

## **Curacy Placement Profile**

# Christ Church St. Andrew's Herne Bay

### IME Phase II in the Diocese of Canterbury

In the first three years of ministry, the training that curates receive 'on the ground' in their placement is complemented by a university-validated IME Phase 2 programme. Curates study six twenty-credit modules over three years, with teaching delivered in a variety of day schools, residential weekends and evening seminars.

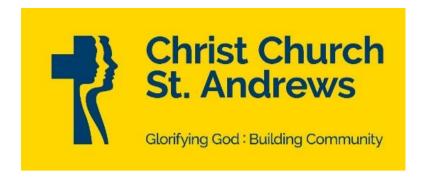
Our regional partner in providing this is the Diocese of Rochester. The programme is validated by the University of Durham and administered locally by St. Augustine's College of Theology.

Participation in this aspect of IME Phase 2 is one of the Bishop of Dover's requirements of all who serve as curates in the Diocese, and training parishes are asked to ensure that the curate is able to dedicate one day each week to study.

### To discuss this placement, please contact:

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# Parish of Christ Church St Andrew's Herne Bay



An opportunity for a 3 year curacy from June 2021.

### Introduction

Herne Bay is a pleasant, growing north Kent coastal town of about 30,000 inhabitants. The town traditionally has been a retirement area but with new developments there has been an increasing number of families in both the area [partly due to the good schooling available] and the churches. The Parish covers the centre of the town through to the western edge of the town. The town is mixed with some areas of deprivation and a wide social mix - this is reflected in the church family as well. As with many seaside towns there are good leisure facilities. The Parish has two churches - Christ Church is in the centre of town and is the larger of the two, St Andrew's is at the western end of town and has an older but up to the outbreak of Covid 19 a growing congregation.





### **The Staff Team**

The Parish has been privileged to be a training parish for a number of years. The post available is for a deacon who is expected to be ordained priest [the post is for three years]. The church has had a staff team which has sought to work closely together and has expanded over the last few years.



Anthony Everett, has been vicar since September 2002. Anthony was before ordination an Accountant and Pastoral Assistant at a large London city church. He trained at Oak Hill and served curacies at Hailsham, East Sussex and New Malden, Surrey. He was incumbent at St Alban's, Streatham Park before moving to Herne Bay. At both Streatham and New Malden he had lay members of staff which he trained. He has also helped at an interdenominational Bible College

and while in Canterbury has been an Assistant Diocesan Director of Ordinands, Area Dean and on Archbishop's Council. Anthony is married to Anne and they have three grown up children and four grandchildren.

The growth of the church has meant that we have appointed Ministry Overseers who oversee various aspects of the churches life with the aim that we better care for our leaders, develop our ministry and release Anthony to his preaching, prayer and pastoral roles.

The four curates we have had have each developed the role in line with their gifts and interests. Each curate has been given an hour a week personal supervision as well as staff meetings and staff Bible studies. Extra time has been available when necessary. We have, where appropriate, included the families in a thought through and constructive way, one which recognises the need to adapt the role to the gifts and needs of the person.



We have a part-time Pastoral worker, Karen Kendall. Karen has a background in mental health nursing and is working especially amongst the older people of our congregation, those with particular needs and with our pastoral care team. Mary Wass has been appointed recently on a fixed 2 year contract to strengthen our pastoral team and this has been particularly helpful over these last months

Denise Parrett is our part-time staff worker with her major responsibility being for music. She also helps in our work in three local state schools where we take services and assemblies. She is involved in Bay Ignite (see below).



The Diocese made a successful bid to the church commissioners and we were privileged to be able to set up two new congregations aimed specifically at the marginalized, disadvantaged and non-churched. Bay Ignite on Tuesdays aims to reach unchurched families and the Thursday one adults. Prior to Covid both had been successfully launched and were running well. We have restarted the adult one and are looking at how we might reengage with the families in the near future. This is an exciting new development and one which will give an opportunity for the person who comes as curate to be involved in a new way of doing church working alongside our Ignite Enablers Dan Ralph and Paula Martin. In addition to these staff we have a part-time administrator and cleaner.

The staff team meets regularly together for prayer, Bible Study, encouragement, to plan the practical aspects of the ministry and food!

There are a number of people who are beginning to investigate their own ministries and are being given experience in various areas of ministry. There are also many lay volunteers who are vital to the life of the church.

### **Vision and Priorities**

The PCC continues to seek to set the future direction of the church. It has the vision statement as follows -

Our aim is to glorify God by building a Christ centred community through the power of the Holy Spirit.

We do this by making and growing followers of Jesus.

### Making Disciples means

Explaining the good news of Jesus simply and clearly.

Helping others to come to a living relationship with Jesus by trusting Him as their rescuer and king.

### **Growing Disciples means**

Explaining how the good news of Jesus transforms every area of our lives.

Helping each other to develop our relationship with Jesus so that we increasingly submit our lives to Him.

This is an exciting time to be involved in our churches as we continue to seek God's direction and guidance for the future especially thinking about the changes Covid 19 will bring to the way we conduct ministry and what we are involved in. The PCC will continue to have a major role in this and is seeking to flesh out the vision for the next five years at the present time.

### **The Churches**

Christ Church and St Andrew's are evangelical Anglican churches but attract congregations of a broader churchmanship. The staff team takes their role of teaching the Bible very seriously and seeks to present the gospel clearly and relevantly through all our activities. Christ Church has around 120-150 people attending its main service and has two smaller services each Sunday. St Andrew's has 35-50 people attending on average. The numbers will increase substantially for major festivals and for civic services.

The pre Covid current pattern of services is as follows -

Christ ChurchSt Andrew'sSundaySunday

8a.m. Holy Communion

[Common Worship]

9.00a.m. Morning Service [3 times a month]

Communion Service [once a month]

11.00a.m Morning Service [3 times a month]

Communion Service [once a month]

7.00p.m. Evening Service

[Informal Praise and Café style teaching events]

Wednesday [1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of month]

11.00a.m. Holy Communion [1662 or Common worship]

**Midweek** 

9.00a.m. Tuesday Prayer Breakfast (weekly)7.00p.m. Tuesday Prayer Gathering (monthly)

6.30a.m. Thursday Prayer time (weekly)

At present our pattern is very different with one Sunday service at Christ Church and a recorded streamed Sunday Service. We still have the prayer times either via Zoom or facebook live. We are gradually reopening ministries but are recognizing that we will not necessarily return to pre-covid patterns.

Most services would have a mixture of hymns and modern worship songs. There would be a strong emphasis on the preaching ministry. Lay people are involved in leading, reading and prayers and we seek to offer prayer ministry at all our services at Christ Church [we are still

working on the logistics of this at St Andrew's].

The evening service is more informal in nature and we are seeking to meet the needs of a congregation of mixed tastes and ages.

In addition to these we run Christianity Explained courses, Discipleship Explained courses, a mid-week break, a teaching day at home, house groups [at present 15 in the afternoon and evenings], Food and fellowship, social events including restaurant nights, youth groups, men's and ladies' ministry with various activities, and training events for leaders and those involved in ministry. We also run a community resource that helps people apply for jobs or benefits. This is just reopening and we expect to be busy. We also plan and record a fortnightly service for our local radio station.

We are committed to looking at how all these organisations and events fit into the life of our church and especially how they help us both to reach out to our community and build up our church family.





Herne Bay Seafront

Children and Young People

There is

a full children's and youth work on Sundays and we have regular training that we give to our leaders. There is a toddler group which has been very popular. The PCC believe we need to concentrate on reaching out to those under 35 and this will affect what we do in the future. We have excellent links with a number of local state primary schools and with the town's only secondary school which means we celebrate Christmas and Easter with them and run end of year/leavers services as well as taking assemblies.

### Other churches

The town has a number of churches and there is a measure of working between them. We work especially with the local Baptist and New Frontiers churches. We have had a joint service followed by baptisms in the sea. Christ Church and St Andrew's are the largest linked churches in the town and so have an important role to play. The Parish is part of Reculver Deanery.

### The Role of Curate

A staff team is a great benefit, it is a place to explore issues, to be encouraged and challenged, to learn from others. We are committed to collaborative ministry where each person can develop their gifts and grow in their faith. We hope that as we work together we will all grow in our ability to be leaders of God's people and to 'correctly handle the word of truth'. This means that emphasis will be particularly given in helping understand how to apply God's Word to all aspects of ministry from pastoral care through to the more obvious role of

preaching.

A curate needs to be given good supervision, but also be allowed the freedom to develop their own particular gifts, skills and ideas. The curate will meet with Anthony individually as well as being part of the wider staff. The curate's family [if relevant] will be welcomed and included as is appropriate for their particular situation.

The curate will be given a broad experience of ministry initially and then, after discussion, given areas of specific responsibility. The curate will need to fulfil the requirements of the Kent post-ordination training scheme during his/her three years.

The training relationship is a collaborative partnership between the curate, incumbent, local church /team ministry and the Diocese. Anthony is fully committed to the model of curate – incumbent in a supervisory relationship involving shared reflection on the practice of ministry, in partnership with the Phase 2 IME course. As well as supervision and reflection together, the hope is that we will build a working relationship based on developing collaboration between colleagues.

The curate will be given time and space to develop their own gifts, style and ideas in ministry.

### **Time Off, Holidays and Practicalities**

Life outside the Parish is important and so the staff team is committed to encouraging each other to take a proper day off a week, five weeks holiday and to have time off during the working week. Time will also be given for one conference a year to allow growth and encouragement from outside the Parish. Reasonable expenses will be refunded.

### **Accommodation**

The diocese is committed to providing a good standard of accommodation and so there is a good house in the middle of the Parish. The house has a large living room, study and four bedrooms. This is within walking distance of the church and vicarage. The PCC is committed to ensuring that the curate and where relevant, family, have a pleasant and practical living environment.

### **Website and Facebook**

The time we are in gives a unique opportunity to get a feel for the church through social media. The place to look is parishofhernebay where you will find the website (best place to see current material and services is under latest news or resources for building our faith during these times) and on two facebook pages which should be found using the same prefix.

### Conclusion

This is an exciting and challenging time to come to the Parish of Herne Bay, the person who comes as a curate will have the advantage of seeing a growing church and with people growing in commitment to Christ and one another - this growing and development will involve the whole staff team seeing God at work in people's lives. The Parish loves its clergy and offers a supportive environment to learn skills in ministry and to deepen faith. The staff team and vicar offer support, encouragement and experience in ministry.

If you think you might like to come and join us do contact us.

In the first instance all interested people should contact

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