

Role Description : Team Vicar, Horwich & Rivington Team Ministry

Role Description signed off by: The Archdeacon of Bolton

Date: 02/02/2026

To be reviewed 6 months after commencement of the appointment, and after three years

1. Details of Post

Role Title: Team Vicar

Name of benefice(s): Horwich & Rivington Team

Deanery: Bolton

Archdeaconry: Bolton

Initial point of contact on terms of service: The Archdeacon of Bolton

2. Role Purpose

General

- i. To exercise the cure of souls shared with the bishop in this parish in collaboration with your colleagues
- ii. To have 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.
- iii. To work to advance the Kingdom of God through servant leadership, collaboration and example, and with particular regard to the current diocesan mission vision and mission goals
 - a) **Growing** – growing new disciples in missionary church communities which are younger, more diverse, active and spiritually engaged
 - b) **Nurturing** – increasing vocations, nurturing new and existing disciples, increasing financial giving
 - c) **Serving** – present for all, speaking and acting prophetically for justice, supporting pastorally especially the vulnerable, deprived and excluded
- iv. To share in the wider work of the deanery and diocese as appropriate, for the building up of the whole Body of Christ

Specific

To build up the faith of the Church:

1. To develop practical and effective ways of increasing outreach and evangelism, especially in reaching families and young people as we recognise the changing structures of family life, where 'Church on Sunday' no longer works for many people.
2. To support and champion ongoing discipleship that will enable all God's people to grow in their relationship with God and with each other.
3. To work collaboratively with the Team Rector to develop and implement the emerging vision and mission action plan and lead the Team on the next stage of its journey, alongside the Ministry Team and the PCCs of the four churches; co-ordinating and supporting work with the people, resources and buildings.
4. To hold incumbent-level responsibility within and across the Team, including holding governance responsibilities and convening two of the four PCCs, working alongside and supporting the Team Rector across all four churches.
5. To further develop creative approaches to worship which encourage lay participation and to encourage and model the collaborative culture of the Team: where the gifts and talents of all ages are recognised, nurtured and released within the church and community. To work with the Ministry Team to continue to identify and nurture lay and ordained vocations.
6. To maintain and develop stronger links between the churches and their local schools both primary and secondary within the area. To take on ex officio governance roles as agreed with the Team Rector in order to further the mission and ministry of the Team.
7. To continue and develop the role of being a training benefice for both ordained and lay leaders; potentially taking the role of training incumbent.
8. To seek to develop closer working relationships within the Team setting across the four churches, and also with ecumenical partners, and to build on wider links as a visible presence in the community.
9. To be a change leader within the on-going transformation agenda of the Diocese, and a full and enthusiastic participant in the life of the Deanery through regular Synod, Chapter and Mission Community meetings.

3. Key contacts

Generic

The Churchwardens and PCCs of the United Benefice

Mission Community

Deanery Chapter and Synod

St John's House staff

Specific

Team Rector: Revd Nicola Butterworth.

Team Associate Ministers: OLM: Revd Peter Harley, Revd Nicola Gillard
Retired clergy colleagues

Team Readers: 2

Team ALM's: 14 serving across the Team

The congregations of Holy Trinity, Horwich; St Catherine's, Horwich; St Elizabeth's, Horwich; and Rivington Parish Church.

The Head Teachers, Governing Bodies/Board and staff of Horwich Parish CE Primary School, St Catherine's CE Primary School, Rivington Primary School, Claypole Primary School, Rivington & Blackrod CE High School

Supportive

Deanery Lay Chair: Mr Keith Lewis

Area Dean: Revd Canon Simon Cook

The Archdeacon: The Venerable Rachel Mann

The Suffragan Bishop: Bishop Matthew Porter, Bishop of Bolton

The Diocesan Bishop: Bishop David Walker, Bishop of Manchester

4. Role context and any other relevant information.

The United Benefice of Horwich and Rivington is made up of four parishes located to the North West of Bolton Deanery in the Diocese of Manchester, ranging from urban and suburban areas around the town of Horwich, to the rural and country park areas around Rivington, popular with tourists and locals for walking and visiting. Each parish has a distinct identity and opportunities for mission and ministry, from the many local church and community schools, to retail areas, estates and new housing, and civic and ecumenical relationships.

A new team vicar would need to be someone who thrives on variety, enjoys working with schools, and has a creative approach to engaging the wider community, particularly families and young people.

The four churches of the Team include Holy Trinity, a historic re-ordered church with both traditional and more contemporary services and a distinct civic role; St Elizabeth's, a vibrant church in a more modern building, not far from the Bolton Wanderers' stadium and the Middlebrook Retail Park; St Catherine's, in the heart of the town with an older congregation but many opportunities for mission; and Rivington, an ancient parish church with a gathered congregation and a particular mission to the many passing visitors.

Any candidate appointed to this post will be expected to be fully committed to the Diocesan Strategy with its focuses on growing younger, church planting and revitalisation, developing missional leaders, and parish renewal, based on our mission goals of growing, nurturing and serving.

The Diocese of Manchester's vision to be '*a worshipping, growing and transformative Christian presence at the heart of every community*' requires creative approaches to the mission and ministry of our churches in these focus areas, including greater cooperation and sharing of resource between parishes across Mission Communities, within the structure of our seven Deaneries.

We expect that candidates for a post in the Diocese of Manchester will be committed to working together with ordained and lay colleagues in our Mission Communities so that we can be more mutually supportive and accountable to each other, and better able to meet the diverse needs of the local people and communities we serve. A successful applicant for this post would be expected to participate fully in the Mission Community as well as the Deanery, and encourage the ministries of others (lay and ordained).