

Latest news and information on the [Diocese website](#)

Social media

- Follow us and view our tweets on [Twitter](#) @cofelancs
- Watch videos and subscribe to our [YouTube channel](#)
- View pics from across the Diocese on our [Flickr feed](#)

September 8, 2015

WARM WELCOME FROM LOCAL PARISHES FOR THEIR NEW VICAR

Rev. Toby Webber, has been inducted into his new church by Rt Rev. Julian Henderson, the Bishop of Blackburn.

Mr Webber, 40, recently moved to become Vicar of St James Church, Altham and All Saints Church in Clayton-le-Moors.

Prior to his appointment as Bishop's Chaplain in 2012 he had several appointments elsewhere in the Diocese including Curate of St Laurence's Church in Chorley from 2002 to 2006 and Priest-in-charge of St Aidan's in Bamber Bridge from 2006 to 2012.

Mr Webber's recent induction service, which took place at All Saints Church, was conducted by Bishop Julian who is the Diocesan Bishop.

As well as his family, including wife Rebecca and daughter Annabel, Toby was supported at the induction by former colleagues. Also in attendance were fellow clergy from across Lancashire, including many from his new Deanery in Accrington, as well as his new parishioners.

During the induction service Mr Webber was welcomed to his new role by the Acting Archdeacon of Blackburn, Rev. Canon Roger Smith; the local Area Dean, Rev. John Holland; the Deputy Mayor of Hyndburn Council, Councillor Tim O'Kane and representatives from other Christian denominations; local schools and the parish council.

2/ over

2/

Bishop Julian said: “This evening is a great moment for Toby and the people of these parishes. He has received a warm welcome and I know Toby and his family will be a great asset to the local community here in Altham and Clayton-le-Moors and they will be well supported by the church community.”

Toby added: “I have been overwhelmed by the warm welcome I have received and I am excited to be beginning ministry here, particularly at a time when the Diocese as a whole is engaging with Vision 2026: Healthy Churches Transforming Communities.

“I would also like to say a massive thankyou to everyone who had a hand in preparing for today and to the parishioners, particularly the churchwardens, who have kept things going through the vacancy period.”

ENDS

Issued by: **Ronnie Semley**, Communications Manager
Email: ronnie.semley@blackburn.anglican.org
Phone: 01254 50 34 16

Captions

1/ Bishop Julian and Rev. Toby Webber, pictured centre, with some of Toby’s new parishioners after the induction service

2/ Bishop Julian inducts Rev. Toby Webber as Vicar during the service