read, Learn, Tell, Serve, Give, **#RuleOfLife** [www.ruleoflife.org.uk](http://www.ruleoflife.org.uk)
2. Bring 1 person into the regular worshipping and serving life of the church **#BringOneFriend** [www.liverpool,anglican.org/BringOneFriend](http://www.liverpool,anglican.org/BringOneFriend)
3. Do 10 acts of service or find 10 new points of connection beyond the walls of the church **#DoTenThings** [www.liverpool,anglican.org/DoTenThings](http://www.liverpool,anglican.org/DoTenThings)

