



The Church of England
in Essex and East London
Diocese of Chelmsford

Parish of Pitsea with Nevendon
The Rectory
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can be made to:

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January 2026



Pitsea with Nevendon

**Parish profile for prospective applicants for
the position of Rector of Pitsea with
Nevendon**

Contents

- 3. Role Profile
- 4. Person Specification
- 5. The Diocese
- 6. The Bradwell Area
- 7. The Archdeaconry
- 8. The Deanery
- 9. The Parish
- 10. Saint Gabriel's Church
- 11. Saint Peter's Church
- 12. Saint Gabriel's Centre
- 13. Nevendon Community Hall
- 14. The Rectory



Role Profile

This is a busy parish with two churches, and engagement with local charities and support groups. The previous incumbent established a pattern of service, and an annual programme of events throughout the liturgical calendar.

The new incumbent will bring their own style of ministry and new ideas to shape the future of our work to support the Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

We have a faithful worshipping community which is modest in number. We hope the new incumbent will help us grow both in faith and in number by engaging with the local community.

1. Lead us in mission, enabling us to reach out into the local community and help us to make best use of community touchpoints.
2. Consider how our current pattern of worship can be sustained and developed, given likely patterns of ministry in the future.
3. Help us to grow in faith through provision of nurture courses and study of the scriptures.
4. Emphasise key points in the liturgical year as opportunities for celebration, outreach and mission (e.g., Christmas, Easter, Remembrance) .
5. Support a network of church volunteers.
6. Lead and develop the church choir.
7. Chair the Parochial Church Council (PCC) meetings and provide structure and effective leadership to the administration and governance of the church.
8. Support our charities including the Noah's Ark Charity Home in Kenya, Christian Aid, and a local community kitchen.



Person Specification

We do not have an exact image of the ideal incumbent and you may come from a diverse background of culture, experience, or Christian journey.

But we know that we want you to have passion and drive, and be someone who lives the Gospel in your daily life and demonstrates it with confidence and consistency in your interactions with others.

We want someone who will expand and develop the Ministry in the parish through regular workshop, Bible study, outreach work, and support to our charities.

1. You will be energetic and innovative and have the drive and determination to evolve the Ministry with your own ideas and style.
2. You will be a confident and passionate speaker and preacher, able to engage people of all ages and stages in their spiritual journey.
3. We welcome prospective incumbents from a wide variety of backgrounds and experience.
4. You will be a personable and inclusive church leader who will support and encourage a diverse group of volunteers who support the parish.
5. You will have an understanding and appreciation of the challenges of our local community and of the changing nature of ministry.
6. You will be committed to collaborative ways of working, in the parish, in the deanery and in the wider archdeaconry, area and diocese, as we seek together to discover new ways of ministering in this time.
7. you will be committed to living the Diocesan Values of Travelling Well Together and include the link [Travelling Well Together | The Diocese of Chelmsford](#)

The Diocese

Covering Essex and East London, Chelmsford is one of the largest, most diverse and exciting dioceses in the Church of England. We are home to more than three million people representing many socio-economic, ethnic and faith groups and a fantastic variety of cultures and traditions.

We have enormous opportunities for mission and service and considerable challenges to face and resolve as we continue to deal with the long-term implications of the COVID-19 pandemic and global challenges that have a direct impact on our parish churches and the communities we serve.



Guli Frances-Dehqani, Bishop of Chelmsford

My sense is that the whole Church of God is in an uncertain season when we cannot clearly see the future and so don't quite know what it will look like. But we know that the Church has faced profound challenges in the past and as we look to the future we do so with faith that when we open ourselves up to being changed and transformed, we are best placed to serve God and God's people. It is within this context and following a period of listening and discernment that started when I became Bishop of Chelmsford in 2021, that we have begun to articulate our future direction of travel as a Diocese with a focus on travelling well together.

Our purpose is to love God and to love our neighbour; to worship faithfully and empowered by the Holy Spirit, witness to the love of God revealed in Jesus Christ as we serve the extraordinarily diverse array of local communities in Essex and East London.

Our approach is to enable and empower parishes and worshipping communities to discern how they are to be God's people in their own very different local contexts and as part of one diocesan family. Underpinning our approach is an invitation to a way of being articulated by shared diocesan values which might shape how we travel together, support each other and provide mutual accountability. Since I became Bishop of Chelmsford, I have witnessed people's great warmth and I have seen first hand, the wonderful things going on in our parishes. Any new priest joining us in the Diocese of Chelmsford does so at a time of challenge, a time of change and most significantly a time of hope for our Church in this most diverse and exciting of dioceses.

The Bradwell Area

The Bradwell Area is a beautifully diverse, rich in culture among our varied communities. The nine deaneries of the Episcopal Area cover south and mid Essex, from Epping Forest and Ongar, Brentwood and Thurrock on the M25 out to the coast with the River Thames as the southern border and the Blackwater in the north. Our two cities are Southend and Chelmsford. Significant new housing is being built across our area. We serve the 20th century suburban populations of Basildon and Hadleigh as well as a spread of rural situations including Rochford and Maldon and Dengie where St Cedd's 7th century Bradwell Chapel still stands as the bridgehead of 'mission to the East Saxons'.



Adam Atkinson, Bishop of Bradwell

My team and I, with each deanery, are trying to help one another bring about positive changes and establish ways of mutual support in each local context. Some of this counts as 'innovation', some is in sharing learning and ideas, some are expressing our being in ways we've been called to for generations. There is a changing culture in the Bradwell area with a focus on equipping each church with tools for renewal and the means to foster a sense of abundance. We welcome innovators and leaders of change who are led by the spirit. We welcome those who show and tell the good news of Jesus afresh among each generations and context.

Most of all we welcome priests to apply for posts who are people of prayer, who call upon our loving Heavenly Father for the ways and means to display his love and win people into his Kingdom.

I would warmly welcome you to listen out for the prompting of God in respect of this post. Ask him in prayer to bless the people in the place you read about here. Ask for love to abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight so that you may be able to discern what is best. I hope that what you will contribute towards, along with the saints of God in this place, is the development of a loving, caring and nurturing environment in which everyone can do their very best and have a good time doing it! That is, under God I humbly submit, what we are here for in support of you were you to join the team. Do be in touch with me or the Archdeacon if you want to know more detail on any of this. With my blessings

The Archdeaconry

I am delighted you are exploring your call to this role in the archdeaconry of Southend. This archdeaconry has something for everyone – from the coastal city of Southend-on-Sea itself, to the mainly rural Deanery of Stambridge, to the industrial docks around Thurrock, right on the edge of London.

It is an exciting place to be, and I am determined to both support and appropriately challenge the clergy here to be the best they can be for God's people in this place. My prayer is that our parishes and people will see themselves as missional and ministering communities, led by confident and well-resourced clergy.



Dr Sue Lucas, the Archdeacon of Southend

We are living through times of change, in the world and in the church. Here in the archdeaconry of Southend, within the Diocesan values of Travelling Well Together, ([travelling-well-together-25-final-compressed.pdf](#)) we seek to embrace change as coming from God: 'to live is to change and to be perfect is to have changed often,' wrote John Henry Newman.

There are challenges and tensions of course within any period of significant change, but I believe that if we remain open to God and committed to one another, God is doing something new and exciting here.

My hope is that you feel called here are because you are someone who also recognises the need for change, and who is curious and excited to lead God's people through it here. I hope you are up for working collaboratively with clergy and lay leaders, and, yes, with your archdeacon and area dean, to help discern a sustainable and flexible shape for the life of the church in this place.

The Deanery

The Deanery covers the towns of Basildon, Billericay and Wickford and the surrounding rural areas. Most of the population is in the three urban areas, Billericay (including Great Burstead and Ramsden Crays), Wickford and Basildon.

Ecumenical links are strong in each of the urban centres and there is a tradition of collegiality within the deanery chapter. The Deanery Plan commits us to continuing to value difference of tradition, to discern how sometimes scarce resources can best be used, to work together in responding to new housing developments, and to encourage vocations to ordained ministry, and to both licensed and less formal lay ministry, including the ministry of administration.

Jonathan Evens, Area Dean of Basildon

The council's Corporate Plan 2022-2026 sets out three key strategic themes which cover the full range of their responsibilities and priorities and to which we want to make our contribution:

- **People:** be home to healthy and active local communities able to support themselves and each other.
- **Place:** offer a high quality of life for all residents through attractive, liveable, accessible and safe neighbourhoods and towns along with the provision of enduring facilities, green spaces and town centres that meet the needs of the community.
- **Prosperity:** have a thriving, dynamic and diverse economy where all our communities benefit from increased opportunity and our workforce has the right skills for our local economy and beyond.

We have developed a Deanery website to profile in a new way key aspects of each of our parishes and link these to other areas and places of interest in the borough.

The deanery vision includes a commitment to working more closely together and also commits us to equipping and growing ordained and lay ministry and engaging in mission - especially among children and young people. These strands remain strong in the life of each of our parishes. Following reorganisation of several parishes, we have begun working together on the development of a new Deanery Plan. Joining our Deanery at this time will include the opportunity to contribute to and shape that plan.

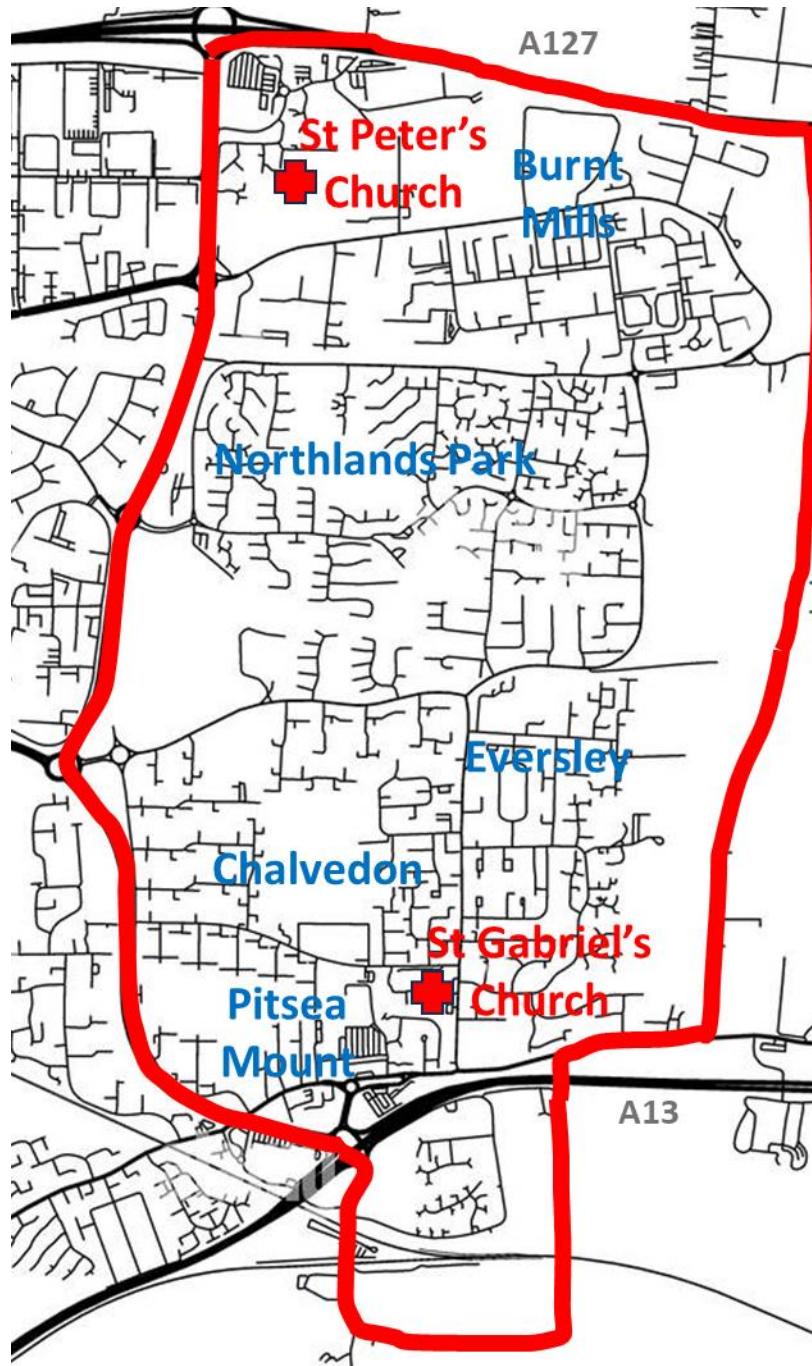


The Parish

The parish of Pitsea with Nevendon was formed in 2006 when the two churches were combined into a single parish. It includes five subdistricts including Burnt Mills, Northlands Park (formerly known as Felmores), Eversley, Chalvedon and Pitsea Mount.

There are two churches in the parish including Saint Peter's Church at Nevendon (and the adjacent Nevendon Community Hall) and Saint Gabriel's Church (and the adjacent St. Gabriel's Youth and Community Centre).

The population of the parish is 20276. Its deprivation score is 526 out of 12178. The parish electoral roll currently has 68 members.

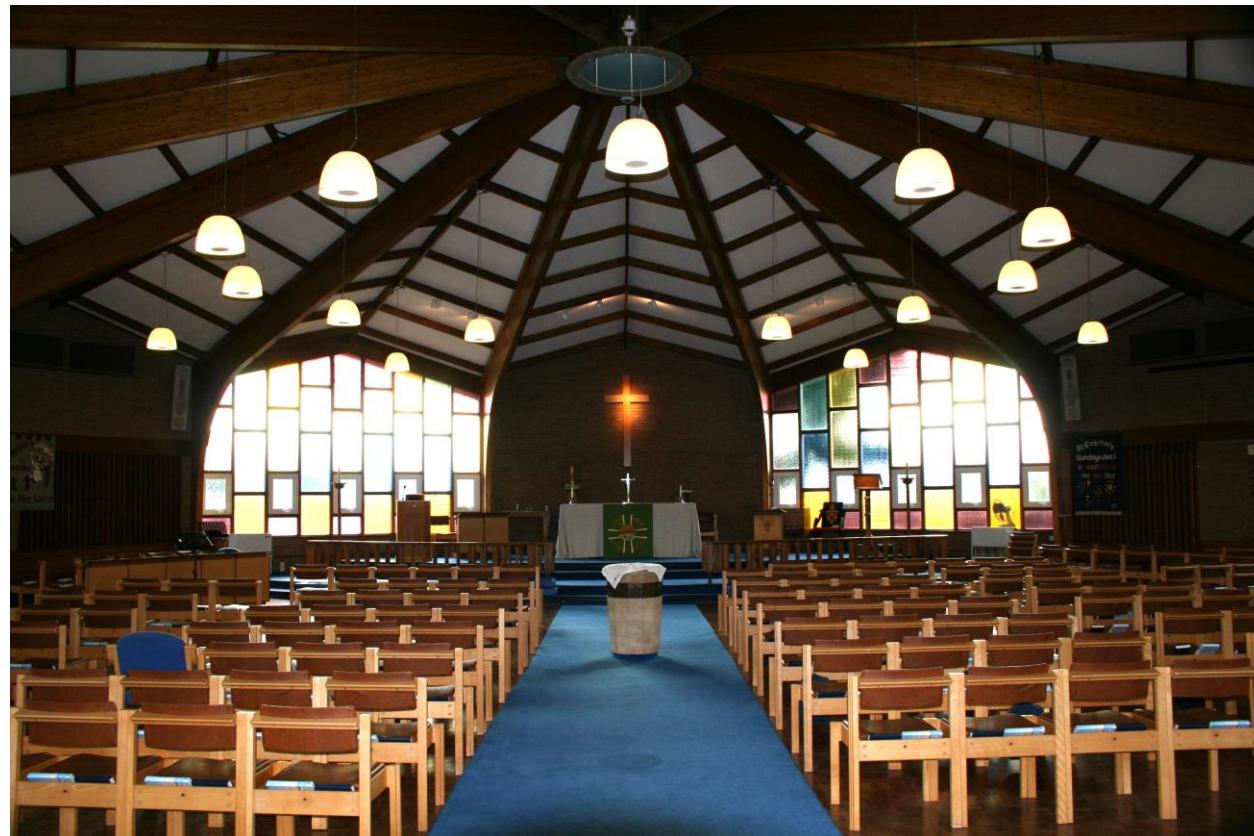


Saint Gabriel's Church

The church was built in 1963 in an unusual design with a 12-sided layout. It has seating for about 200 people, a small chapel (St. Michael's), office, storage, and restroom facilities including for the disabled.

There are large coloured glazed features on the six diagonal sides which gives the interior a bright, warm feeling. The seating is flexible and can be moved to suit any occasion.

Attendance can fluctuate throughout the year and our busiest service is midnight communion on Christmas Eve when the church will usually be full to capacity. Otherwise, a normal principal service on a Sunday would attract about 30-50 parishioners.

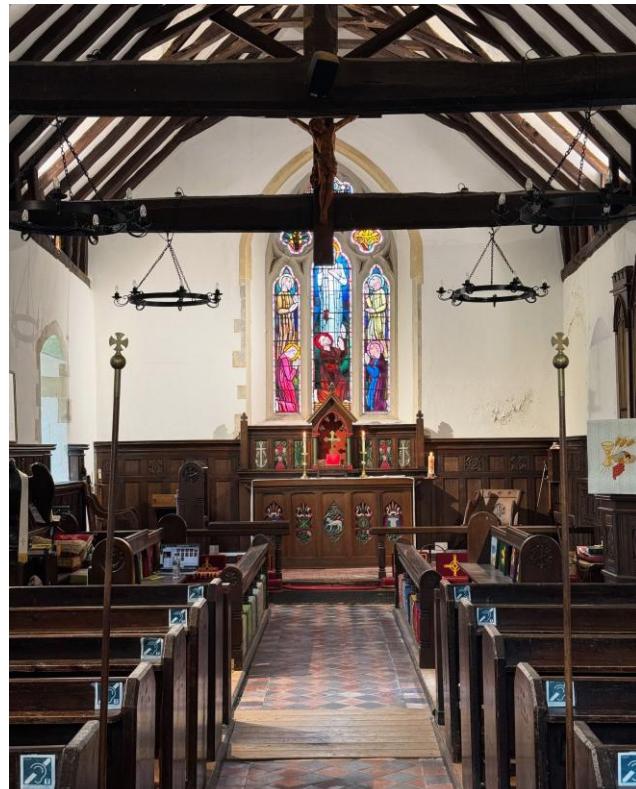


Saint Peter's Church

St Peter's Church was built in about 1275 and has seating for 80 people. It is stone-built and is situated in its own well-maintained churchyard with a sensory garden for use by the local community.

The churchyard is still in use, but is restricted for those either with family members already buried there, or members on the electoral roll. The bell was restored and re-hung in 1999 as a Millennium project.

The church attracts a modest congregation and a typical Sunday service would include around 6-12 parishioners.



Saint Gabriel's Centre

St. Gabriel's Youth and Community Centre provides facilities for social activities in support of the parish's ministry. There was previously a youth group which previously met there but did not return since the pandemic lockdown. There is a stage with changing facilities suitable for theatre productions. There is also a small kitchen, washroom facilities and a bar area.

The field at the back of the centre is owned by the parish and is just over an acre. Currently, it is underutilised and would benefit from the new ideas and creative solutions to maximising its potential to generate a regular income for the parish.



Nevendon Community Hall

Nevendon Community Hall is a timber-built structure with a small kitchen and washroom, a small back office, and a spacious, bright main room with lots of natural light. It is used for church meetings and social gathering and is also rented out to various groups to generate income for the church.

The hall has been well-maintained and is cleaned weekly. There is scope to expand its usage to appropriate social and leisure groups to increase the income to the parish for the upkeep of the church and its grounds.



The Rectory

The Rectory is a purpose built, four-bedroom detached brick house, built in the late 1950s to “[Green Guide](#)” standard. It has a large driveway and brick-built garage with secure fencing around a spacious garden at the back of the building. It is immediately adjacent to St. Gabriel’s Church and has been renovated and restored many times over the years.

The Rectory is ideally located close to shops, local schools and Pitsea railway station and provides a spacious and comfortable home and workspace.

