



Community and Pastoral Worker

Employer: PCC of St Thomas', York

Reporting to: Revd Al Rycroft

Hours: 18 hours per week

Rate of Pay: Living Wage

Introduction

Over the past decade, St Thomas' has been growing, and the local parish has been our focus. We have begun to see people from all social backgrounds and all ages joining our community and finding faith in Jesus Christ. It is our desire to see more of this, and to see new Christians nurtured, that leads us to seek a new worker.

We have made contact with a wide variety of people in our locality, but there has been a particular focus on those who are struggling, marginalized or in poverty. This has happened especially through the Peaced Together women's ministry, and through a men's drop in (Encounter) run with the probation service. This role would support these ministries and develop the relationships that have been built, as well as helping to re-establish and launch these and other ministries as we come out of the Covid restrictions.

Very recently, our vicar Al Rycroft has been licensed to St Wulstan's, our next door parish. We hope that the two churches will grow to work in partnership under a shared vision of being a haven of hope in our local area. This role will also therefore develop links and seek opportunities with St Wulstan's in terms of community outreach.

We are also aware of the vast mission field that exists among the many students (British and international) living and studying in St Thomas' parish, at York St John University, and we believe God has much more for us to do in reaching out to these students. There is flexibility in this role, but we would welcome someone with a heart to work with students and young adults.

Purpose of the Role

The role is designed:

- To develop our capacity to reach out to people living locally who don't yet know Jesus
- To enable the church to better welcome and nurture new members of the worshipping community
- To support and develop existing ministries among vulnerable men and women
- To develop our relationships with local students – especially enabling evangelism and discipleship
- To build teams to support the work

Tasks and Responsibilities

- To be a committed member of St Thomas' and/or St Wulstan's, attending and serving in Sunday worship gatherings and other whole-church events
- To serve in existing ministries which relate to the 'Community Worker' role – eg, Encounter drop in; Peaced Together
- To take initiative in pioneering new ways of reaching out into the local community
- To establish and grow strong links with students and groups at York St John University
- To engage other church members in outreach and discipleship, building healthy teams of volunteers
- To ensure safeguarding policies and practices are fully complied with
- To be a member of St Thomas'/St Wulstan's team and take part in staff/leadership team meetings and liaise as appropriate with other church planning groups
- To communicate vision, purpose and progress of your work within the two churches

There will naturally be a degree of flexibility and creativity in how you apply yourself to these tasks, and the specific gifts, skills and passions of individuals will be taken into account.

Person Specification

We are looking for an applicant with:

- A mature faith in Jesus Christ, and desire to serve him wholeheartedly
- A desire and ability to share that faith with others, in an accessible way
- An ability to build relationships easily with the wide variety of people you will come into contact with
- An ability to nurture faith and understanding in younger/newer believers
- Experience in community work
- A passion for mission and for the transformation of both individuals and communities
- A willingness to work closely with others
- An aptitude for taking initiative

St Thomas' would be committed to the personal and spiritual wellbeing and growth of the person appointed. There would be regular opportunities for feedback and mentoring, as well as an encouragement of ongoing training in the role (eg, attending relevant conferences or courses).

For more information or for an application form, please contact Revd Al Rycroft.

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