

BENEFICE OF CROSBY, ST GEORGE

A wonderful opportunity to serve as Vicar of an open hearted, inclusive church in the vibrant urban community of Crosby, North Scunthorpe.

St George's, Crosby is an outward looking church, centrally located in the diverse and multicultural parish of Crosby in the North of Scunthorpe. The church was consecrated in 1925 and over the years has been adapted and reordered to meet the ongoing needs of the congregation and wider community.

AREA AND DEMOGRAPHICS

An urban priority area, Crosby is home to approximately 15,000 people of different backgrounds, cultures and nationalities. There are significant populations of Bangladeshi, Pakistani, Somali, Polish and Lithuanian origin. In all some forty nationalities are represented within the parish and around 17% of residents have only Level One English skills.

Crosby has the highest concentration of children in North Lincolnshire – a quarter of the population is under 15 years old and the parish is served by three primary schools and two comprehensive academies. St George's has a long association with Scunthorpe Church of England Primary School and the Diocese of Lincoln sponsors The St Lawrence Academy.

There are large stocks of privately rented accommodation in Crosby, much of which is terraced and dating back to the late 19th or early 20th century. With high scores in terms of housing deprivation, one in eight dwellings have been deemed unfit. Life expectancy in the parish is lower than the national average at 76.5 years and many people identify as in poor health and rely on benefits.

SOCIAL ACTION

St George's has a long tradition of innovation and social action and we work in close partnership with the adjoining Crosby One Community Centre to reach out and provide for the needs and concerns of our community. We are particularly keen on projects that meet urgent social priorities and foster a greater sense of cohesion. We have established positive relationships with other faith communities and collaborate well with Scunthorpe Baptist Church in hosting the local foodbank every Wednesday afternoon.

OUR TRADITION

An Inclusive Church in the Liberal Catholic tradition, we open our doors to welcome all people to our services. The Parish Eucharist, with Healing takes place on Sunday mornings at 10.45am and is attended by 25 -30 people. A shorter Holy Communion service is held in the Lady Chapel every Wednesday morning at 9.30am. On Sundays the Vicar is joined by

two members of the congregation who act as Deacon and Sub Deacon, while others come forward to assist with Healing, read from the Old and New Testament and to intercede.

We value the shape of Anglican liturgy and primarily using Common Worship, weaving in contemporary and creative expressions of prayer. Going forward, we desire the opportunity to bring new and innovative channels of communication, collaboration and technology to welcome, engage and grow our congregation.

As part of the North Scunthorpe Group of Parishes, we join St Lawrence's, Frodingham, All Saints, New Brumby, Church of the Resurrection, Berkeley and St Barnabas', Gunness for occasional group services and events.

OUTREACH

We believe in our community and reaching out to affirm our commitment to the gospel in a very positive way:

- Crosby International Day
- Crosby Centre of Scunthorpe Foodbank
- Community Pantomime
- Crosby Together
- Strong ties with local schools
- Christmas and Summer Community Fayre

If you would like to have an informal chat about us, please feel free to give our Church Wardens a call:

Janice Tong: 07931 241901

Martyn Whitehouse: 07737 582861

OUR NEXT VICAR

We are looking for a Vicar who is rooted in prayer and personal faith; to be a foundation of our church and parish community, innovatively leading us forward in faith:

- Open hearted and open minded.
- Actively and consciously inclusive.
- Good sense of humour

- Visible and fully involved with the wider community, collaborating with other faith groups.
- Desiring the opportunity to develop our understanding of scripture, through prayer, preaching and teaching. Helping us to grow in faith and in our relationship with God.
- Embracing our Liberal Catholic tradition, whilst moving it forward to ensure it is relevant today and into the future.
- With courage to be radical and challenging; bringing forward new ideas and styles.
- With a collaborative style of leadership which enables the involvement of others in church life, including the PCC and sub groups and to foster vocations.
- With a global vision; looking for peace, justice and fairness in the world and a concern about climatic changes and the environment.

WHAT WE OFFER

The Parish of St George, Crosby is a single church parish set in a vibrant community.

To our new Vicar, we offer:

- A congregation which is unassuming, but with a tenacious approach to living our faith.
- A church that is inclusive and welcoming to all – a safe and non-judgemental place for worship.
- Eager to embrace change whilst continuing to honour the familiar.
- Committed to social justice and seeking to reach out further into our community.
- Rich with ideas and skills.
- A supportive congregation and PCC.
- A church that is large and adaptable, able to meet the needs of the congregation and community.
- A large detached Vicarage, with garage and gardens.

Find out more about us.

Parish Website: www.crosby-saintgeorge.uk

Parish Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/StGeorge.Crosby

Parish Twitter Profile: @StGeorge_Crosby