

**Scottish Episcopal Church  
St Columba's, Largs**

**Rector Profile**

We are seeking a Rector who is warm, inclusive and welcoming, will help us build on our achievements, guide us as we develop our vision for the future and lead us unitedly and spiritually through the next steps of our journey as we find our way into a post-pandemic norm. To help us do this s/he should have a strong faith and sense of discernment, a deep love of God and others, and a passion for recognising and drawing out people's strengths and spiritual gifts.

Our role, and the role of our Rector, in the wider community is particularly important to us. We value and are proud of our ecumenical links with other Largs churches, our relationships with local schools and other local organisations and our involvement in a range of social and community issues. We would want our new rector to have an interest and heart for community development in these areas and have a desire to work with us as we seek to live the gospel and develop our links, reach and activities even further.

As an Episcopal congregation we are intentionally inclusive in our welcome. We welcome all regardless of age, gender, race, ability, social class, sexuality or any other defining characteristic that could be, and historically has been, used as the basis for discrimination. We value the breadth of services that our church has offered (both traditional & more 'specialist' such as pet blessing, Taizé and an online Service of the Word). We value the friendship and fellowship we give and receive from one another through bible study, advent and lent groups, contemplative prayer, formal and informal discussion groups, and our fundraising and social gatherings. We would like our new Rector to be comfortable with the present liturgies and forms of service, and we would want her/him to work with our vestry, servers and musical director to help us explore and develop different patterns of worship.

We would like our Rector to have the following skills and experience:

- A vibrant relationship with God, good working knowledge of the bible, its teachings and how that relates to our contemporary life, with the ability to translate this relationship, knowledge and insight into inspiring, concise and relevant sermons and talks.
- Have excellent listening skills and be able to relate to and communicate with people across ages, backgrounds and needs.
- A track record in involving and motivating others in ways that will help us grow our congregation both numerically and spiritually.
- Experience and skills in ministering to children, young people and their parents.
- Ideally previous parish experience and possibly experience outside of the ministry, however more important is the ability to handle diverse views and unite people in a common vision.

We would like our Rector to: (attributes)

- Be sensitive to the traditions that have been important and brought a sense of belonging to many in our congregation, while bringing a sense of freshness and energy to the work of sharing our faith in less traditional ways.
- Enjoy and appreciate 'spiritual' music, understand how important this aspect of worship is to the congregation and work with us to develop the musical aspect of our worship further.
- Have a passion for pastoral care and actively value spending time with the elderly, sick, bereaved and lonely.
- Be a people person who is approachable, warm, openminded and compassionate.
- Have a good sense of humour!

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