



# St John's Bilborough

## Mission Associate (church leader)

### Vision

Woven:  
LOCAL CHURCHES FLOURISHING

St Johns:  
EVERYDAY CHURCH

Woven is a church of churches here in Nottingham. We are made up of eight amazing local churches and a youth church. Each local church has its own identity and community feel but we are woven together by our vision, values, leadership, shared resources and structure.

### CONTEXT

This is your chance to be part of the adventure! Join a dynamic team working across Woven Church of Churches and lead Woven St John's. Develop existing outreaches and pioneer new missional initiatives in Bilborough, Nottingham.

Five years ago, Woven St John's was closed with no congregation. We restarted St John's on Easter day 2019. Today we have an average Sunday service attendance of 70 with loads of kids and youth and much bigger fringe. Almost everyone comes from the local community and a big majority have come to faith through the work of the church. We also have all sorts of activities and community outreach running through the week.



The leader who pioneered this church plant has felt God leading them to move onto their next project. We are therefore seeking the right person to lead this amazing church into its next season of life.



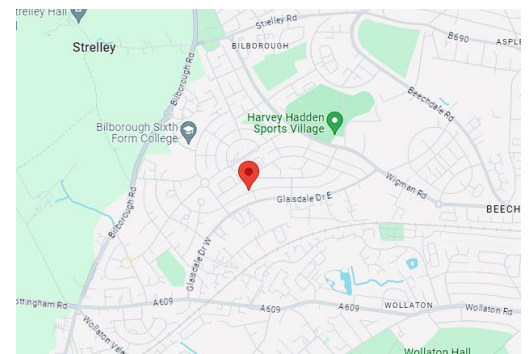
St John's church is in a strategic location with enormous opportunities. The building is situated at the heart of the community, and we have seen amazing stories of God changing lives and are passionate about continuing to serve and reach out to our locality.

Each member of clergy and staff in Woven plays a key role in contributing to our vision. Our mission is bigger than any individual task but together our work contributes to the bigger picture. As a Christian

organisation our faith is an integral part of our working culture.

## THE PARISH & CHURCH OF ST JOHN'S

The Parish of St Johns Bilborough is in the Nottingham North deanery. The parish has recently been re-established, separating it from two other churches; so, it is a single church parish and part of the Woven Joint Church Council. Bilborough is one of the poorest communities in the city and has a wonderful sense the community not seen in many other locations.



The average Sunday service attendance is about 70 but there is a much bigger fringe than come sometimes and are involved in mid-week activities. Most Sundays, more than 1/3 of the congregation is under 18.



St John's is in a strategic location just off the main high street of Bilborough. This has meant we have been a key partner in lots of key community moments, from hosting the fireworks display to being a key location at the Christmas extravaganza. There are always people walking past the church and the church is well known within the community. We run the biggest toddler group in the area (Little Lights) and an amazing weekly community meal. St John's is well known and has brilliant links to lots of other community organisations.

Over the past five years significant work has gone into the renovation of the main church building. The pews have been removed, AV has been installed, an industrial kitchen has been fitted and new toilets have been created. This has happened alongside sorting out lots of the basic problems the building had (heating, roof etc). The building is now a fantastic resource for mission with serves the church very well and is a great asset to be utilised.



We have also developed into the online space. And St John's has a good following on its weekly livestream of the Sunday service. This serves both people who can't make it to church but also is a good way of people trying church before they walk through the door. Many of our young people are involved in lots of aspects of church life including running all the AV and livestream.

On Sunday evening (5pm), St John's hosts our Woven youth church. This is a space for teenagers across Woven to meet, worship and grow as disciples. The vision is to multiply this across Woven and therefore there is an opportunity to be a part of developing which direction this 5pm Sunday gathering goes as it becomes a more Bilborough focussed service.



The church also has a 'social centre' (church hall) which is used for Sunday kids, other church activities and is rented out creating additional income.



There is an amazing team of people at St Johns. We have two children's workers (who together make a full-time post), one of the Woven youth workers (full time) focusses on Bilborough and is part of the St Johns team, a caretaker (part time) and lots of amazing volunteer leaders.

We also have a fantastic clergy team and staff team which the successful applicant will be at part of at Woven. You can find out more here: <https://wearewoven.church/staff>

## ROLE DESCRIPTION

### OBJECTIVES

- In partnership with the church leadership team and the leader or Woven create a sense of the next stage of the vision for Woven St John's in alignment with the Woven and the Diocesan vision.
- To work as part of the Woven team, assisting across Woven church on shared network events and initiatives.
- To be a part of the Woven clergy team, working together to plan teaching, woven in prayer, Woven together and other joint initiatives.





- To play a part in creating the bigger picture strategy of Woven alongside the other key clergy and leaders in Woven.
- In partnership with the church leadership team, lead the church to seek to develop and continue to grow in line with the vision.
- Work with the kids and youth staff and volunteers to continue to encourage the development of the kids and youth ministries.
- Invest in and continue to develop Sunday worship.
- Invest in and continue to develop the midweek mission and community activities.
- Continue to engage the local community through the activity of the church.
- Work with and invest in the existing staff and volunteer leaders at St John's to enable them to flourish and thrive.
- Keep established connections with the community and seek new ones.
- To lead us in, and enable others to, have a go at new things without feeling the pressure of everything having to work.
- To pastor and enable others to pastor the congregation and people in the community.
- Work with the leadership team to explore how midweek communities, to aid spreading the discipleship load, might develop.
- To lead and disciple others to a Christian faith, nurturing them and enabling them to be those who in turn go and make disciples.
- To explore with the leader of Woven how the site might be developed to build a new hall and to provide sustainability funding.



## KEY RELATIONSHIPS

- Line managed by and working closely with the Vicar and team leader of Woven.
- The Mission Associate will work closely with the existing Mission Associates at St Leo's Basford, St Margaret's Aspley, and St Martha's Broxtowe. Working in collaboration to support and draw resources from each other and to help resource and encourage other churches in Woven without a church leader.
- Be part of the Woven team drawing on and sharing resources. Notably, support from the operations team, Woven kids' team and Woven youth team.
- Engage well with the Operations structures set by Woven.
- Relating well to the Deanery and Diocese.



# Personal Specification

## SPIRITUALITY

- An intimate personal relationship with God.
- A life of deep prayerfulness.
- Seeking to live a life that is naturally supernatural, empowered by the Holy Spirit and comfortable in leading others in gifts of the Spirit.
- A commitment to study the scriptures.

## PASSIONS

- A passion for making disciples.
- A desire to work in an estate context.
- A passion for church growth and development in urban areas of deprivation.
- A passion for serving those at the margins of society and those in crisis and to tackle injustice and poverty.
- A vision for seeking the welfare of the wider community beyond the church walls.
- Evangelism - both personally and enabling others to reach out.
- A gatherer of people who value hospitality and a desire to see church members discipled well, with their gifts being released.
- A passion for Spirit led worship and to find creative ways of developing worship in the church.

## SKILLS

- A visionary leader and strategic shaper who is prepared to build upon what has already been developed but will keep us moving forwards and growing into the opportunities God gives us.
- An investor in people, who can help people become all they can be.
- At home in informal and interactive team and ministry settings.
- Strongly relational with a passion for healthy and deep relationships.
- Ability to take forward and inspire others towards a shared vision.
- An ability to work in social action projects but keep them focused on making disciples of Christ.
- Ability to make contact with people outside of church.
- Able to preach in an accessible and biblical manner.
- Able to raise up and invest in leaders.
- Knowledge of how to best equip, nurture, encourage and empower leaders.
- The ability to communicate clearly and creatively through preaching and teaching, in small groups and individually.

## EXPERIENCE AND COMPETANCIES

- Working with and discipling people.
- Working with community transformation initiatives, bringing change and improvement to people's lives.
- Urban mission experience in a socially and economically deprived area.



# Our wider Deanery & Diocese

## *Called to serve in Nottingham?*

It is an exciting time to be joining in God's mission in Nottingham. Nottingham North Deanery, despite its name, actually takes in parishes from the South-West (Stapleford and Wollaton), and also parishes up the M1 corridor to the west of Junction 26 up to Kimberley, as well as the areas of Nottingham to the north and west, before curving around to Sherwood, heading out of the city to the north-east. The Deanery is highly populated and full of the challenges of bringing the gospel to generations who have mostly had little to do with church. As well as Bilborough, there are currently a number of other vacancies, and our desire is to appoint leaders into the Deanery who have a deep compassion for ordinary people coupled with a joy and hope that, under God, he will open the door to new possibilities of growth for all the churches.

## *Mission Opportunity*

The churches in Nottingham North serve many of the poorer areas of the City of Nottingham, with several large outer estates on the western and northern side of the city. Over 50% of churches are in the bottom 15% of the CUF deprivation figures; and 30% in the bottom 4%. It is an area of significant opportunity for mission and growth, with some of the lowest attendances of any deanery in the country. There is a growing sense of hope, prayer and expectation springing up. We know God is 'doing a new thing' across the area and we would love a new Mission Associate to share of this sense of vision and hope for what God will do.

## *Growth plans for the deanery & diocese*

- Regular monthly prayer times calling on God to breathe his life into our churches and communities
- Larger churches to become resource churches for others
- Curates trained, and then to plant or graft new congregations in smaller, struggling churches, bringing a team with them from their sending church.
- A range of ministry from ordained to lay evangelists working as a team across parishes
- Younger leaders trained to enable the church to grow younger.



