

The Church of England has today launched a search for its first Head of Digital Communications.

The advertisement for the new post states the Church is seeking someone to "take risks for the Gospel in exploring how digital engagement can lead to spiritual and numerical growth."

The job description for the new role suggests the postholder will be responsible for "leading a team developing and implementing digital evangelism, discipleship and digital communication strategies for the Church of England".

Commenting on the new post the Rev Arun Arora, Director of Communications for the Church of England said: "We are looking for someone who is as confident and comfortable talking about Jesus as they are talking about the latest developments in tech and social media. As a digital evangelist they will utilise the best of digital to proclaim the Gospel.

Over the past two years the Church of England has been increasing its digital footprint through the production of video, podcasts and an increasing presence on social media. Our "justpray" campaigns over Christmas and Easter have demonstrated the potential reach of digital with millions of people engaging with the materials we have produced.

The increase of our digital offering has led to a range of digital projects where we have worked directly with both Facebook and Twitter UK. As well as encouraging a network of new vloggers, we produce a weekly podcast and broadcast live services every Sunday - with our last service coming from an Anglican church in Moscow. A live broadcast of a bible study led by the Archbishop of Canterbury on Facebook last month received almost a million views.

This is an exciting opportunity to achieve a paradigm change in how the church engages with the digital space, building upon the best we currently do in our parishes and dioceses and building that out in a new and visionary way.

This development is part of the Church's Renewal and Reform programme - a confident and hope filled stepping out in how we work as a Church - supported by the Church Commissioners and Archbishops' Council."

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The job advert can be seen on the Cofe website here:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/about-us/vacancies/nci-vacancies/head-of-digital-communications.aspx>

The justpray Christmas video can be seen here:

<https://youtu.be/vlUXh4mx4gI>

The justpray website can be seen here: <http://www.justpray.uk/>