

Role Description

Vicar Holy Trinity Southport and
Priest in Charge All Saints Southport



Signed off by: Archdeacon of Knowsley and Sefton
Date: September 2018

1. Details of the post

Role title: Vicar and also Priest in Charge
Name of benefices: Holy Trinity Southport and All Saints Southport (respectively)
Deanery: North Meals
Archdeaconry: Knowsley and Sefton

Initial point of contact on Clergy Terms of Service: The Diocesan Secretary

Please note that this Role Description focuses on the particular needs and opportunities in the Parish of Holy Trinity and All Saints. It should be read and understood in conjunction with the Bishop's Statement and the parish profile and, for the successful candidate, alongside the Bishop's formal letter of appointment.

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.

Archdeacon's Statement

The North Meols deanery plan is founded on the need for parishes to work together in mission. Both churches have collaborated on the parish profile and are developing a wider vision for their work. All Saints have been without an incumbent for a number of years but it has been led by a strong team of laity and an LML, Alan Buckley. Holy Trinity's incumbent retired in February and the church has been ably served in the meantime by their retired clergy and lay members. It is a significant visible presence in the town with very many activities and opportunities in the local community. A particular challenge will be to discern which of these will be the most strategic and will have the most impact.

In common with many of our churches, the need to reach out to the younger generations is another great challenge. There is a recognition of the need for this but how exactly this is to be done is still to be worked out. The identification of people with a passion and gifts for this area of work will be essential.

Both churches recognise that the person appointed will need to be supported as they pioneer this new relationship and especially to develop a regular pattern of working which all will know and understand. The Diocese has a long-term goal of larger parishes under the leadership of single PCCs. In addition, the Church of England has made it possible for joint PCCs to be formed. We would be ready to explore this possibility if it was felt that existing structures were inhibiting the mission of the churches.

Anyone taking up this role will find it a very stimulating and creative environment with a significant number of gifted lay leadership.

Role Responsibilities

A priest shares with the Bishop both the privilege and responsibility of oversight within the Church and is charged with leading God's people in the offering of praise, the proclamation of the gospel, the celebration of the sacraments and the mission of God. This privilege and responsibility will be exercised with due regard to servant leadership, mutual ministry and personal example and a commitment to maintaining and developing personal spirituality and wellbeing

Entrusted with the inheritance of faith in Holy Trinity and All Saints a priest is also charged to be faithful in the stewardship of church finances; the mutuality of parish share which underpins ministry and mission in our diocese; oversight of church governance; care of the church building and PCC property, and encouraging the vocation of God's people to discern their vocation and to exercise their ministry, lay and ordained. The outworking of this charge will include the following:

Vision, mission and purpose

- To develop the vision of both churches for numerical and spiritual growth through the Diocesan growth agenda
- To discern with others the priorities and objectives for each church and lead them in fulfilling them

Leadership, collaboration and releasing lay ministry

- To encourage people to use their gifts in the service of God, release more people to take up leadership positions and enable to consider their vocation
- To think and act strategically and work collaboratively with existing lay leadership, readers, LML, retired clergy and Director of Music (to be appointed)

Welcome and nurture

- To stimulate interest in Jesus' call to make disciples
- To ensure both churches continue to be places of welcome but also congregations willing to invite others to explore the Christian faith.

Reflecting, learning and change

- To foster and develop the relationship between both churches
- To introduce change sensitively and carefully

Actively engaging with the wider community

- To support and develop the use of both church buildings for the community
- To think of new and imaginative ways of connecting with those who live and work in the local community in particular schools and care homes

Actively engaging children and young people

- To further develop the work with children, young families and teenagers
- To be a governor at Holy Trinity school and support and encourage the whole school community

Other key tasks

- To play a full part in the life and strategic development of North Meols deanery, its clergy chapter and the central partnership of the deanery.
- To participate in the ecumenical life of North Meols