



February 2019

Dear

Thank you for your interest in the post of Associate Vicar in the Parish of St Peter & St Paul Tonbridge.

During my 11 years as Vicar of this large Parish and team I have been pleased to see the church grow in confidence and in engagement with its various local communities.

As with all Christian communities, we face many challenges to remain effective and credible in the face of an ever changing world. Nevertheless, we believe we have exciting times ahead of us with congregations that are seeking to live out their faith before others and to engage effectively with the many communities across Tonbridge.

The new Associate Vicar will continue the role that has been established having a dual focus of wide and significant leadership responsibility across the Parish but also with specific responsibility for the care and growth of the congregation that meets at St Philip's church.

You will find with this post a very prayerful and supportive staff team with many mature Christians and lay leaders who are looking for you to be a focus for their desire to grow and develop. I am personally keen that the post holder is given freedom and encouragement to use their own gifts and spiritual passions for the blessing of many across the Parish as well as sharing in the oversight of a large and, at times, complex Parish with me.

Recently we have been in active partnership with the Diocese in many ways and we are seeking to involve new members in our various ministries. Our pastoral work, which I have found always to be a real strength of the Parish family here, is being enhanced to enable more to share in this valuable ministry.

Tonbridge is unique in terms of its ecumenical relationships and its working across churches. The Associate Vicar will have the exciting possibility of working with the Baptist and Methodist churches in focussing a communal outreach project based at St Philips.

I and the Parish would be very keen to support and get behind your own convictions and leadership under God's guidance. We are excited about the days ahead. If you sense a sharing in that excitement and you would value an informal conversation to aid the process of your application, then do please be in contact.

Revd Canon Mark Brown, Vicar

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