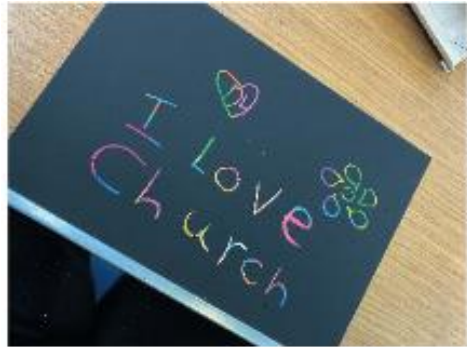


The Parish of St Helier St Peter's + Bishop Andrewes' churches

Information Pack

Community and Pastoral Worker



The Parish of St Helier St Peter's + Bishop Andrewes' churches

We are an ordinary mix of people who worship an extraordinary God. We are a vibrant, growing community of Christians on the St Helier estate who are journeying with the local community as together we discover the good news of Jesus Christ on our Estate. Many have come to faith for the first time and have little or no faith background, so it has been a joy to travel with them as they experience the love of God in Christ.

We are two churches in one parish who love God and our community. We are evangelical in tradition, one of the churches hosts a more traditional service and the other is more charismatic in its style of worship.

We are a Church Army Centre of Mission and currently have a staff team of three people comprising of a Vicar/ Lead Evangelist, and two Pioneer Evangelists who work together with the PCC to serve the church and community in the Parish.

The Parish of St Helier

The St Helier Estate was built in the 1930's to provide homes for those moving from the decaying area of the East End. The estate straddles two London Boroughs, Sutton, and Merton and whilst they are known to be affluent boroughs the St Helier estate experiences high levels of deprivation and is in most 30% deprived wards in England^[1]. There are high levels obesity, lower than average life expectancy and high levels of hospital admissions for alcohol related harm The main causes for premature death are due to cancer, respiratory disease, and heart disease^[3]. There is also a high prevalence of depression and suicide rates, alcohol use and self-harm^[4] Cases of domestic abuse are extremely high.

There are many still struggling with the effects of the pandemic. Some have been living in isolation, experiencing loss, struggling with mental and physical health, and many are fearful about the future and have financial concerns due to the growing cost of living.

In partnership and together with local people and organisations we are engaged in activities that make a difference, and whilst lots of the above statistics are rather bleak, we know that little interventions can make a big difference and that these stats can be interrupted as we partner with God in serving our community.

^[1] <https://moderngov.sutton.gov.uk/documents/s79080/6b%20Equality%20Impact%20Assessment%20-%20Sutton%20Health%20and%20Care%20Plan%2016.02.22.pdf>

^[2] <https://www.merton.gov.uk/system/files?file=st20helier.pdf>

^[3] Ibid

^[4] <https://moderngov.sutton.gov.uk/documents/s79080/6b%20Equality%20Impact%20Assessment%20-%20Sutton%20Health%20and%20Care%20Plan%2016.02.22.pdf>

Job Description

Community and Pastoral Worker

Reports to:	Incumbent and Line Manager.
Liases with:	Parish of St Helier PCC and Church Army Centre of Mission Evangelists.
Base:	Parish of St Helier, London boroughs of Merton and Sutton.
Working hours:	37.5 hours a week (weekly working patterns to be agreed, but to include Sundays).
Remuneration:	£30,000 per annum.

Job Purpose

To join a team of Pioneer Evangelists who are discovering the 'Good News of Jesus' together with the people of the St Helier Estate providing pastoral care and support. This new role is to assist the established services already in place in supporting the community's spiritual, physical and mental wellbeing. In addition, along with the team's support, to pioneer further missional opportunities to meet the diverse needs of the community. The role of the Community and Pastoral Worker will have a focus on families, **with a particular emphasis on ministry with men and boys.**

Objectives:

- To find the most appropriate ways to introduce the Christian faith and nurture it as commitment grows.
- Support the Pioneer Evangelists working in collaboration with local schools, agencies and churches, to create the circumstances in which members of the community, especially those in marginalised groups are enabled and empowered to make holistic improvements to their lives.
- To support current outreach work and develop appropriate and innovative expressions of worshipping communities in response to the needs of members of the community, adults, children and young people; especially those in marginalised groups – in particular men and boys.
- To create a community in which doing, advocating, resourcing and enabling evangelism is a shared way of life.
- To establish a pattern of routine visiting across the parish and to be available to visit community members and their families at times of need.
- To provide occasional administrative and other support as required by the Lead Evangelist/Incumbent.

Responsibilities and tasks:

1. To share 'Good News of Jesus' with the people of the St Helier Estate, finding the most appropriate ways to introduce the Christian faith and nurture it as commitment grows. The role of the Community and Pastoral Worker will have a particular emphasis on ministry with men and boys.

- To become a familiar and trusted presence among children, young people and families on the St Helier Estate.
- Along with the team, continue to awaken the spirituality of adults, children, young people and families in the St Helier Parish by sharing the Christian faith through words and action.
- To create opportunities for 'fresh expressions' of Christian community to form in ways that are appropriate to adults, children, young people and families who have had no previous engagement with church.
- To lead, coordinate and develop groups, discipling people so that their faith deepens and their confidence in expressing it to their peer groups.
- On occasion: to lead worship and speak in the churches of St Helier Parish to inspire evangelism and outreach; to help the team with administration tasks.

2. Working in collaboration with schools, agencies and churches, to create the circumstances in which children, young people and families are empowered and enabled to make holistic improvements to their lives.

- To continue to pursue and develop, alongside the Pioneer Evangelists, good working relationships with local schools, charities and supporting services to seek life-enhancing ways to serve individuals and families.
- In partnership with the team, organise activities which promote physical, social and spiritual health amongst children, young people and their families in the Parish of St Helier.
- In collaboration with the Lead Evangelist and team to continue to develop a vision for mission to children, young people, and families, that complements and extends existing work of local partner agencies.
- To identify, recruit, train and support volunteers so that they can share in and sustain this mission.

3. To support current outreach work and to develop appropriate and innovative expressions of worshipping communities in response to the needs of adults, children, young people and their families. The work

- Developing new expressions of worshipping communities appropriate to those reached on the St Helier estate; with a specific focus on reaching out to boys and men on the estate.
- To support current outreach work taking place within the church.
- Lead age-appropriate faith exploration groups for adults, children and young people who attend activities and groups within the church and find ways to connect them with the spiritual life of the church.
- To build sustainable teams that support vibrant worshipping communities.

4. To create a community in which doing, advocating, resourcing and enabling evangelism is a shared way of life.

- To meet weekly, pray, eat, learn and serve as part of the staff team of the church, with a life of such attractiveness that increasing numbers of local Christians are drawn into the mission of God.
- To inform the line manager on a regular basis of progress and developments, difficulties and risks relating to this mission.
- Work with the line manager to work out a devotional discipline that enables effective ministry, including prayer, Bible study and retreats.
- Model evangelism in a way which inspires others in the wider deanery and diocese to share faith, supporting and mentoring as appropriate.

5. To establish a pattern of routine visiting across the parish and to be available to visit community members and their families at times of significant need.

- To respond to individual needs of members of the community by offering pastoral care/support, in line with safeguarding practices and policies.
- Ensuring time each week is allocated to supporting members of the community with pastoral visits.

Safeguarding: The PCC of the Parish of St Helier of The Church of England is committed to promoting a safe environment and culture for children, young people and vulnerable adults. The individual appointed to this role will be expected to work within the policy and procedures of the relevant safeguarding policies and to attend/complete all required safeguarding training.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Any application for this post needs to include demonstrable evidence of meeting this Person Specification.

E = Essential | D = Desirable

1. Faith and character:

1.1 A committed Christian with a deep, whole-hearted, and secure personal relationship with Jesus (there is a Genuine Occupational Requirement that the post-holder is a committed Christian, fully in agreement with the vision and values of the Parish of St Helier).	E
1.2 Is committed to continual personal growth as a disciple of Jesus, maintaining life-giving patterns of prayer, Bible reading and gathering with God's people.	E
1.3 Passionate about getting alongside families, sharing the good news of Jesus and growing disciples, with a particular focus on men and boys.	E
1.4 Works healthily in teams (both teams they lead and teams they are part of).	E

2. Experience (paid/voluntary):

2.1 Experience of children's and youth work.	E
2.2 Experience of leading and/or supporting teams of volunteers.	E
2.3 Experience of working alongside families.	E
2.4 Experience of working in a church-based setting.	E

3. Skills and knowledge:

3.1 To have a good understanding of safeguarding policies and procedures.	E
3.2 Able to relate well to people of all ages, especially a proven ability to develop relationships of trust with children from both church and non-church backgrounds.	E
3.3 Able to teach children the truths of the Christian faith and to speak of own faith in ways which are engaging, age appropriate, creative and relevant.	E
3.4 Able to teach and encourage adults in the Christian faith.	E
3.5 An effective organiser, able to prioritise tasks, both personally and with colleagues.	E
3.6 Self-motivated with the ability to inspire and motivate others.	E
3.7 Confident in ability to work alone or in a team, taking initiative appropriately.	E
3.8 Able to maintain high levels of confidentiality.	E
3.9 Competent user of IT including Microsoft Office, with ability to create presentations, write reports and provide administrative support.	E
3.10 Ability to work in collaboration with local schools, agencies and churches.	D

3.11 Trauma-informed or willing to attend relevant training	D
3.12 Ability to lead church services or willing to attend relevant training	E

4. Other:

4.1 Live within close proximity (7 miles maximum) of the St Helier Estate.	E
4.2 Willing to attend a pre-employment medical to demonstrate that the post-holder will be fit for work and able to meet the requirements of the role (reasonable adjustments can be considered).	E

MAIN TERMS & CONDITIONS

Remuneration: a salary of £30,000 per annum.

Holidays: 5 weeks (25 days) including up to 6 Sundays, plus Bank Holidays (excluding Good Friday and Christmas Day which can be taken as 'time off in lieu').

Training: there will be the opportunity for the right candidate to engage with training.

as at 26/04/2024 – DL