

The Rt Revd Ian Bishop

Bishop of Thetford

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June 2025

Priest in Charge and House of Duty Priest in the Brooke Benefice and Hempnall Group of Parishes (two posts)

Dear colleague,

Thank you for the interest in the posts in the Brooke Benefice and the Hempnall Group of Parishes, in the Depwade Deanery and in the heart of the Norwich Diocese.

There is huge potential for growth given that there is a strong team in the benefices who have demonstrated exceptional talent in building great relationships between the two benefices and developing supportive ways of working together.

The Diocese is at an interesting and exciting point with a new vision emerging under a still relatively new diocesan bishop, and much work is currently underway on the development of strategies for the outworking of the vision across the diocese.

We would love to hear from you if you feel that God might be calling you to this new role in this beautiful part of the county, or if you have questions about this role.

Diocese and Deanery

Under the leadership of the Bishop of Norwich, the Rt Revd Graham Usher, a vision is emerging for the Diocese – *Transformed by Christ: Prayerfully, Pastorally and Prophetically*. Work is currently underway on the strategies that will help us live out and deliver this vision.

Bishop Graham has written an Ethos and Culture Statement, available on the diocesan website - <https://www.dioceseofnorwich.org/app/uploads/2020/12/Our-Life-Together-2021.pdf> - which gives details of our structures and the character of the Diocese.

The Brooke and Hempnall benefices fall within the Archdeaconry of Norfolk, and so under the care of the Bishop of Thetford (The Rt Revd Ian Bishop) and the Archdeacon of Norfolk (The Venerable Steven Betts). The benefices are in the Depwade deanery, with a Rural Dean, The Revd Michael Windridge. There are 5 posts of incumbent status in the Deanery, along with 2 Assistant Curates, 4 Licensed Lay Ministers (Readers) and a number of PTO clergy and Authorised Worship Assistants.

Attendance at Deanery Synod and Chapter is an expectation, and all diocesan clergy are encouraged to give some part of their time and energies to the wider life of the Diocese.

Housing

The two benefice houses are described more fully in the Benefice Profile. Please direct questions about the houses to the Archdeacon of Norfolk (archdeacon.norfolk@dioceseofnorwich.org).

The Benefice Patrons for this turn would be The Lord Chancellor (Brooke) and The Patronage Board for the Hempnall Team Ministry (Hempnall).

Enquiries, Applications and Interviews

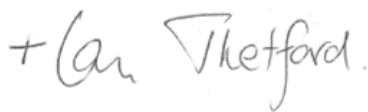
An application can be made through Pathways at [Diocese of Norwich Vacancies | Church of England](#) or the Diocese of Norwich website at [Vacancies - Diocese of Norwich](#).

The form, after we have removed the confidential declarations for safeguarding and other purposes (Section 7 to the end), will be forwarded to the Patron(s) if appropriate.

The closing date for applications is 31st July at 11.59pm, with interviews to be held on 1st September.

Any priest wanting an informal discussion before deciding whether to apply is welcome to be in touch by telephone or e-mail with me.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in grey ink that reads "+ Ian Thetford."

The Rt Revd Ian Bishop

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