

# Working with us in the Diocese of Lincoln

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Clergy recruitment pack  
2024

Vicar of Barlings &  
South Lawres

[lincoln.anglican.org](http://lincoln.anglican.org)



# A letter from the Bishop

A Time to Change Together (TTCT) is a vision of our shared future in the Diocese of Lincoln. As a family of churches, serving one another and reaching our local communities with the good news of God's kingdom, we are committed to collaborative partnerships, relationships of generosity, and growth.

Now that the groundwork has been laid, we are in the happy position of recruiting clergy to a range of creative and adventurous ministerial posts. Therefore, in this recruitment pack, we are beginning to articulate both what we are looking for in our clergy and also what we can offer you in return.

We are committed to continue to build a culture of trust in a time of uncertainty in the Church and in the world. This demands from all of us the qualities of kindness and candour, rooted in personal and theological integrity. We are looking for colleagues who will model these qualities themselves and seek to grow them in others.

The Diocese of Lincoln needs clergy who are:

**Confident** – rooted in prayer and scripture, with a story to tell of their faith.

**Mission focused** – passionate about growth in depth of discipleship and numbers.

**Collaborative** – genuinely open and willing to work with and learn from others.

**Adventurous** – seeking to proclaim our historic faith afresh in this generation.

**Resilient** – knowing when to take risks, accept failure and try again.

**Capable** – demonstrating reliability in the skilled serving of transformation in Christ through the Five Marks of Mission within Local Mission Partnerships.

If you feel you have those attributes and would like to join us in our journey, we would love to hear from you.

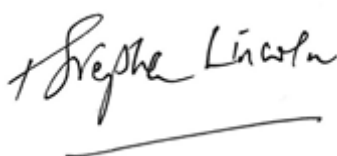
Our offer to you is founded on:

- ◆ A diocesan strategy which seeks **grassroots renewal and flourishing**, not top-down restructuring.
- ◆ A vision for ministry which is about **gifts and calling**, not trying to do 'everything, everywhere, all at once.'
- ◆ **Leadership** which prioritises the life of our parishes and the wellbeing of our ministers.
- ◆ A reputation for, and commitment to, **excellence** in our clergy housing and maintenance.
- ◆ An approach to the common fund which is about **covenant and generosity**.

As you read through this recruitment pack, you will discover so much more that our Diocese can offer to you, as you consider the next stage of your journey in the service of God's Church.

I hope that you will take seriously the invitation to join us and explore the opportunities to serve in the Diocese of Lincoln.

Yours ever in Christ,



# What we offer

**The Diocese of Lincoln** is a family of hundreds of local churches, schools, chaplaincies and projects across the historic county of Lincolnshire offering worship, growth in faith and discipleship and wide-ranging care and support to young and old in its communities.

Our aim is to grow the Church, in both numbers and depth, through attention to what we see as our core tasks of faithful worship, confident discipleship and joyful service, with the vision of being a healthy, vibrant, sustainable church which leads to transformed lives and communities across greater Lincolnshire making a difference in God's world. To that end as a diocese we shall support, encourage and enable local parishes, schools and mission partnerships to fulfil, within this framework, their own unique calling to serve in mission the community in which they are set.



*Edward King House*



*2023 Racial Justice Sunday service at  
Lincoln Cathedral*



A clear vision for our shared future as a diocese



A Bishop's Staff team and colleagues in the Parish Support Office who are committed to you



Beautiful county in which to live and work



Top 10 Dioceses for stipends



48 hours time away recommended each month



Supported annual retreat



Access to Employee Support Programme (EAP)



Programme of installation of solar panels and electric car charging points at vicarages



Garden maintenance support



Total redecoration on appointment including carpeting of public rooms in vicarages



Direct access to the Diocesan Registrar



# A Time to Change Together

## The Diocese's major change programme

The Diocese's vision is to be a healthy, vibrant and sustainable church transforming lives in Lincolnshire. Recent years have been challenging for the diocese. In response to this, we have developed effective programmes which offer the opportunity to both Lincoln Diocesan Trust and Board of Finance Ltd (LDTBF) staff and those in the parish focused colleagues to contribute together significant, positive change towards our vision. We hope that you will want to come to the Diocese and join in this exciting work that is Kingdom-focused and that, while demanding, we believe to be deeply fulfilling.



*Bishop Stephen's enthronement*

Time to Change Together, an integrated approach to growth, deployment, staffing, costs, investments, and voluntary giving launched in 2022, is starting to deliver major benefits in terms of working practice and support for our voluntary and paid staff in the parishes, and in levels of income and in care of our precious and vast range of church buildings, that they better serve the community in which they are set.



*Worship for everyone at St Faiths in Lincoln*

Resourcing the Urban Church is applying modern approaches and external and internal funding to planting and revitalising churches in the urban centres of the diocese. Over the next decade it will drive numerical growth and strengthened care in major centres such as Scunthorpe, Grimsby, Lincoln and Grantham as well as to market towns across the diocese.

More information about our new Deanery Partnerships, Local Mission Partnerships and other elements of Time to Change Together can be found on [www.lincoln.anglican.org](http://www.lincoln.anglican.org). This includes detailed information about our new approach to oversight and focal ministry, which is locally discerned and co-ordinated by the Deanery Partnerships, and is helping clergy and lay colleagues to re-picture their ministry according to God's call today.

# Our Values

## OUR VALUES

The Diocese of Lincoln is the Church of England in Lincolnshire, North Lincolnshire and North East Lincolnshire. The diocese covers 2,670 square miles and has a population of a little over 1 million. Our vision is to serve our communities in such a way that people may come to know the love of God and have their lives transformed. In order to do this, we know that we need to be a healthy, vibrant and sustainable church.

Our values are that we need, as a diocese, to be faithful in worship, confident in discipleship and joyful in service. The LDTBF, known as the Parish Support office, is here to support that vision and those values cost effectively with the highest quality of customer service.

## ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE STRATEGY

The diocese through its churches, chaplaincies and projects is deeply committed to the flourishing of the whole population and embedded in every community across Greater Lincolnshire. Through, for example, our church schools growing children, young people and households we are committed to healthy, inclusive structures in society. The diocesan environmental policy, including a commitment to carbon net zero by 2030, informs all our work from buildings and investments to ministerial and faith training. We have a carefully implemented ethical investment policy for our historic assets. The diocese invests heavily in continuously improving the quality of our safeguarding performance.



*Worship in the Diocese of Lincoln*

## LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The LDTBF has a good record of supporting staff in their professional development. Equally, parish focused colleagues are encouraged through the College of St Hugh to develop their skills, including through degree or further degree level study, both to help their performance in role and to enhance their opportunities for career and ministry progression.

## EQUALITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSION STRATEGY

The LDTBF continues to work on its performance in terms of equality, diversity and inclusion, particularly in monitoring, training and review. There is a regular forum for Global Majority Heritage clergy and ministers and the diocese is currently establishing chaplaincy for LGBTQIA+ colleagues. The majority of the LDTBF team are women and we are particularly looking to support women clergy to take oversight roles. A Time to Change Together's emphasis on partnership includes commitment to partnership between congregations and ministers of different church traditions. Respect is key to us, as is the valuing of conscience and an approach to diversity and inclusion that is rooted in the gospel rather than in statistics or quotas.

# How will I be supported?

## Wellbeing and Continuing Ministerial Development



### WELLBEING

We offer many initiatives that safeguard your spiritual and mental health, including:

- Employee assistance program (EAP) with free access to a 24/7, 365 helpline, with calls answered by experienced in-house counsellors, legal and financial specialists.
- Local counselling sessions accessed through the Wellbeing and CMD Officer.
- We run regular Wellbeing training events.
- We recommend you take all of your annual leave, take your day off regularly, and take two consecutive days off once a month.
- We encourage all parishes in vacancy to consider how they will support the wellbeing of their prospective clergy and their family through engagement with the Covenant for the Care and Wellbeing of Clergy document 'Big Conversation Document for the Local Church'. (The Covenant was affirmed and adopted by Diocesan Synod in 2021).
- A clear and agreed policy of parental leave.

### CONTINUING MINISTERIAL DEVELOPMENT

Our Wellbeing and CMD Officer, who is a member of the College of St Hugh staff team, can offer advice and assist with a wealth of support and training including:

- Care, wellbeing and flourishing for ministers & their families at all stages.
- Ongoing training of ordained and lay ministers.
- Supervision, mentoring, coaching, and consultancy opportunities.
- Resources for developing vocational gifts and skills.
- Ministerial Development Review programme.
- Sabbatical planning for clergy; funding for study and retreats.
- Our new peer and lay facilitated MDR process includes significant focus on the wellbeing, flourishing, and thriving of the clergy person and their family.
- We provide opportunity for all clergy to join a facilitated Reflective Practice/Pastoral Supervision Group.
- We offer access to Coaches, Work Consultants and Mentors.
- From 2024 we will begin a new 3 year First Incumbency Support and Training process.
- We offer sabbatical planning, funding and retreats
- Regular opportunities to gather as colleagues within a large diocese, to offer mutual support.



# The Bishops and our Vision

The Diocese is served by three Bishops. The Bishop of Lincoln the Rt Revd Stephen Conway is the Diocesan Bishop.

Our Suffragans are the Rt Revd Dr David Court, Bishop of Grimsby and The Rt Revd Dr Nicholas Chamberlain, Bishop of Grantham. Each Bishop has an office based at Edward King House in Lincoln and our Suffragans are also focused respectively in the North and South of the county.

They work together along with the Senior Team and Parish Support Office to lead and serve the people of the Diocese of Lincoln.

More information can be found on [www.lincoln.anglican.org](http://www.lincoln.anglican.org)



As bishops, our vision is to grow and develop us all as deeply Scriptural, praying and worshipping communities and ministers. We want to look outside of ourselves to love the people of our parishes, so that we can share with them the joy, light, hope and love of Jesus. Our covenant is to work together as a team, so that we may use our gifts with you to:

- Grow in numbers and in faith.
- Encourage new and occasional worshipers to become committed disciples.
- Continue with, and develop engagement with children, young people and families in our community, through church, and in our Church schools.
- Offer ourselves and our church building to bring our community together, and meet the challenges of a growing population.

Our aspiration is for the Church in Greater Lincolnshire to be faith-filled, open, active and deeply invitational. Our calling from God is to love, lead, teach and guard the people of our communities prayerfully and practically, as Christ loves them, and to call them to follow Him. We seek to be friendly, approachable, prayerful and helpful.

# Your role

Every post has an understanding of its role that is shaped according to its context, alongside the Statement of Particulars that is required by law. A central feature of A Time to Change Together has been to gather information about the needs and aspirations of the over 600 different church communities of the diocese and to shape the distribution of ministers accordingly. In this way, new teams of Authorised Lay and Licensed Lay Ministers (Readers), together with other volunteers such as Church wardens or Clergy and Readers with Permission to Officiate are being built across Greater Lincolnshire.



## OVERSIGHT MINISTRY IN LINCOLN

Oversight ministers have the legal and pastoral responsibility for all the churches to which they are licensed – their Parish Partnership. They also share the strategic leadership of their Local Mission Partnership with other Oversight Ministers and some lay leaders. Generally each Oversight Minister will also be the Focal Minister (practically leading a particular church) of 1 or 2 churches in their Parish Partnership, but not the Focal Minister of all churches in their oversight. Find out more about Oversight Ministry in Lincoln at [lincoln.anglican.org](http://lincoln.anglican.org)

## THE CORE PRINCIPLES OF TIME TO CHANGE TOGETHER

- churches working together with complementary strengths in wider mission partnerships
- equal valuing of all ministries
- no-one ministers alone
- as much responsibility as possible is devolved

or delegated to the local · every church has an incumbent but few have their own incumbent

## Being an Oversight Minister in Lincoln means: ·

- equipping the people of God for the mission & ministry of God
- being the public representative of the wider church in the local communities and churches
- having authority to shape worship, nurture and mission in a group of churches
- providing sacramental ministry along with others
- identifying, discerning & developing focal and other leaders
- delegating & clarifying responsibilities
- building collaborative and mutually supportive teams in your places of oversight
- collaborating in the Local Mission Partnership to create a richer pattern of church worship
- supporting, resourcing & overseeing leaders
- establishing healthy patterns of relationship at every level ·
- modelling a prayerful, self-caring, generous but realistic model of life and leadership

In this phase of Time to Change Together, we are therefore working to release incumbents and others with oversight responsibility by discerning who might hold focal roles in our different communities. In this way we are moving beyond what can be the debilitating impact of Multi-parish Benefices and building a more genuinely collaborative, supportive and missional future.

## YOUTH WORK

The Diocese has a new team of youth and children's enablers, working in parishes and across Deanery Partnerships, with a co-ordinator in the College of St Hugh.

## MISSION

Every Deanery Partnership now has a Mission Enabler who will work with Bishop David to support the growth of the Church in Mission in Greater Lincolnshire.



# Lawres Deanery

## Introduction

The Lawres Local Mission Partnership (LMP) consists of 27 worshipping communities situated to the north and east of the city of Lincoln and sits within the wider Deanery Partnership of West Lindsey. The communities are varied with populations ranging from 120 – 4500, most of which would see themselves as village populations. Within the LMP are 14 schools, the former RAF base of Scampton, some wonderfully maintained church buildings, and at the heart of our communities is a determination to see the gospel shared and the church thrive. As part of the 'Time to Change Together' programme we consist of one Key Mission Church at Nettleham; four Local Mission Churches at Welton, Dunholme, Cherry Willingham, Reepham; 19 Community Churches; two festival churches and one Exploring Closure. These Churches are grouped as follows:

- The Owmbly Group (5 churches, 1 of which is looking at alternative use)
- The Springline Parish: 8 churches forming one Parish
- Welton, Dunholme and Scothern (3 churches)
- Nettleham and Riseholme (2 churches)
- South Lawres and Barlings (8 churches)

### MINISTRY ACROSS THE LMP

The aim for the Local Mission Partnership is to secure 3 full-time stipendiary clergy by the end of 2024. The present position is: one full-time stipendiary, two vacancies in the process of appointment— which will see the LMP at full stipendiary complement. Stipendiary clergy will work with 5 self supporting ministers, two very active Priests with PTO, four Readers, three of them with PTO. The Rural Dean, recently retired, remains as a Licensed Priest with PTO. There is a strong body of Authorised Lay Ministers in the LMP, some of whom will lead services in churches other than their own.

The Partnership is collaborative and the Sunday Rota as well as occasional offices are shared. The Diocese is seeking to ensure that all churches have some form of oversight and focal ministry, and this is in development in the Partnership. It is expected that the person who is appointed to the post in South Lawres and Barlings will have oversight of those eight churches, and will work with the rest of the clergy and lay team to support work in the wider LMP.



*Some of our LMP Clergy at the Installation of Bishop Stephen*

There is much work to do to improve collaboration and the sharing of resources, however, we have set about these tasks collectively with an emphasis on the need to be missional. There is much good work going on in our churches and communities and we are committed to sharing the gospel in many and varied ways: Foodbanks, FiSH Projects (Food in School Holidays), Vinyl Nights, Coffee mornings, schools Work and Holiday Clubs, to name a few. We see schools as critical to our work as we seek to support 2 secondary schools 10 primary schools, 1 infant and 1 junior school. The Partnership Chapter meets every 5-6 weeks, is supportive and cohesive and works collaboratively, sharing ideas and resources, led by the Rural Dean Revd Canon Penny Green.

# South Lawres and Barlings Churches

## We are seeking a Priest for the South Lawres and Barlings Churches.

We are two groups of four rural and semi-rural parishes bordering on the city of Lincoln and heading east on each side of the A158 to Wragby and Skegness. Our populations totalling approximately 10,000 include those who commute to the city for work, are professional retired, families of all sorts and blends, agricultural families and those who work widely across the region. The proximity to the city provides a wonderful blend of rural and city life with major road and rail links easily accessible. Whether you are looking for coast (75 minutes away), city, village, or the rolling hills of the Wolds (45 minutes away), all are in easy reach.

### CHURCHES

Our churches are situated in Greetwell, Cherry Willingham, Reepham, Fiskerton (the South Lawres Group); Sudbrooke, Langworth, Barlings, Stainton by Langworth (the Barlings Group). These Churches are held in plurality by the appointed Priest. Under the Time to Change Together programme, there are 2 Local Mission Churches and 6 Community Churches. Our church communities work well and support each other, attending services in each others churches and supporting other events. Our Sunday morning worship is principally a Service of Holy Communion, whilst our 'Together', Healing and Word and Worship Services take place on Sunday afternoons/evenings. These Services are informal and provide a range of worship experience for people of all ages. Our schools are important to us and we are keen to support them in any way we are able. This involves Collective Worship, Holiday Club Bags, organising a day of prayer activities for 'Thy Kingdom Come'. The new Priest will become ex-officio Foundation Governor of both Reepham and Fiskerton Church of England Primary Schools.

### OUR VISION

**'To be communities of faith, centred around Christ, learning, praying and working together whilst using our gifts to help others find their place in God's Kingdom'.**



### OUR BENEFICE PRAYER

Eternal Father,  
who weaves us all into the continuing story of grace:  
grant that, as we in South Lawres and Barlings continue to place  
footsteps with faith around our community,  
we may live our lives in a way that allows your story to shine  
through,  
encouraging and challenging others to live their part in it:  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
Amen

# Who we are

How would you sum us up? Well, we are:

- Prayerful
- Purposeful
- We laugh a lot!
- We are a sociable group of people!

We believe that faith is to be enjoyed as well as it being a serious aspect of our lives. We are a Team that needs to grow in number and in depth.

The Clergy Team currently consists of:

## **Stipendiary Curate**

Revd Jess Bellshaw who is nearing the end of her final year of curacy

## **Priests with PTO**

Revd Carol Bason (Prayer Chain and Services)

Revd Sue Bradley (Pastoral and Nursing/Care Homes)

Revd Jackie Calow (offers Sunday ministry in much of our LMP)

## **Administrator**

Jennifer Clarke volunteers her time on Thursdays and works from Fiskerton Rectory

## **Reader with PTO**

Mrs Lyn Curtis

## **Authorised Lay Ministers**

Deborah Shaw, Derek Sidman, Marilyn Small, Christopher Bason, Ros Burrows, Anne Parker. Anita Callaway.

Our morning congregations are predominantly (but not entirely) 60+ in age. Our 'Together' Service is intergenerational and our 'one-off' events tend to involve younger families.

## **Patrons**

The Mercers' Company is one of the patrons of the benefice. The Company provides annual funding to

two of the churches and provides moral support to the incumbent by having a dedicated team member for its church livings and by inviting incumbents to events at their livery hall in the City of London.



**Across our 8 churches, we work alongside**

- 6 PCCs
- 11 Churchwardens
- 3 Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinators
- 1 Bishop's Visitor





# Our Pledge, Your Qualities

**Lawres LMP** is fully supportive of the ordination of women and would welcome interest from men or women looking to share this vision.



**Welcome and help** the priest and the priest's family settle in and become part of our communities.



**Continue to work together** and to work to our strengths to the benefit of our churches and communities



**Be the 'antennae'** in our communities alerting the Priest to any issues or concerns



**Be prepared to lay aside** 'some of the old' for some of the 'new'



**Listen, encourage and support** the Priest as they develop new ideas and ways of working



**Support the Priest** in taking days off, annual leave and an annual retreat;



**Pray** for our Priest and the leadership and life of our churches



**Commit to deepening** our own faith as we journey together

- A Church of England ordained Priest who has a vision for what our churches could be and be able to use strong, team oriented, leadership skills to achieve that vision, recognising and utilising the gifts of others
- Sees the importance of our schools in the life of our communities and has strong experience of work with children and young people
- has prayer at the centre of their life and is able to encourage and lead others in strengthening their lives of prayer
- is discerning and sensitive to the leading of the Spirit with a strong theological awareness and able to apply its place in today's world
- can communicate the Christian message effectively in an enthusiastic and inspiring way to both adults and children through spoken and written word and social media
- is an enthusiastic leader, can lead change, with energy and vision, intent on supporting the good things already happening in our parishes and enabling us to discern and put into action God's plans for us with the support of a strong team;
- is able to inspire, encourage and facilitate people to use and develop their gifts;
- Understands the value of different styles of worship;
- Sees the value of developing links with other denominations;
- is friendly and approachable, with a pastoral heart, listening ear and sensitivity to the needs of others and who understands the importance of being a visible and compassionate presence in the community;
- has a concern for social justice
- wants to play an active part in the in the LMP and work collaboratively with other LMP clergy and lay leaders;
- is able to enrich the online presence of our Benefices engaging with those who worship online and encouraging online worshippers, where possible, to join the gathered congregation.
- is welcoming and approachable and has a positive 'can do' approach – and a sense of humour.
- able to drive and has access to a vehicle.

## Current Sunday Service Rota: a typical month

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5
9:15am Holy Communion Stainton by Langworth  10:45am Holy Communion Greetwell  4pm 'Together' Reepham	9:15am Holy Communion Barlings  10:45am Holy Communion Cherry Willingham	9:15am Holy Communion Fiskerton  10:45am Holy Communion Sudbrooke  6pm Word and Worship Reepham	9:15am Holy Communion Langworth  10:45am Holy Communion Reepham  5pm Healing Prayer Fiskerton	10am Holy Communion Reepham Group Service

9.30am Wednesdays Holy Communion at Cherry Willingham

Baptisms take place at 2pm on Sunday afternoon, with some flexibility on timing dependent on the availability of a Priest

Twice Monthly Services at Le Grand Luce Court and once per month at Willow Court

### Occasional Offices

All our churches are available for occasional offices. Numbers over the last three years average

Baptisms: 12

Weddings: 5

Funerals: 36



*Baptism BBQ at the Vicarage*

# Our Schools

We are blessed with some wonderful primary and secondary schools in our locality, and work with them as closely as we can.

## **FISKERTON CE PRIMARY SCHOOL:**

**Head of School: Mrs Kerry Henry**

Fiskerton is a Church of England primary school in Fiskerton village and serving the local community and villages. It has 100 children on roll and has seen significant growth in the last five years. It is known locally for its strong pastoral ethos and is rated 'Good' by OfSTED and 'Excellent' in its SIAMS Inspection. The school walk to church for services at Easter, Christmas and the end of the year. They also visit in between times for prayer activities and for visits related to the curriculum. They always welcome visits into school from Clergy but particularly from their Bishop's Visitor who gives a significant amount of time to support the children and staff. The Incumbent is an ex-officio Foundation Governor.

## **REEPHAM CE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**Headteacher: Mr Ian Randall**

Reepham is also a church of England Primary School and serves its local community and villages. It is a popular school, known for its academic emphasis. It is rated a 'Good' school by ofsted and Outstanding in its most recent SIAMS inspection. The school attend church for services and hold one of the highlights of the year—the annual reception wedding!

Once again this is a school in which we are always welcomed. There are two foundation governors—the incumbent, and at present Revd Jess Bellshaw.



## **CHERRY WILLINGHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**Headteacher: Mrs Gemma Curtis**

## **THE PEMBROKE SCHOOL**

**Headteacher: Mr Simon Evans**

These two schools situated in Cherry Willingham village are part of The Priory Academy—an Academy Trust that serves many schools in the city of Lincoln and its environs. The involvement of the academy has rejuvenated secondary education in the village and now the majority of primary children from the local villages choose to make it their first option for secondary education. We have less involvement in the secondary school than the primary, to which we are invited to lead collective worship on a regular basis. The school is open to our support that gives us contact with children from Cherry Willingham village and the edge of the city.

## **ELLISON BOULTERS CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY**

**Headteacher: Mrs Suzanne Scott**

Whilst not in South Lawres and Barlings parishes, Ellison Boulton is the feeder school for many of the primary school age children in Barlings, hence we keep in contact, provide holiday clubs where they are requested, and lead collective worship. This is another thriving school, outstanding in the eyes of both OfSTED and SIAMS.





# Our Discipleship, Mission and Social Justice Projects

We passionately believe that our discipleship calls us to generosity and to support the needs of our communities and beyond. Therefore Social Justice Projects are also key to our mission. Last year:

- We contributed £4700 of vouchers to the families of children on Free School Meals via the summer holiday FiSH project;
- Put together 120 Christmas Shoeboxes to be distributed via 'Jacob's Well' to children in eastern Europe
- Men Aloud provides a safe space for those men in our communities who need to chat
- Made tonnes of donations to the Foodbank and Community Larder
- Raised £2300 for charities through our Charity Coffee mornings
- Gave financial gifts to local families struggling with the cost of living crisis through the use of a Discretionary Fund

## Families and Children

This is a growing ministry among us—kickstarted by the work of Revd Jess Bellshaw and her team and supported by the Diocese Transformation Fund.

Three times a year we offer Holiday Club Bags to children in our local schools. The bags cover 5 days of activities and are connected to an online video with a Bible Story, Craft and activities. The bags have everything needed in them and so there is no pressure on parents to provide anything. These bags are followed up twice a year with an in person gathering—a Light Party, a Summer Club and a Pancake Party. We distribute approx 180 bags to local children through our local schools who are all happy to help us out.

This Easter as part of the work of the LMP, we have joined forces with All Saints Nettleham to share ideas and workload!

## Our Discipleship

We create opportunities for learning together at various points in the year. We have, in the last three years run Alpha Courses, Lent Courses, the Prayer Course, the Bible Course, the Pastoral Principles and Living in Love and Faith. Our gatherings are open and always have Jesus and cake at the heart of them!

We have a strong pastoral ethos and look out for one another including those outside our church context. Many of our ALM Team support this ministry, and Revd Carol Bason keeps our daily prayer chain populated with prayer requests.



# Our Parishes

## Cherry Willingham with Greetwell: South Lawres Benefice

**St Peter & St Paul: Type 2 Mission Church**

**All Saints: Type 3 Community Church**

### CHERRY WILLINGHAM WITH GREETWELL

The parish of Cherry Willingham with Greetwell consists of two Church buildings in one Parish. Cherry Willingham is served by the Church of St Peter and St Paul, and the hamlet of Greetwell by All Saints.

The village of Cherry Willingham is by far the largest of our 8 villages with 4095 residents. It has many amenities with a Co-op store and Pharmacy, Premier Shop, Hairdresser, take away outlets, Library, two pubs, a satellite of the GP Practice at Nettleham and sporting facilities in the Bowls Club, the Cricket Pitch and the facilities based at The Pembroke Academy and which are open to the public. There is a large village hall shared with Reepham village and a small and busy church hall. The village also hosts a lovely community area at Cherry Fields, which leads to the River Witham and allows for dog walking and exercising. The village is growing in number and we would expect that to continue as it provides easy access to the city and to the Lincoln bypass. The lovely thing is that it still manages to keep a village 'feel' with many community activities. There is a regular bus service into the city.

The Church building is Grade I listed, built in 1753 by its founder Thomas Becke. It is a light and beautiful building and reflects the worship of its community. It remains a popular base for village funerals with the use of the Parish Council Cemetery which lies at the back of the church. During the last three years, a toilet has been constructed in the churchyard which has provided a helpful amenity on site!

The church is active in the community and active in faith. Coffee mornings raise money for charities, both local and international.

### ALL SAINTS GREETWELL

All Saints, Greetwell lies in a rural setting, off the beaten track and a wonderful place to stop and 'be' for a while. The Church building itself has a Grade II listing and has gone through much restoration in the last 20 years. It lies amidst an old medieval village



and is literally a hidden gem.

Worship is held at All Saints each month and people travel mostly from Cherry Willingham



### Key Activities

- Sunday Communion Service once per month
- Weekly Communion Service on Wednesdays
- Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals
- Monthly Services at Willow Court Care Home
- Twice monthly Services at Le Grand Luce Court (sheltered accommodation)
- Mothers' Union
- Men Aloud
- Monthly Charity Coffee mornings
- West Lindsey Open Churches
- Occasional Concerts in Church
- Church Hall activities
- Annual Shoebox Appeal



# Our Parishes

## Reepham: South Lawres Benefice

### Type 2: Mission Church

#### THE VILLAGE

Reepham village has 1250 residents, is situated off the A158 approximately 4 miles from Lincoln. It is a popular village with a thriving Church of England Primary School, a Pre-School, a Methodist Chapel, a village Post Office and shop, and a large Village Hall shared with Cherry Willingham.

#### THE CHURCH

The Church is dedicated to St Peter and Paul, is Grade II\* listed and has origins in the 13th Century. Outside it presents as a traditional church building, however in 2013 it underwent a major refurbishment to remove the pews, change the lighting and create a space that is flexible for family and community activities—it has therefore become the centre of those activities for both Benefices. In addition it does provide a flexible space for more informal worship. The Church can be booked by outside groups and we have been privileged to host a number of musical concerts. The land to the back of church has been developed into a community garden.

The Church works ecumenically with Reepham Methodist Church and you can see by the list of key activities it is busy. It has toilet and kitchenette facilities, is well known for its hospitality and is open every day for people to drop in. The Church also produces the monthly village newsletter.



#### Key Activities

- Communion Service once per month plus Group Service on 5th Sundays
- Word and Worship once per month
- 'Together' intergenerational worship once per month
- Baptisms, weddings and funerals
- Singing Group meets each week
- Tuesday chat
- Oxfam Book Swap
- West Lindsey Open Churches Festival
- All children and family events are held here eg Pancake Party, Christmas Crafts, Light Party
- Concerts
- Reepham CE Primary School Events
- 'Thy Kingdom Come' School Prayer Day
- Ecumenical links with Reepham Methodist Church
- Annual Produce Show



# Our Parishes

## Fiskerton: South Lawres Benefice Type 3 Community Church

### THE VILLAGE

Fiskerton is a village of approximately 1200 residents. The main part of the village hosts the church, Fiskerton CE Primary School, the popular local pub, an increasingly busy village hall and the Scout Hall. Three miles away, at the edge of the parish, is Short Ferry with another pub serving a site for static homes, some of which are second home, and some retirement homes.

The village is surrounded by farmland, but we expect a significant amount of building to occur in the next 5–10 years as the Church Commissioners look to utilise land for housing.

The village benefits from the existence of the Hodgson Charity which annually distributes c£7000 to village residents and organisations in need. The Chair of Trustees is ex-officio the incumbent of the church.

### THE CHURCH

The Church is Grade I listed and is the largest church building in the Benefice. It is in excellent condition and over the last years has seen the restoration of the boundary wall and a newly laid path and north entrance. It has a fine pinnacled tower with carved heads and large buttresses, which encloses a much earlier round tower, which is probably Saxon.

The Rectory in Fiskerton is used as the residence for the current curate, Revd Jessica Bellshaw.

The church has strong links with the RAF 49 Squadron Association who have a memorial at the airfield approximately a mile away from the centre of the village between Fiskerton and Reepham. Members of the Squadron attend the annual Remembrance Service in Church.



Members of the Church support village activities in anyway they are able, including the weekly craft gathering, Gardening Club and also organise the monthly parish newsletter. Which is delivered to every home in the village and to the Campsite at Short Ferry.

### Key Activities

- Monthly Communion Service
- Coffee morning through the summer months
- School events in Church
- West Lindsey Open Churches Festival
- Baptisms, weddings and funerals
- Open Churchyard
- 'Thy Kingdom Come' School Prayer Day
- Organises the Village Newsletter



# Our Parishes

## Stainton by Langworth: Barlings Benefice

### Type 3: Community Church

#### THE VILLAGE & CHURCH

Stainton by Langworth is the smallest of our parishes with a population of c. 141. It's population size reflects a small community surrounded by farmland. The Church is surrounded by working farm buildings.

The Church Building, dedicated to St John the Baptist, is Georgian, built in 1794, further restored in 1885 and is Grade II listed. It is well maintained and cared for by its local farming community and hosts a congregation once per month of 20—25 people. The church congregation is warm and welcoming, coffee and chocolate biscuits are always provided after a service, much to the delight of the previous incumbent!

Primary School children in the village, will usually attend Ellison Boulters CE Primary Academy in Scothern, whilst secondary school age children will head for William Farr CE Comprehensive School or Horncastle Grammar School.



#### Key Activities

- Communion Service on the first Sunday of the month
- Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals
- Open churchyard





# Our Parishes

## Barlings with Langworth: Barlings Benefice

**St Hugh's: Type 3 Community Church**

**St Edward's: Type 3 Community Church**

The parish of Barlings with Langworth has two church buildings in one parish. St Edward's Barlings was the original church building, and has origins from the 11th Century, being mentioned in the Domesday Book. It is set in the tiny village of Barlings and is frequented by visitors visiting the ruins of Barlings Abbey, with whom it has connections. It is a beautiful place on a warm summers day—a place of quiet retreat. Its disconnection from the population of Langworth led the church to seek the building of a second church in Langworth itself. This was achieved in 1961 with the building of St Hugh's. Situated on the main Wragby Road in this ribbon village, next to the Memorial Hall, we believe that St Hugh's has the potential to grow after some tough years.

Amenities in the village include The George Hotel and the Memorial Hall, both of which are going through a resurgence in popularity after the pandemic.



### Key Activities

- Monthly Communion Service in each church
- Baptisms, weddings and funerals
- West Lindsey Churches Festival





# Our Parishes

## Sudbrooke: Barlings Benefice

### Type 3: Community Church

#### THE VILLAGE

Sudbrooke village has a population of 1800 residents with building continuing in the area of Sudbrooke Park. It has a shop in the centre of the populated area, with a post office, a hairdresser and a popular village hall, hired out for community activities. The village lies just off the A158, with the church situated in the older part of the village, detached from the majority of the population.

#### THE CHURCH

The church building is Victorian, and the second church in the group dedicated to St Edward the Confessor. It is home to a number of quite special features, including its stained glass windows and blue and gold apse, and over the last year has undergone a significant amount of maintenance. The lack of toilet facilities and its detachment from the main part of the village makes missional activity difficult to establish, however the congregation are warm and friendly and want to see their church grow.

The primary school age children in the village mostly attend Ellison Boulters Church of England



Academy, Scothern. This is not in the parish, however we lead Collective Worship on a regular basis as most of the children living in Sudbrooke attend there. Young people of secondary school age have a choice of schools, among them, William Farr CE Comprehensive School, Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Horncastle.



#### Key Activities

- Communion Service once per month
- Baptisms, weddings and funerals
- Open Churchyard
- West Lindsey Open Churches Festival

# A Word about Finance!

Well we would love to tell you that money and finance is never a problem—but we can't! What we can tell you is that:

- We try to be generous
- We have paid our Parish Covenant/Share in full for the last 13 years and more
- We have committed to a Covenant figure of £55K in the next year. This will be a stretch.

We are dipping into every resource we can but we have work to do. Last year we raised £53120.

Here are the figures we have committed to in this year:

Barlings with Langworth	£2800
Sudbrooke	£10300
Stainton	£1215
Cherry Willingham with Greetwell	£23100
Reepham	£10000
Fiskerton	£7585
<b>Total</b>	<b>£55000</b>

We know that there is work to do, particularly to engage our wider communities in supporting their local church. We would love you to help us!



# The Vicarage

## Your Family Home

The property for this post is yet to be confirmed however, our Parsonages offer the following :

Well appointed 4 bedroom properties & where possible separate family accommodation

- Part of ongoing Diocesan net zero carbon initiative (Solar Panel Installation)
- Gas Powered central Heating
- Intruder Alarm
- Based in a large village with excellent road links and amenities
- Fully maintained property
- Dedicated diocesan property team

The plan below is an example of the specification that we offer in our properties

