



ASSOCIATE PRIEST

for the parishes of St Mary and St Michael & All Angels, Barnes

Brief Statement of Need

As busy, thriving and active parish churches serving God and his people, St Michael's and St Mary's are in the fortunate position of needing greater capacity to resource our ministry through the appointment of an Associate Priest to help provide pastoral, sacramental, catechetical and liturgical ministry in our parishes. This will, in turn, enable the respective incumbent clergy to focus better on those areas of leadership specific to their roles.

This is a role that we hope enables someone to minister with joy out of the heart of their priestly calling, focusing on those aspects of parish ministry that are amongst the most fulfilling. In return we offer supportive colleagues, friendly and interesting parishioners and excellent administrative and lay-support.

Outline Role Description (across both churches)

- Assisting in the leading of worship across a diverse spectrum of services.
- Upholding and developing our pastoral care and encouraging lay-led pastoral ministry teams.
- A focus on preparing people for and undertaking pastoral offices - especially (but not exclusively) weddings and baptisms.
- Supporting Christian formation and teaching.

The detail and balance of these areas will be determined mutually with the right candidate according to their strengths and gifts, and we would not necessarily expect every candidate to play a major role in all areas. It is hoped that any priest will bring their own unique passions and experience that will enrich our lives as churches.

Specific projects in each church

St Michaels: 'chaplain' to work with the children and families of our planned Children's Choir to be started later this year as a major outreach project.

St Mary's: working alongside individuals in particular need, as identified in the recent Barnes Fund report. Examples would be isolated older people, through local charity FiSH; or the disadvantaged, through the Castelnau Community Centre.

Key terms and conditions

- Full-time role, intended initially for up to 5 years, with 6 month probation period, and review at 3 years.
- the post is funded equally by the two parishes and so without rigid application, time will be spread equally, usually alternating Sundays and other holy days in each church.
- stipend in accordance with Southwark diocesan norm for incumbent-level clergy of 27.8k p.a. (2022 value).
- The successful candidate will be expected to live in their own accommodation and will be paid a housing allowance of £8,931 p.a. in accordance with standard clergy terms and service
- whilst the appointed person would work with both clergy and both would have a supervisory role, the ultimate line-manager would be the Team Rector, reflecting their status within the team.

We are looking for someone who:

- embraces the complementary spiritual and theological traditions of the two parishes. At St Michael's an inclusive church in the catholic tradition with strong sacramental and liturgical emphasis. At St Mary's: a central, inclusive tradition, centred on the Eucharist, with a vital role for music in worship and looking outwards serving the local community.
- has a strong personal faith, nurtured by daily prayer and the eucharist, and an ability to communicate the Christian faith that through lively preaching, prayerful worship and thoughtful teaching as well as by their own life and character.
- has excellent inter-personal skills and a strong understanding of parochial ministry in order to draw people more fully into the life of the church through pastoral encounters of all kinds.
- has a love for people, and is able to build up and support teams, building relationships, recognising talents, encouraging discipleship and lay ministry through sensitive collaboration within the church and across the community.

If you are appointed to this role, it is essential that you:

- maintain your own spiritual growth, particularly by giving time to prayer, study and training.
- take proper care of yourself, allowing adequate time for rest, recreation, family life, and friends.

We offer:

- congregations of all ages who want to worship God, deepen their faith and serve the community and are confident about the Christian faith and the Church of England.
- well-resourced parishes: in terms of finances, volunteers, buildings and administrative support which the appointed clergyperson will be able to utilise.
- churches which are traditional in style, but outward-looking and open-minded with a vision to do new and exciting things both now and in the future.
- supportive clergy, lay colleagues and congregations in a friendly, vibrant and attractive part of south-west London.

The Barnes Team is one benefice that consists of three churches each with their own separate identity, tradition, parish and structures, but united in their desire to serve God and his people in Barnes. This project involves working across two of those parishes reflecting particular shared needs and aspirations, but with the agreement of the whole team.