

VACANCY – PRIEST IN CHARGE
St Cyprian with St James Harehills
St Stephen and St Agnes Burmantofts

The parishes are looking for a priest who will help them explore new models of ministry as they discover opportunities for mission opened up by discussions with other neighbouring parishes. They are parishes earthed within their local communities and both are keen to develop outreach, engaging with local groups, families, schools and organisations. They are open to 'Fresh Expressions' and the use of their buildings in new ways as a tool for mission.

St Cyprian with St James – An inner city parish, with a mixed community (Population 5,446) that is relatively stable. There are some transitory parts due to unemployment, diverse ethnic mix and the social mobility of families. There are significant numbers of Black African (Nigerian, Ghanaian, Somalian), Black Caribbean, Eastern European, Indian and Pakistani communities within the parish. Housing is mainly terraced with a mixture of pre-war, 1950/1960s semi-detached houses and more recent housing developments. There is some retail with flats above. Unemployment is around 30% with those in employment mostly working in manufacturing, retail, health, social care and real estate. There are a number of significant institutions including Meeting Point Café (Methodist owned and run with the support of members of the parish family) but an ecumenical project, and a new medical centre next to the church. As a result of the new medical centre the church has an excellent hall facility that is well used and there are a good number of church sponsored/promoted groups. There is one primary School 'Woodlands Primary' but approaches by the staff team have not been reciprocated.

St Stephen with St Agnes – An Anglican/Baptist LEP. This is an inner city urban priority area (Population 6,983) and falls within the top 10% of the country's indices of deprivation. Parts of the community are well established and stable but others have a shifting population, due in part to employment patterns at St James Hospital (just outside the parish). It is mainly but not exclusively white with a large number of young families; single people and an increasing number of asylum seekers from many nations (92 languages are spoken in the local high school). Housing is mainly terraced or flats with the vicarage being the only detached house in the community. Unemployment is probably twice the Leeds average but those in employment mainly work in retail, local factories/warehouses, and St James Hospital. There are four primary schools, though one is Roman Catholic and also a Local Authority High School. Significant institutions include Sheltered Housing complexes and nursing homes. There is a well used hall next to the church.

Mission – The parishes note significant mission achievements over the past few years and both churches appeared in the Diocesan Advisory Committee's DVD on how to utilise Holy Space for Fresh Expressions. In looking to the future they are keen to grow the number of people coming to Christian faith through outreach into the wider communities, engaging with families and young people, growing together in faith and prayer and in so doing develop new worship opportunities. This will require good stewardship of resources and a priest who is sympathetic to what has already been achieved. There is no lack of enthusiasm or commitment from the congregations but there is a need to harness the vision and strengthen shared ministry.

New Priest – The new priest must be at ease in working within inner city urban priority parishes and not afraid of engaging with the diverse and exciting communities. The parishes are looking for someone who has a living relationship with Christ and is obedient to God's calling, a person of prayer with a deep, stable spiritual life, strong faith and stickability. They will be a team player with the ability to train, lead, delegate and help others reach their potential. They will be keen to further work with young people in the wider parishes and schools. There is currently a NSM part-time Curate and Church Army Evangelist as part of the team together with a retired Church Army Sister with the Bishop's licence to officiate

There is a good vicarage next to St Agnes Church.

It is anticipated that the person appointed will also become chaplain to the Diocesan Office which is a short distance from St Agnes Church

For further details please contact: The Archdeacon of Leeds – 0113 269 0594
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Closing Date 18 November 2009

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