

Priest in Charge

of the Benefice of Wilne and Draycott with Breaston
0.5 FTE



The Venerable Karen Hamblin

Archdeacon of East Derbyshire



Thank you for taking the time to read this profile as you explore whether God might be calling you to these churches and communities.

This is a 0.5FTE post (Sunday and 3 days per week) leading and working with people who have a love of God, of each-other and for their communities.

There is a hard-working, committed, creative and prayerful leadership team, 2 well resourced and supported PCCs and a real desire to find out, together with a new Incumbent, what is next for them as they look to work through the MAP process, looking especially to developing the church's presence in Draycott, possibly through some form of new worshipping community alongside what already exists.

There is a genuine sense of God's Spirit at work here and people are looking forward to the possibilities of growth in mission and ministry as they seek to communicate and live out that the Kingdom of God really is good news for all.

I commend this post to you and would welcome a conversation if that would be helpful.

With every blessing,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Karen', written over a horizontal line.

The Ven Karen Hamblin

Archdeacon of East Derbyshire

karen.hamblin@derby.anglican.org

07496 823404

Archdeacon's Welcome

Welcome to St Michael's Breaston and St Mary's Draycott

This parish profile aims to give you an idea of our vision, character and activities, to help you discern whether God may be calling you to this prayerful, lively benefice. Inevitably, it will only provide snapshots of who we are and what we do, so we hope that you will connect with us on social media



www.instagram.com/wdbchurches



www.facebook.com/stmarysdraycottandstmichaelsbreaston



and visit us on our website **wdbchurches.org.uk** and in person to get a sense of what God is doing in our churches and villages.

The profile has been compiled using feedback from across the benefice, so we hope it gives you a flavour of who we are and how we hope to grow and develop.

As a benefice, we comprise two parishes with two congregations but three churches. We work together a great deal, although the villages and churches have their own distinctive flavour.

Our shared vision as a benefice is 'Growing as followers of Jesus' and we seek to do this by:

- Loving God, ourselves and others
- Experiencing the reality of God in everyday life
- Serving, supporting, sharing

This sits within the Derby diocesan vision of 'the Kingdom of God: good news for all' and its missional aims of transformed lives through growing church and building community (<https://derby.anglican.org/en/our-mission/content/vision.html>).



We are looking for an enthusiastic, prayerful and Jesus-centred leader who will work collaboratively with us to outwork this vision in our churches and communities, with a focus on:

- Strategically leading our well-established and competent leadership team towards growth in all areas of our life and ministry.
- Supporting and mentoring staff and leaders.
- Supporting and enhancing work with children and young people across the benefice, including line management of our children's and youth workers and fostering of intergenerational worship.
- Being the public face of church in both communities, supporting and enhancing existing links for mission and ministry and establishing strategic bridges between missional relationships and discipleship.
- Helping us to explore the current and future shape of the benefice and how we work together.
- Nurturing and advancing ministry and mission in Draycott, including the existing congregation and exploring the potential for fresh expressions of church.
- Embracing a breadth of worship styles and theological perspectives within the benefice, sustaining our more traditional services and further enhancing our contemporary worship.
- Strategically focusing our approaches to pastoral care, including the development of homegroups or similar.

The data and demographics of the benefice can be found here (Wilne with Draycott)

<https://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=67bce0ed36dd4ee0af7a16bc079aa09a&extent=-0.4317,51.313,0.1986,51.5945>

(Breaston): <https://www.arcgis.com/home/webmap/viewer.html?webmap=67bce0ed36dd4ee0af7a16bc079aa09a&extent=-0.4317,51.313,0.1986,51.5945>

There are currently 113 names on the electoral roll in Breaston and 24 for Wilne with Draycott.



Worship and Prayer

We offer a range of worship styles across the benefice and this variety is important to us – from more structured eucharistic services to contemporary worship and café style services.

Our current monthly pattern of Sunday services is as follows:

Week 1	8.45am Communion St Michael's Breaston	10.30am Family Celebration or Communion St Michael's Breaston	10.30am Communion St Mary's Draycott	4pm Evensong St Michael's Breaston
Week 2		10.30am Joint Communion St Michael's Breaston		
Week 3	8.45am Communion St Michael's (choral)	10.30am Cafe style service St Michael's Breaston	10.30am Communion St Mary's Draycott	
Week 4	8.45am Communion St Michael's Breaston	10.30am Celebration service St Michael's Breaston		
Week 5		10.30am Celebration service St Michael's Breaston	10.30am Communion St Mary's Draycott	

In addition to these services, we also have a weekly Communion service on Wednesdays at 10.30am in St Michael's.

We are fortunate to have gifted musicians to lead us most weeks in our congregations, and we use i-Sing worship or Spotify when no musicians are available. There is a team of service leaders and preachers, which includes an associate priest, a retired priest with PTO and two licensed lay ministers. Members of both churches are involved in reading and leading intercessions.

In addition to our monthly worship pattern, we have occasional offices in all three churches and special events around Christmas and Easter in Breaston and Draycott. Our church attendance statistics can be found in Appendix 1.

Prayer is at the heart of all our activities and we have a weekly Wednesday morning prayer meeting which alternates between the two villages as well as occasional evenings focused on prayer and/or worship.

We also have monthly evening gatherings for thirty minutes of silent Christian meditation at St Michael's – the 'Julian' meeting.





Teamwork

Teamwork is central to all we do and we are seeking an incumbent who is collaborative, facilitative and empowering of others. Our heart is to see each individual have opportunities to grow and serve God in whatever area they are called into and we have many gifted people taking responsibility and serving in different areas of church life. A key role of the incumbent would be to lead, encourage and support church staff and volunteers.

PCCs

Both churches have active and committed PCCs, which meet bi-monthly. Breaston PCC has 14 members, including an acting Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. A smaller Standing Committee takes responsibility for practical aspects of church life such as facilities management and maintenance. Draycott PCC is currently smaller with 7 members, including an acting Chair and Secretary. The Treasurer is not on the PCC but attends meetings when appropriate. There are currently no churchwardens in Draycott.

Both parishes have Parish Safeguarding Officers, who are supported by the Diocesan Safeguarding Team. Policies and procedures for Safeguarding and for Health and Safety are in place and both PSOs use the Diocesan Dashboard to support our compliance with legislation and diocesan policy in these areas. Both PCCs endeavour to keep up with as much essential maintenance as possible, as recommended by the most recent Quinquennial surveys.

Leadership Team

Our benefice-wide Leadership Team is accountable to the two PCCs, meets monthly and has a visionary and strategic focus. This team takes responsibility for the ongoing life and work of the churches – including worship and prayer, community engagement and mission and pastoral care, taking proposals to the PCCs. The shape of this team has changed for the duration of the vacancy and currently comprises:

Dr Jo Whitehead (LLM, Breaston and Interim Team Leader)
 Revd. Gary Dundas (SSM, Associate Priest, Draycott)
 Revd. Maria Przeslawski (PTO, Breaston)
 April MacIntyre (LLM, Breaston)
 Stephe Bowley (Churchwarden, Breaston)
 Mark Huskisson (Churchwarden, Breaston)
 Steve Lacey (Part-time employed Youth Worker)
 Jodie McConnell (Part-time employed Children's Worker)
 Hannah Knighton (Part-time employed Administrator)
 Peter Hampshire (Community and Mission)





Children and young people

Work with children and young people has been a key part of our vision for the past fifteen years, when it was identified as a priority in our MAP process. As churches we have invested significantly in this area and it is one of the ways in which we connect with the key Diocesan priority of seeking to 'grow younger'.

We have two part-time paid staff working with younger people – Jodie McConnell, whose primary responsibility is for children's work and Steve Lacey who oversees our work with young people. A strength of their roles is that they undertake work both together and independently, supported by a small team of committed volunteers. Their work probably engages with upwards of 450 children and their families through a range of sessions and events throughout the year. This number has risen year on year. We have several regular activities:

Young Church

This group runs twice a month in the Church Hall at St Michael's in Breaston, alongside the 10.30am service. It consists of games, chat, Bible stories, discussion, prayer and crafts – as well as other activities.

Sunbeams

Our Sunbeams toddler group runs twice a week across Breaston and Draycott, with around 20 children attending on a Monday at Breaston and around 18 on a Friday at Draycott. This gives wonderful opportunities to talk with and support parents and grandparents as well as getting to know the children.

'Sunbeams has been the highlight of our week, since our first session when our daughter was six days old. It's such a positive and supportive space and no matter how difficult the rest of the week may have been, never fails to put a smile on our faces.'

Amy, Sunbeams parent,
Draycott



Monday evening home group

This session for 11-18s consists of eating together, playing games, chatting and then studying the Bible and praying together. At the moment, up to around 15 young people are coming along regularly. For many of them, this is their church.

'My connection with the Holy Spirit has strengthened over the past two years. I owe it to the church residential where I had times of fun and most importantly a place to rekindle my relationship with Christianity which I didn't know I had lost until I found it again... Through many home group sessions studying the Bible, praying for those in need and learning God's messages as well as his compassion towards everyone; I now know that my ride with God has not been smooth driven so far and won't be for years to come, but that I want to spend it putting my faith in Jesus Christ.' (Ben, 15)

'Youth Café gives me a place to go and see friends I don't go to school with.'

Member of youth café

'The leaders are always smiling and laughing with us.'

Member of youth café

Explorers

These sessions run after school on a Tuesday in St. Michael's for children aged mainly 7-11. They consist of a snack and drink, games, a Bible story and craft activities related to that story. There are normally around 16 young people attending.

Youth Café

Our youth club style session runs on a Tuesday in the Church Hall. It is a relaxed space, where the young people can chat, play games, buy sweets from the tuck-shop and generally 'chill-out' whilst developing lovely friendships. Around 11-16 now regularly attend each week, with several coming along to our Residential last April.

Local schools

In addition to our regular activities, Steve and Jodie work with Firfield School in Breaston (<https://www.firfield.derbyshire.sch.uk>) and Draycott Community Primary School (<https://draycottprimary.co.uk/>). Both schools join with us in the respective churches for Experience Easter and Experience Christmas events each year as well as other occasional sessions – for example, special assemblies, school concerts and church visits. Firfield School kindly allow us to use the school premises for our annual Christmas Food and Toy Collection.

Young people's residential

Our annual young people's residential is undertaken jointly with the youth group from 'Reach' Church Derby (<https://www.reachonline.org>) at Cloverly Hall, Shropshire. This enables our smaller group to join with many more young people for worship, prayer and other activities.

Developing connections as we move forward

We undertake regular Baptism and Thanksgiving services in both churches and see huge potential for developing links here between these and the youth and children's activities we provide, particularly Sunbeams. Our hope is that our new incumbent will be involved in helping to strategically develop and enhance these connections.

Church, Community and Mission

Building community, a key element of the diocesan vision is one of our core values and engagement with both our village communities is fundamental to us serving, supporting and sharing. We seek to work strategically across the benefice in terms of our time and capacity and, just as our work with young people and children is cross-benefice, some of our other activities are shared across both churches and communities.



'I started coming along to Renew on a Thursday and talked to Steve about volunteering. I'm now a volunteer with youth café, Explorers and Sunbeams in both villages. I was struggling with mental health issues and depression but being involved as a volunteer has really helped me with getting out of the house and interacting more.'

Adam, volunteer



St Michael's, Breaston Church, Community and Mission

St Michael's is situated in the heart of the village of Breaston. We are a lively and prayerful congregation and engage with a range of worship styles in our services on Sundays and Wednesday mornings. We have good relationships with Breaston Methodist Church (<https://www.breastonmethodistchurch.org>) and regularly undertake collaborative events, such as the village Remembrance Service and, last summer, an outdoor pet service.

We work closely with the Parish Council (www.breastonparishcouncil.gov.uk) and Breaston Community Forum (BCF – see the same website) and are involved in the annual calendar of village events, with several church members on the BCF committee. Events such as the Mayday Gala on Duffield Close (the village green) provide key opportunities for involvement and engagement as well as our own special events. In December 2024, Carols that Rock and our Crib Service both saw the church packed with families, with over 200 attending each event. We had to turn people away from both events for safety reasons. Our Community Nativity (with live animals) attracted around 400 people to Duffield Close and our Easter Eggstravaganza event on Good Friday saw over 200 people of all ages come through the church for Easter-focused activities and refreshments.

St Michael's is far more than just a place of worship; it has grown into a vibrant hub of community activity, for individuals of all ages and backgrounds

**Nicala, Parish Clerk,
Breaston Parish Council**





‘St Michael’s is far more than just a place of worship; it has grown into a vibrant hub of community activity, for individuals of all ages and backgrounds.

The church’s remarkable contributions are evident in the wide range of events and groups it organises, providing something for everyone. Beyond its own walls, St Michael’s extends its reach by supporting the local foodbank, holding varied outdoor events such as picnics and services and playing a crucial role during the COVID-19 pandemic, when church members were pivotal in the establishment of a village-wide network to assist those in need.

The Parish Council is grateful for the church’s continued backing of numerous community events, including the Gala, Carol Concert, and Dementia Friends training sessions. St Michael’s steadfast dedication enriches the lives of residents and strengthens the fabric of our community.’
(Nicala, Parish Clerk, Breaston Parish Council)

Several regular groups and activities also form a key part of our missional engagement with the community.

Renew Wellbeing

Renew Wellbeing was started in 2021 and is connected to a national network of ‘Renew’ spaces (<https://www.renewwellbeing.org.uk>). As a quiet shared space, it seeks to serve the congregation and the community by providing a cafe-style area within the church building every Thursday morning. Activities are provided (including games, crafts, colouring and jigsaws) and visitors are encouraged to bring and share their hobbies. Prayer is core to the movement and opportunity is provided for those who wish to, to take part in quiet, led prayer as part of the session. Working in partnership with local mental health support, we signpost to outside support when necessary. Numbers range from around 12 to 20 and visitors often comment on the welcoming and peaceful atmosphere.

‘I had been feeling extremely lonely, a friend suggested Renew café. My life changed. Meeting people over coffee made me come alive and happy.’

Renew member



Living Hope

Living Hope has been meeting monthly in St Michael's since October 2022 and aims to support relatives and friends who have loved ones in addiction. The support is two-fold. Firstly, to offer those relatives and friends a Bible-based place for sharing, prayer and encouragement. Secondly, to reach out to those in addiction by signposting them to Christian rehab centres, particularly Teen Challenge. The group has grown to include members from other local churches and others who connect from further afield through WhatsApp. Meetings vary and the content has included prayer and worship, visiting speakers, testimonies and film.

Men's Danger Club

The Men's Danger Club provides a wide variety of interesting activities especially designed for men. The monthly events include sporting, quiz and food-focused evenings, with the aim of encouraging men to meet together, get to know one another and relax. This is a joint initiative across both Breaston and Draycott.

'My experience is that men aren't always great at making time to get together. The men's danger club is a really good opportunity to meet up with others socially, have fun and often learn something interesting. It's something I feel completely comfortable inviting friends to, whether they are Christians or not.' Paul, Men's Danger Club member

Home groups

In Breaston there are currently five homegroups meeting, in addition to the young people's homegroup. Some members of the church also attend ecumenical homegroups in both villages. We are aware of the need to develop this area further and of the need for small groups of some kind in Draycott. We also have a number of people involved in pastoral visiting across the benefice, including giving home communion, although this is currently not co-ordinated in any structured or strategic way. The need for a more co-ordinated and strategic approach to pastoral care is one that was identified as a key need in our benefice and one which we hope the new incumbent will take a lead in developing.

'I'm really encouraged by this group they reach out with loving arms and prayers.'

Wendy, Living Hope member

'Through the support, prayers and friendship from the Living Hope meetings, I no longer feel that I am on this awful journey alone, I have the support and guidance of my blessed friends...'

Sharon, Living Hope member

'The testimonies and inspirational documentaries at Living Hope have been such a blessing and have encouraged me to keep trusting in God through difficult circumstances.'

Living Hope member



‘Even though we as a choir are not able to do as much as we used to, we really appreciate leading the singing and doing anthems at the 8.45 and Evensong. It is so important to keep these choral traditions alive.’

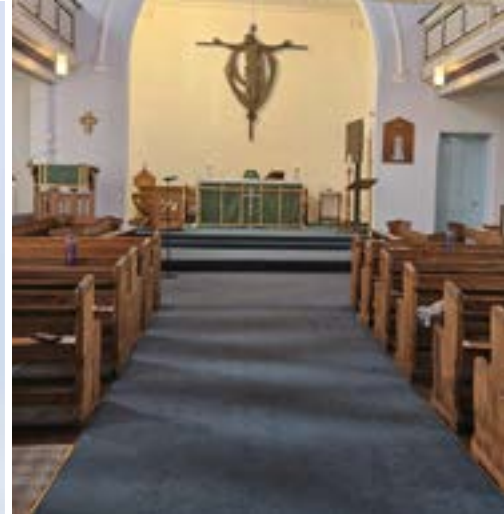
**Jan, Choir Leader,
St Michael's**

Buildings

St Michael's church is a historic building, parts of which date back as far as the early 13th Century. It is light, bright, warm and flexible in terms of seating and layout, having undergone reordering in 2019. The church building is used throughout the week for services and for youth, church, community and outreach activities. There is a breadth of different worship styles on Sundays and a midweek communion. Our small but dedicated choir sings monthly at the 8.45 service and at evensong.

The church hall, adjacent to the church, is also an excellent space and splendid asset. It is a good source of income as it is used on weekdays by Breaston Pre-school (<https://breastonpreschool.com>) and a Wrap-around Club, which provides childcare before and after school. In the evenings and at weekends it is in demand for church use and by various community groups. The church office, upstairs from the hall, provides a valuable space for admin work and small church meetings.

The Old Library, which belongs to the church, is rented out to a wedding planning business (<https://www.lilyroseweddingsandevents.com>) and this also brings in useful income.



St Mary's, Draycott – Church and Community

'Draycott is a tiny congregation, but we all pull together.' (member of Draycott Congregation)
Draycott as a village has a strong sense of community with Draycott Village Fund (www.draycottvillagefund.co.uk) organising many events and activities through the year. St Mary's is very involved and engaged with these and other village activities.

We have a small but committed congregation on alternate Sunday mornings, where our services are quiet but with real depth. Relatively traditional in style, they normally have a eucharistic focus. During the vacancy we have seen growth in both numbers and maturity with up to 20 attending regularly. Occasional offices, particularly funerals, provide significant opportunity for engagement with individuals and families and Remembrance is a key time for the village, with over 250 normally attending a service at the war memorial. Christmas and Easter also provide opportunity for connecting with the village and seeing people engage with church in different ways.

Rev. Gary Dundas, Associate Priest (SSM), is the village butcher and his shop is a hub for people popping in to chat and for prayer. We host five or six well-attended social events each year, which focus around an informal meal, for example, a family quiz night, held in the church hall, saw around 60 people gathering for pizza, chips, cake, drinks and a family quiz.

Thank you for keeping me in touch with events. The dinners are excellent and the people really friendly. That is important to me as I am still getting used to the area (recently moved to the area)'

Keith, Draycott resident

'I love coming to the dinners as it makes me feel part of a community. I don't feel bad that I don't attend church on a regular basis. These occasions allow me to 'give back' as I can indulge my love of cooking, bringing dishes for people to try.'

Elaine, Draycott resident

The strong sense of connection with the local community means there are significant opportunities for development of mission and ministry in Draycott. There is an ecumenical homegroup, which meets in the village and we have previously experimented with contemporary worship on a Sunday evening. We would love to see a new incumbent help us explore and develop the possibilities here and potentially develop a fresh expression of worship in the village.

The church building is formerly a Methodist chapel. It is well equipped with a new screen and PA equipment and has significant potential for further use and development. Consideration has been given to reordering but this has been put on hold during the vacancy. There is also a recently-renovated church hall, with a range of different sized spaces, including a large hall, small meeting rooms and excellent kitchen facilities. This lovely space is very well-used by the church, community and local families and is a valuable source of rental income.

There is a strong relationship with Draycott Methodist church (<https://derbymethodists.org.uk/churches/draycott>) and some joint services and events are held. This connection was much stronger prior to Covid and there is an existing covenant between the two churches, which we would like to explore picking up again. We would value a new incumbent exploring how these relational links could be revisited.





St Chad's, Wilne

St. Chad's is the oldest church building in the benefice. It is rich in history and boasts beautiful stonework and stained-glass windows. Its isolated location next to St. Chad's Water lends the whole area a tranquil atmosphere. However, the long-vanished village of Wilne was subject to flooding by the nearby river Derwent and consequently, the people relocated to nearby Draycott, on higher ground, leaving St. Chad's Church with only a couple of houses nearby.

It is likely that there has been a church on the site dating back to St Chad as early as 822 AD., although the present building was built much later. The oldest part of the building is the lowest part of the tower and the church boasts the second oldest font in the country, believed to be the upturned base of a Saxon cross, dating back possibly as far as the 7th or 8th Century.

Use of the church declined during the twentieth Century, until in 1990, a small group of dedicated parishioners became concerned about its deteriorating condition and campaigned for it to be kept open. This working group became 'The Friends of St Chad's', an organisation (now a registered charity) which has continued to flourish and to organise events and raise money (over £170,000) over the last 34 years. This has enabled the acquisition of the land next to the church for a car park and the building of a brick toilet block as well as more recently repainting the church interior, installing new central heating, repointing exterior stonework and replacing the old kitchen. Recently, anti- vandal spikes at strategic points around the stonework have been added to stop vandals getting onto the roof.

No regular services are held here at the moment, but the church is used for occasional services and events – the Vintage veteran motorcycle display held in the church last year is of particular note.

The status of St Chad's is currently under review. The churchyard is now closed.

Financial Information

	St Michael's Breaston	Wilne with Draycott
Common Fund asked for	£65,705	£15,004
Common Fund paid	£65,705	£3,000
Income (excl. legacies)	£166,593	£24,289
Legacy	£5,000	£50,000
Expenditure	£167,659	£40,754
Restricted / designated reserves	£7,405	£13,804
Unrestricted reserves	£196,780	£67,971

Looking Ahead

Where do we see God at work?

Early in the vacancy, our benefice vision day identified much to be excited about and thankful for. Work with children and young people, our presence in the villages and community engagement, outreach events at Christmas and Easter and Renew café were all mentioned by several groups. The range of worship services offered and the valuing of all traditions is something we are grateful for, as well as our gifted leaders and all who serve as volunteers in the many activities we undertake. The sense of a welcoming and supportive feel is important in both churches and the congregation in Draycott have been encouraged by a recent increase in numbers. The children and young people enjoy being fully involved and included in church life and services and value their different groups and activities. We really value the relationship and connectedness between the two churches in the benefice but recognise that each has an individual identity, which is important to maintain.

Where do we want to move forward?

We would hope that a new incumbent will lead us in using a MAP process to clarify vision and strategy. This is likely to include several areas, which our vision day identified as needs moving forward. Across the two churches, we are aware that we need to strengthen our pastoral structures and support. While there is a lot going on pastorally, our current processes lack a coherent structure and lines of communication. We hope a new incumbent will help lead on and clarify this. We engage with many people in our communities in different ways, but are aware of the need of strategic leadership to build bridges from 'connection' into faith and engagement into discipleship. Draycott, as a church, has felt rather 'neglected' for several years and, as we have mentioned earlier, there is significant potential here for development.





Qualities of a new incumbent

In our consultation, the most common answer regarding key qualities for a new incumbent was openness to the Spirit or being Spirit-filled. This reflects our desire to see God speak and move in our churches and communities. The other key area that is important to us, along with some of the 'taken-for-granted' qualities (good communicator and listener, good leader, pastoral, Bible teacher) is that any new incumbent should be someone who works collaboratively and seeks to empower others. As has already been highlighted in the profile, we have a strong teamwork culture and would welcome someone who will support us in releasing people into their gifts.

Diversity of views within the benefice on a range of issues was valued by many in the consultation and these differences were evidenced more particularly in other feedback following the event. Inclusivity is important to many and there is a range of views around LLF and human sexuality (at both ends of the spectrum).

Thus far, we have sought to prioritise unity within our churches. Our new incumbent will need to be comfortable with us holding a breadth of views on these issues, sometimes in creative tension.

'St Michael's has a long and proud position in the local community. It is in a perfect position to move forward to help develop community. Hopefully the new leader/incumbent will be able to take advantage of this for the benefit of the community.'
Vision Day Participant



The New Rectory is a spacious, recently-refurbished four bedroomed house, with excellent living space and a beautiful garden.

Photographs and plans from the Diocesan Property Team can be found in Appendix 3.

How to apply

Thank you for reading this profile. We very much look forward to hearing from you and will be happy to supply any further information you may need.

If you have any specific questions or would value an informal pre-application conversation, then please contact:

Archdeacon of East Derbyshire:
Ven Karen Hamblin
karen.hamblin@derby.anglican.org
01332 388668
07496 823404

Safeguarding:

The Diocese of Derby is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults. All post holders and volunteers are expected to share this commitment. [Click here for further information on our commitment to safeguarding.](#)

All appointments are subject to acceptable pre-appointment checks, including a satisfactory Enhanced DBS Check.

Privacy Notice

Your data is processed in line with our [Privacy Notice](#).

Appendix 1: Attendance Statistics

Appendix 2: Financial Information

Appendix 3: Rectory Information