



&



ST. MARY'S
CHURCH
LONG NEWTON

Curacy Profile All Saints Preston On Tees with St Mary's Longnewton



An Exciting Place To Start Ordained

Ministry And Get Equipped For The

Durham Diocese, Stockton Deanery



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LETTER OF INTRODUCTION

Dear Ordinand

We are delighted you are considering ministry in Durham Diocese.

With a new bishop, transformation project under way, and with all God is doing in our nation; it is a great moment to begin ordained ministry.

A curacy here in our two churches will mean getting involved discipling the people of God who are already gathering as well as reaching out into

our communities and building on the mission already started here. In both churches God is doing wonderful things, so whether your ministry leads you to an urban or rural context in the future, time in our churches will set you up well to know how to grow churches, how to equip the people of God, and build communities that signpost people to our amazing God. Both churches have strong lay teams at all levels, and our new Curate will work with Matt, our Vicar and these teams. In addition there is an excellent paid staff team at All Saints, and a paid children's outreach worker at St Mary's.

We hope that this profile, along with resources on our websites, will give you a good understanding of both churches, their parishes and the local area. We pray for you as you discern whether God is leading you to join us here.

Yours in Christ,

Karen Snowden and Andrew Eley, All Saints' Church Wardens
Mark Nile and Mike Renton, St Mary's Church Wardens

www.allsaints-church.net
<https://www.stmaryslongnewton.com>



Hello, I'm Matt, the Vicar. All Saints and St Mary's are exciting places to be, and I hope from this profile you will get a sense of what God is doing here, and how a curacy here would prepare you for ministry.

The two churches are in some ways different but have much in common.

All Saints is the larger of the two with about 200 members and is designated a resource church in the diocese which means that we have a role in training others, sharing learning, equipping others in ministry, and planting churches. We currently have two services; a 9am more traditional but relaxed, and a 10.45 which is contemporary, band led, with lots of children's and youth work (although we are just going into consultation to plant an existing congregation)

The vision here is: *As disciples of Jesus and the family of God: To be a blessing to our communities and every generation know God and find their place in His family.*

So a big part of our calling is to be outward looking, somewhere people know they can find hope and faith and a community that is welcoming. Whilst we give of our best, we are not aiming to be a polished church. We want to be authentic; somewhere people can discover their gifts, and where the Holy Spirit can work freely.

All Saints is an evangelical church, part of the Evangelical Alliance, and a church where we expect God to speak through his word, through pictures, visions, dreams etc. Our ministries include Alpha, Schools Work, Kintsugi (adults and young people) Joyful Craft, Men's and Women's ministries, Ukraine Café, Connect Retired Lunch, as well as a huge range of events for the community and ministries to children, young people and their families (more to follow) It is a church which is passionate about Jesus and making him known to all ages and people and has a culture that is warm and kind. It is a good place to try things and see what God does, knowing that people are for you and supportive.

St Mary's based in Long Newton is a village church but is like All Saints in being relaxed in style and without the stuffiness that can sometimes creep into village churches. There is a strong sense of being together for Jesus and a desire to reach not only the village but those who travel in.

Over the last twenty years Mainstream Media has attempted to create the narrative of the death of the rural parish but our experience and conviction is that people more than ever want community, and it is up to the church to place itself at the heart of community and show to all people why it is relevant and the hope it brings. We have a strong children's ministry through our close partnership with the Church of England school in the village where many children grow to experience a relationship with Jesus but this is now expanding in our church services as well. Like All Saints, we have great home groups which support the discipleship of the congregation and are places of community.

Both churches are fun places to be, and I am sure you will end your time here feeling well equipped and hopeful for your ministry.

A bit about me...

I absolutely love helping people develop their skills in ministry and grow in confidence. Having coached people in my previous career, it is such a joy to see curates begin that journey of joining in with what God is doing. My own strengths in ministry are around pioneering, preaching, evangelism, and helping

make faith accessible to those not of faith. I love to equip people, to see gifts emerge and over the last five years I have been at these two churches I have been so encouraged by the people stepping into faith, the people where a dormant faith has come alive, and where confidence has grown. In terms of theology, we are evangelical having a high view of scripture and are in favour of women's ministry with women leading and preaching across the churches.

Our current curate would testify that I am easy to work with, have given him the space to try new things and step out, and have been there to help him where to learn the ropes. God has called you into ministry for a reason and we want to be there to help you grow into all you can be. All of us come into ministry with some existing areas of strength, and some areas for development. Part of my role is to recognise and release you to excel in areas of existing gifting, and to build skills in those areas you feel less confident.

As well as supporting you as a minister, you may or may not be coming into ministry with a wife/husband and possibly children as well. Both churches are very family friendly with children of all ages and a strong youth ministry at All Saints. Both churches have that right balance of being open to spouses being involved in ministry whilst not expecting it.

Whilst curacy is about developing skills, there are a few things we would expect of you right from the start:

- To be someone who loves Jesus and wants to see others come to love Jesus and grow in their relationship with Him.
- To be someone committed to reliance on the Holy Spirit, for his strength, renewal and guidance.
- To be committed to all ages finding their place in the church community, from children, young people, and all the way through.
- To be in support of lay ministry, wanting to see those not in Ordained ministry, to flourish in what God has called them to do. 5
- To hold to the doctrine of the Church of England that marriage is intended to be between a man and a woman and that sex belongs only in that context.
- To be up for growing. None of us are the finished article. We are all being honed by the holy spirit, we are all pots in the potters hands. We hold ministry in humble expectation that God takes our bread and fish and multiplies our offering to His glory and not ours.

These churches are wonderful places to minister. If having read the profile, if you would like a conversation about anything you have read or questions you have, please do get in touch.



A few words from Ben our most recent curate

All Saints church is an incredible opportunity for any Curate. Both of the churches are warm and welcoming, filled with people who want to see you grow and flourish. They are also quite different in how they operate, run services, and of course in their locations as well so it is a great opportunity to gather a lot of experience in different contexts and service styles.

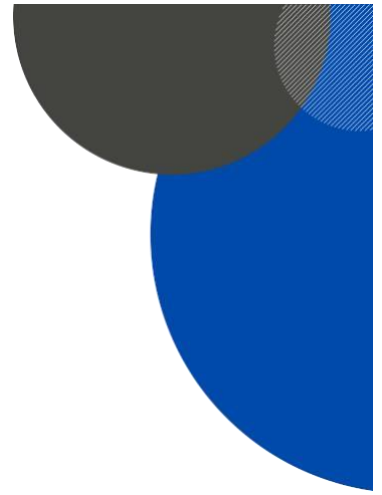
It would not be an understatement to say I have loved my time here and will leave here equipped to lead churches effectively as their incumbent. This is due in no small part to Matt who is a caring and attentive training incumbent who genuinely values people and wants what's best for them.

During my curacy it was clear from day one that he wanted me to grow and be the best possible priest I could be. He has always done this in a measured way, not expecting too much too soon but he also isn't afraid to put you into situations where you will be challenged and grow and gain experience.

If you choose to come to All Saints and St Mary's you will gain so much knowledge on how to run churches well, grow churches, set and create culture, think strategically, how to disciple people effectively, raise up new leaders, work alongside a staff team and grow youth and children's work too.

It genuinely would be a wonderful opportunity, and I do hope you take the time to consider it. Best of luck for the future and God bless. Ben.

OUR STAFF TEAM



Cat is our Children's and Families Ministry leader. She heads up a range of ministries with a great team of volunteers to help children and their families come to and grow in faith. (more below)



Cat Wakefield

Kathryn is our Youth Pastor. She loves helping young people grow in faith and has had lots of experience in seeing this happen. She works closely with Tees Valley Youth For Christ. In April 2026 we became a Youth Hub in the

Diocese so are on a journey of rapidly growing our youth ministry and supporting two other churches in their development.



Madi joined us in April 2026 as part of the additional support offered to us by the diocese as a Youth Hub. She has experience pioneering youth work, and joins us as Assistant Youth Pastor.



Madi Wachepa



Shiromi Davison

Administrator



Rachel Levinsohn

Shiromi and Rachel provide Admin support for all the ministries of the church, maintaining the website, managing bookings, and bring organisation to what is a very busy church.



Peter is our caretaker and cleaner as well as providing help setting up for a number of church events.



Whilst as clergy we provide pastoral care, we are supported by an amazing pastoral team headed up by Peter.

Peter Gray

Our Parish



All Saints' Preston on Tees is actually in Eaglescliffe, but the Parish is called Preston on Tees as this was the name of the original village in the area (dating back to the 1100's).

Whilst the current church was originally built in 1903, it has been extended and enhanced over the years. Most recently a new Chapel has been completed, and improvements made to the Chancel including a new baptistery.

Less than half a mile away from the church stands Preston Hall (built 1825) which stands in one hundred acres of woodland, open space, playing areas, skate park and lakes,



open to the public and much used. The vicarage is right on the edge of this park.

It sits in the lowest third of the IMD scale and is relatively affluent (ranked 9,379 out of the Church Urban Fund, where 1 is the poorest parish in the country). The population is 3,029.

Eaglescliffe is a suburban family friendly area, with a variety of good primary schools and an excellent state secondary school. Within the parish there is one primary school and a private school which both have excellent links to the church. Close by is the market town of Yarm, which has boutique shops, coffee shops, restaurants and pubs nestled in a curve of the River Tees.



Community is important in Eaglescliffe, with pubs and restaurants well used, and lots of clubs and activities going on such as running groups, knitting clubs, sports clubs etc.

In the wider local area there are beaches within a 25 minute drive, hills and good walking within 20 minutes, and access to Durham, York and Newcastle within a 45 minute drive.



Stockton Deanery consists of fourteen parishes spread over Stockton, Billingham and the surrounding villages. We clearly have a strong bond with St Mary's Long Newton, being a United Benefice, and a handful of members attend both churches regularly, with some of the Ministry Team from All Saints' also preaching at St Mary's. Rev. Paul Arnold, a previous curate at All Saints is now Priest in Charge of St Paul's Newtown. He and his family with a team from All Saints' launched a church plant there in late Spring 2021. Former members of All Saints also have leadership roles at Stockton Parish church which has a diverse congregation from many ethnic origins. The deanery is a very friendly place to be and we are currently having a year of evangelism with lots of churches sharing stories of lives transformed.



Across Stockton, Middlesbrough and Redcar there is lots of collaboration across churches regardless of denomination. We come together under the banner of Transforming Teesside Together to do mission, training events and to support one another. There are monthly gatherings when leaders meet together

The Diocese

Durham Diocese is a great diocese to be a part of.

Our priorities are clear, and we are being proactive in pursuing them. Of the four priorities; Engaging children and Energising growth have been areas the All Saints has flourished in. Our new evangelical bishop Rick Simpson was the Archdeacon in our area and we are really excited what change he will bring.



SUNDAY

Sunday Worship is a vital and integral part of our

church life. We have two Sunday morning services, and have continued to live stream.

WORSHIP

and

Two years ago as a diocese we were successful in receiving Strategic



Transformation money. Because of that we were able to become a Youth Hub, but it also enabled the Diocese to employ enablers who are on hand to support us in mission, in developing leaders, in youth and children’s work and so on. Having been a diocese in decline for some time, there are signs that this has turned and we are seeing growth.

The maps below show our location within Durham Diocese and Stockton Deanery.



Our 9.00am Service

Usually around 35 people, offering Morning Worship and Holy Communion from Common Worship roughly alternating. This is a friendly and welcoming congregation. Music is a mixture of hymns and modern music accompanied usually by keyboard and singer(s). Prayer ministry is available after the service. Tea, coffee, soft drinks, and biscuits shared in the Centre after each service.



Our 10.30am Service

The service is up to 170 people including different nationalities, ages, and backgrounds. We go for a contemporary informal style, with lots of band led worship. Preaching is strong at All Saints, and we have a lay team of preachers in addition to ordained clergy.



We place value on helping the congregation grow in their understanding of the bible and applying it to their lives. Every service has prayer ministry available during it, and times of listening to God and celebrating what He is doing in our lives is common. Services last 1 ½ hours and end with tea/coffee and time together.

Los of young people and children with their families come to this service and it continues to have strong growth which has led us to seek God to start a second contemporary service.

Children & Families



All Saints' Church are passionate about ministering to children and families both within our church and community. Our vision is for children to know and love God, have fun following him and to support families as they grow as disciples. We have seen children grow in faith, children bring their families to church, and many in schools discover who Jesus is.

GEMS Trailblazers

These are our Sunday morning groups. Gems is for 0-4s and Trailblazers for 5-11s. Both groups see children engage with God in age appropriate ways and discover a faith in Jesus that grows with them. Groups are great fun and growing.



Our weekly toddler group is super popular and parents for many years have brought along their children and found community. We have a wonderful team who welcome and serve many families, get to know them and pray with them. This ministry is a blessing to the community as well as giving us huge opportunities to share faith.

God's Giants

This is an after-school club for Year 5/6s; a fun place to gather, make friends and go deeper in faith. They love this group and enjoy going out on trips, it's a great transition to youth.



This group started when a group of mums from Toddlers gathered in a café. It is both for those of faith and those dipping a toe in the water. We share the ups and downs of family life, pray and read the bible together.



In the last few months, we recognised there was a need to provide something for babies and their parents, and so launched Baby Saints. This is a nurturing, supportive group which has quickly formed a great community.



We do regular assemblies and help with RE lessons in local schools. We run a weekly lunch time choir and have a team about to start early intervention coaching with TLG in our closest primary school. We also run beacon events like Glow Party, Pancake Party and Summer family fun and recently ran an Easter holiday club with 100 children from our church and local community. 1

ALL SAINTS' YOUTH

WE WANT TO HELP YOUNG PEOPLE BECOME LIFE-LONG FOLLOWERS OF JESUS

At All Saints' Church we are passionate about young people. We are a dynamic, creative and varied youth ministry which places great value on both discipleship and outreach. There are multiple opportunities for young people to engage with our youth ministry each week, and we long for them to feel 'at home' while they are with us. Our desire is for our young people to be equipped to hear God's voice, follow His lead and make an impact on the world around them. All Saints' has been investing in youth ministry for decades now, and we are so excited to continue building on this legacy.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	FRIDAY	SUNDAY
DOULOS (M)	KINTSUGI WELLBEING GROUP YOUTH WELLBEING CAFÉ COLLEGE LIFE GROUP (M)	CHRISTIAN UNION YOUTH LIFE GROUPS	YOUTH CLUB	YOUTH CHURCH REFRESH

(M) - MONTHLY

OTHER ACTIVITIES

MISSION TRIPS
YOUTH APPRENTICESHIPS

YOUTH LED SERVICES
ALPHA YOUTH

SUMMER CAMPS
SOCIALS

ASSEMBLIES
USA MISSION TEAMS

MENTORING



"We are so excited about how All Saints' continues to prioritise investing in young people, not just within their own four walls, but also in the community, local schools and more recently in their commitment as a resourcing church to help grow youth ministry in other congregations in Teesside."

[Tim Wye-Williams - Director of Tees Valley Youth for Christ]

ALL SAINTS' YOUTH HUB

We are excited that our church has recently become a Youth Hub, which is a strategic, resourced space where new mission with young people can flourish. As a Hub our priorities are:

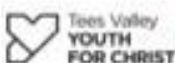
- Expanding engagement with young people in our community
- Growing our youth ministry numerically and spiritually
- Supporting youth ministry in other local churches



Kathryn is our Youth Pastor



Madi is our Assistant Youth Pastor



@all.saints.youth



OTHER GROUPS & TEAMS

We currently have eleven Life Groups in the church. Most of the groups meet fortnightly, usually on a weekday evening. Several groups are doing studies that follow the Sunday sermon series with a particular emphasis on how the Bible's teaching applies to our lives. Other groups are following study guide booklets, and one is focusing on the basic truths of our faith. All Life Groups are prayerful and open to the Holy Spirit's leading.



The congregation of All Saints' understands well that being a disciple of Jesus impacts every part of life throughout the entire week. Active participation in church life, therefore, is a natural

Alongside those holding offices or other leadership roles at All Saints', we have pastoral ministers and the pastoral care team, a funeral minister, ministry development team, staff management team, finance team, safeguarding officer, Life Group co-ordinators and leaders, church cleaning team, kitchen leader and team, lunch club and Connect team, toddlers teams, prayer ministry team, children's ministry team, welcome team, communion assistants, sung worship team, audio-visual team, service leadership team, Bible reading team, preaching team, and post-service refreshments team.

Repetition of the word 'team', of course, indicates that so very many facets of All Saints' feature considerable lay participation in well organised and fruitful teams. We are pleased to serve as called, gifted, equipped, and able.



expression of Christian faith and a wide variety of gifts, skills, and expertise are willingly offered to the Lord.

Local Outreach



Connect is a vibrant community of retired people, most of whom do not attend All Saints' Church on Sundays. The group enjoy a monthly meal together with many choosing to attend a short service beforehand.

Recently we launched Connect Coffee And Discussion group and are working on how to bring even more community and opportunity to explore faith into that group.



Joyful Craft is a wonderful community of people with a shared love of making things. The group



is a

mixture of those who attend church and those who don't.

MISSION PARTNERS

There is considerable engagement by members of the All Saints' congregation in varied Christian service. As a church we have a strong history in maintaining links with mission partners, every year giving away the first 10% of our unrestricted voluntary income.

Desiring to see God's Kingdom grow, we share approximately £20,000 annually with local Christian based projects, national Christian charities, and – demonstrating our commitment to the worldwide

church – we also support some international partners. Our Mission Support Group meets at least twice during the year to recommend financial allocations (for PCC approval), to pray for our partners, and identify potential new partners.

OUR



BUILDINGS

The Church is really well equipped with a modern sound system, office with photocopier, rooms for meetings and pastoral care, large hall, and youth room as well as an industrial kitchen.



ST. MARY'S
CHURCH
LONG NEWTON



St Mary's aims to be a vibrant and caring church at the heart of the community of Long Newton and the surrounding area.

We aspire to what we read in the book of Acts - that is, a welcoming church community ministering to our congregation, the people of the village and wider community both spiritually and practically. We aim to grow disciples and spread the 'Good News' of Christ in both traditional and creative ways.

In summary, we wish to develop a 21st Century ministry grounded in prayer to create a living presence for Christ.

Our Worship

Worship at St Mary's is a key part of the life of the church. Rev Paul, who is a local retired minister, provides local leadership. Typically, Sunday services alternate between Holy Communion, forms of Morning Worship and Service of the Word. We have a mixture of styles of music with hymns and more modern music mixed into our spiritual diet.

The Sunday morning service begins at 10.30am and lasts for around an hour. All information for services is projected on a screen. Service leaders and preachers vary according to a planned rota and are supported by appointed readers and prayer leaders. We have strong Lay Involvement.



The children's group is lively, and our children love to enjoy crafts, learning about faith, and often share with the adults what they have been doing.

Prayer ministry is offered after the service for those in need. Post-service fellowship over coffee, with biscuits or cake, is an important part of our time together.

There are also two home groups which meet during the week and this provides a great sense of community.

OUR MISSION

Little Ted - Church volunteers run a weekly, mid-week, very popular Mother and Toddler Group called 'Little Ted'. Several families who used to attend this group have continued their links with the church, as their children have grown older, by joining Messy Church events.

Drop In - Church members run a Thursday morning coffee morning called 'Drop In' in the local community centre. It provides a meeting place for villagers and friends of the village to share news and provide fellowship.



We also have a range of social events over the year which are attended by a range of people from the church and from the local community. For the last four years we have run a Village day which this year will be bigger than ever, as we alongside partner organisations seek to be a blessing in this place.



One of the key partners we work with is the local Church of England primary school. We employ a children's outreach worker in the school who hosts weekly prayer spaces and an after school club where children can explore faith more.

Godzone services happen regularly over the year where all the children come to the church to explore faith in interactive and fun ways. Off the back of their positive engagement with the church, some have started attending on a Sunday. Our wonderful Assembly team go into school every week and we have seen a lot of growth in the children's understanding of and experience of God.

OUR NEW CURATE

We look forward to a curate who is Bible-based, forward thinking, energetic and compassionate.

There are lots of opportunities to get involved at St Mary's and the village in particular is open to new ideas and to engaging with the church. We are a supportive congregation and enjoy both worship and exploring our love of Jesus. We have a strong lay team of preachers and leaders and see ourselves as a welcoming family. Despite being a relatively small church, we put on a huge range of events, and everyone pitches in.

Particularly over the last year we have been running events for those outside the church and starting to grow in confidence in the faith we have to share. We hope you will enjoy joining us as we continue in God's mission loving this place.



OUR PARISH

Locality

There has been a church on this site in the village for over 800 years. The current building was built in 1858.

Until the 21st Century, Long Newton was an independent parish. There was a resident vicar in the village who also served the neighbouring parish church of Elton.

Whilst retaining our independent status as a parish, with all that it entails, St Mary's became a united benefice with All Saints' Church, Preston-on-Tees, some twenty years ago. St Mary's enjoys and benefits from this union.

Historically Long Newton village was essentially a small agricultural community. Post WW2 two streets of houses were built to accommodate local workers' families. During the past fifty years several waves of housebuilding have taken place and the village now has around three hundred and forty homes with a population of around 800.

Long Newton lies just off the A66 mid-way between Teesside and Darlington and has developed into largely a dormitory village serving those nearby urban centres. It is a popular residential area with a good Church of England primary school academy and busy community centre. Currently there is one pub, The Derry which is a great place to get to meet people from the local area. Secondary schools, shopping facilities and services are within a short drive.

One third of the current congregation travel to St Mary's for Sunday worship from the surrounding area and are very much involved with the life and work of the church.



GROUPS, TEAMS & KEY PEOPLE

The organisation of the life and work of St Mary's is very much team based involving both stipendiary and non-stipendiary clergy and Lay people.

As a measure of our Lay involvement during our last completed quarter 31 different people in total were involved in elements of the presentation of our Sunday Service.



Various committees, groups and teams:

- PCC
- Pastoral Care Group
- Family Church Team
- Children's Church Team
- GodZone Team
- Homegroups and Tuesday at 10.
- Outreach Teams - Little Ted, Drop In and

OUR BUILDING

The current church, built in stone in the Early English style, is Grade 2 listed.

During 2000-2001 the church building was extensively re-ordered and has been well maintained. The re-ordering involved the removal of the pews and provision of movable loose seating that enables the Nave space to be set out for a wide variety of purposes. The addition of toilets, a new vestry and coffee making area have also brought facilities up to date.

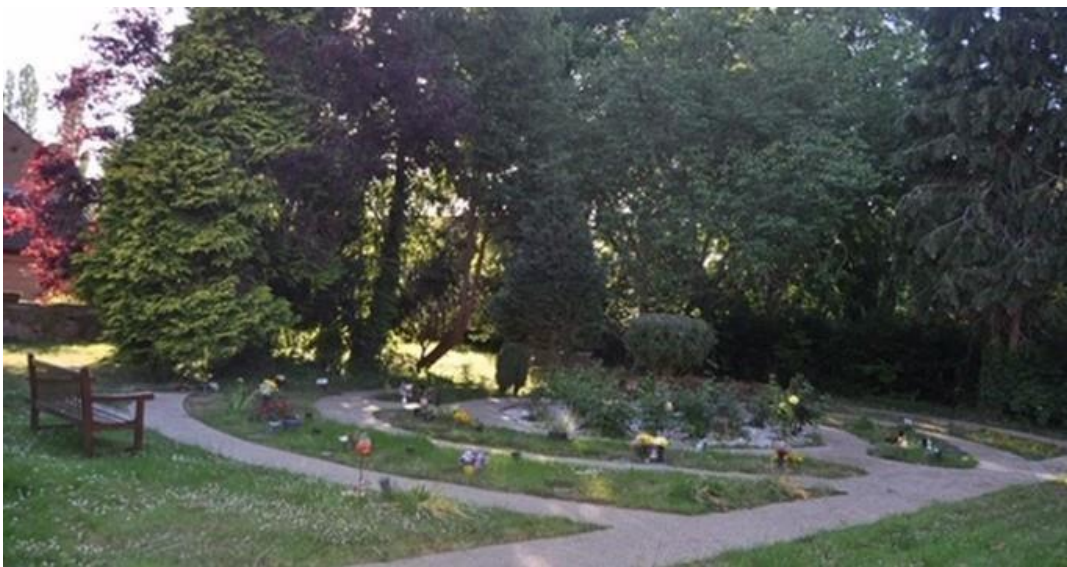
The interior of the church is attractive and welcoming.

More recently in line with accessibility regulations, new pathways to the church entrance and Garden of Remembrance have been laid.

The church grounds are well maintained.



South view



Garden of Remembrance.

Housing

The Curates house is an attractive semi in Eaglescliffe within walking distance of All Saints Church and a 5 minute drive from St Marys. The local community is friendly and there are local shops, pubs, cafes and parks.



Please know that we will be praying for you as you consider whether God is leading you to join the team here as you begin your ordained ministry. Please do make use of our website, and feel free to come along to see the churches and get a feel for them.

May God bless you in your discernment.

Matt & All at All Saints & St Marys

**To explore further what a curacy in Durham Diocese could look like for you please contact Annwen Stone
Annwen.Stone@durham.anglican.org**