

Sir, The Church of England is off at a tangent virtue signalling and failing, indeed destroying, the base of parish life by failing to properly train and deploy parish priests to restore growth. A recent presentation by Save the Parish, hosted by the House of Commons, cited 600 briefcase clergy — those without parishes, working in administrative roles — more than half the number needed to fill our vacant parishes. The church has become a vast, bland bureaucracy, dreaming up vacuous ideas to justify herself instead of doing God's work. She should be an agent of the Holy Spirit but she has lost humility, vulnerability and credibility.

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