

MISSION ENABLER FOR ST MATTHEW'S CHURCH, IPSWICH INSPIRING IPSWICH (Fixed Term, Part-Time)

Job Description

BACKGROUND

St Matthew's Church Ipswich is a diverse community who meet in the centre of Ipswich. We come from all backgrounds and walks of life, many countries and have members from babies to 102. We are united by our belief in Jesus as the Saviour of humanity and gather to worship and learn how to know him more clearly, love him more dearly and follow him more nearly day by day. Our mission statement at St Matthew's is: "Prepare all generations to impact lives for Christ."

Inspiring Ipswich is an exciting project in Ipswich Deanery to transform the reach of the Church of England in the town and to achieve ambitious goals of more people exploring faith and becoming Christian disciples. Through this work we aim to deliver the Diocesan vision of 'Growing in God' through 'flourishing congregations making a difference' in Ipswich, the county town of Suffolk.

As part of the Inspiring Ipswich project St Matthew's Church has a Learning Community team which has developed an exciting plan to facilitate existing groups to grow; to identify and facilitate 3-5 new groups, fresh expressions or missional groups to reach out to 100 people; and build up the membership on their frontlines to reach 5 people each. This role will be to work alongside the church leadership and Learning Community to facilitate, enable and encourage the congregation in missional outreach and activity.

Earlier last year, St Matthew's sent a team of around 25 people from its congregation to plant Bridge Church as part of Inspiring Ipswich. Following this change this role will play an important part in working with St Matthew's to strengthen and grow again, drawing new people to faith in Jesus.

PURPOSE

To work alongside and support the St Matthew's Learning Community and congregation to accelerate delivery of their Inspiring Ipswich Parish Plan, in order to increase numbers exploring the Christian faith and becoming committed Christians and to 'replenish' the church after its sending out 25 individuals to help plant Bridge Church'

LOCATION

The post will be based at St Matthew's Church, Ipswich

REPORTING TO

Day-to-day management will be provided by the Rector of St Matthew's Church. The Rector will be the primary point of contact for this role.

The line management from the II team will, in the first instance, come from the Archdeacon of Ipswich, meeting 2-3 times a year after initial probationary goals are set.

The funding of this role means that the employment contract will be with the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich.

KEY CONNECTIONS

- Rector of St Matthew's Church, Ipswich
- Mission Accompanier for St Matthew's Church Learning Community
- Members of St Matthew's Church Learning Community and congregations
- Inspiring Ipswich team
- Archdeacon of Ipswich

KEY TASKS

- Support and facilitate opportunities for individuals and groups to explore the essentials of faith and Christianity (such as Alpha) and build a team at St Matthews to lead and provide such opportunities.
- Contribute regularly to weekly services (in church and on-line) and other church activities such as school assemblies.
- Work alongside the local head teacher to discover more ways of engaging parents with the Christian faith and the life of St Matthew's.
- Help identify and facilitate 2-3 new fresh expressions and 1-2 new worshipping communities (over the period of employment) to reach non-believers.
- Help the Messy Church team to grow and to grow discipleship at Messy Church.
- Work with the 'frontline' vision to support the 'scattered' church during the week.
- Attend church leaders' meeting and meet with the Rector regularly.
- Encourage, alongside the present church leadership, people to attend the Inspiring Ipswich Growing Leaders course and mentor up to 3 of them.
- Attend Inspiring Ipswich Missional Leaders Lunches
- Support the local team of Mission Accompaniers to facilitate existing groups to become more missional: Little Treasures, Men's group, Messy Church, Seniors, Youth group, Only Girls Allowed with the aim of each group doubling in size by Easter 2021.
- Be willing to share experience and lessons with colleagues in Ipswich Deanery as part of the Inspiring Ipswich shared vision of growth for existing church communities and new worshipping communities, where anyone and everyone can explore and grow in faith.

We very much look forward to welcoming the successful candidate and helping them to respond to God's call and to develop their gifts.

Please see details of the Person Specification and General Information on the following pages

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Note: In accordance with the Equality Act 2010 it is a genuine occupational requirement that the post holder is a practicing Christian as the post holder will be required to represent the Christian faith in relation to the mission of the project. Open to ordained or lay applicants.

Qualifications/Knowledge and Experience

ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
Qualifications/Knowledge and Experience	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proven experience of leading faith-based groups. 	Diploma or degree in a mission-related subject
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A good understanding of what helps churches to grow and flourish. 	Experience of ministering in an Anglican context
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous experience of running Alpha or other Christian Basics courses. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proven training in evangelism or preparedness to be trained. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to train and encourage others in mission/evangelism. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A good understanding of the Bible. 	
Skills and Abilities /Aptitudes	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to inspire and motivate others. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to work with people of all ages and backgrounds. 	Speaking/Preaching experience
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to host Zoom meetings, contribute to church-based videos and run small groups online. 	
Work-Related Personal Qualities	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committed, prayerful Christian with a heart for mission. 	Regular worshipper in an Anglican church
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A warm and personable character. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Availability to work at weekends and evenings. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Availability to be part of the worshipping congregation on Sunday mornings. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sympathetic to the aims and objectives of the Church of England. 	

GENERAL INFORMATION

About Us

The Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich has 445 parishes, 18 deaneries with 478 churches and around 115 stipendiary clergy. It serves approximately 631,000 people living in a geographical area of more than 1,400 square miles. The Deanery of Ipswich has 19 Parishes with 24 churches and 15 benefices. The population is approximately 150,000.

The Diocesan Board of Finance serves and supports our parishes and schools offering the people of Suffolk the opportunity to encounter God and grow in Christian faith. We strive to do this in line with our Values of Respect, Transparency, Quality and Support.

Salary	The post is pro rata at Band D Point 1 to 2 of the St Edmundsbury & Ipswich Diocesan Board of Finance Salary Scales, currently £24,462 - £25,629 FTE.
Pension provision	If eligible, Membership of the Church of England Pensions Board Pension Builder 2014 Scheme following completion of probation period.
Length of contract	Fixed Term for between 2 to 3 years, depending on the package and hours agreed. This post is grant funded and the post holder will be employed for the duration of the grant funding.
Hours of work	Part time, up to 28 hours per week to be agreed with the successful applicant. The role will include some evening and weekend working. TOIL (time off in lieu) is applicable for evening and weekend working, to be agreed with the supervisor.
Holidays	25 days paid leave in addition to the usual public holidays plus discretionary days (at Easter and Christmas) Pro rata for Part-time.
Probation Period	Three months during which time progress is regularly reviewed and the period may be extended.
Notice period	During probation 2 weeks and thereafter 1 month.
Place of work	St Matthew's Church, Ipswich.
Other	The appointment is subject to an unblemished DBS check in relation to the requirements of this role. Use of own personal transport and insurance for business use. Expenses for mileage will be met.

NOTES: The current main duties and responsibilities of this post are outlined in the job description. The list is not meant to be exhaustive. The need for flexibility, shared accountability and team working is required. The post-holder is expected to carry out other related duties that are within the employees' skills and abilities, commensurate with the post's banding and whenever reasonably instructed.

For an informal conversation please contact: The Rector of St Matthew's Ipswich, Rev Canon Nick Atkins. Telephone: 01473 217817 or 07443 580740 Email: rector@smast.org.uk

Application packs available from: Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich Website
<https://www.cofesuffolk.org/about-us/vacancies>

Applications marked 'Confidential Application' to be sent to: HR Manager at HR@cofesuffolk.org or by post to Diocesan Office, St Nicholas Centre, 4 Cutler Street, Ipswich IP1 1UQ.

Please note: Applications will only be accepted on our DBF application forms. Please do not apply directly from online jobsites or send CVs.

Closing Date for Applications: Monday 4 March 2021

Interview Date: Thursday 11th March 2021