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**Parish Giving Adviser (Ministry Development)**

Developing a culture of generosity is essential for the Church to be a transforming Christian presence across our communities. We have a Parish Offer (not share) scheme, have seen the fastest take-up of the Parish Giving Scheme nationally over the past 18 months and yet there is still an urgent need to build our future church on a sustainable financial footing.

We are looking to appoint two part-time Parish Giving Advisers covering our Hereford and Ludlow Archdeaconries to implement our generous giving strategy. These posts will be additional to and will complement the role of full-time Parish Giving Adviser, which is an existing post and is directly and fully funded by the Diocese. As well as considerably expanding overall capacity in the area of Generous Giving and Stewardship we are seeking to bring together a blend of skills and experience, develop more deeply particular specialist stewardship and giving areas, and create a mutually supportive, dynamic and creative team culture, which will be ready to make the most of the significant opportunities that present themselves in this area of diocesan and parish life and work. We aim to broaden the understanding of and engagement with stewardship across the diocese, amongst different groups of people and through different resources, formats, media and products, to help deliver a step change in culture and in-turn levels of giving to facilitate sustainable and holistic church growth.

The primary and specific tasks of this role are to form fruitful working relationships with all clergy, licensed lay ministers, inter-generational missioners and local lay leaders and to encourage and enable them to effectively teach and preach about God’s generous giving; to train them to identify the many and varied opportunities to do this; and to prepare and share with them the high quality resources necessary to fulfil their mission. It is an expectation that the post-holder will work closely with those most involved in ministry training, review and development within the diocese: Archdeacons, Ministry Development Officers (CME, ICME, etc.), Lay Ministry and Mission Development, etc.

The Diocese of Hereford is one the most deeply rural and sparsely populated dioceses in the Church of England. Covering 1660 square miles of Herefordshire, South Shropshire and parts of Worcester and Powys; it serves over 400 churches in more than 300 parishes with some 13,000 church members in a population of c330,000.National statistics imply that the Diocese is modestly prosperous. However, this is not reflected in parish giving where Hereford is amongst the lowest in the country.

Hereford Diocese has three strategic priorities:

* **SP1 Spiritual and numerical growth – growing disciples of all ages and backgrounds**
* **SP2 Contributing to the common good – transforming lives and communities**
* **SP3 Re-imagining ministry for mission in the 21st century**

and a shared commitment to:

* **focusing our resources where there is greatest mission need and opportunity**

If you are a clergy person with an existing parish in the Diocese, or are interested in moving to Hereford Diocese, and interested in exploring this role, please get in touch to discuss.