

DIOCESE OF MANCHESTER

'a worshipping, growing and transformative Christian presence at the heart of every community'

Role Description: Vicar of St Chad, and St Mary and St Edmund, Rochdale and of St Luke's Deeplish and St Peter's Newbold (to be held in plurality) and Mission Community Leader (Initial period of three years with possibility of a further three).

Date: July 2026

To be reviewed 6 months after the commencement of appointment and again after three years or at the first Ministerial Development Review

1. Details of Post

Role Title:	Vicar of St Chad, and St Mary and St Edmund, Rochdale and of St Luke's Deeplish and St Peter's Newbold (to be held in plurality) and Mission Community Leader.
Deanery:	Rochdale
Archdeaconry:	Rochdale

Initial point of contact on Terms of Service: The Archdeacon of Rochdale

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 diocesan vision:
 - a) **parish renewal**
 - b) **growing younger**
 - c) **church planting and revitalization**
 - d) **developing missional leaders**

In all of this we are deeply committed to championing **racial justice** and ensuring that our clergy, lay leaders and congregations represent the rich diversity of our diocese.

We are working towards the 2030 **net zero carbon** goal set by General Synod, by supporting our churches and schools with measuring their energy use and taking simple, practical steps to reduce their carbon footprint.

- iv. To share in the wider work of the mission community, deanery and diocese as appropriate, for the building up of the whole Body of Christ

Specific

- i. To play a full part in the Mission Community and Deanery
- ii. To enable, encourage and develop established and new ministries in schools, with young people, and with families
- iii. To foster 'whole life discipleship' amongst all church members
- iv. To develop strategies for mission in the parish
- v. To enhance and develop further opportunities for community outreach and engagement
- vi. To examine ways of developing and enhancing welcoming strategies to ensure the churches are open to all

3. Key contacts

Generic

Churchwardens
Ministry Team
PCCs
Mission Community
Deanery Chapter and Synod
St John's House staff

Specific

Bible Study Group
Air Training Corps
Red Cross
Toad Lane Concerts
Friends Together Bereavement Support
Asian Christian Fellowship
Saturday Middyay Concerts

St Peter's CE (Controlled) Primary School
Broadfield School
Spotland School
Heybrook School
Petrus
Choir/Ringers/Altar Guild

Supportive

The Mission Community Leader
The Area Dean
The Archdeacon of Rochdale
The Bishop of Middleton
The Bishop of Manchester

Vacant
The Reverend Anne Gilbert
The Venerable Karen Smeeton
The Right Reverend Mark Davies
The Right Reverend Professor David Walker

4. Context

The Diocese of Manchester's vision (to be 'a worshipping, growing and transformative Christian presence at the heart of every community') cannot be achieved without radical rethinking of our present structures. Rochdale town center has undergoing significant change and regeneration, but remains economically deprived in many areas, creating both opportunities and challenges for the Church's mission and ministry. St Peter's has completed the statutory periods of consultation around closure with no representations against. St Chad's, St Mary's and St Luke's offer a variety of worship and building styles, providing a wealth of variation in the day-to-day life of a parish priest. Alongside several traditional parish churches, the Mission Community includes a Resource Church, providing exciting opportunities for collaboration, innovation and mutual support as we seek to share the Gospel and serve our communities more effectively.

We are seeking an incumbent who is collegiate, flexible and committed to working in partnership with others to advance the Diocese's priorities of Growing Younger, Church Planting and Revitalisation, Developing Missional Leaders (Lay and Ordained), and Parish Renewal. A successful applicant for this post would be expected to lead the Mission Community and take a full part in Deanery, and encourage the ministries of others (lay and ordained).