



## **THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND**

### **JOB DESCRIPTION**

**Title of Post:** Full-time Minister at St. Andrew's Church, Rome, Italy

**Responsible to:** International Presbytery

**Date:** November 2018

**Main Purpose of post:** To provide ministry to the Congregation and outreach to the wider community in collaboration with the Kirk Session and Congregation.

**Some points to consider:** Over the last twenty years there have been many changes in our church community, which make it very different from congregations in Scotland. Economic factors first led to embassies and foreign companies cutting back on employees from the UK and USA being sent to Rome, which has meant fewer native English speakers in the congregation. We have always had close ties with the Presbyterian Church of Ghana, and our Ghanaian members, along with those from other parts of Africa, have become a vital part of our church life. These members (and members of other nationalities) now make up the majority of the congregation of St Andrew's. From their deep faith and sense of spirituality we have learnt much, and the five young people whom we saw grow up in our Sunday Club and were recently confirmed bear witness to the vitality of our church community.

However, this means that, although our worship is conducted in English, an ability to speak Italian, or willingness to learn, is essential for the minister both to understand and communicate with all our members and also to relate to the context in which we all live. Rome is a unique city but living in Italy can at times be frustrating and a good working knowledge of the language means that our minister would be facilitated from many points of view. Apart from everyday communication, it would also help him or her in establishing relationships with other members of the clergy in Rome; living "above the shop" in a manse in the centre of the city could otherwise lead to a sense of isolation, as ours is a "gathered" congregation which tends to concentrate its activity on Sundays.

We would welcome a minister who is open to help us grow in faith in this challenging time for our congregation, and develop the sense of Christian mission and hospitality to the stranger which has always been a characteristic of St Andrew's, Rome.

## **Main Duties**

### **Worship**

- Leading worship on Sundays. This includes preaching, leading prayers and celebrating the sacraments.
- Leading worship on days other than Sunday as required.
- Leading Communion on the 1st Sunday of each month.
- Support and train the congregation, and particularly its young people to prepare for, and undertake the leading of public worship

### **Teaching**

- Encouraging our community's growth in faith by offering bible study to the Congregation.

### **Responsibility and Development**

- Moderating regular meetings of the Kirk Session.
- Encouraging elders and other members of the Congregation to choose areas of the life and work of the church for which they will take responsibility.
- Identifying and progressing through practice, example and teamwork, in collaboration with the Kirk Session and the sub-committees, aspects of congregational life that have to be developed further.
- Maintaining and developing links with other Christian denominations and churches, and key secular organisations, particularly the embassies of the parent countries of the members of the congregation
- Together with our Presbytery elder, representing St Andrew's at the meetings of the International Presbytery twice a year.

### **Pastoral care**

- Taking responsibility for pastoral duties i.e. baptisms, weddings, funerals and related pastoral visitation as required.

- Together with the Kirk Session and Congregation, sharing in the responsibility of routine pastoral visitation to the congregation, whether at home, nursing home or in hospital.
- Taking responsibility for pastoral emergencies as they may arise from time to time providing pastoral support to members at times of illness, bereavement and at times of personal challenge.

**Person Specification**

Essential and desirable skills:

	Essential	Desirable
Ability to preach, teach, and minister to a membership of different cultural and ethnic backgrounds.	√	
Ability to preach, teach and minister to people of different ages.	√	
Experience in working with children, young people and families and an understanding of the issues that face them.	√	
Ability to carry out effective and empathetic pastoral care.	√	
A commitment to partnership: working, maintaining and developing links with other churches and organisations locally.	√	
Demonstrable ability to encourage good practice in working with and motivating volunteers.	√	
Experience in outreach.		√
Knowledge of Italian or serious commitment to learn Italian.	√	
Ability to communicate effectively with others using highly developed interpersonal skills.	√	
Keeping up to date with Church and wider community issues.	√	
Computer literate.	√	

## **Educational requirements**

You must be an ordained Church of Scotland Minister or an ordained Minister of a partner Church in good standing with his/her Church and who has undergone the Church of Scotland admission process.

Informal enquiries can be made to interim moderator Rev. Willie Strachan on 0044 7432 513375 or [wstrachan@churchofscotland.org.uk](mailto:wstrachan@churchofscotland.org.uk).