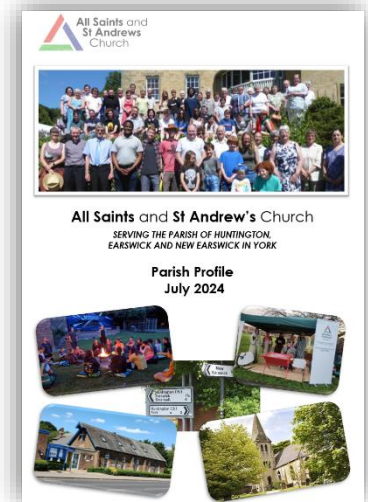


## Our Rector Vacancy – Summer Update

Thank you for your prayers, responses to our consultation and contributions as we work through the vacancy process. We have made good progress with our preparations to advertise for our new Rector and this update covers what has been achieved and the next stages.

Our 'Parish Profile' is now ready and available on our website ([Parish Profile](#)) our main messages have been summarised by Bishop John as follows -

*Among the many gifts of the Benefice are the ministry team, the congregations, a welcoming, prayerful and generous culture, the buildings and their potential for service in the community, a strong tradition of children's and youth work, a pastoral visiting team, commitment to creation care and a desire to be led by the Holy Spirit and the Scriptures. The congregations, though, are honest about the challenges they face and recognise that they need to attract more younger adults and be more visible in the local communities. So, they seek someone who can help them engage creatively with these challenges as well as someone who will share rich, biblical preaching and teaching, be a people centred leader who is passionate about the mission of Jesus Christ, be a person of prayer and also someone who can lead through change in a gracious but confident manner.*



We have nominated our Parish Representatives. Juliet (Wright) and Ian (Richardson) were chosen by the PCC from a group that had declared their willingness to be considered for this important role. Our Parish Representatives are now central to the sequence of advertising, interviews and selection. They represent our whole Church Family and use the Parish Profile as a guide for discerning who has been sent, in faith, to lead us. They will be supported by us all in prayer as they work with the interview panel and we will need to respect the confidentiality required throughout the process.

With our profile complete and our representatives chosen we are ready to advertise the post. This will happen in mid-July. Interviews are expected to be held in September. Should a successful candidate be found, an announcement of appointment would follow in late November.

Meanwhile, we look forward to joint services being led by our Archdeacon Sam Rushton, 4<sup>th</sup> Aug, and the Very Revd. Dominic Barrington, our Patron, 1<sup>st</sup> Sept., (they are also members of our interviewing panel). We will be planning for the day of the interviews which will include visits to our church buildings, an introduction to our Parish and a tour of the Rectory.

If you wish to know or clarify something, please ask. Equally, your thoughts and ideas are more than welcome.

God Bless  
From the PCC.