



## Curacy Profile

### Grantham: Harrowby with Londonthorpe

Church of the Ascension, Harrowby and St John the Baptist, Londonthorpe



**Aiming to be  
'A welcoming church that lifts  
Jesus up  
by celebrating God's love in our  
community.'**



[https://www.facebook.com/ascensionharrowby/?locale=en\\_GB](https://www.facebook.com/ascensionharrowby/?locale=en_GB)

<http://www.achurchnearyou.com/Grantham-Harrowby-Londonthorpe>

## Ministry Profile

### A unique combination of urban estate and rural ministry in Grantham

Are you seeking a curacy where your flourishing and wellbeing are a priority?  
Would you like to experience a combination of both urban and rural ministry?  
Do you have a desire to work in less affluent, more marginalised communities?  
Do you want a range of ministry experiences to develop your skills?  
Do you want to be part of a deanery that has a breadth of spiritual traditions and works together to build God's kingdom in their town? Then please read on.

The United Benefice of The Church of the Ascension, Harrowby and Saint John the Baptist, Londonthorpe has a unique combination of urban estate ministry in a low-income area and rural ministry in a beautiful village on the edge of Grantham. Both churches are in the central tradition, though the Ascension holds a more modern, informal All Age Family Service once a month.



Our vision is to be '*A welcoming church that lifts Jesus up by celebrating God's love in our community.*' We seek to make our community a better place, to confront injustice and to act as salt and light in practical ways – particularly within our estate church which has significant needs within the community. We run various community activities to meet the needs of all ages:

- a highly popular Wellbeing Café on Mondays – a safe space where it's okay not to be okay;
- a Toddler Group on Tuesdays;
- a Youth Group on Fridays, partnering with a local sports organisation called Positive Futures.
- Along with this we hold a monthly, well attended, Ladies Fellowship meeting and quarterly Community Quiz Nights aimed at bringing the community together and raising money for local charities. These have proved hugely popular.
- We also hold a monthly service in a local care home.





We are seeking to grow our youth and children's ministry and have an excellent relationship with our 3 local primary schools, one of which is a church school. As well as delivering collective worship in our church school, we invite our local primary schools to visit the church, hold services there and attend our special Experience Easter event.

We desire not only to see people encountering Christ's love but growing in their relationship with God, so we run various discipleship groups throughout the year. This is another area we are seeking to develop.

Our church hall is a tremendous community asset and is hired out to a variety of community groups who we have built good relationships with.

Our village church in Loundthorpe is open every day and seeks to provide a safe haven of peace for quiet reflection in the midst of a busy and demanding world. They have a wonderful relationship with a local secondary school which runs an annual Christmas Carol Concert in the church which is very well attended. They have also begun a partnership with a local walking group from the National Trust who visit the church for refreshments as part of their walk.



Compassion, prayer and community mission is at the heart of all we do.

This is an exciting deanery to be a part of. We have 2 resource churches, one in the evangelical tradition and the other in the catholic tradition. We work collaboratively together and learn from one another, appreciating the breadth of our spiritual traditions and theological viewpoints. We are about to launch a deanery Youth Group and have plans to run some deanery Muddy Church services for those who appreciate outdoor worship. We also run a deanery Authorised Lay Ministry course. There are numerous opportunities for a curate to be involved in wider deanery collaborations.

### **Why is Grantham a great place to live?**

Grantham is an ancient market town in south-west Lincolnshire.

- It has excellent transport links, including the A1 and the East Coast Main Line with fast links to London, York, Newcastle and Edinburgh.
- It has attractive and accessible countryside on the doorstep, including the National Trust's Belton House estate.
- It has two outstanding grammar schools, other high achieving secondary schools and good Church of England primary schools.
- It has good cultural and leisure facilities, including the Guildhall Arts Centre and the Meres Leisure Centre.

### **Invitation**

We would invite any interested candidates to come and see this unique context and curacy opportunity. You are welcome to take a look around the churches and town, meet the team and hear how the Lord is working among us.