



# St. Aidan's

CUMBRIA

## ASSOCIATE PRIEST PROFILE



Good Friday with Binsey Mission Community at St. James' Uldale

# WHO ARE WE?



The 3PM at Bridekirk

At St. Aidan's, we exist to see God's Kingdom come in Cumbria as it is in heaven, and we're on a mission to play our part as we learn to follow Jesus, build Christian communities, and contend for regional renewal. We believe God is powerfully at work throughout Cumbria and are excited to play a part in His unfolding story.

We are a growing community that's alive with faith, love, and expectation. We are passionately charismatic, expectant for the work of God's Spirit amongst us, and anchored in the Word of God and the historic Christian faith. Our goal is to see lives changed, God's people step into their calling, and communities transformed by the love and power of Jesus as we play our part in God's Kingdom coming.

We're going after all of this committed to seeing all ages step into what God has for them. Whether it's kids, youth, or adults, we believe everyone has a role to play in the mission of God, and we're intentional about equipping all generations to lead.

We are a relatively new church plant, starting public worship in September 2024, and called to serve across the towns, villages and communities of the Derwent Deanery, with our church family made up of people from across this region. We're passionate about being a place where God's people gather as church, but are then scattered back out into our local contexts as disciples joining God on mission.

In order to see God's Kingdom come, we're committed to partnering with other local churches, releasing disciples to serve wherever God calls, and contributing to a movement of church planting in Cumbria.

# OUR VALUES

As we've begun on this journey, we have been guided by five key values:

## **GATHERED TO SCATTER**

We believe in the value of gathering together regularly to encourage one another, tell stories of God's goodness and encounter God together. However, these gatherings are not our end goal, and we gather to be scattered back out into the world as salt and light to our communities.

## **WORD AND SPIRIT**

We are dependent upon the power and presence of God's Spirit to guide and empower us in living for Jesus. As we go, we are confident that God is and has spoken to us through his Word, which we trust as God's good and loving words to us.

## **KINGDOM GENEROSITY**

We are not about building an empire, but God's Kingdom. To that end, we want to be defined as a community of generosity who joyfully give away the abundance we have received from God to bless those around us, in and outside the church, with our time, expertise and resources.

## **CREATIVE HOPE**

We are convinced that God has a plan for Cumbria and is already on the move to see it come to fruition. For that reason, we will courageously and creatively try new things as God leads us, trusting that He is working to bring about His kingdom.

## **INTERGENERATIONAL COMMUNITY**

The good news about Jesus is for people of every age. We want to be a community where children, young people, and adults all worship, grow, and serve together. We believe that every generation has a part to play in following Jesus and shaping his church.

# THE AREA



St. Aidan's Cumbria is a BMO (*Bishop's Mission Order*) based in the beautiful Derwent Deanery, which stretches across the market towns of Keswick and Cockermouth, and the many rural villages and communities that surround them. The deanery includes three Mission Communities: Binsey, Grasmoor and Keswick.

The area offers a wonderful backdrop for family life, outdoor adventures, and ministry opportunities. While Cumbria is known for its rural beauty, we believe God is stirring something exciting and new in these communities. With a population of 27,500 in the deanery, there are countless opportunities for mission and outreach, particularly among the many children and young families.



# WHAT WE DO

Our main gathering is The 3PM, which we currently host at St. Bridget's Bridekirk. We belong to the Charismatic Evangelical tradition of the church, and offer an informal and encounter-focussed time of worship, teaching, age-specific groups and community for all ages.

Beyond Sunday, we're working to strategically and sustainably establish our mission and ministry to the communities we serve. So far, that's involved holding Men's, Women's and church-wide socials, running Alpha and more. We are also launching Scattered Groups, which are smaller groups that meet midweek to support one another and engage with local mission.

We're also engaged in a wide range of ministry to 0-18s, including our Midweek Youth group, school assemblies and Christian Unions, and Family Prayer events. We're in an exciting period of growth and pioneering, and are combining this with supporting and resourcing other local churches and ministries.



# THE ROLE

St. Aidan's Cumbria is seeking an **Associate Priest (Second Curacy)** to join us at a significant and formative stage in our life as a church plant. This role is rooted in our vision for mission, formation, and church planting across Cumbria.

As an Associate Pastor at St. Aidan's, you will play a key role in our leadership team, supporting the Church Leader in providing oversight to our vision and strategy. You'll play an active role in our Sunday services, and take on additional areas of responsibility based on your particular gifts and interests and the needs of St. Aidan's. These could include evangelism, social justice, our Scattered Groups ministry, prayer, or another key area we want to develop at St. Aidan's.

In addition, you will undertake a distinctive second curacy focused on church planting. This role is for a priest who senses a clear calling and gifting for planting, and who desires a further season of formation and equipping within a pioneering context before being released to plant.

In this Associate Priest role, you will follow a structured, specialist pathway, combining relevant elements of the diocesan IME programme with bespoke training and development focused on the competencies required for planting and leading new worshipping communities.



# VISION FOR GROWTH AND CHURCH PLANTING

St. Aidan's is part of the Diocese of Carlisle's vision to see 100 new churches planted by 2030. As such, we are looking for someone who is ready to embrace this vision and play an active role in church planting.

Throughout your time with us, you will be supported, trained, and empowered to launch a new congregation, either within our local area or elsewhere in the diocese.

You'll do this not only as part of our church community, but in an exciting county-wide group of relationships that we're building with churches and ministries from within the Church of England and beyond. In these communities you'll have a chance to pray, dream and work together for God's Kingdom to come.

We want to see you flourish as a follower of Jesus, a leader and church planter, fully equipped to pioneer in whatever way God leads.



# SUPPORTING YOU

At St. Aidan's, we are committed to supporting you in your journey toward leadership and church planting. We will:

- **Pray with and for you regularly:** Our leadership and congregation will lift you up in prayer, offering spiritual support as you grow in your ministry.
- **Provide a collaborative team environment:** You'll be part of a supportive and dynamic leadership team, working alongside experienced leaders who will mentor you and encourage your development.
- **Offer space for personal growth:** We encourage regular times for personal retreat, prayer, and spiritual direction, recognising the importance of your own spiritual health in your leadership journey.
- **Create opportunities for training:** We'll help you identify and access training opportunities that align with your ministry goals, and we'll fund these to ensure you are well-equipped for the challenges of ministry and church planting.
- **Support your personal development:** We will explore with you the best ways to grow as a leader, offering feedback, encouragement, and resources to help you thrive in your curacy and beyond.



# OUR STAFF TEAM

“ ”

“I have led St. Aidan's since it launched in 2023. Before that, I was a Curate at Greyfriars Church Reading, a Worship Pastor at Christ Church Surbiton, and trained for ordination at St. Mellitus College.

My passion is to see people encounter the goodness of God through the gospel of Jesus Christ by the power of the Spirit. I enjoy seeing others encouraged and released into the things that God is calling them to, and so working with me you'll be supported as you grow as a disciple of Jesus and minister in his church. I also thrive in a creative and collaborative environment, so at St. Aidan's you'll be a part of a prayerful, hope-filled, and mission-focussed Leadership Team.

I'm married to Steph and we have a five-year-old daughter and a newborn son. We enjoy time out and about in our local area, taking advantage of the fells, Wildlife Park, cafes and all that Cumbria has to offer.”

Vicar | **JOHN FREEMAN**



**STEVE WESTON**

Kids, Youth and Families Pastor

*As well as helping with the leadership of the church, Steve oversees our work with 0-18s and their families.*

# WHAT WE ARE SEEKING

We are looking for someone who:

- Loves Jesus and wants to prioritise following him with their whole heart
- Has a heart for mission and is ready to step out in faith to see new disciples made.
- Embraces the charismatic and evangelical traditions and is passionate about seeing God move in power today.
- Is excited about the vision of St. Aidan's and ready to minister within this context.
- Is eager to develop our church-planting ministry, in line with St. Aidan's vision and strategy.
- Is a team player, able to inspire and equip others for ministry.



