



Holy Trinity Church, Trinity Street, Huddersfield, HD1 4DT
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Children and Families Minister

ABOUT HOLY TRINITY HUDDERSFIELD

Holy Trinity is a thriving Anglican Church located on the edge of Huddersfield town centre in the Diocese of Leeds. We are informal and relaxed, and known for the warmth of our welcome and fellowship. We are committed to whole-life and wholehearted worship, relevant and applied Bible teaching, and an openness to the Holy Spirit. Our vision is to be “[rooted in Jesus, a devoted family, sent in love and power](#)”: you can find out more about our vision and values [here](#), and about our church life at our website [here](#).

We long for Holy Trinity to be a place where people of every age and background can encounter God, grow in Christian discipleship, and find their home in his family. Over the past 15 years we have particularly invested in ministry amongst youth and children, and since 2015 we have employed a Children and Families Minister (CFM). We are heartened that the national Church of England vision and strategy includes the priority to ‘Grow Younger and More Diverse’ and we want to play our part in that endeavour here in Huddersfield.

Our current CFM is approaching retirement and we are now seeking the person who God is calling to take this area of ministry forward.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES MINISTRY AT HOLY TRINITY

Sundays

Like many churches after the pandemic, our ministry with children has been challenging and we have seen a reduction in the number of children (typically down to around 12-15 children) and families regularly worshipping with us on Sundays. Similarly, the number of leaders serving with children has reduced, meaning that since September 2024 we have had to streamline our two Sunday groups (one for Infants aged children, and one for Junior aged children) into one group.

Midweek

‘Little Lights’ is our weekly toddler group for pre-schoolers and their parent or carer. The majority of those who come are not Christians, but we have sought to ensure that this group has a distinctively Christian ‘flavour’, with a Bible story and songs as part of the session. Numbers attending this group have also reduced recently.

Areas of growth in recent years have been the launch of JAM ("Jesus And Me"), an after-school club held in our church building every Wednesday afternoon. Children and parents/carers come together for games, Bible stories and loads of fun – and those who attend have no other contact with church. Our CFM has also been very effective at organising some large parties at key times in the year, and again these events have especially engaged with unchurched children.

Most of our work in primary schools has been at Reinwood Infants and Junior Schools, which are not situated in our parish. Our CFM has led occasional assemblies and lessons, and we have also hosted occasional visits from other schools and local pre-schools, especially at Christmas and Easter. In 2019 Brambles Primary Academy opened in our parish – but despite our efforts thus far we have been unable to develop a working relationship with them. This is a potential area for future development.

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

We are now seeking a gifted Children and Families Minister (part-time) who will lead, reinvigorate, and develop our Children and Families Ministry at Holy Trinity. We remain convinced that God is calling us to make ministry and evangelism amongst children and families a central priority in our church life, and we are determined to support and release our next CFM to enable growth and transformation amongst this part of our church family.

As we have reflected on this role, and as we look with faith to the next five years, the following priorities have emerged:

- **Deepening faith:** where children meet with Jesus, discover what it means to follow him today, and grow in passion and confidence to share their faith with their friends.
- **Numerical growth:** such that our Children and Families Ministry becomes more vibrant and energised.
- **Building our CFM team:** creating an energised and passionate team culture.
- **Investment in parents:** for Christian parents to be supported, equipped and encouraged as the primary disciples of their children.
- **Church family:** where our children are more integrated into church life – including developing all-age worship (which has not been prioritised in recent years).
- **A safe space:** for children to be free to ask difficult questions and grapple with their doubts in a safe environment.

Whilst we anticipate that there will be opportunities to enable and develop outreach and evangelism amongst unchurched children and their families, at this stage we sense a renewed priority to deepen and develop the discipleship culture amongst the children and families who are part of our church family.

PURPOSE OF THE POST

To lead, oversee and develop our ministry (on Sundays and midweek) with children (from babies up to and including Year 6) and their families. Particular emphasis of the post includes:

- the recruitment, training, encouragement and motivation of a team of volunteer leaders;
- direct involvement in the planning and delivery of sessions;
- the ability to work collaboratively to develop the overall strategy for our children and families ministry, so that children encounter Christ and grow in relationship with him.

We would expect the post-holder to be a fully committed member of Holy Trinity, and worshipping with us each week. The new CFM will join our dedicated staff team who meet each week to pray, worship and plan together.

KEY ELEMENTS OF THE ROLE – JOB DESCRIPTION & INITIAL PRIORITIES

The outline below is intended to provide a guide to the general duties and responsibilities of the post, as well as what we sense might be some key priorities for the new post holder at this time. However, this should not be regarded as a contractual document. A job description will be reviewed regularly, and a more specific list of regular tasks will be agreed with the line manager.

Sunday Kids' Church

- To be the figurehead and key lead of our Children's Ministry on Sundays.
- To bring creativity, energy, and fresh ideas to this area of ministry so that all children who come to Holy Trinity will have the opportunity to meet with Jesus, get to know him better, and have loads of fun in doing so.
- To lead, grow, inspire and train our team of volunteers. We are looking for someone who will invest in team culture to envision, recruit to and develop our Kids' team, so that the ministry is shared and not just focused on the CFM.
- In time, to initiate a restructuring of our Kids' Church groups. We recognise that a group for Year 1 – Year 6 is too broad, and so as the team grows, we want to tailor sessions to engage children more effectively.
- To be a key leader amongst a team who will develop all-age worship on occasional Sundays at Holy Trinity.

Parents and Families

- Invest in building relationships with parents and carers, and encouraging and equipping them for parenting, so that they can fulfil their calling as the primary disciplers of their kids.
- Be a focal point, along with the team of volunteer leaders, to support parents pastorally and to be a key welcomer of new families to Holy Trinity.
- Help make Holy Trinity more accessible, including to children with additional needs.

Outreach and Evangelism

- To take on the leadership and development of the weekly JAM (after school) club, and to grow the team who are resourcing this group.
- To explore other areas of development in resourcing outreach and evangelism. These may include how we may best serve local primary schools; and reflecting on the future of our Little Lights toddler group.

Other responsibilities will include:

- Ensure that our Children's Ministry complies with highest standards of safeguarding practice. The CFM will sit on a small safeguarding team, overseen by the Vicar and the Parish Safeguarding Officer.

- Taking responsibility for the overall administration of our Children’s Ministry.
- Attend and contribute to weekly staff meetings and prayers at Holy Trinity and other meetings as required.
- Other duties as reasonably required by the Line Manager.

OUR NEXT CHILDREN AND FAMILIES MINISTER

A Person Specification is below, highlighting some of the experience and skills we are looking for in our next Children and Families Minister. We believe that the new post holder will especially need to embody the following qualities:

- **Leadership** - someone with a clear gifting and track record in Christian leadership: who with courage and humility is able to discern and articulate vision, and is equipped to invest in and lead a team of volunteers.
- **Discipleship** - someone who will enable children to experience God, grow deeper in their relationship with him through age-appropriate Bible teaching, and encounter his love in the power of the Holy Spirit.
- **Relationship** – someone who is able to connect authentically and naturally with both children and adults.
- **Fun** – someone with energy and passion, able to create a culture of fun and joy, such that children genuinely love coming to and being a part of the Holy Trinity family.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

| | | Essential | Desirable |
|---------------------------------|---|-----------|-----------|
| Faith and spiritual life | A committed Christian with a living faith, filled with the Holy Spirit, and a prayerful dependence on God. | X | |
| | Someone who invests in their own discipleship through worship, prayer, Bible reading and fellowship, and seeks to honour God in their own life. | X | |
| | Godly Christian character and humility: a servant leader who recognises that others will look to them as an example of the Christian life, and so with God’s help is seeking to bring their life into line with orthodox Christian teaching and practice. | X | |
| | Someone who will embrace the vision, values and core beliefs that Holy Trinity espouses. | X | |
| | A depth of knowledge of the Bible and confidence in core Christian doctrines and beliefs. | X | |
| Personal | An ability to relate to children and adults, with people of different ages and backgrounds. The successful candidate will be committed to investing in relationships and people, as well as tasks and getting the job done. | X | |
| | A clear understanding of, and a passion and calling for, | X | |

| | | Essential | Desirable |
|---------------------------------|--|-----------|-----------|
| | leading and developing children and families ministry. | | |
| | Someone with self-awareness who can identify their strengths and gifts, and is aware of their weaknesses. | | X |
| | A collaborative team player, able to lead others, whilst being responsive to and take direction from their line manager. | X | |
| Knowledge | Someone who has a clear understanding of Christian theology and the good news of Jesus Christ, and the ability to communicate this in age-appropriate ways. | X | |
| | Knowledge of a range of resources and methods available for engaging and inspiring children and families in their faith journey. | | X |
| Skills | A clear ability to plan and develop activities, session plans and events which will meaningfully engage children and families in growing in their relationship with God. | X | |
| | A proven ability to lead and build teams: identifying and developing individual's gifts and delegate to others so that this ministry is not purely centred upon themselves. | X | |
| | Someone with good skills of time management, organisation, planning and self-motivation. | X | |
| | An ability to think and plan strategically. | | X |
| | Competency in general IT skills. | | X |
| Education and experience | Someone who can demonstrate a track record of leading and developing ministry amongst children and families. | | X |
| | Someone who has completed a relevant qualification, discipleship course or internship which involved leading and developing children and families ministry – or equivalent experience. | | X |

CONTRACTUAL INFORMATION

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| Job Title: | Children and Families Minister |
| Employer: | Holy Trinity Huddersfield Parochial Church Council (PCC) |
| Accountability: | The post holder will be line-managed by the Vicar, and is accountable to the Parochial Church Council (PCC). The post holder will be expected to report to PCC meetings when required. |
| Main Base: | Holy Trinity Church, Trinity Street, Huddersfield, HD1 4DT. |

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| Hours: | Part-time, 20 hours per week. We aim to be flexible in how these hours are used, depending on the circumstances of the successful candidate. The role will require working on Sundays, regular midweek activities, and working some evenings. |
| Salary: | £13,152-£14,069 per annum (£24,660-£26,379 FTE), depending on experience and/or qualifications. |
| Pension Provision: | 5% employer contribution |
| Occupational requirement: | You must have the right to work in the UK. In accordance with the Equality Act 2010 there is a Genuine Occupational Requirement that the post holder is a Christian. |
| Contract duration: | Open ended |
| Start date: | 1 st March 2025 |
| Probationary Period: | Subject to a 3-month probationary period |
| Clearance required: | Enhanced DBS check, and relevant safeguarding training undertaken. |
| Training and development: | There is a budget for continued professional development, and attendance at one major conference each year, in consultation with the Line Manager. All staff have annual appraisals. |
| Support: | As part of our commitment to care for and invest in our staff, we would help the appointee to find a spiritual director/mentor. |
| Holidays: | 33 days p.a. <i>including</i> bank holidays, pro-rated to 132 hours per year, including bank holidays. <i>We also support up to 10 days per year (pro rata) additional paid leave for staff to undertake unpaid ministry where requested for other churches, church organisations nationally or internationally.</i> |

APPLYING FOR THE POST

Applicants are asked to submit a completed Children and Families Minister Application Form from by email to mike@holyltrinityhuddersfield.com.

Closing date for Applications: Tuesday 21st January at 5.00pm

Interviews: Currently planned for **Saturday 1st February** (*may be subject to change*).

Informal enquiries are welcome, and should be made to Mike Wilkins (Vicar) on 01484 513213 or by email to mike@holyltrinityhuddersfield.com.