**ROLE DESCRIPTION |**

**VICAR OF RUSHMERE ST ANDREW’S**

Role description signed off by: Archdeacon of Ipswich Date: September 2022

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

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| **1 Details of post** |  |
| Role title | Vicar |
| Name of benefice | Ipswich RUSHMERE ST ANDREW’S  Known locally as St Andrew’s, Rushmere |
| Deanery | Ipswich |
| Archdeaconry | Ipswich |
| *Initial point of contact on terms of service* | Archdeacon of Ipswich |

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| **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 Inspiring Ipswich Deanery Vision and Strategy. |
| To work as the Vicar of this parish, 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 collaborate within the deanery both in mission and ministry and, through the deanery plan, in such reshaping of ministry as resources and opportunities may require. To attend Deanery Chapter and Deanery Synod and to play a full part in the wider life of the deanery. |
| To work with ordained and lay colleagues as set out in their individual role descriptions and working agreements, and to ensure that, where relevant, they have working agreements which are regularly reviewed.  To discern and develop the gifts and ministries of all members of the congregation. |
| To work with the PCC towards the development of the local church as described in the benefice profile, and to review those needs with them. |
| 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 parish and the wider deanery. |
| **Schools** |
| To work closely with the four local schools:  Rushmere Hall Primary: **www.rushmerehallprimaryschool.com** Northgate High School: **www.northgate.suffolk.sch.uk** St. Christopher’s Academy: **www.raedwaldtrust.com/st-christophers-academy**  St. Albans Roman Catholic High School: **www.st-albans.suffolk.sch.uk**  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 ‘episcope’ oversight role, working collaboratively with the ministry team to enable effective and fruitful ministry across the whole benefice. |
| Working with the parish, develop a shared vision for the Inspiring Ipswich Parish Plan and ensure it is implemented; encourage lay participation in services; identify and develop people’s gifts; and help start two new worshipping communities in the parish. |
| Share the Christian faith with people of all ages and work with the parish to widen the age profile of the congregation including 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 some older people and the lonely and isolated. |
| Be willing to contribute to community life in the benefice. |
| Be supportive of new worshipping communities throughout the deanery |

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| **3 Key contacts** |
| **Generic**  The PCC  The Churchwardens  The Ministry Leadership Team  Ecumenical colleagues in the area  The Deanery Leadership team  The Deanery Chapter and Synod  The Archdeacon  The Inspiring Ipswich Team |
| **Specific**  Ordained and lay colleagues (those holding the Bishop’s licence and office holders)  (See later) |
| **Aspirational**  A Vicar with a passion for spreading the word and love of God in the parish, including to build upon what has already been achieved, to help people explore faith and to bring in new disciples. To help lead the continuing growth of the church and the kingdom of God in this area so that the church is sustainable in years to come. |
| **Supportive**  The Archdeacon, who will review this role description with you when you are six months into post.  The Area Dean and Deanery Leadership Team |
| **Patrons**  Bishop of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich |
| **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 episcope 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 (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. |
| The bishops expect and encourage clergy to take their rest days (for FTE clergy one a week plus an additional one a month), holidays and regular retreats or similar. Clergy are strongly encouraged to have a spiritual director or equivalent. |

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| **4 Benefice Summary** | |
| **Parishes** | Ipswich: Rushmere St Andrew |
| **Churches** | St Andrew’s |
| **PCC** | The PCC seek to work together, to be supportive and effective in mission and growth. |
| **Schools and Colleges** | Rushmere Hall Primary: **www.rushmerehallprimaryschool.com** Northgate High School: **www.northgate.suffolk.sch.uk** St. Christopher’s Academy: **www.raedwaldtrust.com/st-christophers-academy**  St. Alban’s Roman Catholic High School:  **www.st-albans.suffolk.sch.uk** |
| **Churchwardens** | 2 |
| **Ministers and staff** | One SSM Associate Priest  2 Readers  1 Director of Music/Organist: vacant |
| **Employees** | 1 Youth and Families’ Worker (p/t) |
| **Buildings** | St Andrew’s Church and Church Hall (attached) |
| **Churchyards**  (Open or closed) | Closed (open to burial of ashes) |
| **Population** | Around 8500 |
| **Average Sunday Attendance** | 8am- 15 (weekly)  10am- 50 (weekly)  4pm- 20 (monthly)  Total: around 85  (Thurs 10am)- 10 |
| **Parish Share** | £67 450 in 2021  Paid in full each year |
| **Expenses** | Paid in full |
| **Resolutions** | None |
| **Church Tradition** | ‘Middle of the road’ with evangelical aspirations |
| **Pastoral re-organisation** | None expected in the near future |
| **Presence of other Christian denominations** | Colchester Road Baptist Church: **www.crbc.org.uk** Rushmere Baptist Church: **www.rushmerebaptist.org.uk** Rushmere Community Church: **www.rccipswich.org.uk** Woodbridge Road Salvation Army: **www.ipswichcitadel.co.uk** |
| **Presence of other faith communities** | None within parish boundaries |