



ROLE DESCRIPTION

Priest in Charge, Vicar Designate Washburn and Mid-Wharfe Benefice

*Comprising the Parishes of: Farnley, Fewston with Blubberhouses, Leathley and
Weston with Denton (c. Pop 1,052)*

The Context:

The Benefice of Washburn & Mid-Wharfe comprises six churches which serve small villages, hamlets, scattered dwellings and farms. Four reservoirs, rolling hills and Washburn Heritage Centre make this a popular place for walkers and visitors. With easy access to Otley, Harrogate, Leeds and York, this benefice enjoys the best of worlds.

During the vacancy the PCCs have piloted a new model for meetings whereby they meet on the same evening, engage with benefice matters before splitting into their respective PCCs. Although it is still early days, this is proving effective in uniting the benefice and drawing church communities into closer relationship and cooperation. It has significantly reduced the number of governance meetings for the incumbent. The parishes have also reviewed their service patterns to ensure they have something that is more sustainable. These structures will need to be reviewed and assessed by the new incumbent and PCCs within a 6-12 months period of the new appointment in order to ensure their efficacy and to further embed them.

This Benefice requires a vicar to provide confident priestly leadership, model prayerfulness, encourage discipleship, grow lay ministries and be a sign of grace and blessing in the communities. The parishes require a priest who will live among the people and who will engage in and care about rural and social matters. It is essential that the new vicar is sociable, confident in initiating conversations and keen to participate in village life. The parishes seek a priest who will inspire the faithful, develop their discipleship and pilgrimage, strengthen them as Christians, getting to know the communities and their visitors with imagination and creativity. The new incumbent is required to encourage and develop lay leadership.

You will be supported by committed and very capable Wardens and Readers, retired clergy, and an administrator. Throughout the vacancy, the Benefice has been served by an excellent SSM who has helped to envision and embed new governance structures and patterns of services.

The benefice is part of the very active and supportive Harrogate deanery in the Ripon Episcopal Area. The young Diocese of Leeds is committed to your on-going training, development and well-being. A full driving licence is essential.

Archdeacon's Signature:

Date: 19th July 2018

To be reviewed by the Archdeacon and the Area Bishop at 3 months and 6 months, respectively. Review thereafter under the Diocesan Ministerial Development Review Scheme.

1) Details of the post

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| Title: | Vicar. |
| Benefice: | Washburn and Mid-Wharfe comprising the Parishes of Farnley, Fewston with Blubberhouses, Leathley and Weston with Denton |
| Oversight: | The Bishop of Leeds, delegated to the Area Bishop of Ripon. |
| Archdeaconry: | Richmond & Craven |
| Deanery: | Harrogate |

2) Key Contacts:

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| Churchwardens and PCCs | 2 Lay Readers |
| Retired Clergy | Parish Administrator |
| Area Dean | Deanery Chapter |
| Director of Ministry & Mission | Bishop's Officer for Parish Evangelism |
| CME Officers, | Lay Training Officers and Diocesan Parish Resource Officers |
| Archdeacon of Richmond and Craven | The Bishop of Ripon & the Bishop of Leeds |

3) Role Description:

The Priest will need to

- Be a prayerful disciple who can excite people with the Gospel of Jesus Christ.
- Lead and inspire joyful and engaging worship.
- Competent at working with people of all ages: will engage with the younger retired age group
- Be a confident, imaginative and wise communicator and teacher of the faith who will help to develop and grow faith in the faithful and among the careless and indifferent.
- Enthuse the congregations to effectively witness to their faith.
- Encourage and develop mission and outreach.
- Engage with missional opportunities presented by the Washburn Heritage Centre.
- Engage with and advocate for rural issues.
- Be a kind listener and pastor who will help develop a lay pastoral ministry.
- Continue to develop lay leadership and ministries across the parishes and build team ministries.
- Bring an innovative, imaginative and creative approach to helping the churches grow numerically and spiritually
- Grow and develop the ministry and involvement of the church with the community primary school and encourage lay members to participate in school's ministry.
- Have competent chairing and meeting skills and be able to work with the wardens and PCCs to ensure the most efficient and effective structures for governance and worship.
- develop a mission action plan based upon the LYCIG (Leading your Church into Growth) principles.

4) Continuing Ministerial Development

The new vicar will be required to participate in the following training:-

- New Incumbent's training day (CME)
- Germinate (Arthur Rank) Rural Ministry Course. *(This is presently going through some major changes and it maybe that alternative rural multi-church training will take place regionally)*
- Leading Your Church into Growth (LYCIG) residential
- Presence and Engagement with other Faiths
- Commit to area and diocesan study days, deanery synods, clergy chapter and CMD.

5) Health and Wellbeing

The health and wellbeing of our clergy is a priority for the Diocese of Leeds. It is therefore essential that the new incumbent is able to manage their time to ensure they:

1. Have a regular day off per week and every effort should be made to ensure this includes the preceding evening. If days off are compromised for whatsoever reason, days off in lieu should be taken.
2. Pay attention to their spiritual wellbeing, including daily prayer and Bible reading, reading/learning in general, quiet days and an annual retreat. This may include an annual deanery retreat.
3. Build collegial and friendship relationships across the deanery, Episcopal Area and Dioceses.
4. Advise the Area Dean or Archdeacon or Area Bishop as early as possible if stress or anxiety is of concern.
5. Have a spiritual director and work place mentor. The Archdeacon's Office is able to provide a directory of spiritual directors and mentors should this be required.