

St Mark's

HARROGATE



YOUTH PASTOR

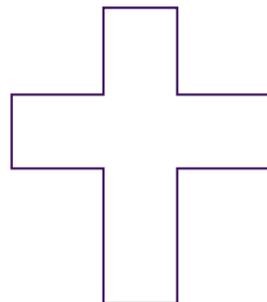
Hello!

St. Mark's in Harrogate are seeking an experienced youth pastor with a **passion** to see young people encounter God and **grow** in **relationship** with Him.

We are looking for a **prayerful, inspirational** person who will build on the ministry which has developed here over a number of years and find ways of engaging the hundreds of children we have attending on a Sunday and fold them into the Youth Ministry.

The restrictions and results of COVID-19 have raised challenges, as they have for so many church communities, but we feel there are exciting opportunities for mission and discipleship growing out of this period too – particularly in relation to young people.

The role also includes the opportunity to help develop a Youth Congregation to equip and enable our Young People discover ways of **connecting** with God.



Contents

4

Job Specification

6

Job Context

8-11

Person Specification

12

Our Commitment

14

Further Information

16

How to Apply

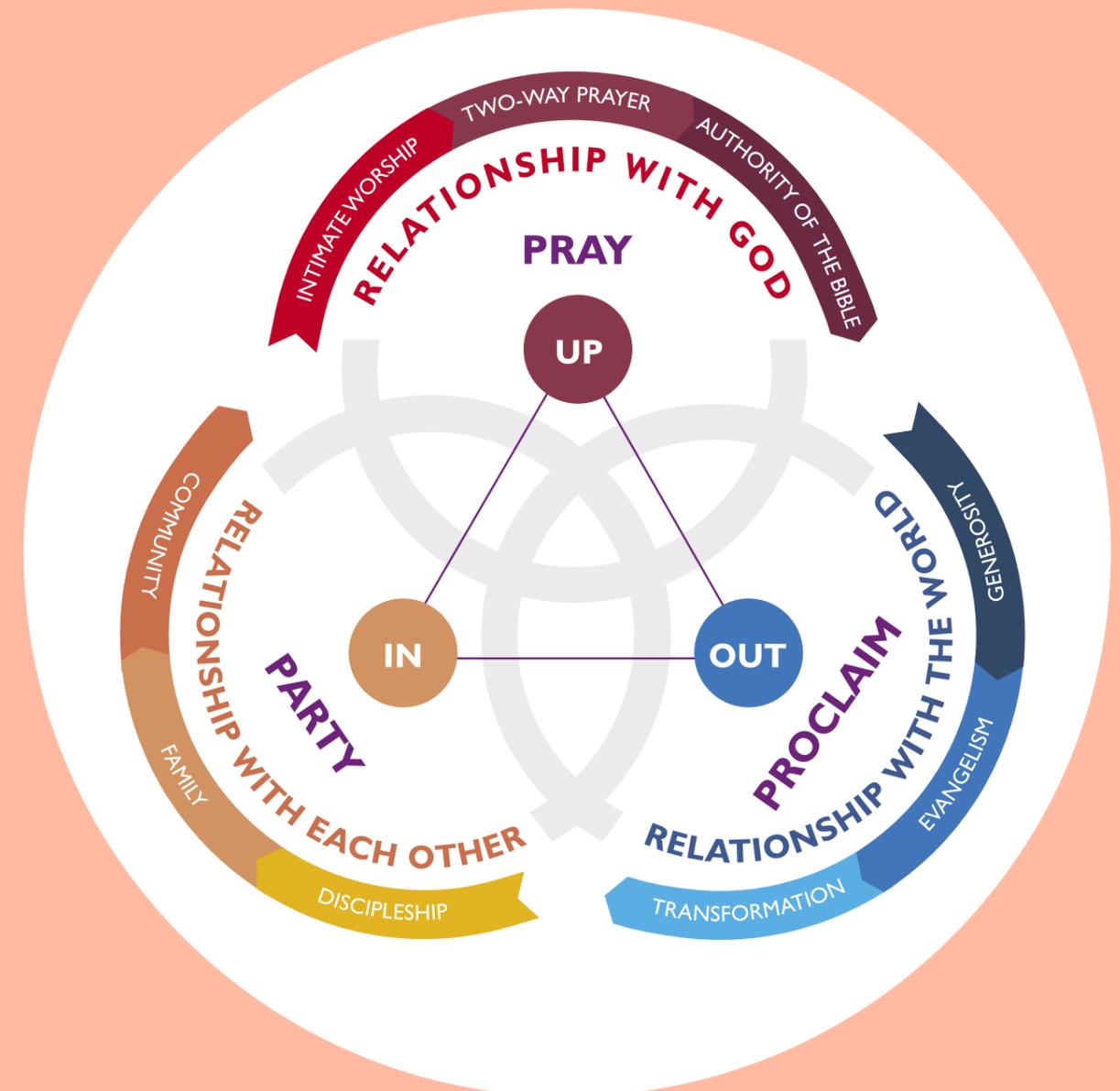


Job Specification

Job Title	Youth Pastor
Reports to:	Vicar and PCC
Work pattern/hours:	Part time 20 hours
Role type:	Permanent
Probationary period:	6 months
DBS check:	The appointment is subject to the individual obtaining Enhanced with Barred Lists Disclosure from the Disclosure & Barring Service Special Conditions.
The role holder must:	Be available to work at key church events and services, which could include Christmas and Easter services. Actively attend and be involved in the life of St. Mark's church. Attend meetings as required including prayer and staff meetings. There is an occupational requirement that the post holder is a committed Christian by conviction and practice in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 9 of the Equality Act 2010.
Pension:	3% employer contribution. 5% (before tax relief) employee contribution.
Annual leave:	25 days plus Bank Holidays, including at least 3 Sundays per year (maximum of 5 Sundays) pro rata
Salary:	£15,000

St. Mark's is a thriving Anglican church in Harrogate, North Yorkshire. As well as our youth and children's ministries we run weekly small groups, The Alpha Course, The Pre-Marriage and Marriage Courses, Parenting Courses, as well as a meeting place for others in the week. You can get a feel for who we are by exploring our website and watching our YouTube channel. We hold our values as important action points.

Our church values are based around **UP, IN, OUT**. To help us keep the balance of our relationship to God, one another and the world around us.



Job Context

Our children's work has for many years attracted hundreds of Primary School children but we sometimes struggle to see them stay on into our Youth Ministry. We are looking for someone who focuses on keeping those children from leaving the church, discipling them so that they are equipped and enabled to discover their own ministries and start using them in the church. We have a group of committed volunteers from within our church family. As a church we believe God is calling us to disciple the next generation.



Are you excited at the prospect of helping us to achieve this calling?

A core focus of the role will be the transition from children's group to youth group and continuing to disciple our young people throughout their teenage years. It is also vital that the youth programme is integrated into other areas of church life

enabling young people to use their gifts and inspire others (young and old). By working with children's ministry leaders we see great potential in the transition of older children into youth ministry. We currently have registered over 140 young people in school years 4-6 and we wish to continue supporting as many as possible in their walk with Jesus.

We are looking for candidates who can bring fresh thinking and ideas whilst also support our lay volunteers and leaders. Keeping up to date with current resources, initiatives and communicating to adults will also be a key requirement. You would join the Staff Team of St. Mark's and will find support and encouragement from them and would recommend using the church building as your work base, so we can work alongside each other.



What we want our youth pastor to do?

The following objectives are based on our vision for when a full time youth pastor role is established. We appreciate not all the below will be achievable in part time hours.

To develop and lead the ethos, vision and strategy for the church's engagement with the young people, in partnership with the church's leadership.

To oversee, lead and develop outreach to young people in the church and other activities with age appropriate and engaging ways of introducing them to Jesus.

To oversee, lead and develop discipleship, growth and development of young people at St. Mark's church through the Sunday morning and mid-week programme and other activities. Our hope is to help young people take their place as full serving members of the local church and equip them to do this.

To provide pastoral care for the young people in the church, observing safeguarding best practice at all times.

To identify, recruit, nurture and support the volunteer team, keeping up to date with resources and initiatives to implement with the team.

To encourage young people to step into leadership.

To communicate the youth programme to young people, their families and the wider congregation in ways that are clear, relevant and accessible to them, including social media, and to the church leadership.

To ensure that policies and procedures are carried out and that safeguarding is paramount.

- Being visible, accessible and approachable for both young people and their parents.

- Available to young people in Harrogate outside of normal youth group sessions in emergency situations.

- Being part of St Mark's worshipping community and attending services.

- Investigate how to develop a space for young people to worship God.

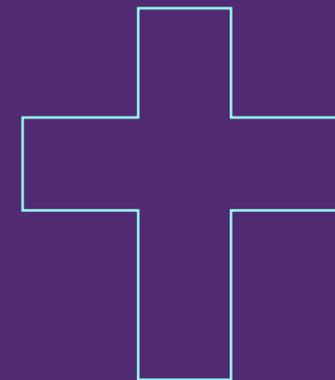
- Be available to assist the Vicar if necessary.

- Support other ministries in the life of the church where necessary, including school assemblies.

- Help parents to disciple their children.

- Engage and work with the Harrogate Hub and youth leaders in our town as appropriate.

- Undertake any other duties that may reasonably be required of this post holder.



The person we are seeking

Person Specification

- +A minimum of GCSE-level education.
- +A qualification in youth work or relevant experience.
- +A full UK driving licence would be an advantage but not essential.
- +A sound knowledge of the Bible, and experience in teaching it to others.
- +Proficiency in social media applications, good IT skills including a working knowledge of Microsoft Office or Apple alternatives.
- +An understanding of Church of England Safeguarding procedures.
- +Experience in planning, organising, leading and teaching activities for young people.
- +Experience of leading and working within teams in a church setting.
- +Experience of leadership responsibilities with youth in a church setting.

Skills

- Strong communication skills using a variety of forms.
- Good organisational and administrative skills.
- Highly relational and approachable to all age groups.
- Capable of presenting ideas and messages confidently and effectively to groups, parents, volunteers and the whole church family.
- Innovative and creative.
- A self-starter, able to motivate themselves and others.
- Experience of managing a budget.

Personal Qualities

- A committed Christian with a mature faith,
- Prayerful and open to the leading of the Holy Spirit.
- Pastorally sensitive in ministering to young people and their families.
- Committed to their own spiritual and personal development through engaging in appropriate training, retreats, spiritual disciplines and reading.
- Self-aware – able to identify and use their strengths to the full; knowing their weaknesses and being able to mitigate them.
- A commitment to the protection and safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults.



We will...

Pray for you.

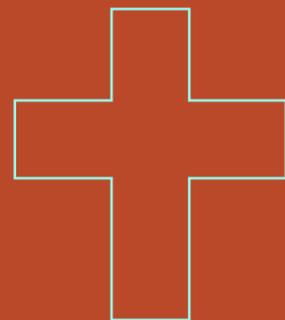
Support you.

Invite you into our church family.

Help develop your gifts and discipleship.

Pay for any reasonable expenses.

Give you time to attend Diocesan Youth Worker days and other opportunities to nurture, develop and support you.



Here are some thoughts from our young people on what they are hoping for in a youth pastor:

“Respect youth as equals, actively promote youth community-building and have a heart for youth.”

“Take time to get to know us as a church before implementing new things, help us be accountable.”

“We would like a youth pastor to organise exciting events and help develop fun youth groups. Someone who enjoys games and sports.”

“We want a youth leader who plans fun trips or days out and activities. Someone funny and easy to get along with. Someone that is reliable.”

“We are looking for a youth leader that is energetic and has a passion for teenagers. Someone that has creative and new ideas for activities.”



Our Diocese

The Diocese of Leeds comprises five Episcopal Areas, each coterminous with an Archdeaconry. This is now one of the largest dioceses in the country and its creation is unprecedented in the history of the Church of England. It covers an area of around 2,425 square miles, and a population of around 2,642,400 people.

The three former dioceses were created in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries to cater for massive population changes brought about by industrialisation and, later, mass immigration. The diocese comprises major cities (Bradford, Leeds, Wakefield), large industrial and post-industrial towns (Halifax, Huddersfield, Dewsbury), a spa town (Harrogate), market towns (Skipton, Ripon, Richmond and Wetherby), and deeply rural areas (the Dales). The whole of life is here, along with all the richness, diversity and complexities of a changing world.

The Diocesan Bishop (The Rt Rev'd Nick Baines) is assisted by five Area Bishops (Bradford, Huddersfield, Kirkstall, Wakefield and Ripon) and five archdeacons (Bradford, Halifax, Leeds, Pontefract, Richmond & Craven). The Bishop of Ripon is the Rt Rev'd Dr Helen-Ann Hartley.

Our vision as a Diocese is about confident clergy equipping confident Christians to live and tell the good news of Jesus Christ. For all of our appointments we are seeking clergy who have a joyful and confident faith which has inspired a track record of church growth, both numerically and spiritually. The Diocesan Strategy can be found by [clicking here](#).

Our Town

The town of Harrogate and the nearby Yorkshire Dales are among the most attractive areas in the north of England. Harrogate is famous for its Stray (a 200 acre area of common land immediately surrounding the town centre), Betty's Café & Tea Rooms, the Great Yorkshire Show and Harlow Carr Gardens. Nearby, the cities of Leeds and York also offer first class cultural, retail and civic facilities. The town possesses a fine Conference Centre and many hotels and restaurants, which together provide excellent facilities for the business and tourist trades. Harrogate also has some of the best secondary schools in the North of England. It is a great place in which to live, learn and work. The town has a great train service to London.

Our parish is largely middle class, white British and professional with low unemployment and a high proportion of owner occupied properties. There are many families, empty nesters and retired but there are proportionately fewer pre-family adults. Whilst we are one of the least deprived parishes in the Diocese of Leeds, research carried out by St Mark's in 2014 (**Minding the Gaps**) revealed loneliness and isolation, along with the mental health of young people, as significant issues in our parish.



This map is for illustration purposes only. For a detailed and to scale map please [click here](#) to view our Episcopal Area Map on the Diocese website.

Further information

If you would like to know more and have an informal conversation with our Vicar, Mike Resch, please contact him on **0796 777 1231** or email mike.resch@smch.org.uk

Details of our Safeguarding Policies and Privacy Notice can be found on the Safeguarding and GDPR page of the church website smch.org.uk

TO APPLY

Please submit the completed application form, confidential declaration and covering letter to

**Ann Fitzgerald, PCC Secretary,
St. Mark's Church, Leeds Road,
Harrogate, HG2 8AY**

or applications can be submitted via email to ann.fitzgerald@smch.org.uk
