



Role description signed off by: Archdeacon of Suffolk

Date: May 2023

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	Priest in charge of E. Bergholt and Brantham, and assistant curate in charge of Tattingstone and Bentley
Name of benefice	Currently East Bergholt and Brantham, Bentley and Tattingstone are in the Samford Group Ministry benefice). A new name for the four parishes will be agreed if the arrangement becomes permanent.
Deanery	Samford
Archdeaconry	Suffolk
<i>Initial point of contact on terms of service</i>	Archdeacon of Suffolk The Ven Rich Henderson

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 together as the Priest in Charge/assistant curate in charge to these parishes, 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 episcopal oversight role, working collaboratively with the ministry team to enable effective and fruitful ministry across the whole benefice.
To enable the four parishes to work together and discern their future together.
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.

3 Key contacts	
Generic	
Bishops	The Deanery Chapter & Synod
The Archdeacon	The Churchwardens
The Rural Dean	The Lay Chair
The PCCs	Headteachers
Specific	
Ordained and lay colleagues (those holding the Bishop's licence, office holders and administrative staff)	

Aspirational	
We want to grow deeper in faith and numbers together serving our local communities so that God may be glorified, and others may come to know the love of Jesus.	
Supportive	
The Archdeacon, who will review this role description with you when you are six months into post.	
The Lay Chair	Diocesan Director of Mission and Ministry
The Rural Dean	Archdeacon for Rural Mission
Patrons	
Master, Fellows and Scholars of Emmanuel College, University of Cambridge	
Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich	
St Edmundsbury Diocesan Board of Patronage	
The Dean and Chapter of the Metropolitan Church of Christ, Canterbury	
Role context and any other relevant information	
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.	
An understanding of the Centenary 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.	
The Bishops expect and encourage clergy to take their rest days, holidays and regular retreats or similar. Clergy are strongly encouraged to have a spiritual director or equivalent.	

4 Benefice Summary	
Parishes	East Bergholt Brantham Bentley Tattingstone
Churches	St Mary the Virgin, East Bergholt (Grade I) St Michael the Archangel, Brantham (Grade II*) St Mary, Bentley (Grade II*) St Mary the Virgin, Tattingstone (Grade II*)
PCC	The PCCs seek to work together, to be supportive and effective in mission and growth.
Schools and Colleges	Bentley CEVCP School Tattingstone CEVCP School East Bergholt CEVCP School Brooklands Primary School Brantham East Bergholt High School

Churchwardens	East Bergholt x 2 Brantham x 2 Tattingstone x 1 Bentley x 1
Ministers	Readers x 4 Lay Elders x 12 (one Lightwave Pioneer) PTO x 3
Buildings	Institute at Brantham (rented out to playgroup)
Churchyards (Open or closed)	St Mary the Virgin, East Bergholt (closed) St Michael the Archangel, Brantham (open) St Mary, Bentley (closed) St Mary the Virgin, Tattingstone (open)
Population	East Bergholt : 2,723 Brantham : 2,566 Bentley : 776 Tattingstone : 540
Average Sunday Attendance	East Bergholt 15--60 Brantham 25-40 Bentley 34 Tattingstone 30-40
Parish Share	2022 : £97,517 - £70,669 Received 2021 : £97,024 - £81,338 Received 2020 : £98,751 - £59,872 Received
Expenses	Reimbursed in full
Resolutions	n/a
Church Tradition	Mixed, informal contemporary- formal traditional
Pastoral re-organisation	Immediately prior to this appointment Bentley and Tattingstone, currently part of the Samford Group Ministry benefice, have started working with the East Bergholt and Brantham benefice as part of a process towards permanent pastoral reorganisation.
Presence of other Christian denominations	Methodist Church in Brantham Roman Catholic Church in Brantham Bentley Reformed Baptist Church
Presence of other faith communities	