

Your Guide to Parish Officers



Would you consider standing for one of these important roles in our parish? Below you can find very brief descriptions of each role. If you are elected/appointed then you can expect to receive training and support in your new role.

All roles are open to those ages 16 years and over.

Churchwardens

Typical Tasks	taking a lead on opening the church for worship and other activities, supporting and working with the parish priest for the mission of the parish
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Churchwardens are the officers of the bishop. Two wardens are elected by the annual meeting of parishioners. They are supportive colleagues for the parish priest, they are representatives of the laity, and they have some responsibility for church property and 'order' during church services. They are elected for a term of one year, with a maximum six terms in succession. Wardens are often the public face of the parish church in the community and work closely with clergy, ministers and the Community Development Worker.

Sidesmen & Sideswomen

Typical Tasks	welcoming people to worship, taking the collection, giving out service booklets
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Sidespeople have a duty 'to promote the cause of true religion in the parish and to assist the churchwardens in the discharge of their duties in maintaining order and decency in the church and churchyard, especially during the time of divine service.' They are elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting for a term of one year.

PCC Members

Typical Tasks	actively taking part in meetings which shape the parish's ministry and mission
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The object of the PCC is the promotion of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to the doctrines and practices of the Church of England. The PCC co-operates with the parish priest in promoting in the parish the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical. Depending on the system adopted by each PCC members are elected for a term of one, two or three years. There is often a rolling membership to ensure continuity.

Team Council Representatives

Typical Tasks	actively shaping the community outreach and mission of the parishes of the Wythenshawe Team
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The Team Council is responsible for coordinating the ministry and mission of the parishes of our Team. This year, 2017, will see that start of a new focus on coordinating our outreach in the community. The Team Council takes an active role in shaping the mission of the whole Team and encourages the PCCs to work close together. Members are elected by the PCC from their membership for one year terms.

Deanery Synod

Typical Tasks	connecting the parish with the wider deanery, discussing issues of Diocesan and national Church importance
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Representatives to the Deanery Synod are elected every three years. They attend Synod and then report back to the PCC on each Synod meeting. Deanery Synod debates issues which are raised either by the parishes, or which the Diocesan Synod have asked to be discussed.

Deanery Mission & Pastoral Committee

Typical Tasks	shaping the future patterns of ministry across the deanery, looking at how parishes support and connect with each other
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Each parish can send up to two members to sit on this committee. As a sub-committee of the Deanery Synod, the DMPC looks at how ministry is shared across the deanery and where changes to parish groupings, boundaries and collaboration may be altered.