October 2024

**Rector of the Chet Valley benefice**

Dear colleague,

Thank you for showing interest in the parishes of the Chet Valley benefice. There is so much to commend the benefice as an excellent place to minister. My own experience of worshipping with them has been to note the openness to try new things, to encourage children and young people in faith and to see friendships within the congregation that is heartwarming.

Centred on a beautiful part of the Diocese, it is a wonderful place to live and work and would be a great place to thrive in ministry.

The Diocese is at an interesting and exciting point with a new vision emerging under a still relatively new diocesan bishop, and two new suffragan Bishops.

We would love to hear from you if you feel that God might be calling you to this new role in this beautiful part of the county, or if you have questions about this role.

**Diocese and Deanery**

Under the leadership of the Bishop of Norwich, the Rt Revd Graham Usher, a vision is emerging for the Diocese – *Transformed by Christ: Prayerfully, Pastorally and Prophetically*. Work is currently underway on the strategies that will help us live out and deliver this vision.

Bishop Graham has written an Ethos and Culture Statement which gives details of our structures and the character of the Diocese. This accompanies this advert.

The Chet Valley beneficefalls within the Archdeaconry of Norfolk, and so under the care of the Bishop of Thetford (The Rt Revd Ian Bishop) and the Archdeacon of Norfolk (The Venerable Steven Betts). The benefice is in the Loddon deanery, with a Rural Dean, the Revd Rob Baker. There are 5 posts of incumbent status in the Deanery, along with 2 Assistant Curates, 2 Assistant Priests and 1 OLM Curate. There is also 1 Licensed Lay Minister (Reader), 1 Authorised Worship Assistant and a number of PTO clergy.

Attendance at Deanery Synod and Chapter is an expectation, and all diocesan clergy are encouraged to give some part of their time and energies to the wider life of the Diocese. A detached, 4-bedroomed rectory is provided in Loddon and is described more fully in the Benefice Profile.

**Enquiries, Applications and Interviews**

An application form can be downloaded either from Pathways ([Diocese of Norwich Jobs | Pathways (churchofengland.org)](https://pathways.churchofengland.org/search/category-diocese-of-norwich/page-1) or from our Diocesan website at [Vacancies - Diocese of Norwich](https://www.dioceseofnorwich.org/about/about-vacancies/?e-filter-342006e-job_category=clerical).

The form, after we have removed the confidential declarations for safeguarding and other purposes will be forwarded to the Patron(s) if appropriate. The closing date for applications is 14th November at 11.59PM, with interviews to be held on5th December. Any priest wanting an informal discussion before deciding whether to apply is welcome to be in touch by telephone or e-mail with me.

Yours faithfully,



**The Rt Revd Ian Bishop**

Bishop of Thetford