

Vacancy Team Vicar Moor Allerton and Shadwell Team Ministry

The Post: The parish is looking to appoint a team vicar who will help the team move into its next phase of mission and ministry. To enable this they have developed a post for the new team vicar working in a new and creative way with the Team Rector and the other Team Vicar.

The person appointed will have the following specific responsibilities whilst working in partnership with other lay and ordained team members:

- Pastoral care of St Stephen's and St John's in the Moor Allerton and Shadwell team Ministry.
- Leading worship at St John's and St Stephen's and also, from time to time, at the other churches of the Team.
- Chairing the DCCs of St Stephen's and St John's in collaboration with the lay chairs, and work with the elected officers.
- Praying regularly with other members of the clergy team.
- Specifically within St John's and St Stephen's to foster growth in mission, worship, pastoral care, spiritual growth and service.
- Working collaboratively with clergy and lay leaders to develop the mission of the Team.
- Contributing to meeting the Team's priorities of Mission and of Children, Young people and 20-40yrs
- Working with the team clergy and laity in forwarding ministry in the institutions of the parish (schools, hospice etc).
- Taking part in continuing ministerial development and appropriate training input.

They will have the following range of skills:

- Vibrant faith and the ability to share it
- Habit of praying – such that they are a person of prayer
- Ability to communicate with people at all levels – a people person
- Ability to listen
- Ability to work collaboratively in an energetic and outward looking team
- Ability to be at ease with, and in sympathy with, the different styles of worship of the Team, and to communicate effectively and in a variety of styles, whatever the context.

The Team Parish:

Leeds is a vibrant city, major legal and financial centre of the North of England, home to 2 universities, and a community with an exciting mix of faiths and cultures. Leeds embraces the complete range from the wealthiest in the country to a number falling within the 3% poorest nationally. Cultural centres and musical enterprise are a major feature of the city as is its strong sporting record. The Retail sector is legendary. Severe setbacks such as the 7.7 bombing are outweighed by the energy and enterprise of the city. Leeds is within easy reach of the Yorkshire Dales, North York Moors and Peak District National Parks, the historic city of York and the East Coast. With all this, Leeds poses unique opportunities and challenges for preaching the gospel.

The Moor Allerton and Shadwell parish is approximately 4 miles north of Leeds city centre and is on the edge of the city; and at its northern boundary has open fields and woodland as well as Eccup Reservoir. It straddles the A61 (a main route into Leeds) and is dissected by the outer Leeds Ring Road (the A6120).

Employment levels are high (in the wealthier part of the parish) with most people working in Leeds in education, engineering, legal, real estate, health and social work, financial, wholesale and retail trades.

Many ethnic groups are represented within the community. Other Faith Communities are represented within the parish including a large Jewish Community (with 4 synagogues within the parish) and 1 mosque.

There are good schools in the parish including a Church of England (Controlled) Primary School in the St Stephen's area.

St John's and Stephen's areas comprise a number of schools where there is great scope for ministry, including Allerton Church of England (Controlled) Primary School, where all the clergy are involved. The parish has shops, pubs, popular restaurants, and a shopping centre which includes a large supermarket.

St John's is an older but active and enterprising congregation in a settled suburban area. St Stephen's is a vibrant congregation in a considerably deprived area of the parish.

Worship: The team describes itself in the following way:

"We have a wide range of churchmanship reflecting the wide variety in the Church of England. Far from being a source of friction, we find that this variety brings stimulation and refreshment. All the churches show great warmth of welcome and friendship"

- St John's - Central Anglican with a deep commitment to prayer and in a traditional context.
- St Stephen's - evangelical and open to renewal – a "lifeboat" church for a community with much deprivation.
- St Barnabas' - evangelical, biblically based and open to renewal (with connection to New Wine).
- St Paul's - Central Anglican with sacramental emphasis, enterprising and welcoming, and reflecting its village context.

Mission Priorities:

- Equipping the congregations for mission & being sensitive to the variety of needs and approaches the congregations have
- Focusing on responding to, contacting and developing response from, "untouched" groups eg children, youth and 20-40yrs recognising that these 3 groups often connect up within the one family. (Failure to engage this particular range of groups greatly weakens the future existence of the church.)
- Improvement of communication and efficient and responsive administration were two priorities identified in the two parish days. The PCC sees these not so much as mission priorities in themselves as essential means to achieving mission priorities, and so needing to be mentioned here.

An indication of the importance of these Team priorities is that the Team Rector is to be released to carry out the necessary coordination of the Team, working in close collaboration with the Team Vicars, in order to achieve these priorities and to build up partnership with the Community in achieving them.

Housing: The vicarage is next door to St Stephen's Church

For further details or an informal conversation please contact the Team Rector Charles Dobbin 0113 2684598 email Cdobbin@aol.com or the Archdeacon of Leeds – 0113 2690594, email peter.burrows@riponleeds-diocese.org.uk. Full details of the post are on the Ripon and Leeds Diocesan Web Site

Closing date for applications: 1st March 2012

Interviews: 22nd March 2012