

Diocese of Durham

Role description signed off by: Archdeacon of Sunderland

Date: 18.8.23

To be reviewed 6 months after commencement of the appointment, and at Ministerial Development Review, alongside the setting of objectives.

• Details of Post

Role Title:	Priest in Charge of:
Name of benefice:	St Gabriel's Sunderland
Deanery:	Wearmouth
Archdeaconry:	Sunderland
Initial point of contact on terms of service:	Diocesan Secretary

1. Role Purpose

The vision of the Diocese is 'Blessing our communities in Jesus' name for the transformation of us all'. Within this the four core priorities are to:

- Energise Growth
- Engage with Children, Youth and Young People,
- Challenge Poverty and
- Care for God's Creation.

These are outlined and expressed in the Diocesan Mission Strategy, 'Renewing Pilgrimage'.

General

- To share with the Bishop in the cure of souls in this parish, in line with the Diocesan Vision, Priorities and Plan described above.
- To be Priest in Charge of St Gabriel's, having regard to the calling and responsibilities of the clergy of the Church of England as described in the Ordinal, the Canons, national safeguarding policies, and all other relevant legislation, and in accordance with the *Guidelines for the Professional Conduct of the Clergy 2015*. Specifically, the Provost must give due regard to safeguarding policy and practice.
- To work with the PCC towards the development of the St Gabriel's (both the people and their buildings) so that the church is sustainable and effective in mission.
- To ensure that a high standard of worship, preaching and pastoral care is provided so that people are enabled to live as disciples of Christ.
- To nurture discipleship and develop the ministry of all God's people, through training, cooperation, delegation, support and example, so that they take more responsibility for the mission and ministry of the parish; to seek to identify potential future leaders and ministers.
- To encourage all church members to participate in generous giving for the mutual support of one another across the diocese, and the wider Church of England.

- To collaborate within the deanery in mission and ministry and, through the Deanery Plan, participate in the shaping of ministry as resources and opportunities may require.
- To be proactive and persistent in seeking the fullest degree of ecumenical cooperation wherever possible.

2. Specific (in line with the Parish Profile)

The priest serving this parish will:

- maintain a safe and welcoming environment for people of all ages, backgrounds and race
- support and develop a wide range of styles of worship
- give pastoral care and prayer to those in need
- work with us to reach out to our local community in a variety of ventures – the Gospel in action
- encourage and develop exploration of the Scriptures so that we grow in our discipleship and the prayer life of the church blossoms
- help members of the congregation develop their ministries and gifts and include children in all aspects of church life
- a person of prayer, humility and integrity, open to the leading of the Holy Spirit
- an effective team leader, enabling all in our church to work together in a shared vision
- a compassionate and experienced listener as well as an energetic pioneer, especially in mission
- a teacher, keen to promote learning and to support the healing ministry and Eco-awareness
- confident with modern technology and social media
- committed to building relationships with local care homes, schools and businesses

3. Key Contacts

- The Churchwardens and PCC members
- Associate Ministers
- Area Dean and Chapter clergy of Wearmouth
- Archdeacon of Sunderland

4. Role Context (notes written from the perspective of the Archdeacon)

The vacancy has been a time of honest conversations for St Gabriel's, and it has emerged strongly through that. A sense of needing to be missional and not just maintaining has developed through this. This has emerged strongly in the vacancy audit process.

St Gabriel's has grown notably more diverse in recent times and is enjoying good links with staff at the hospital next door; this could be a real source of missional outreach for the parish.