

Statement from the Area Bishop

This is a post which it is easy to commend for your further exploration! Having just visited St Paul's, to take the Sunday morning service, I have been reminded of some of the significant strengths of this worshipping and witnessing community. The worship is both relaxed but reverent, drawing on different church traditions and with the freshness and creativity that comes with liturgical sensitivity. There has been a long history of encouraging and nurturing lay ministry, which is evident in the number of committed and enthusiastic lay members, from a variety of backgrounds, confidently offering their gifts. There is a warm, inclusive feel to the fellowship with different age groups well represented. The majority of the congregation stay after worship to chat in the adjacent Oasis café (itself a wonderful aspect of the Church's witness within the local community).

St Paul's is a church within a particular context, sharing a building with a school, and any applicant needs to have an enthusiasm for helping St Paul's to maintain and strengthen that key relationship, as well as to continue prioritising its outward facing mission to the local community.

St Paul's is an integral part of the Tettenhall Regis Team. This is a Team Ministry that works! The churches are mutually supportive and there has been a long history of good clergy relationships. A genuine commitment to working generously within a Team is therefore a key requirement of any applicant.

Beyond the Team there is a supportive Deanery and Diocese. Although it is often a challenge to attract clergy to this part of the country, our experience is that once they have come, they so often stay. As a native of Wolverhampton for the last 12 years I am a huge fan of the City and of the beautiful countryside within very easy access.

I hope you enjoy reading this profile, which is a truthful reflection of the reality behind it, and that you may feel called to apply for this post.

+Clive Wulfrun

(Area Bishop of Wolverhampton)