

Priest-in-Charge of Kirk Langley; Mugginton and Kedleston; Longford and Long Lane

Part-time, permanent, stipendiary role



Archdeacon's Welcome



I am delighted that you are interested in finding out more about this unique and exciting post. We are looking for an enthusiastic priest with a pastoral heart and passion for rural ministry. Someone who can work collaboratively across these village communities to engage creatively and missionally, sustaining existing church life, developing lay ministries while also innovating and forming new partnerships and worshipping communities.

We hope to complement the pastoral work of Derbyshire Rural Chaplaincy, build upon the seasonal and agricultural cycle, explore opportunities for new community partnerships, become familiar with different forms of communication and explore possibilities for new worshipping communities such as Messy Church and forest church while also considering how we might make the churches more sustainable and viable moving forward into the future.

We are seeking a leader who can inspire others to use their gifts and work in partnership. You will find a willingness and energy to look outward, to work in partnership with others and an aspiration to grow the church through generous faith, courageous hope, and life-giving love. Building on the network of relationships that are forming across the churches in the area, you will find supportive engagement from clergy and laity.

At a pivotal time in the life of the Diocese of Derby, this role offers an innovative opportunity to work and model a new way of leading churches into growth through partnering across boundaries as together we seek to be good news for all bringing God's kingdom near in transformed lives through growing church and building community.

So do read on and if you have questions or want to know more then please be in touch with me directly nicky.fenton@derby.org and we can schedule an informal conversation.

Nicky Fenton

Area Dean's Welcome



This grouping offers an exciting opportunity to minister within rural communities. There is an opportunity to preserve the best of what we have inherited with churches that are keen to face the future together.

We are a numerically small, mutually supportive deanery operating across varied geographical and social situations, but with a firm deanery commitment to explore what mission means in the 21st century. With a comparatively new leadership team, there are plenty of opportunities for exploring what we can do together, and the successful candidate is assured of our full support.

Revd Dr James Hughes
Area Dean of Dove and Derwent Deanery

Our Vision

We are a new benefice with a shared vision of what our Lord Jesus Christ wants of us. As a group of 4 parishes with a range of communities (but with many similarities) we are bound together by a shared commitment to build our churches and parish communities in love and partnership with each other whilst acknowledging our differences.

We have committed leadership teams in each parish and a shared enthusiasm for creating a mixed ecology that will meet the needs of our existing older congregations and connect with younger people who want to explore faith and are looking for new and different forms of worship reflecting the realities of their daily lives to faith.

We are committed to outreach in the new housing developments, working with our church schools, forming new worshipping communities, and partnering with the rural chaplaincy.

We are looking to appoint a part-time stipendiary priest who will inspire and lead us in our worship, congregational life and the delivery of our missional priorities.

Key tasks will be:

- Building links and developing relationships with the 4 current church schools with a view to partnering with them to form new worshipping communities
- Nurturing and discipling church members, particularly through launching small groups, helping them to deepen their relationship with God
- Partnering with the rural chaplaincy to support the farming community
- Developing new and innovative ways of communicating across the benefice
- Support our churches in progressing through the Eco Church Awards.
- To explore sustainable models of governance
- To review whether changing status and becoming either festival churches or chapels of ease would enable the smaller churches to have the energy to flourish

Parish Populations and Congregations

Parish	Population	IMD score	USAA	USCA	Total Worshipping Community
Kirk Langley	720	11.2	17	0	40
Mugginton and Kedleston	532	10.8	12	0	12
Longford	700	10.6	14	0	19
Long Lane	163	17.9	16	0	11

Current Worship Patterns

We recognise our pattern of services might need to change and we are actively seeking to develop new worshipping communities alongside our inherited model of worship and ministry.

There are church schools in four of the parishes all actively engaged with their parish churches and we would hope our new priest can build upon and increase these links.

Currently the congregation from All Saints, Mackworth are joining Kirk Langley for worship while their church building is being rebuilt following a devastating fire.

Church	1 Sunday	2 Sunday	3 Sunday	4 Sunday	5 Sunday
Kirk Langley*	Holy Communion	Morning Prayer	Holy Communion	Morning Prayer	**
Mugginton		Holy Communion Halter Devil Chapel		Holy Communion / Morning Prayer	**
Longford ***		Morning Prayer		Holy Communion	
Long Lane ***	Holy Communion				

*There is a service of Morning Prayer or Holy Communion dependent on the availability of PTOs who support us.

** Every 5th Sunday Mackworth and Kirk Langley share a service at Mugginton of either Holy Communion or Morning Prayer.

*** Long Lane and Longford share services on alternate 1st, 2nd, and 4th Sundays.

Leadership

There are active leadership teams in all the parishes and a commitment by those teams to work together across the group of four churches to share in worship and prayer as we seek to build our congregations and adapt to changing patterns of living. There is also an active and committed Reader who takes regular services alongside retired priests who assist with Holy Communion and life events.

We all believe in the parish system and recognise that as a strong and united benefice sharing buildings, skills and services, we can preach God's word more effectively and be good news for our communities. One of the things we would like our new priest to work with us on is moving towards simpler governance structures and sharing resources across parishes.

Finance

2023	Kirk Langley	Mugginton	Longford	Long Lane
Common Fund Ask	£18830	£8761	£6596	£4431
Common Fund Paid	£6000	£8821	£3298	£4431
Total Income	£11202	£12913	£12691	£7272
Total Expenditure	£33860	£21768	£10261	£7367
Restricted Reserves	£20186	nil	nil	nil
Unrestricted reserves	£25688	£198116	£73709	£39487

St Michael's Kirk Langley

Kirk Langley is an expanding rural village of approx. 700 inhabitants with two current housing developments of 150 new houses underway. It acts as a commuter village for Derby City which is 5 miles away as it has excellent road transport links. There are several successful village organisations – WI, Drama, Fitness, Wine and Art Clubs and a lovely garden centre with café at Meynell Langley. There is also a good pub restaurant at Langley Common.

St Michael's is a Grade 1 listed building. The current church was built in 1320 and has Saxon origins. It is generally in good condition with a new heating system installed in 2018, an organ refurbished in 2022 and an AVA system. Unusually for the age of the church there are no pews; this means we can clear the area of chairs for functions. Adjacent to the church is the Village Hall which is owned by the Diocese and is run by a Hall Management Committee.

Weekly services are fairly traditional. We recognise the need to develop our mission and outreach activities with families and younger people. We have an excellent retained organist. Kirk Langley CE School uses the church for Christmas, Easter, and leavers' services. We also have a range of other services e.g., Christingle, Carol, Easter Eve. Morning services are always followed by refreshments where people can have friendly chats with each other.

As with many Anglican churches our congregation tends to be made up of retired people who are still very active. They are very friendly and supportive of any activities undertaken. There is a rota of lesson readers and several of the congregation lead the Intercessions. There are also volunteers for church and brass cleaning and looking after the churchyard. The weekly congregation averages thirty with about two-thirds coming from Kirk Langley. There is significant opportunity to develop the church congregation to reflect the changing demographics of the village.

The church at Kirk Langley benefits from a Reader with PTO, and two retired clergy who live locally and a further priest, who works for the Diocese. Although there is only one Church Warden, the following roles are all in place – Treasurer, Secretary, Safeguarding Officer, Health and Safety Officer, Tower Captain (Bells) and Verger. A volunteer opens the church regularly on a Wednesday afternoon supplying visitors with refreshments! In addition, there is 10 hours of paid administrative support shared between the five parishes.





Activities vary over any year but always include a Harvest Supper which is held in church and full participation in the Annual Village Field Day. There are also occasional concerts and other related fundraising activities as and when the need arises such as raising £37,000 to refurbish the organ in 2021/22. The church is used by the school for their Christmas fund-raiser and by the WI for their monthly meetings. We welcome/encourage any other organisations who wish to use it such as the WI. We have a box for food collection in church for a Derby charity. We are also committed to our church becoming an ECO church as we move forward.

Kirk Langley CE Primary School's visions and values are at the core of everything they do. These values underpin their teaching and learning and provide an environment which prepares pupils to be confident, thriving citizens. They are committed to being a school where parents, carers and the family community know them by their actions. Their vision is to promote educational excellence within an environment that is dedicated to the living teachings of Jesus Christ in daily life. It is built on an atmosphere of respect and sensitivity to individual needs; where children's self-esteem and confidence grow because they can make mistakes without fear. They believe their deeply Christian foundation recognises the importance of experience, personal values, and respect for the beliefs of others.

Ofsted rated Kirk Langley CE Primary a 'Good' school in 2024 and in their report, they noted the school's motto, 'a school where every child can shine,' underpins a drive that every child should succeed. The school's values of wisdom, hope, community, and dignity were seen to permeate the school. Pupils were noted to be welcoming, happy and courteous and appreciative of what this small school offers them. Pupils are thoughtful learners who consider the ideas and views of one another and respect each other.

The school, along with our children and families, would like a vicar who is enthusiastic and energetic. Alongside this we hope for a Vicar who is prayerful, visionary and someone who permeates a strong understanding of collaboration and has a passionate work ethic.

All Saints' Church Mugginton with Kedleston and Halter Devil Chapel

This is a widespread parish which includes parts of Kedleston, Mercaston, Weston Underwood and Mugginton. It is largely rural, although farming is less dominant than in the past. Mugginton holds not only the central church but the Village Hall and the School. The cricket pitch is at Mugginton Lane End. There is a very busy and varied social life in the community often based in the hall. This is detailed in the bi-monthly newsletter which always includes a section of church news and is distributed by email throughout the wider community. It is available on Weston Underwood Parish Council Website.

All Saints' Church, Mugginton is a grade 1 listed building dating from the 11th century. It has often been extended and amended over the years and is very well maintained. There is now a toilet and kitchen within the building which has enabled after-service refreshments and events to be enjoyed more comfortably. The building is open as much as possible so that people can use and visit it. We have an active bell tower with six well maintained bells, weekly practices and bells rung for all major services and events and we host visiting bands.

Halter Devil Chapel is also a listed building. It seats about 28 people and is ideal for early morning communion services. It is semidetached to an old farmhouse and we have recently celebrated its tercentenary.

We do not have wardens, but the PCC works well as a group to co-ordinate the life of the church. There are 7 members who share the roles. There is a Secretary, Treasurer, Safeguarding Officer, someone who takes care of building maintenance, Bell Ringers' representative, and someone who co-ordinates the rotas, services, and information. We are currently seeking a new treasurer. We have a small supportive core congregation, and a great number of supporters from the community who are involved such as the Flower Group and the History Group. At each service there will be people who welcome, set up, read and, when appropriate, provide refreshments.

Until the vacancy, we were holding a variety of services, encouraging different forms of worship and young families to join us whenever possible. Currently we have rationalised our provision of services. We have an organist and use 100 Hymns for Today. The Holy Communion services are fairly conservative. The average attendance for Morning Worship and Holy Communion services last year was 12.



During the vacancy we have continued to work with the parish of Kirk Langley with whom we have recently employed a benefice administrator. Mugginton has been supported by a retired priest from another deanery who has been taking most of our services. We have a relationship with Derbyshire Rural Chaplaincy which we have supported in the past and they are assisting at some services.

Life events were busy last year and included a wedding at Kedleston Chapel. We hold two Harvest Festivals each year and have supported the Padley Centre in Derby with both produce and donations. The church is opened and extensively decorated each Christmas, Easter and for special events. Each Remembrance Day service is attended by 2195 Long Eaton and 620 Derwent Valley ATC Squadrons

We have held social events in church and launched an appeal for support from the community so we can maintain our buildings and serve the community in the future. We would like to restore our strong historical support for local and international charities. We would like help to expand the range of services and particularly engage young people and help the school.

Mugginton CE Primary School sits 100 yards from the church and makes great use of the building. The children and their families are regularly in church. The school would very much welcome a vicar who could support the delivery of the Religious Education curriculum and contribute to the school's Christian distinctiveness and enhance the children's experience. It is a thriving 175-year-old church school with a talented, experienced teaching staff, exceptional adult-to-pupil ratios, supportive parents, and wonderful, engaging, and hard-working children. In the last five years the number of pupils in the school has doubled - testament to the dedication and warmth of the staff and the incredible support received from the parents and community. By working together, the school is determined to continue to achieve the very best for its pupils and be a second family to the community.

There are three 'Golden Threads' woven through the school curriculum:

We love Nature and the Outdoors, We love Sport and Exercise, We love Music, the Arts and being Creative

The School Vision is summarised best from Matthew 22: 'Love Your Neighbour as You Love Yourself'

We 'live' our Vision through our 6 Christian Values:



Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart (Galatians 3:23)

Be brave (Even if I walk through the darkest valley, I won't be afraid, because you are with me, Psalm 23)

Awe of our natural world (Job 12 'ask the animals, and they will teach you; or ask the birds of the air, and they will tell you. Speak to the earth, and it will teach you)

Do Good (Hebrews 13: 16 'Do good and share what you have.' Parable of the Good Samaritan)

Nurture ourselves and others (Parable of the Mustard Seed)

Think Critically (Philippians 4:8 'Fix your thoughts on what is true, honourable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise.')

The school enjoys close links with All Saints' Church holding services at least once per half-term as well as pupil-led services to celebrate Harvest and Christingle. The team is excited to share the school with our new Vicar and would welcome regular visits from them.

St Chad's Church Longford

The parish church of St Chad serves the village of Longford and the neighbouring villages of Hollington and Rodsley, with populations of approximately 382, 214 and 106 respectively. The parish is situated in a picturesque and rural location in the Derbyshire Dales, and the community comprises a wide range of ages and occupations, e.g. farming, construction, transport, many other professions, schoolchildren, students and retirees.

St Chad's Church dates from the 12th century, with original Norman features and later additions in the early Decorated style and during the Perpendicular period. It is a Grade I Listed Building within the Longford Conservation Area. Inside the church are five alabaster effigies of various members of the Longford family, dating from the 14th to the 17th centuries, and elaborate memorials to the Coke family (Earl of Leicester) from the 19th century. There is also a Grade II listed sandstone cross in the churchyard, dating from the 15th century. The church is situated approximately half a mile from Longford village and accessed via a private tree-lined driveway, which is also part footpath and part bridleway and enjoyed by locals and visitors alike.

The type of worship practised at St Chad's is best described as central traditional C of E. During the vacancy, we have adopted a pattern of worship with the neighbouring parish of Long Lane as described previously. We also have an excellent organist who lives in the parish and plays at all these services.

There are normally 10-15 members of the congregation regularly attending services from the 26 people who are currently on the church electoral roll, all of whom live in the parish. There are 3 members of the PCC, including a Treasurer and Secretary. Currently there are no churchwardens, and these duties are carried out by the PCC and volunteers.

In addition to the planned services, the church is used for baptisms, weddings, and funerals, which are well attended by local families, friends, and neighbours. The congregation is also boosted for services celebrating the festivals of Christmas, Easter, and Harvest, when extended family and families from Longford CE Primary School attend and the church is decorated.

The school holds Christmas, Easter, and Harvest services at church, which are led by the children and enjoyed greatly by parents, grandparents and parishioners. Each child brings a small box of groceries / toiletries to the Harvest service to donate a local foodbank or charity.



The main annual fundraiser for St Chad's is the Summer Fete, which is held in the extensive gardens of a local house and is very well attended and enjoyed by the local community with traditional stalls and games, raffle, refreshments and barbeque etc. We sometimes hold a Christmas Fair inside church to 'show off' the decorations or a coffee morning to raise additional funds. Again, this is a popular event. The pupils also make decorations for the Christmas tree at church with help from PCC volunteers, which they can take home with them after the end-of-term Christmas service.

Longford CE Primary is a small and friendly school which currently has 53 pupils and is very much a part of the community. The staff have worked hard in recent years to diversify the curriculum, attracting praise from other schools in the county for making pupils aware of real-world issues such as female activists, the environment, refugees and the Windrush generation. The ethos of the school is to ensure pupils know the importance of treating people fairly and with respect, including those of different faith, heritage, or lifestyle.

The school has been rated 'good' by Ofsted inspectors. Its five core values of kindness, respect, empathy, cooperation, and resilience are thread throughout school life and celebrated in a weekly 'Sparkler' assembly, where the children can nominate one another for displaying these values.

Regrettably, since the vacancy, the pupils have missed the regular visits to church and collective worship in school, led by the previous vicar. Both staff and pupils are very keen for the new vicar to re-establish this link with the church. However, it has given the school the tremendous opportunity to build a team of children who have been leading worship and this is something we very much hope will continue to be built upon as well as the vicar taking a leading role in collective worship.



Christ Church Long Lane

Long Lane is a small village of about 200 people. The church, school and pub are found in the centre of the village which houses mostly retired people who moved into the village in the 1970s and 1980s; the more scattered part of the village houses our farming community who have been here for many generations.

Due to the vacancy, there are only three services a month shared with St Chad's Longford as described in the table of worship. There is a small congregation of 10 – 15 but greater numbers attend for principal church festivals. Additional annual services include commemorating Remembrance Day, a summer Songs of Praise and a Carol Service.

Long Lane CE Primary School is a small village school which currently has 25 pupils drawn mostly from surrounding villages and the suburbs of Derby. Relations between the church and the school are good but need to be developed. The school uses the church for specific occasions such as Harvest, Christmas and Easter and a school leavers' service. Two members of the church go into school twice a term to take Collective Worship. The school is part of a federation with Marston Montgomery and share their headteacher, Mrs T. Bosley. Within the community the school is well supported at events such as the Summer Fair, Coronation Tea Party, and charity fundraiser events. Previously the vicar held collective worship in school, and this certainly added to the Christian ethos and distinctiveness.

We support several charities including the Padley Centre for the homeless, The Hope Centre food bank, The Royal British Legion and Alzheimer's Research. One member takes Holy Communion to 2 or 3 people each month and there is a small prayer group that meet by Zoom every Thursday. There are 6 members on our PCC – we have a Church warden, Treasurer, and PCC Secretary. The PCC work together on all matters.



The Vicarage

The vicarage is currently situated opposite the church in Kirk Langley at 4 Church Lane, DE6 4NG.

The vicarage is a well proportioned modern four bedroomed property with a spacious study, large garden and ample off-street parking.



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: The Ven. Nicky Fenton, Archdeacon of Derbyshire Peak and Dales, nicky.fenton@derby.anglican.org

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