



The Rt. Revd Dr Jane Steen
Bishop of Lynn
Lynn House, Commercial Road,
Dereham, NR19 1AE
01362 709200
bishop.lynn@dioceseofnorwich.org

PA: Mrs Ann Whittet
ann.whittet@dioceseofnorwich.org

April 2026

**Team Vicar: Dereham and District Team Ministry with responsibility for Swanton
Morley, Hoe, Beetley with East Bilney**

Dear Friends in Christ,

Benefice and Role

Thank you for inquiring for details for this post, and I very much hope that you enjoy reading the profile.

The Dereham Team Ministry is a flourishing and collegiate team in one of Norfolk's larger market towns. Dereham attracts people from a wide catchment area due to its supermarkets, market, leisure and other facilities. The Team clergy work well together, each having pastoral care for particular parishes while supporting one another and setting Team direction.

The Swanton Morely parishes are among the more rural in the benefice and the new Team Vicar will be someone who enjoys village life and the community role of the parish priest. You will see from the role description that there is a desire to draw all ages into the household of faith and to embrace different styles of worship. The Bishop and Archdeacon of Lynn anticipate that newly appointed clergy will start at least one new worshipping community within their first three years in post, which will draw new people to the church. This could be Bubble Church, a Fresh Expression or Evensong as contextually appropriate. We also wish to see all clergy take seriously the imperative to Christian social action, ensuring that those excluded and marginalised due to economic circumstances or other

forms of poverty (of opportunity, education and so on) are welcomed and cared for by the church.

We hope very much that you will find these an encouragement to you to take forward new initiatives in ministry and mission. We recognise that this is not always easy, and the Diocesan Mission Team is very much available to support you. If this will be your first incumbency, you will be invited to join other first incumbents in meeting regularly with me to look at any area of mission and ministry which people wish to discuss. And if you would be new to rural ministry, let me encourage you to continue exploring this post. Rural ministry offers a range of experience second to none in the Church of England, and it is very much my hope that clergy will come here to learn and to develop in their ministry through that experience.

Diocese and Deanery

The Diocese of Norwich's vision is to be Transformed by Christ: Prayerful, Pastoral, Prophetic. You can find out more information about this at <https://www.dioceseofnorwich.org/about/vision/>

Most of the project work you will see described there has now been drawn together to create a mission and ministry strategy for a sustainable and flourishing future. This will involve a focused approach to parish development and a bid to the national Strategic Mission and Ministry Investment Board for named church growth projects leading to replicable learning. The Diocese already has various ways in which lay people can participate in pastoral care and in leading worship, including as Licensed Lay Ministers but also as Authorised Worship Assistants and Authorised Pastoral Assistants.

The Benefice falls within the Archdeaconry of Lynn. The Diocese of Norwich operates an informal area scheme, and the Bishop of Lynn's area of oversight is coterminous with the archdeaconry. The Archdeacon is the Venerable Catherine Dobson and the Rural Dean is the Revd Canon Paul Cubitt, also Team Rector. Paul has commented, 'The deanery is currently in a season of renewal, with benefices seeking new leadership, discerning fresh vision, and moving forward in hope. This is always an exciting time of opportunity. As Rural Dean, I look forward to working with you and with Chapter, as together we support and encourage one another for the sake of the Kingdom'.

There are 6 posts of incumbent status in the Deanery, one of which is half-time in village parishes and half time in the schools of that benefice and 5 Licensed Lay Ministers (Readers). There are 10 Authorised Worship Assistants (AWAs) in the deanery, enabling laity to lead Services of the Word. 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 accommodation provided is described in the profile.

Questions about the house should be directed to the Archdeacon of Lynn, the Venerable Catherine Dobson (archdeacon.lynn@dioceseofnorwich.org).

Patronage for the role of Team Vicar

The Bishop of Norwich

The Revd Canon Paul Cubitt, Team Rector

The closing date for applications is Wednesday 3rd June (9.00am) with interviews being held on Tuesday 7th July. The post is subject to a Genuine Occupational Requirement and a satisfactory enhanced DBS disclosure.

If you would like to have an informal discussion before deciding whether to apply, please contact Ann Whittet (PA to the Bishop and Archdeacon of Lynn). She can be reached by email at ann.whittet@dioceseofnorwich.org or by phone to the Bishop's office on 01362 709200.

Should you receive an out-of-office notification from Ann's email address as she is on holiday during May, you are welcome to contact: bishop.lynn@dioceseofnorwich.org or archdeacon.lynn@dioceseofnorwich.org.

With grace and peace as you discern the role to which God is calling you,

Yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jane Steen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

The Rt Revd Dr Jane Steen, Bishop of Lynn