

Vacancy for Priest in Charge St John's Walton



Welcome and thank you for considering this post. Our collective vision is one of mission and love for the people of the Diocese, sharing and living the good news of Jesus Christ.

Vision: The Kingdom of God: Good News for All
Outcomes: Deepening relationship with God; Making new disciples; Serving local communities, Challenging injustice
Priorities: Contexts of social and economic deprivation, growing younger and more diverse, growing spiritually and numerically, caring for all creation.
Values: Generous Faith - Courageous Hope – Life-Giving Love

Each parish and benefice, across all deaneries, is being reshaped towards a more sustainable future. We are looking to appoint a priest here who can develop our commitment to contextual, local ministry which is aligned to the Diocesan vision and alert to the wider issues and concerns of the County/City, our nation and the world.

Within this vision, each parish across the Diocese is being shaped for a sustainable and hope-filled future. The parish of St John's Walton with St Peter's Holymoorside offers a particularly rich opportunity. These are warm, prayerful and mission-minded church communities, with established ministries spanning seniors, children, families and the wider community; vibrant worship in different styles; and strong lay involvement across both congregations.

At the same time, the parish faces the significant and exciting challenge of entering a new season of collaboration and long-term planning, including the phased move towards a single future incumbency with Wingerworth. This requires wise, patient and discerning leadership, leadership rooted in Scripture, prayer and a collaborative spirit.

We are therefore looking to appoint a missional priest who embodies generous faith, courageous hope and life-giving love; who will help the parish continue developing St John's as a potential resourcing church, strengthening discipleship, nurturing future leaders and exploring how the church might "give itself away" in service of neighbouring communities.

We hope to appoint someone who will listen well, build trust, and work collaboratively within and beyond the parish; who will equip God's people for ministry; who will communicate clearly and foster unity across multi-service, multi-site worshipping communities; and who will support the parish in deepening prayer, growing disciples, strengthening pastoral care and engaging joyfully with local schools, groups and communities' life.

This is a parish eager for thoughtful vision, hopeful for growth, and committed to welcoming and supporting their new priest. We very much hope that you will consider applying.

Be assured of my continuing prayers for you as you discern God's call.

With every blessing,

The Right Reverend Jackie Searle
Acting Bishop of Derby