

The Challenge

To be comfortable in the two church communities, to lead them both and to exploit the opportunities they provide

Interested?

Want to know more?

See <http://www.stmichaels-abingdon.org.uk>
<http://parishes.oxford.anglican.org/abingdon/stnicolas/>
<http://www.oxford.anglican.org/vacancies/>

or contact The Revd Dr C Miller
The Church Office,
St Helen's Court,
Abingdon
OX14 5BS
01235 520144
administrator@sthelens-abingdon.org.uk

WANTED

TEAM VICAR TO FILL THIS SPACE



St Nicolas and St Michael and All Angels Abingdon

Who We Are

We are members of St Nicolas and St Michael's churches looking for a new vicar, someone who has their own vision of what they want for the life of the church and is prepared to accept a challenge.

The churches, which share many common threads, represent two distinct traditions within the Anglican Communion - St Nicolas being of broad central churchmanship, while St Michael's has a strong Anglo-Catholic ethos.

There is a combined Electoral Roll of around 180, with a bias towards the older generations, yet with opportunities for growth amongst families.

What we offer

Two beautiful churches in a splendid setting and interesting town and a full commitment from us to you when you accept this post.

Supportive and enquiring congregations keen to become more active and involved in church and community.

Patterns of worship reflecting the two churches' traditions including: Common Worship Communion, Morning Prayer, Family Friendly (non-eucharistic) Services, Sung Mass, Family Mass and the key liturgies of the church's year such as the Easter Triduum.

A strong network of support - both ordained and lay.

A pleasant vicarage in a lively market town.

Our prayerful and practical support, as together we seek to grow in the Gospel and celebrate and promote the Kingdom.



*Image courtesy of The Labyrinth Builders, Designers and builders of The Abingdon Labyrinth
<http://www.labyrinthbuilders.co.uk>*

The Opportunities

The partnership of two churches of different backgrounds, as part of a busy Anglican team within an ecumenical setting, offers many exciting possibilities for both individual congregation initiatives and team / ecumenical pastoral and mission outreach. For example:

- The recently re-ordered St Michael's has a wonderful new 24ft diameter, 6 circuit labyrinth, based on an 11th century design. We hope this will prove to be a valuable spiritual resource not only for the regular congregation but for many visiting individuals and groups.
- St Nicolas' unique town centre position offers many opportunities for outreach. The congregation is aware of this and is keen to explore the possibilities. A recently formed Ecumenical Town Centre Ministry offers another strand to this area of outreach.
- The 'Abbey Project' (to interpret the heritage of the former Benedictine Abingdon Abbey), with its potential for 'spiritual tourism', needs to be taken forward with vigour and imagination.
- Both congregations are keen to pass on the inheritance they have received to the next generation. The Team Vicar needs to lead the development and execution of pastoral strategies for outreach ministry - including to the young, families and the more mature, both those returning to faith and those meeting Christ for the first time.
- Outreach offered through an open occasional services policy - including baptism and wedding preparation and bereavement ministry.



The St Nicolas' Garden

- Healing ministry, through hospital and care home ministry, and healing services.
- Schools ministry (including links with a Church of England Aided Primary School).