



Role Description signed off by: Archdeacon of Sudbury

Date: February 2025

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

1 Details of post	
Role title	Rector (0.5; Sunday plus three days)
Name of benefice	The Benefice of Barrow
Deanery	Thingoe
Archdeaconry	Sudbury
<i>Initial point of contact on terms of service</i>	The Ven Dr David Jenkins Archdeacon of Sudbury

2 Role purpose
General
To share with the Bishop both in the cure of souls and in responsibility, under God, for growing the Kingdom in this benefice.
To ensure that the church communities in the benefice flourish and engage positively with 'Growing in God' and the Diocesan Vision and Strategy.
To work as the Rector to this benefice, having regard to the calling and responsibilities of the clergy as described in the Canons, the Ordinal, the Code of Professional Conduct for the Clergy and other relevant legislation.
To work with the ordained and lay colleagues as set out in their individual role descriptions and work agreements, and to ensure that, where relevant, they have working agreements which are reviewed. This involves discerning and developing the gifts and ministries of all members of the congregation.
To work with the PCCs towards the development of the local church as described in the benefice profile, and to review those needs with them. To recognise and value the individuality of each community.
To ensure that a high standard of worship, preaching, and pastoral care is provided.
To work together, as appropriate, with other Christian denominations which have a presence in the parishes and the wider deanery.

To ensure compliance and effective practice regarding all safeguarding matters including training.
Schools
To work closely with the local schools. The diocese is committed to working with both community and church schools and this should be seen as a key part of the priest's role.
Specific tasks and responsibilities
Develop and exercise a local oversight role, working collaboratively with the ministry team to enable effective and fruitful ministry across the whole benefice.
Working with the parishes, develop a shared vision and plans for Growing in God; encourage lay participation in services; identify and develop people's talents.
Share the Christian faith with people of all ages and work with parishes to widen the age profile of congregations through building on some of the initiatives already implemented.
Teach and encourage an understanding of Christian stewardship across the benefice.
Strengthen and encourage links with young people, families, and other groups of people including the newly retired, to help expand outreach and offer pastoral care and visiting capabilities for those in need such as the elderly, lonely and isolated.
Be willing to contribute to community life in the benefice.
It is expected that you will help start two new worshipping communities in the parish/benefice within the first five years of the post, as part of the <i>Growing in God</i> strategy; for example Messy Church, Knit and Natter, Café church.

3 Key contacts										
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<p>Patrons Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich Lord Chancellor Susan Elizabeth Winkler von Stiernhielm The Masters, Fellows and Scholars of the College of St John the Evangelist in the University of Cambridge</p>
<p>Role context and any other relevant information</p> <p>The diocesan ministry deployment principles affirm an intention to maintain stipendiary clergy numbers if possible, subject to the availability of financial resources, and to develop an understanding of local episcopal oversight ministry and local ministers in parishes ministering in teams or clusters. A key aim of this is to reduce clergy isolation and increase mutual support.</p> <p>An understanding of the Parish Share process and how it is applied across the benefice and deanery and its importance for the sustainability of ministry across the diocese is fundamental.</p> <p>The Bishop expects and encourages clergy to take their rest days, holidays and regular retreats or similar. Clergy are strongly encouraged to have a spiritual director or equivalent.</p>

<p>4 Benefice Summary</p>	
<p>Parishes</p>	<p>Barrow Denham Great Saxham Little Saxham Risby</p>
<p>Churches</p>	<p>Barrow : All Saints Denham : St Mary Great Saxham : St Andrew Little Saxham : St Nicholas Risby : St Giles</p>
<p>PCC</p>	<p>The PCCs seek to work together, to be supportive and effective in mission and growth.</p>
<p>Schools and Colleges</p>	<p>Barrow CEVCP School Risby CEVCP School</p>
<p>Churchwardens</p>	<p>Barrow x 2 Denham x 2 Great Saxham x 1 Little Saxham x 1 Risby x 1</p>
<p>Ministers</p>	<p>Assistant Curate Lay Elder</p>

Buildings	None
Churchyards (Open or closed)	Barrow : All Saints – closed Denham : St Mary – open Great Saxham : St Andrew – open Little Saxham : St Nicholas – open Risby : St Giles – open
Population	Barrow : 2,000 Denham : 120 Great Saxham : 270 Little Saxham : 86 Risby : 1,200
Average Sunday Attendance	
Parish Share	2024 £41,615 Requested / £37,750 Received (90.71%) 2023 £35,500 Requested / £38,400 Received (108.17%) 2022 £33,400 Requested / £37,900 Received (113.47%)
Expenses	Reimbursed in full
Resolutions	N/A
Church Tradition	Middle of the road, rural
Pastoral re-organisation	None planned
Presence of other Christian denominations	
Presence of other faith communities	N/A