

The Rt Revd Libby Lane
Bishop of Derby



Priest In Charge of Bakewell, Ashford-in-the-Water, Over Haddon, Rowsley, Sheldon, Longstone and Wardlow

Thank you for considering this post.

This is an exciting and challenging time for the Diocese of Derby. As the Church of England is renewing its calling to be centred on Christ Jesus and shaped by Him, the Diocese of Derby echoes that call as we re-articulate a vision for the next 5 years:

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, being greener
Values: Generous Faith - Courageous Hope – Life-Giving Love

In each deanery, parishes and benefices are engaging in Mission Action Planning towards a more missional and sustainable future that embed our desired outcomes in every context. We are looking to appoint a priest who can work collaboratively across these churches. The new Priest in Charge will be someone who thrives when leading transformational change across rural communities with the skills to enable sustainable missional growth.

These parishes have remained strong through the vacancy and are seeking to grow in their discipleship and ability to engage pastorally and missionally with their communities. A particular focus is helping them develop their existing relationships with schools, children and young people and forming new worshipping communities. There are notable opportunities to engage with visitors, tourists and pilgrims as well as the growing number of people moving into the area on retirement. Bakewell's famous Farmer's market and Agricultural Centre present exciting opportunities for missional engagement with the farming community across the whole of Derbyshire. Parishes across Peak Deanery are all facing significant missional transition with opportunity to reconsider shaping of ministry and resource that is fruitful and sustainable.

We are looking to appoint a gospel hearted, compassionate and persistent enabling leader to build up ministry across these parishes and support them in the exploration of partnerships and new missional opportunities. This is an ideal post for someone who enjoys worship of an inclusive nature, is passionate about evangelism, outreach and church growth, who thrives in multi-parish benefices, is experienced in schools work and who has an interest in enabling visitors and tourists to become pilgrims.

We are praying for someone who will work generously within and beyond these parishes, to equip, shape and resource growing church and building community that God's Kingdom may come.

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

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