

Dean of Bradford Role Specification

Purpose of the role

To lead the life and work of the Cathedral Church of St Peter, Bradford and to share with the Diocesan Bishop and other senior colleagues in the oversight of the Diocese of Leeds.

Main responsibilities

These main responsibilities are common to all Deans in the Church of England:

- As Dean and senior priest in the Diocese, to share with the Bishop and other senior colleagues in the oversight of the Church's mission (*the three Deans take on different diocesan responsibilities at different times*);
- To preside over the Cathedral Chapter, with it to direct the life and work of the cathedral, and to take emergency decisions on behalf of the Chapter when circumstances require;
- To represent the Church in public life across the diocese, to grow partnerships with faith and secular institutions, and to contribute to their intellectual, social and theological capital;
- With the Deans of Ripon and Wakefield, to preside over the College of Canons;
- To work with the Cathedral Council and other statutory bodies, and in collaboration with the Chapter to ensure sound governance across the cathedral;
- To exercise leadership in the cathedral's liturgy, preaching and pastoral care, to develop healthy team working, and to be personally committed to its pattern of daily prayer;
- To lead the mission and outreach of the cathedral, including the presentation and interpretation of its heritage;
- With the Chapter, to have oversight of the cathedral's development and to lead in securing funds for its long-term future;
- To ensure that the cathedral's operations are properly managed, including staff, finance, compliance and the care of the fabric;
- To ensure that the constitution and statutes are faithfully observed; and
- To exercise responsibility for safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, the provision of pastoral care of survivors, and creating a culture in which all will flourish and which is coherent with the safeguarding policies of the Church of England.

Opportunities and challenges for the next Dean of Bradford

The next Dean will have the opportunity to build on all that has been achieved in, by and through the Cathedral community in recent years, and in particular to:

- Lead the Cathedral community in shaping an ambitious and creative vision for mission and ministry in the city and diocese, and with Chapter refine and implement the Cathedral's strategy in light of the vision, ensuring that the financial resources and staff team are focussed on the priority areas;
- Develop and encourage opportunities to reflect the complexity and diversity of the city, district, counties and diocese in the praying and worshipping life of the Cathedral and the city;
- Enhance the visibility of the Cathedral by building on the strong focus on hospitality, providing a welcome to all as a place for prayer, worship, dialogue, culture and arts;
- Lead the congregation and wider Cathedral community in the recovery from COVID-19, building on the Cathedral's digital presence developed during the pandemic as a way of sharing the Gospel widely;

- Contribute to the spiritual, cultural and civic life of the city and district, building and maintaining strong relationships with civic and faith leaders and developing new ways to help serve the needs of the community;
- Work collaboratively with the other cathedrals in the diocese to continue to bring the “three cathedrals one diocese” vision to life;
- Promote the Five Marks of Mission as being developed through the Diocesan Strategy.

Key criteria

The panel are looking to appoint someone who demonstrates these qualities and characteristics:

- Is spiritually rooted, mature and confident in their catholic and apostolic Christian faith;
- Is an engaging preacher and communicator who appreciates the evangelical roots of Bradford Cathedral, and is committed to and can be nourished by the rhythm of daily cathedral prayer and worship;
- Has a vision for the missional role of Cathedrals and understands the opportunities and challenges of three cathedrals in one diocese;
- Is a loving and learning leader, capable of taking a facilitative, collaborative and consultative approach to working with others, and is equipped and experienced in facilitating mediation and reconciliation where needed – both within wider society and within an organisation;
- Has experience of leading others through periods of change, and in discerning and implementing a common vision and strategy;
- Is able to foster a culture of hospitality, inclusion and belonging, building strong partnerships in the community and diocese, and engage with community, civic, faith and business leaders with clarity, imagination, confidence and patience;
- Is able to see the urban through the lens of the rural and the rural through the lens of the urban;
- Is financially literate, understands the challenges faced by small cathedrals and is equipped to step into the operational and governance leadership roles.