



Role Description

Role title: Vicar/Incumbent

Parish: St John the Evangelist, Meads, BN20

Deanery: Eastbourne

Archdeaconry: Hastings

Role Purpose

General

- To share with the Bishop the cure of souls in this place and to attend to our life in Christ through Word and Sacrament and pastoral care.
- To encourage people to know, love and follow Jesus, and to grow as his disciples in worship and witness to the truth of the gospel.
- To nurture numerical and spiritual growth, re-imagining ministry, and contributing to the common good, through leadership, collaboration and example.
- To have regard for the vocation and responsibilities of the clergy as described in the Canons, the Ordinal, the Clergy Discipline Measure, the Code of Professional Conduct for the Clergy, the Declaration of Consent and other relevant legislation.

Specific

- Co-operate with the PCC in the whole mission of the church, which is spiritual, legal, financial, pastoral and missionary.
- Support and lead the parish to contribute to and enhance the mission of the Diocese and the wider Church.
- Encourage and enable clergy and lay colleagues, churchwardens, PCC, parish staff and volunteers to participate fully in planning and decision making, tasks and activities to ensure that gifts and talents are identified and used effectively.
- Oversee the planning, organisation and conduct of worship, making appropriate use of available resources to give glory to God and to nurture the faith of all within the life of the Church.
- Oversee preparation for baptism, confirmation and marriage.
- Conduct funeral services and other occasional offices for those in the parish.

- Inspire, motivate and empower all members of the Church in their own discipleship, and use and develop programmes to foster this.
- Identify pastoral care needs, including bereavement support, within the parish's communities and ensure appropriate structures and people are in place to provide the necessary support.
- Nurture and develop relationships with all local schools and in particular ensure the fulfilment of key responsibilities towards St John's Church of England Primary School.
- Work to grow the Church younger through developing ministry for children, young people and their families.
- Make full use of resources and buildings in order to develop the mission and outreach of the parish.
- Encourage existing and new community outreach programmes and nurture and develop relationships with community groups within the parish.
- Be open to all people and discover ways to draw those on the margins of the church and the community into the life of the church.
- In co-operation with the churchwardens and the PCC, ensure that Church property in the parish's care is well looked after and maintained and take appropriate action to resolve any unsafe and dangerous situations.
- Develop your own faith and that of those within the Church family through regular worship, prayer, reflection and study.
- Maintain a balanced and healthy life style by attending to personal physical and spiritual wellbeing and needs, making time for yourself with God and with family.

Key contacts

Diocesan and Deanery:

- The Bishop and Archdeacon
- The Diocesan Secretary
- The Rural Dean, Lay Chair, Deanery Chapter and Deanery Synod
- Apostolic Life Director

Other Ministers:

- Licensed and authorised colleagues
- Ministers of other denominations

Parish/Community:

- The churchwardens, treasurer and PCC
- The Parish Safeguarding Officer
- Employees of the PCC and lay volunteers
- Local ecumenical relationships (eg. Churches Together)
- St John's Church of England Primary School, Bede's and St Andrew's prep schools
- Local community groups
- Residential Care and Nursing Homes
- Mission partners (eg Beachy Head Chaplaincy, Linking Lives Eastbourne, Eastbourne Foodbank)

Person Specification

Spiritual ethos

- A person of deep spirituality, who walks closely with the Lord and who has a passion to draw people to Jesus Christ. **E**
- Someone who is open to and guided by the Holy Spirit, gently charismatic while able to embrace traditional worship styles. **E**
- A person who prioritises and champions prayer. **E**

Knowledge and experience

- Experience of Anglican parish ministry either as incumbent, priest in charge, assistant minister or as a curate. **E**
- A deep knowledge of and intimacy with the Bible, with the ability to apply it to daily life. **E**
- Supporting and line managing staff and volunteers. **E**
- Strong experience and knowledge of safeguarding in a church context. **E**
- Developing children and youth ministry. **D**
- Building strong relationships with local schools. **D**

Skills and attributes

- A servant-hearted, enabling leader, comfortable with allowing both men and women to minister. **E**
- Willing to actively seek out and to nurture the gifts of others in the service of the Lord. **E**
- Outgoing and welcoming of all, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, sexuality and ability. **E**
- Humble, kind, able to listen well and with a pastoral heart. **E**
- Discreet, able to maintain confidentiality. **E**
- An effective communicator and preacher, able to bring the Word of the Lord to life and to convey ideas in an accessible way. **E**
- Willing to try new things, open to fresh expressions of church. **E**
- Committed to all-age ministry and to continue the efforts to grow the church younger. **E**
- A strong vision for the role of a community church in the modern age. **E**
- Able to manage conflict and to deal with strong personalities. **E**
- Strong administrative competence and technologically literate. **D**
- Well organised and with strong initiative to move things forward. **E**
- Self-aware, with a knowledge of own limitations. **E**
- Good sense of humour and able to not take themselves too seriously. **D**