

Parish Fact Sheet

Incumbent



This form is designed to give an overview of a parish to be used in a vacancy to help it find an appropriate incumbent. It will be accepted as the "statement describing the conditions, needs and traditions of the parish" required by the Patronage (Benefices) Measure 1986. Additional information may be given by way of a Parish Profile document.

PARISH: OXTON, ST SAVIOUR DATE: SEPTEMBER 2024

DEANERY: BIRKENHEAD

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

1. Number of C of E churches/places of worship in the parish: 2
2. Population. 15,615
3. Number on electoral roll. 336
4. Usual Sunday attendance (*taken from last annual return*)
under 16 years of age: 27 16 and over: 124
5. PCC ordinary income (*i.e. total of voluntary income and other ordinary income taken from last annual return*): £ 180,517
6. Average weekly gift per regular giver: £ 12.80

PERSONNEL

1. Name of (former) incumbent: REVD DR JOSEPH KENNEDY
2. Name(s) of Assistant Clergy (*indicate whether stipendiary (SM) or self-supporting (SSM)*): REVD ELAINE BISSON (retired with PTO)
3. Name(s) of Readers, Pastoral Workers and any other licensed lay workers:
MRS AMY DAVIES, READER
4. Name(s) and office of any other staff (*such as Church Army Captain, community worker, administrator*) employed. Please state number of hours worked per week:

Mrs Tracey Williams - Children's and Young Families' Leader: 30 hrs per week
Mrs Sue Gerrie - Parish Administrator: 17.5 hrs per week
Dr Glyn Mon Hughes - Organist not paid by the hour but on a contract to undertake specific duties
Mr Andrew Peckham - Choir Leader (as organist)
Mr John Gibson - Part time Caretaker, St Andrew's Church Centre: 3 hrs per week

THE PARISH

- 1. Is the parish inner urban/urban/suburban/village/scattered rural?
SUBURBAN
- 2. Is the population
 - (a) static rising or falling? STATIC
 - (b) settled or mobile? SETTLED

- 3. Is the population
 - (a) Predominantly retired/middle-aged/young families?
RETIRED and YOUNG FAMILIES
 - (b) Does it include: professional/executive/manual/unemployed?
ALL
 - (c) Describe any ethnic groups resident in the parish:

There are no specific groups identified

- 4. Estimate the proportion of housing:
 - (a) owner-occupied: 80%
 - (b) local authority: 5%
 - (c) privately rented: 15%

- 5. Please list:
 - (a) number and types of schools in the parish:

1 Voluntary Aided Primary School (soon to become CDAT Academy)
2 Maintained Primary Schools
1 Maintained Academy (4-19 yrs,girls only)

1 Independent Preparatory School (co-ed 2 to 11yrs)
1 Independent School (co-ed 4-19yrs)

- (b) number of nursing homes/elderly persons' homes 6
- (c) any youth centres? NO
- (d) any community centres? 2
- (e) name(s) of hospitals in the parish: NONE

- 6. Name of hospital, if any, of which the incumbent is chaplain:
NONE

7. Does the incumbent have specific civic responsibilities? If so, what?
NO
8. Are there any links with local industry?
NO
9. Does the parish have any significant social problems, e.g. high unemployment?
NO

CHURCH SERVICES

1. How do you describe the church tradition? Traditional catholic / modern catholic / central / open evangelical / conservative evangelical or some other label?
CENTRAL / MODERN CATHOLIC
2. Give the pattern of Sunday services:

Immediately prior to Vacancy
 At St Saviour's 9.15am Holy Communion with Choral music
 All Sundays 10.45am All-Age informal Service with Holy Communion and Children's Groups
 4th Sunday 4.00pm (winter), 6.30pm (summer) Choral Evensong

At St Andrew's 4.00pm Worship @ 4.
 4th Sunday in the month
3. Which prayer book is used for the services of Holy Communion – if both, please State? Book of Common Prayer or Common Worship: COMMON WORSHIP
 Is there a traditional use of
 eucharist vestments? Yes/No YES
 coloured stoles? Yes/No YES
 scarf and hood? Yes/No YES
4. What hymn book(s) is/are used?

At St Saviour's:
 Common Praise Hymn Book
 Resources for screens - CCLI; The Source; Google

At St Andrew's:
 Complete Mission Praise Hymn Book
5. (a) What percentage of the congregation lives outside the parish? 25%
 (b) Does any one age group, gender or social class predominate in the congregation? 9.15am mainly 60+; 10.45am All-Age service mainly young families
6. Average number of communicants on a normal Sunday:
110

7. Numbers during the last year
- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| of baptisms: | <u>25</u> |
| of confirmation candidates: | <u>9</u> |
| of weddings: | <u>1</u> |
| of funerals in church: | <u>9</u> |
| in crematoria: | <u>12</u> |

8. Has the parish received permission from the bishop to admit baptized children to Holy Communion before confirmation? Yes/No
NO
- If so, how many children were admitted to Holy Communion before confirmation during the last year? N / A

BUILDINGS AND CHURCHYARD

1. Name of the parish church: ST SAVIOUR'S CHURCH OXTON
 Year(s) built: 1891 to 1893
 Date of last quinquennial inspection: 16.08.2024
 List any urgent repair work still to be done:

The last Quinquennial Inspection took place on 16 August 2024 and as yet no written report has been received.

Although maybe 'not urgent', the church architect recommended verbally that the church downpipes should be repaired or renewed where necessary.

2. Other C of E churches (*mission church/daughter church/chapel of ease*) in the parish: Name and condition of repair:

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH CENTRE, MOORFIELD AVENUE, NOCTORUM CH43 9YU
 Built and opened in 1973, the building is in sound condition and has been well maintained with new windows, new flooring and re-decoration in recent years.

3. In your view, is the parsonage house likely to need extensive refurbishment/ replacement? Yes/No NO

4. What other buildings (*e.g. church hall, curate's house*) and land (not churchyard) does the parish own? (*Give addresses, use and condition*)

ST SAVIOUR'S PARISH CENTRE adjacent to church in BIDSTON ROAD, OXTON CH43 2JZ
 Built with National Lottery funding and opened in 2005 it is in sound condition. Parish Office located here. Used by church and community groups for meetings, events, training sessions, children's work
 CURATE'S HOUSE, 36 NOCTORUM DELL, CH43 9UL Condition in need of some refurbishment. Currently rented out, a decision was made by the PCC in early 2024 to sell this property & it is for sale.

5. Has the church got a churchyard? Yes/No NO
 Is it still in use? Yes/No N / A
 How many new graves were opened last year? N / A
 How many re-openings were there last year? N / A
 Estimate how many years are available for new graves: N / A
 Is there a special area for the interment of ashes? N / A

FINANCE

1. Please e-mail (or send) a copy of last year's accounts and last year's annual report of the PCC.
2. Does the church have a stewardship, thanksgiving or planned giving scheme? Planned Giving Scheme
3. If special money-raising events are held during the year, please give details.

Amount raised £9,035 (2023) from a range of activities including social events, Christmas Fair, coffee mornings, bingo and quiz nights, second hand book stall, printer cartridge (used) returns, Christmas Tree giving appeal, 'money tubes' collection, money from refreshments after Sunday services, 100+ Club

4. (a) What was the amount of expenses paid last year to the:
 incumbent £ 455.97 assistant clergy £ 331.78 +£708.75 (pd 2024)
 (b) Were these the full amounts claimed? If not, why not
Despite reminders previous incumbent did not always submit claims.
 (c) Does the PCC pay a lump sum or reimburse actual expenses claimed
Reimburse actual expenses claimed
 Is a claim form used? NO
5. What is the current amount of Parish Share payable by the parish? £75,344.40
6. In the last financial year, did the PCC meet its financial obligations to the Diocese in full for payment of its Parish Share? Yes/No YES
 If not, what amount was paid: £ N / A
 In the current financial year, is the PCC up to date with its Parish Share?
 Yes/No YES
7. Is there any capital project in hand at the moment? Yes/No NO
 Please give brief details with costs and how they are to be met.
N / A

CHURCH EDUCATION AND SOCIAL PROVISION

1. (a) Is there a church school in the parish? Yes/No

YES

Is it controlled or aided? Yes/No

AIDED

(b) Number of children on roll:

219

Is the number static/rising/falling?

STATIC

(c) What relationship/links are there between church and school?

There are excellent relationships/links between church and school.
Incumbent is an ex-officio governor and PCC/Diocese appoint majority of governors.
Our Children's and Young Families' Leader spends a considerable time in school where she is recognised as 'Chaplain', leading collective worship and 'Next Gen' study group (Yr5 and Yr6)
School worships in church on a regular basis and clergy are frequently in school.

Although presently an 'Aided' school, St Saviour's School will shortly become a CDAT Academy.

(d) If the school is aided, what is the condition of the building?

Good, in general, with significant capital funding provided by DBE in recent years

2. What provision is made by the church for teaching:

(a) children:

Junior Church during 10.45am Sunday service, children's groups meet in Parish Centre - Sand (0 to 4 yrs) Pebbles (5yrs to 7yrs) Rocks (8yrs to 11 yrs)
Stepping Stones a carers' and tots group - up to school age, meets weekly in school term time
Messy Church children up to Yr6 with an adult, meets monthly during school term time
At St Saviour's School, led by school chaplain Yrs 5 and 6, Next Gen Bible study and prayer group meets weekly

(b) young people:

Confirmation classes Yr6 upwards

'Engage' youth group, Yr6 upwards, meets monthly

(c) adults

Bible study groups
Advent and Lent courses
Sermon series

3. List church organisations with approximate numbers for:
 (a) children: Rainbows (20), Brownies (30)
 (b) young people: Engage (15)
 (c) adults: Mothers' Union (60)

4. Give details of house/prayer groups:

Not at present

5. Are the leaders clergy or lay? Both when these have been active.

DISCIPLESHIP AND LAY MINISTRY

1. How do you rate the strength of lay leadership in the parish? To what do you credit the strength or lack of it?

We have an excellent Reader who has taken on considerable responsibility during the vacancy.
 Traditionally there was strong lay leadership, provided mostly by older members of the congregation. Some younger members have taken on leadership roles but the impact of the Covid pandemic and older members no longer being able to take on such responsibilities has left a reduced team of 'willing and able' volunteers.

2. Does the parish have a discipleship course? (e.g. Alpha, Emmaus, Christianity Explored). Pilgrim Course

3. What other opportunities does the parish provide to lay people to deepen their discipleship and vocation?

Prior to vacancy - daily service of Morning Prayer in Church or Parish Centre
 Faith Matters course
 Advent and Lent courses
 On-line resources available on church website - Daily Prayer, Taize, Bible in One Year, Acts Prayers, Lecto Divina, We pray for Ukraine,
 Church podcasts
 Informal 'Coffee and Chat' sessions held monthly. Craft Cafe held monthly.

ECUMENICAL RELATIONS

1. State involvement in local council of churches, if any.

St Saviour's is a member of the Oxton and Noctorum Churches Together (ONCT). The group includes the local Roman Catholic, United Reform and Methodist churches.

2. Is there a formal covenant with any other denominations?

A formal, local covenant with Holy Name, Oxton (RC), St Peter's, St Peter's, Noctorum (RC) and Trinity United Reform with Palm Grove Methodist, Oxton was signed in May 1988.

3. What informal contacts are there?

Details of special events at churches are circulated to the other churches in the group.
Oxton Men's Annual Charity Dinner held annually

OUTREACH AND MISSION

1. Please give details of the support of the Church overseas. How much is given annually?

Although in the past, generous financial support was given to the Church overseas, especially to Papua New Guinea, regrettably this has had to be discontinued in view of our present financial situation and the many challenges that we now need to address.

Individual collections have been made for international disasters including the Turkish Earthquake Disaster Appeal.

2. Give details of the support for home missions and charities.

As above, in the past we have traditionally supported many home missions and charities but more recently our resources have been used to maintain and progress mission work within the parish especially in building up a younger and more diverse congregation.

3. Is there an organised system of evangelism in the parish? If so, please describe it.

There is no ongoing system in place but there have been targeted 'leaflet drops' in specific areas of the parish.

4. Is there an organised system of follow-up to baptisms, weddings, funerals? If so, please describe.

A 'Marriage Preparation Day' is held on a Saturday in the spring to which all prospective wedding couples are invited. They are usually very well attended and much appreciated by those who come.

The Children's and Families' Leader maintains contact with the families after baptisms.

There is an annual 'All Souls Day' service to which those families bereaved over the previous 12 months are sent an invitation to attend.

5. What part does the church play in community care (e.g. the unemployed/homeless/ drug addicts/disabled)?

The church collects donations of food items for the local Food Bank and a designated member of the congregation delivers them each week to the Wirral Food Bank. A list of requested items is published on the weekly pew sheet and in recent years the harvest collection of foodstuffs has also been donated to the Food Bank.

Donations of goods have also been made to Forum Housing.

6. Is there an organised system of care for the sick and elderly? If so, what?

There is a rota of people who visit the sick and elderly on a monthly basis.

7. What work does the church undertake with young people, other than in church-based organisations (e.g. open youth work)?

Members of the Parish Leadership Team regularly visit and take collective worship at all the primary schools in the parish. The church welcomes groups of students from all schools within the parish to make educational visits to the church and attend school based Christmas Carol and special services.

PUBLICATIONS

1. Is there is a history of the church/parish? If so, please e-mail (or send) a copy.
Yes/No YES

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. What are your current goals to achieve for the next 5 years?

To retain and grow the numbers of worshipping families from all age groups and demographic backgrounds
To progress in achieving the Eco Church UK Rocha Silver Award
To increase the church's income
To grow in fellowship

2. List the areas of church life which you consider are in most need of development.

Developing involvement and participation of new members in church activities
To develop youth work with 14+ age group
Encouraging more young adult members of the church family to take on roles of responsibility

Signed on behalf of the PCC: _____

Office held: VICE CHAIR and CHURCHWARDEN

Copies of this form, duly completed, should be sent to the following:

1. The Bishop of Chester, Bishop's House, Abbey Square, Chester CHI 2JD. (Hard copy)
2. The Suffragan Bishop (Hard copy and electronic copy)
3. The Archdeacon (Electronic copy)
4. The Patron (if the Bishop is the patron, he need not be sent a second copy)
5. The Designated Officer (Mrs E A Geddes, Church House). (Hard copy)
6. The Rural Dean (Electronic copy)
7. The Deanery Lay Chair (Electronic copy)
8. The PCC representatives