

Role description signed off by: Archdeacon of Suffolk Date: September 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
Name of benefice	Wickham Market with Pettistree cum Loudham
Deanery	Loes
Archdeaconry	Suffolk
Initial point of contact on terms of service	Archdeacon of Suffolk

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 and ensure a plan for growth (PFG) is in place within 6 months.

To work together as the Priest in Charge 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 episcope 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 *Growing in God* 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

To engage in mission, in a variety of worship styles and working with our communities. Grow our congregation younger.

Develop good pastoral support.

Supportive

The Archdeacon, who will review this role description with you when you are six months into post.

The Lay Chair, the Diocesan Director of Mission and Ministry and the Rural Dean

Patrons

Church Trust Fund Trust - CPAS

The Lord Chancellor on behalf of His Majesty in right of His Crown

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 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	Wickham Market Pettistree cum Loudham
Churches	Wickham Market : All Saints (Grade II*) Pettistree : St Peter and St Paul (Grade II*)
PCC	The PCCs seek to work together, to be supportive and effective in mission and growth.
Schools and Colleges	Wickham Market Primary School For Secondary education, young people attend schools beyond the benefice, including; Thomas Mills High School Framlingham Farlingaye High School Woodbridge
Churchwardens	2 x each parish
Ministers	2 x Lay Elders 3 x Retired Clergy Assistant Curate Trainee Lay Reader

Buildings	There is a church hall at Wickham Market There is a church room (a separate building) at Pettistree
	There is a chareful footh (a separate ballating) at 1 chistice
Churchyards	Wickham Market : All Saints - closed
(Open or closed)	Pettistree : St Peter and St Paul – open
Population	Wickham Market : 2500 Pettistree : 200
Average Sunday Attendance	Wickham Market : All Saints – 48 (+15 on line) Pettistree : St Peter and St Paul – 24
Parish Share	2022: £69,635 (100% Paid)
	2021 : £69,262 (22.80% Paid) 2020 : £70,588 (100% Paid)
Expenses	Reimbursed in full
Resolutions	n/a
Church Tradition	Open evangelical
Pastoral re- organisation	None planned
Presence of other Christian denominations	None
Presence of other faith communities	Individuals only, no place of worship