

## **Role Description: Benefice of Newburn**

### **1 Introduction**

The role description gives an outline of the responsibilities of a position. These may develop while someone is in post and this document will need to be kept up to date. It should be reviewed as necessary at Ministerial Development Review, alongside the setting of objectives.

### **2 Details of post**

- 2.1 Role title: Vicar of Newburn
- 2.2 Name of benefice: Newburn
- 2.3 Patronage: The Martyrs' Memorial and Church of England Trust
- 2.4 Deanery and archdeaconry: Newcastle West; Northumberland
- 2.5 Initial point of contact on terms of service: The Archdeacon of Northumberland

### **3 Role purpose: General**

- 3.1 To share with the Bishop in the cure of souls.
- 3.2 Ever prayerful and mindful of the responsibilities laid upon you in the Ordinal, the Canons, national Safeguarding policies, and all other relevant legislation, in accordance with the Archbishops' statement *Guidelines for the Professional Conduct of the Clergy*, your ministry will be shaped by the Diocesan vision Seeking, Sharing, Sending and marked by a generosity of spirit, an engagement with the people and situations you serve, and an openness to the promptings of God's love.
- 3.3 Your priestly vocation demands the careful preparation for, and the leading of public worship, the imaginative proclamation of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and the loving service of all God's people entrusted to your care. Together with your priestly colleagues and lay ministers, you will work collaboratively to enable the gifts of all God's people to be developed in the Service of his Kingdom.
- 3.4 In your priestly ministry you will take an active part in the Diocesan strategy Seeking, Sharing, Sending. This will include collaborative parish conversations and planning for mission and ministry as well as working with colleagues across the Deanery and more widely in the life of the Diocese. A number of supports are available to you through the provision of work consultants, spiritual directors and Continuing Ministerial Formation programs, and you will be expected to participate in the scheme of Ministerial Development Review.
- 3.5 Above all, you will remember that we are called to minister by a gracious, generous self-giving and loving God, as together we seek the Kingdom, share the faith, search for truth, serve our neighbour and follow Jesus in his suffering love for the salvation of all people.

## **Role Purpose – Generic and Specific**

- 3.6 To take responsibility for pastoral care, occasional offices and leading of regular public worship in the parish of Newburn continuing to build upon the strong collective identity of one congregation with two worship centres.
- 3.7 To work with the PCC and others to develop the church's vision for mission, particularly growth in community presence and impact, depth of faith and numbers.
- 3.8 To continue to develop and refresh the parish Mission Action Plan, supporting and enabling the local evangelism and mission initiatives currently happening across the congregation along with exploring the possibilities of creating new worshipping communities.
- 3.9 To work with the congregation to grow and develop the ministry team across the parish, particularly for the current outreach projects and for leading worship and pastoral care - recognising the talents and skills of lay people, and where appropriate, making further links into the diocesan authorised lay ministry scheme.
- 3.10 To encourage and develop existing work with children and young people in the churches and build on engagement with local primary and secondary schools across the parish to work towards our diocesan aim of growing younger.
- 3.11 To engage creatively with the communities of the parish and to seek out new missional opportunities.
- 3.12 To work with the congregation to assess the current sustainability of the church buildings and hall and enable the development of their ongoing potential for mission.
- 3.13 To encourage and enable the congregations in the principles of stewardship and giving as part of discipleship.
- 3.14 Chair the Alms-houses and Parish Hall Committees.
- 3.15 To lead the parish and church community into creative and active partnership with the deanery in a time of change. To be open to closer cooperation and the sharing of wider responsibilities in mission with neighbouring parishes and communities. Active engagement with Deanery Chapter, Synod and the Deanery Development Group is expected.
- 3.16 To ensure that you continue to access new resources for ministry and that personal spiritual nurture and refreshment is given priority in your ministry.

## **Key contacts and relationships**

- 4.1 Generic
  - a. The Bishop of Newcastle and the Archdeacon of Northumberland;
  - b. The Churchwardens and the Parochial Church Council;
  - c. The Deanery Chapter and Synod.
- 4.2 Specific
  - a. The Ministry team of retired clergy and ALMs across the parish;

- b. Alms-houses and Parish Hall Committees;
- c. Headteacher, pupils and staff of local Primary and Secondary schools, particularly those where Open the Book is offered;
- d. Local Foodbank with Denton Parish.

#### 4.3 Supportive

- a. The Archdeacon of Northumberland;
- b. The Area Dean, Lay Chair and colleagues in the Newcastle West Deanery;
- c. Work consultant or spiritual director.

### 5. Role Context

Newburn and Throckley are two closely-linked yet distinctive settlements on the outer edge of Newcastle. They have a proud industrial heritage, the loss of which can still be felt, but this goes alongside a village feel. In many ways these are traditional and established communities but with pockets of commuter estates. Newburn is very close to modern industrial and retail parks as well as the rural and tourist economy of the Tyne Valley. This proximity to different kinds of communities is reflected in the variety of housing and leisure spaces across the parish.

The congregation of Newburn parish demonstrates a high level of missional energy and community engagement that is a fundamental part of who they are and the faith they profess. The congregation has great links into their communities and offer a wide range of 'ways in' to the church and to a deeper commitment to Jesus Christ. The churches also have a great track-record of responding to social need in the communities, particularly through work during Covid and which continues. Sunday morning worship is important but the congregation has sought to find more and different opportunities throughout the week to be a place of welcome and encounter. There is a great team who are a vital part of this vision and its delivery.

### 6 Benefice summary as at time of compilation

Number of parishes	One
Churches and listing	St Michael and All Angels, Newburn, grade I listed St Mary the Virgin, Throckley, grade II listed
Parsonage	Detached house in the centre of Newburn
Other buildings	Parish hall at Newburn
Churchwardens	Two at each church
Ministers (including local ministry)	Three retired clergy with PTO. Two authorised lay ministers who lead worship. Three authorised pastoral ministers
Population (2021 census)	10,521
Usual Sunday Attendance	St Michael 25 St Mary 29
Parish Share (2025)	£49,795.00, paid in full
Resolution under the House of Bishops Declaration on the Ministry of Bishops and Priest?	No
Church tradition	Central with evangelical roots
Pastoral Reorganisation Proposals	None

Outreach/service to the wider community	<p>Strong links with local care homes</p> <p>Open the Book team goes into two primary schools</p> <p>Community wellbeing choir</p> <p>Support for local food bank</p> <p>Local Business and Eco Fairs</p> <p>Support for local, national and international charities</p> <p>Community events in the churches/hall</p>
Ecumenical links	Informal contact with local catholic church

## 7 Review

The Archdeacon will review this role description with you when you have been in post for six months.