

Benefice of the Redeemer Blackburn



Youth and Children's Leader Job Pack



**St. Bartholomew's Church, Ewood
and Church of the Saviour**

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BLACKBURN
THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN LANCASHIRE

ignite
PROJECT

Benefice of the Redeemer Blackburn



Background

The Benefice of the Redeemer is an evangelical benefice made up of two churches, St Bartholomew's Church and Church of the Saviour, in South Blackburn, Lancashire. The churches have separate PCCs but share a vicar. St. Bartholomew's will be the lead parish on the project.

St Bartholomew's Church is situated in the large, newly built 'Fernhurst' housing estate of owner occupied, 3/4 bed detached homes occupied by families. Persimmon are currently building hundreds more family homes in the parish. St. Bartholomew's has a usual Sunday attendance of 50-60 adults and 20-30 U16s. There is a Children and Youth Team made up of around 15 volunteers over a creche, younger Sunday School, older Sunday School and a Sunday afternoon youth group. This team has a clear 'Vision for Children and Young People', meets termly, and is currently led by the Benefice vicar. The church meets in, and benefits from, a church primary school, 'The Redeemer Primary'. There is a close working relationship between the Benefice vicar and the headteacher of the school with school year groups being invited to contribute to Sunday services each year. One of our volunteers currently runs a lunch time Bible club for years 5&6 called 'Superstars'.

The Church of the Saviour has two congregations: an informal family 'messy church' style service on a Friday afternoon/early evening with usual attendance of about 20 (roughly 50/50 split between adults and children), and a more traditional Sunday service of 30-40 adults and 5-8 children. A couple of years ago we appointed an Assistant Minister to oversee our outreach in Saviour parish. As a result, the Sunday congregation has seen significant growth, especially in terms of families and young people. Due to this growth there is now a small group of 'Kids Gang' leaders who supervise a creche and teach a separate kids group most Sundays. The church benefits from good and growing relationships with the 'Longshaw Community Infants School' and the 'Longshaw Community Junior School' where the minister runs after-school clubs. The church also benefits from good buildings and facilities and is situated in a large social housing council estate in an economically deprived area.

The two churches work closely as a Benefice. They share resources, have a joint vision for children and young people, run joint house groups and explorer courses and run a joint youth Bible study group.

Benefice Services

Sunday

9.30am St. Bartholomew's
11.15am Church of the Saviour
7pm Sunday@7 at St. Bart's

Contemporary worship for all ages
1st Sunday: All Age Service
2nd, 3rd, 4th: Creche and children's groups

A quieter evening service with a mixture of modern and traditional

Friday Live!

5.30pm at Saviour All Age Service followed by craft and games

Some of the Team

**Benefice
Vicar**
Chris
Anderton



**Minister –
Church of
the Saviour**
James
Lapping



**Office
Manager**
Sheila Fielding



**St. Bartholomew's
Church Wardens**
John and Marilyn



**Some of
our
Children
and Youth
Team**



Our Vision for Children and Young People

Children and Young People
Rooted and established in God's Word
Living confidently and distinctively for Jesus

Parents



- *Involved*
- *Equipped*
- *Committed*

Bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord.
Ephesians 6:4

The Gospel at the Centre



- *Grace driven*
- *Jesus Trusting*
- *Joyfully obedient*

...so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.
Ephesians 3:17

Church

- *Welcoming*
- *Praying*
- *Nurturing*



Together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ.
Ephesians 3:18

Young People

- *Safe*
- *Valued*
- *Well taught*



...so you may know Jesus better
Ephesians 1:17



**Benefice of the
Redeemer
Blackburn**

Job Description

Job Title: Ignite – Youth and Children’s Leader

Salary: 26K – 30K per annum (depending on experience)

Hours: 35hrs per week

Location: Benefice Office St Bartholomew’s Church, Jack Walker Way, Blackburn. BB2 4JJ.

Responsible to: Rev. Chris Anderton

Responsible for: Overseeing the development of the youth and children’s ministry in the Benefice of the Redeemer with a particular focus on discipling youth (Key Stage 2 and upwards).

Purpose of the role

To oversee the youth and children’s ministry in the Benefice of the Redeemer with a particular focus on discipling youth.

Overview of the main aims

- Seek to effectively oversee and streamline the existing C&Y work.
- Support, train, equip and grow our children and youth leaders so they can confidently and faithfully teach young people.
- Communicate effectively with and involve parents.
- Develop our Benefice youth work so that our youth group grows in number and our youth work reaches more young people.
- Be involved in the discipleship of young people at our Friday and Sunday morning services.
- Continue to build a church culture where young people are valued and encouraged.
- Make the most of opportunities with our local schools.
- Ensure children and young people are safeguarded effectively.

Given the nature and context of the work, it is an occupational requirement that the post holder should be a communicant member of the Church of England or a full member of a church within Churches Together in Britain and Ireland, in order to fulfil the main purpose of the post. This post is therefore exempt under Schedule 9 of the Equality Act 2010.

Main responsibilities

- Oversee our youth and children's ministry across the Benefice.
- Disciple and nurture the Christian faith of children as they transition in the secondary school age group.
- Build relationships between the church and families in the community.
- Teach the Bible to children and young people in groups and in an all-age setting.
- Establish greater links with local schools (junior and secondary).
- Provide training and nurture / identify possible C&Y leaders and develop and assist with providing quality teaching resources.
- Develop the benefice youth provision – increase the amount of youth events and the amount of young people attending church.
- Attend and contribute to weekly staff-meetings, supervision meetings and PCC meetings as required.
- Bring young people along to Youth Camps and get involved where appropriate.
- Use social media to promote engagement with children and young people.

Person Specification

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
A Christian with an active, enthusiastic and encouraging faith.	x	
A growing, prayerful disciple of Christ and a gospel-hearted servant.	x	
A passion to see young people come to Christ and grow in faith.	x	
Willing to uphold the Church of England Evangelical Council statement of faith.	x	
Experience of discipling under 18s.	x	
Experience of running children and/or youth events	x	
Able to faithfully teach the Bible to a range of ages	x	
Experience with C&Y camps/residentials		x
Previous experience of supporting families.		x
The ability to equip and encourage leaders.	x	
Able to take the initiative and be self-motivated	x	
Able to work collaboratively as part of a staff team and with accountability to PCCs.	x	
IT skills particularly MS Office packages.	x	
Experience of using social media to engage with young people		x
Access to a motor vehicle / Full UK driver's license.		x
Previously undertaken formal theological training or prepared to undertake a training programme.	x	x
Good communication skills – written and verbal.	x	
Able to demonstrate an understanding of working in a Benefice setting.		x

Outline of terms and conditions

Employer: St Bartholomew's Church, Jack Walker Way, Blackburn

Salary: £26K – 30K per annum

Hours: This is a full-time role based on a 35-hour working week, but the post holder may be required to work additional hours so as to meet the reasonable requirements of the role. The post holder will be entitled to time off in lieu for attending meetings outside normal office hours which may include evenings and weekends.

Location: The post holder will be based at the Benefice office, St Bartholomew's Church, Jack Walker Way, Blackburn. BB2 4JJ.

Pension: 5% employer contribution, 3% employee contribution

Annual leave: 30 days + Bank Holidays to be arranged in advance with the Vicar.

Probationary period: 6 months with a 3-month review.

Notice Period: 3 months (discretionary)

Safeguarding: A fresh Enhanced DBS will need to be completed.

Expenses: Benefice to provide laptop / phone / C of E rate standard travel allowance / reasonable expenses.

Right to work: The post-holder must have the right to reside and work in the UK.

Diversity: The Diocese of Blackburn believes that diversity enables us to thrive and develop and is committed to race equality, welcoming applications from UK Minority Ethnic/ Global Majority Heritage backgrounds

The Diocese of Blackburn is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults. All post holders and volunteers are expected to share this commitment.

Application Details

Closing date for applications: 9am Thursday 5th June 2025

Interviews: Friday 4th July

Applications should be sent to Revd Chris Anderton
chris.anderton@the-redeemer.org.uk

For further information on this role or for an informal conversation please contact Revd Chris Anderton (chris.anderton@the-redeemer.org.uk or 07951695257).