



DIOCESE OF CHESTER

PARISH FACT SHEET

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: **St Mary, Nantwich**

DATE: **October 2017**

DEANERY: **Nantwich**

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| 1. Number of C of E churches/places of worship in the parish: | 1 |
| 2. Population. | 21,000 |
| 3. Number on electoral roll. | 466 (Apr/17) |
| 4. Usual Sunday attendance (<i>taken from last annual return</i>) under 16 years of age: | 50 (66) |
| 16 and over: | 375 (436) |

Average figures probably provided in last annual return, not usual Sunday attendance.

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|---|-----------------|
| 5. PCC ordinary income (<i>i.e. total of voluntary income and other ordinary income taken from last annual return</i>): | £221,000 |
| Average weekly gift per regular giver: | £ 12 |

PERSONNEL

1. Name of (former) incumbent: **Revd Canon Dr Barry Wilson**
2. Name(s) of Assistant Clergy (*indicate whether stipendiary (SM) or self-supporting (SSM)*):
Revd Stephen Snelling (SSM); Revd Professor Bernard Moss (SSM)
Retired clergy Revd David Marsh; Revd Gordon Roxby; Revd Ian Stubbs.
3. Name(s) of Readers, Pastoral Workers and any other licensed lay workers:
Readers: Mrs Lynne Marsh; Mr Paul Ramsey; Mrs Dot Roxby; Mrs Dot Woods;
Readers Emeriti: Mrs Sue Caunt; Mrs Rita Johnson; Mr John Munks; Mr Herbert Rowsell.
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 Gail Johnson and Ms Miriam Harvey (Parish Administrators, 20 & 18 hours respectively);
Mr Keith Harris (Verger, 5 hours); Mrs Andrea Clews (Children and Families' Worker 20
hours); and a part time Youth Worker (currently vacant); Mr Simon Russell (Organist, 6 hours);
Mrs Alison Phillips (Director of Music, 15 hours); Mrs Alison Long (Magazine Editor, 5 hours).

THE PARISH

1. Is the parish inner urban/urban/suburban/village/scattered rural? **Urban/Scattered rural**

2. Is the population
 - (a) static rising or falling? **Rising**
 - (b) settled or mobile? **Settled**

3. Is the population
 - (a) Predominantly retired/middle-aged/young families? **All**
 - (b) Does it include: professional/executive/manual/unemployed? **All**
 - (c) Describe any ethnic groups resident in the parish: **Individual families only**

4. Estimate the proportion of housing:
 - (a) owner-occupied: **60%**
 - (b) local authority: **10%**
 - (c) privately rented: **30%**

5. Please list:
 - (a) number and types of schools in the parish:
6 Primary, one of which is Catholic
2 Secondary, both with 6th forms
 - (b) number of nursing homes/elderly persons' homes: **8 elderly persons' homes plus various alms-houses and sheltered accommodation.**
 - (c) any youth centres? **Guy Harvey Youth Centre and Scout Centre**
 - (d) any community centres? **No**
 - (e) name(s) of hospitals in the parish: **N/a**

6. Name of hospital, if any, of which the incumbent is chaplain: **N/a**

7. Does the incumbent have specific civic responsibilities? If so, what?

**When requested, Chaplain to Nantwich Town Council and/or Cheshire East Borough Council.
Trustee of various alms-houses.**

The incumbent is also member of the Nantwich Partnership, a body which has an interest in maintaining Nantwich as a tourist destination. This group includes Cheshire East Council; Nantwich Town Council; Nantwich Civic Society; Nantwich Museum; Nantwich in Bloom; Guy Harvey Youth Club and Nantwich Rotary Club.

8. Are there any links with local industry? **The Rector is a member of the local Chamber of Commerce.**
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?

“Broad” – most services are central with 9.30 Sunday family worship being more evangelical and 7.15 Sunday Encounter providing café style worship.

2. Give the pattern of Sunday services:

See list (from Parish Profile) attached at end of this document

3. Which prayer book is used for the services of Holy Communion – if both, please state

Book of Common Prayer or Common Worship? **Both, see attached list**

4. Is there a traditional use of eucharist vestments? **Yes - not all services, see attached list**
 coloured stoles? **Yes**
 scarf and hood? **Yes**

5. What hymn book(s) is/are used?

Ancient and Modern - Hymns and Songs for refreshing worship; Song Select digital collection.

6. (a) What percentage of the congregation lives outside the parish? **20%**
 (b) Does any one age group, gender or social class predominate in the congregation? **No**

7. Average number of communicants on a normal Sunday: **145**

8. Numbers during the last year

of baptisms:	89 & 2 Thanksgiving
of confirmation candidates:	9
of weddings:	23 plus 3 Blessings & 1 Renewal of Vows
of funerals (104)	in church: 58
	in crematoria: 46

BUILDINGS AND CHURCHYARD

1. (a) Name of the parish church; **St Mary's, Nantwich**
 (b) Year(s) built; **1290 - 1390**
 (c) Date of last quinquennial inspection; **2014**
 (d) List any urgent repair work still to be done: **None**

Only the last phase (the external north wall) of a >40-year project of repair is still outstanding.

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

Name: **None** Condition of repair: **N/a**

3. In your view, is the parsonage house likely to need extensive refurbishment/replacement? **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)

Use	Address	Condition of repair
Curate's House (In process of being sold)	22 Beatty Road, Nantwich, CW5 5JP	Excellent

5. Has the church got a churchyard? **Yes, corner of Barony and Middlewich Roads, site of previous All Saints church.**

Is it still in use? **No**

How many new graves were opened last year? **None**

How many re-openings were there last year? **None**

Estimate how many years are available for new graves: **N/a**

Is there a special area for the interment of ashes? **Only interment in existing graves.**

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? **Yes**

3. If special money-raising events are held during the year, please give details.

A summer church fair in association with town's Skoolfest raising up to £5,000 for general church funds

Occasional coffee mornings or sponsored events by individuals or groups for specific projects

Flower Festival (every 5 years) for specific projects.

4. (a) What was the amount of expenses paid last year to the: incumbent **£2,640**
assistant clergy **£2,860**

(b) Were these the full amounts claimed? If not, why not? **Yes**

(c) Does the PCC pay a lump sum or reimburse actual expenses claimed? **Lump Sum & reimbursement.**

Is a claim form used? **By some**

5. What is the current amount of Parish Share payable by the parish? **£59770**

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**
 If not, what amount was paid: £ N/a
 In the current financial year, is the PCC up to date with its Parish Share? **Yes**

7. Is there any capital project in hand at the moment? **No**
 Please give brief details with costs and how they are to be met.

Next project is to locate the Visitors Centre (and shop) in church, estimated cost £72,000 of which £20,000 is in hand. Remainder to be by specific fund raising and grants.

CHURCH EDUCATION AND SOCIAL PROVISION

1. (a) Is there a church school in the parish? **No**
 Is it controlled or aided?
- (b) Number of children on roll:
 Is the number static/rising/falling?
- (c) What relationship/links are there between church and school?
- (d) If the school is aided, what is the condition of the building?
2. What provision is made by the church for teaching:
- (a) children: **Church Mice (pre-school); Launch Pad & Orbit (Primary); Gravity (Secondary); all on Sunday mornings led by a team of lay members and currently overseen by our Children and Families' Worker. A weekly service for parent/carers and children, Little Fish, during term time, 15 adults and their children, led by the Children's and Families' Worker. Messy Church, bi monthly, attracts 15-20 families with children and led by the Children's and Families' Worker.**
- (b) young people: **Friday Nite Live (Year 6 onwards). Led by a team of lay members.**
- (c) adults: **A few Home Groups; Confirmation classes; Baptism welcome sessions and a series of occasional mid-week Lectures.**
3. List church organisations with approximate numbers for:
- (a) children:
**Sing @ St Mary's, a group for children to learn to sing run weekly in term time – 21.
 Sunday groups, see 2(a) above – 25**

Mums and Tots – 40 plus parents/carers

- (b) young people: **Gravity – 17 on register**
Friday Nite Live – 8+
Servers (under 18) – 6
Choir (under 18s) - 8
Bell ringers – 3
Scouts - 25; Cubs 24; Beavers 20

- (c) adults: **Home Groups – approx 35**
Choir - 22
Mothers' Union – 35
Tapestry Group – 14
Bell ringers – 18
Julian Group – 10
Men's Breakfast – 28
Ladies' Breakfast – 25

4. Give details of house/prayer groups:
A number of Home Groups and Prayer groups meet in the parish.

Are the leaders clergy or lay? **Both, predominately lay**

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?

There is a wide ranging, strong and committed lay leadership in the parish. The strength of this lay leadership lies in the wide skills and commitment of the lay people involved who are from all walks of life, and who have a wide experience of church life. The lay leaders are supported in their activities and development by the incumbent as needs require. We would like to encourage and empower more lay leaders in order to increase our mission within the church and the outside community.

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

The parish has run a number of Alpha courses in the recent past, one home group currently using the material.

A number of the church family are active in the Cursillo movement.

The Home groups used the Jesus Shaped People material in 2016.

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

The parish provides many opportunities for lay people to help with services e.g. serving at Communion, laying on of hands, intercessions, co-ordinating Baptism, leading home groups, leading bereavement support, co-ordinating stewarding, organising hospitality and leading and assisting with the youth and children's work.

Several members have attended the diocesan Foundations for Ministry course and three members of St Mary's congregation recently commenced ordination training and one Licensed Pastoral Worker training. Two others are actively exploring their vocation to ordained ministry and will be attending a Bishops' Advisory Panel in the next 12 months.

We have an Education Fund which is available to support lay worker development. Lay people have been funded for continuing professional development run by the Diocese and other organisation; there is a willingness to continue this support as the need arises.

With such a busy parish and a rising population, succession planning for our lay ministry is key.

ECUMENICAL RELATIONS

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

Clergy and lay representatives meet bi-monthly as Churches Together in Nantwich with Baptist/URC, Methodist, Catholic, Elim Pentecostal and a neighbouring Anglican church. St Mary's participates in joint activities/mission opportunities e.g. Street Pastors; Support for the Nantwich Foodbank; Good Friday Witness in the town; Nantwich Show tent, Christian Aid events, arrangements for Women's World Day of Prayer and Christmas Day lunch for those on their own.

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

Yes – 5 churches in Nantwich signed a Covenant in 1989 – Covenant re-signed and extended in 2012 to Elim Pentecostal and Acton Parish Church (an adjacent parish to Nantwich)

3. What informal contacts are there?

Working together on the various ventures mentioned above.

OUTREACH AND MISSION

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

2016:

£1000 Support for 2 students

£2000 Emergency Appeal via Christian Aid

We also have special appeals at Advent and Lent for different charities (home and abroad) each year.

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

2016:

£4400 Deanery Project for Crewe

£4563 Mission 2016

£2000 Foodbank support

£542 Acorn Listening

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

Together with Churches Together in Nantwich a Mission was organised in 2016 which included "Praying the Streets".

We have an annual cycle of special services e.g. Bereavement Services (twice a year invitations are sent to those whose family funerals were held in St Mary's).

Baptism preparation and follow-up organised by the Baptism team.

3 Crib Services on Christmas Eve and a Midnight Service.

Local primary and secondary schools often visit the church as part of their studies.

Groups from the six local primary schools attend Experience Easter which tells the Easter story through 8 stations around the church. Primary schools bring their children (and parents attend) to Primary Carols a series of services telling the Christmas story through drama, readings, prayers and carols.

An annual primary school Leavers' Service is held in church.

Alpha courses (not currently running).

Flower Festival, every 5 years.

Church magazine delivered to many businesses in the town.

Church tent at Nantwich Show – as part of "Churches Together" provision, serving tea with opportunity for witness and prayer.

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

Baptisms: A team visits and keeps contact with the families with a card and a visit on the first anniversary. Email contact on the next two anniversaries. A party for the families of those baptised recently was held in the Parish Hall.

Funerals: Pastoral visits are made by a lay team. A monthly "Open House" meeting supports the recently bereaved or lonely.

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

With Churches Together St Mary's is involved in the local Street Pastor scheme and provides financial support for the local Foodbank and Christians Against Poverty Debt Management courses.

A weekly Soup and Sandwich Lunch for all-comers during term-time.

6. Is there an organised system of care for the sick and elderly? If so, what?
Clergy and the Pastoral Visiting Team make visits on a regular basis, visiting people in hospital and at home, and take communion services at the residential care homes.
7. What work does the church undertake with young people, other than in church-based organisations (e.g. open youth work)? **None**
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PUBLICATIONS

1. If there is a history of the church/parish, please e-mail (or send) a copy.
There is a published guidebook, not available electronically. A copy can be obtained on request from PCC Secretary, Beth Roberts, ejrbeth@btinternet.com. Information also available on the website, Your visit/The Building page.
Church website - <http://stmarysnantwich.org.uk/>
Monthly Magazine 'This Month' - Approx. 475 copies, a copy is attached/available
Weekly News Sheet – This Week - 350 copies, up to date information is also available on the News/This Week page of the website.
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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. What are your current Growth Action Planning (GAP) goals for the next 5 years?
GAP goals are no longer appropriate.
Up until the interregnum we had been working with Lead Academy (a Consultancy specialising in church organisation and growth) and various goals and objectives were discussed. These included the need to improve the communication within the church and the possibility of growing our church in the new housing estates.
2. List the areas of church life which you consider are in most need of development.
Home Groups, supporting and encouraging the church family in their Christian faith.
Enthusing people to become participants in all aspects of church life.
Communication across the ever-widening ministry and lay team and church family.
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Please see attached services list overleaf.

Signed on behalf of the PCC:

E. J. Roberts

Office held: PCC Secretary

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, address in Yearbook. (Hard copy for file and electronic copy)
3. The Archdeacon, address in Yearbook. (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.

St Mary's Sunday Services

8 am	Holy Communion - traditional style of worship using BCP on 1 st and 3 rd Sundays and Common Worship in traditional language on other Sundays. Clergy robed (alb and chasuble), Readers and Servers robed. Generally no hymns.
9.30 am	Family Worship – Worship for all ages, mostly led by lay members and the band. Children leave for Church Mice (pre-school), Launch Pad (KS1) / Orbit (KS2) and Gravity (teenagers) returning before the end of the service. Communion 1 st Sunday – Celebrant robed (alb and stole only).
10.45 am	Parish Communion – a service using Common Worship. Clergy, Choir, Sacristan and Servers all robed; lay administrators not robed.
6 pm	BCP Evensong - 1 st and 3 rd Sundays. Clergy, Readers and Choir robed. Holy Communion - 2 nd Sunday using Common Worship in traditional language, Clergy robed (alb and chasuble). Full Choral Evensong - 4 th Sunday, Clergy and Choir robed (cassock and surplus) and Servers robed. Compline - 5 th Sunday, Clergy robed (cassock only).
7.15 pm	Encounter - 1 st and 3 rd Sundays. A café style service held in the Parish Hall with a themed programme of informal, ecumenical, evangelistic services with music group, led by Clergy (unrobed) and lay members.