

**Profile: Half-time (0.5) Priest-in-Charge of Dacre  
with specific oversight Matterdale and Watermillock**

**ULLSWATER MISSION COMMUNITY**



“Every person in Cumbria of all ages and backgrounds will have had an opportunity to discover more of God and God’s purpose for their lives, so that they will discover more of Jesus and the Good News and become followers of Jesus within a Christian community.”



This role offers an exciting new chapter for the three parishes which make up this half-time post and their new Incumbent. After a long period of consultation in the Deanery, the successful candidate will be expected to become the Priest-in-Charge of Watermillock and Matterdale as well as Priest-in-Charge of Dacre, once formal pastoral reorganisation takes place. In the meantime the successful candidate will assume immediately day to day responsibility of Watermillock and Matterdale in terms of worship, business and pastoral care. Delegated authority to run those two churches has been given to the successful candidate applying for the post.

Now that the deployment decisions have been taken, there is a common desire across the Ullswater Mission Community to grow - both numerically and in Christian discipleship. We are all committed to the Diocesan 'God for All' Vision, which is quoted on the front page of this document, along with the recently agreed Vision Refresh.

Each of the parishes have provided a 'snapshot' in this profile of their local areas, the life of the local church, both historically and as it is at present, as well as indicators of their hopes for the future and the qualities needed of their new Priest-in-Charge to realise the 'God For All' vision, both within the local context and across the Ullswater Mission Area.

We have created this post to be enjoyable, with plenty of challenge and rewards. As Priest-in-Charge of this small group, you will have the opportunity for mission and ministry within a variety of existing church contexts in three neighbouring rural parishes, one on the outskirts of Penrith, and two nearer the shores of Ullswater. The largest village (Stainton), with about 1,500 population, is where we expect you to focus most of your missional energy, working alongside the Methodist church there too. You will also be involved in the wider Ullswater Mission Community area as we work together to reach people groups the existing churches are not currently reaching. This means you will also have opportunities to be involved in the formation of Fresh Expressions both within and beyond Stainton and the Dacre group of parishes.

## A welcome from the Penrith Mission Area Leader

### Canon Gary Cregeen

As you read this profile you will discover that there is much to be celebrated and valued in the existing ministries offered by these three churches. The congregations are keen to build on those strengths, and will need support and encouragement in entering this new phase of their ministries, especially, in Dacres case, after over 4 years of interregnum which can breed a sense of 'no-one wants us'. The lay ministry over this time has been excellent, so you will have a good base of lay people to work with.

We are praying that God will provide someone who can fan the various embers back into flame, and help each church develop its distinctive ministry and discover new opportunities for engaging with the community. The parishes are being well served during this vacancy and are in surprisingly good heart. Given the rural nature of these villages it is likely that you will have a good grasp of the joys and challenges of rural ministry, but more importantly that you are someone who discerns how the love and gospel of Jesus Christ can be accessed by more people within the contexts in which you serve. As a key member of the Ullswater Mission Community we will value your wisdom as we develop vision and priorities for the local area and beyond. This is a role for someone who is missionally and pastorally motivated, and who values the benefits of being able to work in a wider team of clergy and lay people, as well as in their own context.

Thank you for reading this Profile and we hope the information will be helpful as you prayerfully consider whether God may be calling you to serve here in the Penrith and Ullswater area.

Should you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me on:  
01768 868786 or [Gary@GandJCregeen.co.uk](mailto:Gary@GandJCregeen.co.uk).

Also, contact details for the Ullswater Mission Community Leader and Archdeacon of Carlisle can be found on the back page of this Profile.



## Ullswater Mission Community

The Diocese of Carlisle remains committed to its God for All vision: 'By 2020 every person in Cumbria of all ages and backgrounds will have an opportunity to discover more of God and God's purpose for their lives, so that they will discover more of Jesus and the Good News and become followers of Jesus within a Christian community'.

The strategy to achieve this is currently under review, but the primary organisational units across the Diocese to achieve this will remain as:

- Ecumenical Mission Communities, each with a Mission Community Leader.
- Existing Churches.
- Development of Fresh Expressions/New/Pioneer Christian communities.

The Ullswater Mission Community is a newly formed Mission Community within the wider Penrith Mission Area (PMA) and is led by the Ven. Morris Rodham. The PMA consists of 48 churches (Anglican, Methodist, URC & Salvation Army), and is led by the PMA Leader, Rev Canon Gary Cregeen.

There are 4 Mission Communities within the Penrith Mission Area:

- Penrith.
- East of Eden.
- Blencathra.
- Ullswater.

Ullswater MC currently consists of:

- 'The Barton Group' (Pooley Bridge, Barton, Martindale).
- 'The Dacre Group' (Blencowe/Dacre/Newbiggin/Stainton, Stainton Methodist Church, Stainton (Fresh Expressions) Cafe Church, Matterdale & Watermillock).
- Patterdale (Anglican/Methodist LEP, includes the villages of Hartsop, Deepdale, Patterdale and Glenridding).

All these church communities are pre-existing, and there is missional scope for developing new outreach and Christian communities in villages and people groups not currently served by an existing church.

The missional priorities for the area are:

- 'Local' population of primarily farming community and hospitality industry. This will include assisting where possible with local affordable housing needs within the area.
- A more elderly retirement home/second home population.
- The very high tourist footfall, concentrated around the various tourist venues and facilities in the Ullswater area.
- Identifying needs and opportunities for the larger population centres (eg Stainton), especially those with schools.

As the God for All Vision has both evangelism and discipleship within a local Christian community at its heart, healthy and vibrant Christian communities will be at the core of the strategy for achieving the 'God for All' vision in the Ullswater Mission Community context. For more details on what 'healthy and vibrant' entails, please contact Ven Morris Rodham on 07774 296652.



All Mission Community Leaders, and all clergy licensed within this area, will be expected to liaise together within the wider Penrith Mission Area to support the PMA Leader and one another in achieving the God for All vision.



## Outline of Role Description

This is a half-time (0.5) stipendiary post, Priest-in-Charge

The core elements of this role are:

- To develop the health and vibrancy of both the existing and emerging churches in the group, so as to be able to fulfil the Diocesan 'God for All' vision. This will include working with clergy, laity and churches beyond the group for a holistic approach to mission, ministry and growth across the wider Ullswater Mission Community and Penrith Mission Area.
- Leadership of the three PCCs (with support from the ministry team).
- Being the main point of contact for pastoral care of these four parishes, with additional pastoral support from within the Mission Community
- Organising Sunday and mid-week services in these villages, in partnership with denominational and ecumenical colleagues and licensed lay ministers.

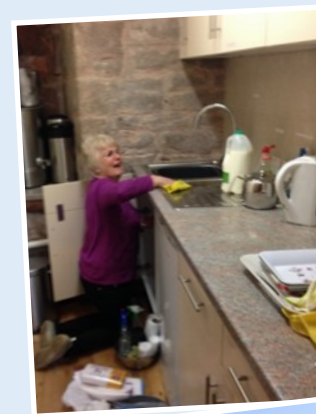
The Vicarage is an excellent property in Stainton with easy access to all the villages and to the market town of Penrith, which lies at the heart of Cumbria.



## Person Specification

### You will have:

- A love for Jesus Christ and the flourishing of His church.
- A heart for mission and pastoral ministry in village and tourist contexts, and a passion to see rural churches fulfil the 'God for All' vision. This will be evidenced by previous experience of church health and growth, and leading people to faith in Christ.
- The ability to inspire, and harness the good-will, abilities and skills of capable lay people.
- Confidence in the Christian faith and gospel, and in preaching with clarity and conviction.
- An ability to lead worship in both traditional and emerging contexts.
- Self-motivated, and able to work on their own, as well as in partnership with others.



# Housing

## 12 Keld Close, Stainton, Penrith

Built just over 20 years ago, the comfortable four bed roomed vicarage is in a small cul de sac in a welcoming modern development in the heart of Stainton village. There is a private and easy to maintain garden to the rear.



The substantial, modern house has oil fired central heating and double glazing, making it economical to run. It comprises: entrance hall, cloakroom, living room, dining room, study, kitchen and utility room. There are four bedrooms with en-suite shower room to the master bedroom, and a house bathroom. Outside there is off

road parking for several cars to the front and a garage

## CURRENT SUNDAY WORSHIP PATTERN

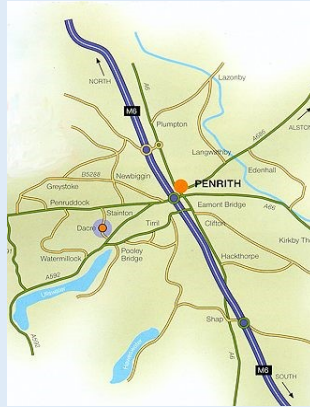
SUNDAY	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
St Andrew's Dacre 9.30 am	Holy Communion (CW)	Morning Prayer (BCP) or Morning Worship	Holy Communion (BCP)	Family Communion	Holy Communion (CW)
Stainton Primary School 10 am	No Service	Café Church	No Service	No Service	No Service
Matterdale Church 8.15 am	No Service	Holy Communion (CW)	No Service	Holy Communion (CW)	No Service
All Saint's Watermillock 11 am	No Service	Holy Communion (CW)	No Service	Morning Worship (CW)	No Service



# St Andrew's, Dacre

## Background

St Andrew's, Dacre, nestles among the hills of the Lake District National Park, a World Heritage Site, only five miles from the M6 and close to the A66 trans-Pennine route. London is just over 3 hours away by rail. Mentioned by Bede in his Ecclesiastical History of 698 AD, St Andrew's is a historic church which currently serves Stainton and three smaller villages. We have a loyal and friendly congregation. We have been somewhat self-sufficient over the years, so being linked with the other villages in the group, and the wider Ullswater Mission Community, will be an interesting new phase for us, but one which we are looking forward to. The parish is in a very picturesque part of Cumbria, stretching from the outskirts of the market town of Penrith in the east, to the shores of Lake Ullswater.



The Lake District offers unrivalled opportunity for all sorts of outdoor pursuits from hill walking, sailing and climbing to the peaceful contemplation of nature. A wide range of cultural activities is also available locally. The busy market town of Penrith is only five miles away, offering excellent facilities. [www.visitcumbria.com/pen/penrith.htm](http://www.visitcumbria.com/pen/penrith.htm)

## The People

Members of the church actively serve in a variety of ways, including leading services, preaching, acting as sidespeople, readers, sacristan and chalice administrators, cleaning, arranging flowers, playing the organ, maintaining the churchyard, organising building repairs, opening and closing the church, being school governors, organising social events, making kneelers, maintaining the website and providing administrative support.

The Local Lay Minister (Gordon Dugmore) offers home communion, leads Morning Prayer and undertakes parish visiting. There are strong links with the local Methodist Church with joint events, including a monthly prayer meeting, a Good Friday Walk of Witness, Community Caroling and a shared

Carol Service, and Christingle. There is also a monthly Cafe Church in Stainton School which is a joint venture with the Methodist Church. The congregation at Dacre is very loyal and there are 67 people on the electoral roll. Around 90% of the regular congregation at Dacre is retired, whereas 90% of the Café Church congregation is made up of families. The Usual Sunday attendance is around 30 adults, but this rises to around 250 for services over Christmas or 90 at Easter. Wedding couples and families whose children have been baptised swell the numbers for special services. The parish operates an open and encouraging policy on baptism and marriage, which includes the possible re-marriage of divorcees. Baptisms are arranged either during morning services, or at other times, by mutual agreement with the Incumbent and family involved. Confirmation classes are offered to young people from Year 6 onwards, and to adults. Over the last five years there have been, on average, 3 baptisms, 4 weddings & 5 funerals annually.



The Social Committee is very active and the Harvest Supper, Summer Safari Supper and Brass Band Evening are established events which attract around ninety people from the parish, giving a good opportunity for outreach. Each Spring a special "Marmalade Service" with an international congregation, as part of the Marmalade Festival.

## The School

Stainton Church of England School has 147 pupils aged between 3 and 11. It is a very popular school, drawing children from a wide area. *OFSTED stated in 2019 that it is a Good school in all categories. The 2019 SIAMS report judged the school as Excellent and one which "motivates and inspires all pupils to make excellent progress academically and spiritually".* The head teacher is a member of the PCC, and maintains good links with the church. We would expect our new incumbent taking an active role in school life, alongside our ecumenical partners. <http://www.stainton.cumbria.sch.uk>

## St Andrew's Church: The Building

There has been continuous Christian worship in this much loved and beautiful church since the 7<sup>th</sup> century. The existing 12th Century Church, a Grade 1 listed building, is believed to occupy the site of an Anglo-Saxon monastery. The Church contains many artefacts of great historical interest and attracts a significant number of visitors each year.



The church comfortably seats 120 people, but can accommodate up to 200 for big services such as the Christingle. It is open from dawn to dusk every day of the year and guided tours are offered to groups.



While recognising the building's history the congregation are keen to ensure it remains accessible and welcoming, both in the present and in the future. A pipe organ was added in 2001 and kitchen and toilet facilities were installed a few years later enabling us to serve coffee every week after the Sunday service as well as offer hospitality on other occasions.



## The Future

Building on St Andrew's long past but looking firmly to the future, we hope our new incumbent will help us to:

- Understand and live out the good news of the Gospel
- Reach out to the community
- Encourage growth in discipleship
- Extend a warm welcome to visitors and newcomers
- Nurture the spiritual growth of the existing congregation
- Continue and extend ecumenical working across the Mission Community

**As we look forward to the future, in partnership with the parishes of Matterdale and Watermillock, and the wider ecumenical Ullswater Mission Community, we prayerfully seek someone...**

who will be a prayerful and spiritual leader at ease and fulfilled in this "middle of the road" rural church with its mainstream Church of England liturgies, as well as more modern expressions like café church.

who is warm, compassionate and approachable, and keen to become a valued part of the church and wider parish community;

An excellent communicator;

who will reach out to young people and families, especially in our church school;

who understands and enjoys the joys and challenges of rural ministry and working ecumenically.

We don't expect the new Priest-in-Charge to do everything single-handedly. We are a small community but we have a large pool of people with dedication and talent who contribute to all aspects of church life.

## Tourism

Outreach to tourists and visitors has been identified as a priority across the Ullswater Mission Community and tourism features strongly in Dacre Parish. There are four caravan parks, and it's a popular location for holiday-home ownership. The historic house of Dalemain and its estate are within the parish and its owners, Mr and Mrs Hasell-McCosh, are very involved in the life and work of St Andrew's, where Mr Hasell-McCosh is the lay rector.

For further information about St Andrew's, Dacre, please visit:  
**[www.dacrechurch.com](http://www.dacrechurch.com)**



## Matterdale

### Background

The Parish is in a broad valley west of Ullswater, surrounded by high fells and consists of scattered farms and houses with three small hamlets the largest being Dockray. Matterdale Church lies at the heart of is Matterdale, midway between the communities of Dockray, Matterdale End & Ulcatrow. The parish has been previously linked with a variety of churches so we are used to being in different groupings.



### The People

The population of the valley is about 200 and the electoral role of the church is 27. The simple fell-side church is held in fond affection by the community and visitors alike. Many of our residents do not regularly attend Sunday Church services but support the church in many ways. The active Matterdale Community Association fully supports church activities particularly at festivals such as Christmas and Easter.

The current worshipping community appreciates its heritage and tradition, acknowledging those who over many years have faithfully and prayerfully maintained a visible Christian presence in the valley, but is forward looking and welcomes new approaches to worship and mission. Church members fully participate in Sunday services in taking readings, prayers and more recently sermons but recognise and desire the leadership, spiritual support and guidance of an ordained priest.

### Matterdale Church: The Building

The church dates from 1573 with the original roof timbers still in place. It has no formal dedication but was deemed to have been hallowed by the the “reading of the word and the prayers of the faithful”. The interior is very simple with one stained glass window. The building seats approximately 90 people in traditional pews. It contains the original font, probably 17<sup>th</sup> century, and the Greystoke font, probably Norman, given to

Matterdale in 1705. It contains fine oak furnishings, including the 17<sup>th</sup> century communion rails, a two-decker pulpit and Parish clerk’s seat.

The small tower was built in 1848 and at the same time the thatched roof was replaced by the pre-

sent slate roof. The original graveyard was closed in 1935 and is now the responsibility of Eden District Council. There is a new graveyard almost adjacent. The church has a good pipe organ with a regular organist. The church is always kept open and visitors are encouraged to leave prayer requests and to revel in the peace and sanctuary of a very special place.

A small meeting room alongside the church was completed in February 2006. Coffee is served in the meeting room after Sunday services. Regular attendance is approximately 10 but this increases in summer with visitors and swells to over 50 at special festivals when the local community comes together.

### The Future

The PCC are committed to maintaining a centre of worship in Matterdale and our ambition is to bring more people into the community of the Church, not necessarily in attending traditional services but by joining in worship through works and community activities in the spirit of Jesus Christ. We are seeking a Priest who is able to inspire, enabling the Church to grow embracing the sentiments recorded almost 450 years ago (1573). Matterdale Church will be a Christian community led by a priest who engages the church in prayer, teaches the word of God faithfully and who encourages Christ's Good News to be shared within the wider community.





## All Saints Church, Watermillock

### Background

The ecclesiastical parish of All Saints, Watermillock, lies between the northern shores of Ullswater and the Lakeland fells. About 400 people live in this scattered rural community. Those working are largely involved in agriculture and tourism. Many of the properties of the parish are now second homes. Most full-time residents are older folk: many widowed or retired.

However, particularly in high summer, **the area** throngs with visitors. Most stay on one of three static caravan sites, in self-catering cottages, second homes, hotels, guest houses and B & B's. There are two large high-quality hotels with lakeshore access, both popular for wedding receptions, and an inn with lake view terrace, bar and rooms.

The Village Hall, which is not church owned, is half a mile away on the same road as the church and is used for art displays, WI meetings, cinema presentations and occasional drama group performances as well as for regular meetings of various community groups. The parish has been linked with various groupings of churches over the years.

### All Saint's Church: The Building & The People

All Saints Church occupies a prime position in the top of the village with superb views over the lake and area. The building is surrounded by a well-tended graveyard. The short access lane to the church provides an area for car parking. The church building was consecrated in 1881.

The church building has undergone internal up-grading in recent years and now has heating provided by a modern biomass boiler, effective lighting and an audio system with hearing loop. The entrance area of the church has been adapted to create a Unisex accessible toilet and an adjacent small fully fitted kitchen equipped with a Quooker for the serving of after-service refreshments.

Music is provided by a pipe organ or via the audio system. Two members of the church act as regular organists. *Anglican Hymns Old and New* is used.

Considerable work is needed to the tower structure but, thanks largely to a recent legacy, the funds available for this are likely to cover the cost. The church is accessible for wheelchair users and by mobility scooter from the car park area and has accessible toilet facilities.

### Common Worship Holy Communion

**services** take place once a month, on the second Sunday, with a **Service of the Word** on the fourth Sunday.

Clergy are expected to be robed for services. Many who holiday locally return to services in the church every year. We are keen to engage with the Ullswater Mission Communities desire to reach the many tourists and visitors to the area in mission

and ministry. About 120 can be seated in the church and Bibles are available in all pews and are regularly used in services. Some years ago, the PCC decided that clergy should not be required to robe.

There are 26 on the **electoral roll**, 20 of whom live in the parish and 13 attend regularly, and the average number attending services is around 20. Numbers are swollen in the holiday season and at Festivals. There is a warm tradition of welcoming visitors; coffee etc. is served in church after each service.

There are no **schools** in the parish; local children attend Patterdale, Penruddock or Stainton C of E primary schools in the neighbouring parishes or travel to Yanwath; secondary schools are all based in Penrith. Currently there are no children regularly attending the services and there is scope to engage with children, both local and visitors, for a Priest-in-Charge who has the gifting and character to engage with young families.

**All Saints PCC** currently comprises 2 people but currently there are no churchwardens or secretary. The PCC treasurer is also the treasurer of St Andrew's Dacre, the adjoining parish. The Church Safeguarding Policy is displayed in the porch. The PCC has always paid its parish offering on time and has met the requested diocesan rise each year. By PCC resolution, either male or female ministry is acceptable. The previous incumbent adopted an open approach to requests for baptism and marriage, including re-marriage of divorcees. The church's deeply held desire is to continue to support the loyal regular congregation, to welcome its summer visitors and to be agents of sharing the Gospel both within church services and through relationships in the local community.



## Meet the Ullswater Mission Community Steering Group...

### Gary Cregeen, Penrith Mission Area Leader



Gary was appointed to oversee the 'God for All' vision across 48 churches ecumenically, in June 2019. Cumbrian 'born and bred' he hails from Whitehaven in West Cumbria. After eighteen years working in industry and local government he was ordained and has served in rural and urban parishes in Cumbria. Gary is married to Julie, a Senior Teaching Assistant.

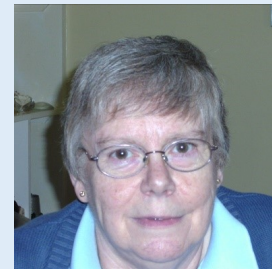


**Steve Huddart.** Steve has been a member of Dacre Church for over 30 years, since moving to the Parish with his wife, Sue, and family, to work in local government. During those years they have served on the PCC, where he is also the PCC Secretary and the Electoral Roll Officer. Since 2008, Steve has co-ordinated the Parish Offerings across Penrith Deanery and served on a number of steering groups who have sought to implement the God for All initiative and help establish Mission Communities across the west of Penrith."

### Morris Rodham, Ullswater Mission Community Leader



Morris was Licensed as the House for Duty Priest-in-Charge of Patterdale in June 2019, after serving as the Archdeacon Missioner in the Diocese of Coventry. Previously he was a vicar in a multi-cultural area of Leamington. He loves the mountains, and has very much enjoyed being part of the Steering Group thinking towards the new Ullswater Mission Community and the missional potential here. He is married to Judith, a nursery/reception teacher.



**Kathleen Williamson** Kathleen was born and brought up in the North East of England and then studied at Edinburgh University. She was a computer programmer for many years firstly on Teesside and then in Penrith and Carlisle, before retiring (early!) 8 years ago. She belongs to Stainton Methodist Church and is their treasurer. She became a Methodist Local Preacher in 2011 after a number of years training in her spare time. She has been very involved in guiding for many years and is currently a member of the Trefoil guild.



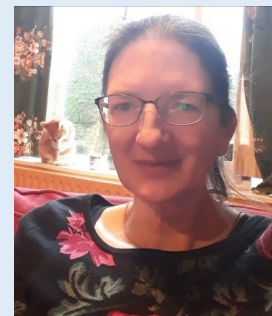
**Tim Cooke** Tim became a Methodist minister 5 years ago, having spent 35 years in the Motor Industry. Originally from Somerset, he and his family moved to the North 25 years ago, and he is now one of the ministers at Penrith Methodist Church, and assists many other churches ecumenically across the area. He is married to Tracey and they have 3 children. Tim and Tracey very much work as a team. Their passion is to spread God's love to our local communities - enabling people to both encounter and grow in their relationship with God'.



**Alan Wright.** Originating from a Christian family in Sale, Cheshire, Alan subsequently came to personal faith at university in Birmingham. After marriage to Veronica he went on to nearly 40 years' service in secondary education in Birmingham, Newcastle upon Tyne and Bolton with deep church involvement in each location. Following 20 years as churchwarden and lay reader in a growing church in Bolton, retirement in 2002 brought them to Pooley Bridge.



**Gordon Dugmore** Gordon and his wife Ann moved to the Lake District eleven years ago following retirement, and they are both very involved with the local communities of Newbiggin and Dacre. Gordon was a Churchwarden at Dacre for nine years until stepping down in 2019. Since 2015 he has been a Local Lay Minister in Dacre parish. His ministry has centred on pastoral care and leading services in his local community and, recently, more widely in the Mission Community.



**Katy McConkey** Katy is a wife, mum to three grown kids and a local GP. She and her family worked in Sudan for many years. She is a member of the Barton group of churches.

The post **Priest-in-Charge of the Parishes of Dacre, Matterdale & Watermillock** will be leading and mentoring Christian leaders and churches. It is therefore an Occupational Requirement (Schedule 9 part 1 of the Equality Act 2010) of this post to have a committed Christian faith.

For more information please contact either:

The Archdeacon of Carlisle, Ven. Lee Townend  
(01768 885587 or [archdeacon.north@carlisle-diocese.org.uk](mailto:archdeacon.north@carlisle-diocese.org.uk) )

Or The Penrith Mission Area Leader, Canon Gary Cregeen  
(01768 868786 or [Gary@GandJCregeen.co.uk](mailto:Gary@GandJCregeen.co.uk) )

Or The Ullswater Mission Community Leader, Ven. Morris Rodham  
( 017684 82209 or [vicar.patterdale@gmail.com](mailto:vicar.patterdale@gmail.com) )

Please send completed application forms to: Email: [archdeacon.north@carlisle-diocese.org.uk](mailto:archdeacon.north@carlisle-diocese.org.uk)

The deadline for applications is noon, Wednesday 17 March 2021

Interviews will be held on Monday 19 April 2021

Enhanced DBS disclosure is required for this post.

