



Team Vicar: Heart of Norfolk Team

We are really excited by the possibility of partnering with the new Coordinator of Mission Enablers. We see our “home Patch” of the Heart of Norfolk Benefice as an ideal base in which the Coordinator will feel supported in their Diocesan role and able to “practice what they preach” in our wonderful group of rural churches.

At the Heart of Norfolk you will be joining a well- established Ministry Team (see below) who, together with committed laity, see the need to explore new ways of being church. We currently have 13 wonderful church buildings in the Benefice and, whilst they are valued as such, we fully recognise the need to concentrate our efforts on the areas of largest population. We are currently exploring placing a number of the buildings into the care of the Diocese of Norwich Churches Trust. Alongside this, we are keen to explore alternative styles of worship with the aim of attracting those groups of people currently under-represented in our congregations. This will be a key focus for the person appointed.

The Heart of Norfolk Team came into being in November 2016 and formally, via a Pastoral Scheme, on 1st September 2017. We see the consolidation of our Team Ministry as offering exciting opportunities for mission and development in rural ministry.

As a Team, we are currently exploring three key areas:

- The shape of ministry that a new colleague could offer, and that person’s contribution to our 5-year Mission Action Plan;
- Reviewing the Sunday service pattern, to encourage united congregations that can offer more vibrant worship by coming together;
- Organisational Structure: a radical move away from the traditional pattern of serving 13 parochial church councils towards the formation of a single PCC to serve the Benefice with delegated responsibility for overall strategy and policy; some centralising of finance and administration.

What are we looking for?

A Rural Pioneer Minister, who would focus his/her ministry on:

- Children and young families (we serve four Primary Schools [two Church of England schools; two Community Primaries – open to Church involvement] and have the opportunity to contribute to Collective Worship at Reepham High School);

- Younger adults – the missing generation of 20-40 year-olds. We have very good ministry amongst the retired+ generation, but, like many churches, only see younger adults at Christmas or School services;
- Exploring Fresh Expressions of Church, appropriate to our rural context;
- Sunday duty, but released from the need to serve multiple parochial church councils.

We are also hoping to enhance our worship through the appointment of a new Director of Music for North Elmham who would also work with other musicians across the Benefice (possibly to create a Benefice Choir, introduce new music and support other styles of worship).

What can we offer you?

- The support of Team Ministry: Team Rector, Associate Priest (part-time); Reader; Priest with PTO; and lay ministers (Authorised Worship Assistants). We would hope to meet together regularly, to reflect, plan and pray for the mission of our Benefice;
- Part-time administrative support to the Team;
- A spacious 5-bedroomed house in Foulsham (NR20 5RZ) with double-garage and secluded walled back-garden. The large study has its own access lobby from the front-door.
- The village has a County Primary School, Village Stores, public house and modern village hall. A bus service provides easy access to an excellent High School and Sixth Form College;
- Life in a beautiful part of Norfolk, where community really matters;
- Close access to Norwich (a vibrant and “fine” City); the North Norfolk Coast; Walsingham and many other places of interest and beauty.

The Revd Sally Kimmis
Team Rector
Heart of Norfolk Team

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