

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS



Greenway Road,
Runcorn, WA7 5BS
www.runcornstmichaels.org.uk



**Contemplation, compassion and courage
a Christ-like church at St Michael and All Angels**

Heavenly Father, we pray that you will guide our church community with wisdom, hope and love as we seek your will for the future of St Michael's. May we discern your vision and call to serve the people of this town through our mission and ministry. Bless the Church Council as they work together through the vacancy. Encourage and give St Michael's family the strength to think about how they can contribute towards this opportunity and work together to become more Christ-like and share in what we do. Amen.

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1. Who we are

We are a friendly, welcoming church, in the Archdeaconry of Chester, Frodsham Deanery situated in the higher area of Runcorn. We are a single worship centre.

We wish to continue and develop our work with families with less formal worship, while continuing our services focused on sacramental spirituality and prayer following the liturgical year. We believe in living our faith through care for others in the local and wider community as well as within the church membership. We desire to share our belief that Jesus loves us whoever we are and in the summary of the commandments to love God and our neighbours as ourselves.

There are currently 108 people on our Electoral Roll in 2019.

2. Mission Statement

1. We aim to give everyone a warm welcome that develops friendship in the community of our church.
2. We strive to be a centre of excellence for music, enhancing people's spiritual experience of our church.
3. We support each other as we walk along our journey with Christ through life.
4. We strive for St Michael's to be a house of prayer where people of all ages can find God and grow in faith and knowledge of Him.

3. Who we are looking for

We are seeking a parish priest who will help us to grow as effective disciples of Jesus and witnesses to the love of God in everyday life, including in our work place, homes, and neighbourhood

- The parish welcomes the ministry of men and women.
- A person of action who will guide us and strengthen us as we work to bring the good news of the Gospel to the congregation
- To develop an involvement with the three local primary schools.
- Family orientated
- School visiting
- Pastoral care
- Re-order the church
- Welcoming
- Forward thinking
- Choir improvements
- Promote the church
- Supportive of fundraising events
- Above all we need a person who is passionate about Jesus.



4. Parish Activities

a) Church Services

(1) Regular weekly services

Sunday	8.30am	Holy Communion (BCP).
	10.00am	Sung Holy Communion with Choir (Common Worship), except 1 st Sunday of the month when there is Morning Prayer.
	12.00 noon	1 st Sunday Café Church.
Wednesday	10.00am	Holy Communion (Common Worship).

(2) Occasional Offices

As St. Michael's is a large building, there may from time to time be large scale, high profile funerals.

We have an open baptism policy taking place on Sunday at 12 noon. Parents and God parents are invited to attend a baptism preparation before they can book their child's baptism.

(3) Yearly Services

Christmas

Christingle
9 lessons & carols
Christmas Eve
Christmas Day

Lent and Easter

Ash Wednesday
Palm Sunday
Holy Week
Maundy Thursday
Good Friday – Stations of the Cross
Service of Light
Easter Day
Ascension Day

Remembrance

Service of Remembrance and Hope

b) Voluntary involvement

Most of our congregation are involved with the life of the church and many of its outside activities.

Volunteers act as Sidespersons and welcomers. Also volunteers operate the audio system, serve in the sanctuary, read the Bible passages, lead intercessions, arrange flowers, maintain the gardens, sing in our small robed choir and serve refreshments after the services. We have a paid cleaner for the Meeting Room and church, and volunteers do an occasional deep clean in the church. A sub-



committee regularly monitors the fabric of the building. The church is opened and closed by Wardens or volunteers.

Sunday evening and Thursday morning Bible study groups meet weekly.



c) Charitable activities and Outreach

The church and Meeting Room have been increasingly used by local community groups for concerts. Monthly Tea & Toast all welcome, Farmhouse supper, Carols around the Christmas Tree and Quiz Nights.

A tots group meets on Mondays, wellbeing groups meet through the week, the Crafters meet weekly and All Angels Artists meet monthly.

We support Graham & Nicola Aylett (formally curates and are now missionaries with

Interserve), Christian Aid, the homeless, Runcorn Food Bank, The Children's Society and the Mission to Seafarers. We are involved in Churches Together in Runcorn (CTiR).

The building is open from 10.30 am to 12.30 every Thursday as a 'Place of Welcome'.

5. Church Members of the Team at St Michael's

Assistant Priest
Reader
Director of Music
Church Wardens
Assistant Wardens
Treasurer
PCC secretaries
Servers

Sidespersons
Verger
Part-time administrator and cleaner
The Parochial Church Council

Rev. Helen Browne
Bob Browne
Tim Asbridge
Colin Keam and Rosemary Lunt
Ted Owen and David Crowther
Bob Browne
Brian Lunt and Duncan Prince
David Crowther, Terry Oke, Vincent Whitehead,
Duncan Prince, Rosemary Lunt and Matt Roth
Four Teams on a rota
Vincent Whitehead and Jimmy Goffin

Robbie Littler
2 Wardens
11 elected members
1 co-opted member
3 Ex-Officio members.

6. Changes in the last few years



- entrance porch refurbished
- Café Church introduced
- car park gates widened
- new heating boiler in Church
- new heating boiler in the Meeting Room
- major work on maintenance of the organ
- church lighting replaced
- aisle carpet replaced
- Broadband (WiFi) installed

7. Focus Points for the future

- We need to build on the last 13 years and focus on our mission statement.
- Applying for a grant to repair re-order the church and Meeting Room
- To make the building more user-friendly
- To be able to offer church as a space for Concerts and community events
- To upgrade the kitchen and extend it
- To offer wedding packages with service and wedding breakfast.
- To develop our outreach and mission



8. Strengths and Opportunities for Development

There are 3 local Primary Schools in our Parish - Victoria Road County Primary School (two of our congregation are governors), Westfield County Primary School and Pewithall County Primary School. We have links with all three of these schools, they come to visit us as part of their curriculum and have carol services in church. We go into Pewithall monthly to take assembly during term time.

The Primary schools feed into the three secondary schools in Runcorn, St Chads (Catholic/Church of England), The Grange School and The Heath School.

We are looking to gain a grant with the support of Halton Council to repair and re-order the church to make it a more useful community space; some work is needed on the roof and this is to be included in the grant application.

9. Church Finances

Total receipts on unrestricted funds for 2018 were £79597 of which £58759 was voluntary donations, and a further £11289 was from HMRC Gift Aid. Restricted donations of £6274 were also received.

The Planned Giving through envelopes and bankers' orders increased by 9% and it was good to see the use of bankers' orders increased. Total income, including Gift Aid, went up by 11%. This was partly due to the Christmas Tree Festival, a number of donations for the Special Appeal, and some very generous donations for the South Porch.

£56168 was spent from unrestricted funds to provide the Christian ministry from St. Michael's Church, including £52106 for the diocesan Parish Share that increased by 2.5%.

The net result for the year was an excess of receipts (income) over payments (expenditure) of £3205 on unrestricted funds. Adding deposit and current account balances brought forward at the beginning of 2018, the balances carried forward at 31st December on unrestricted funds totalled £5257.

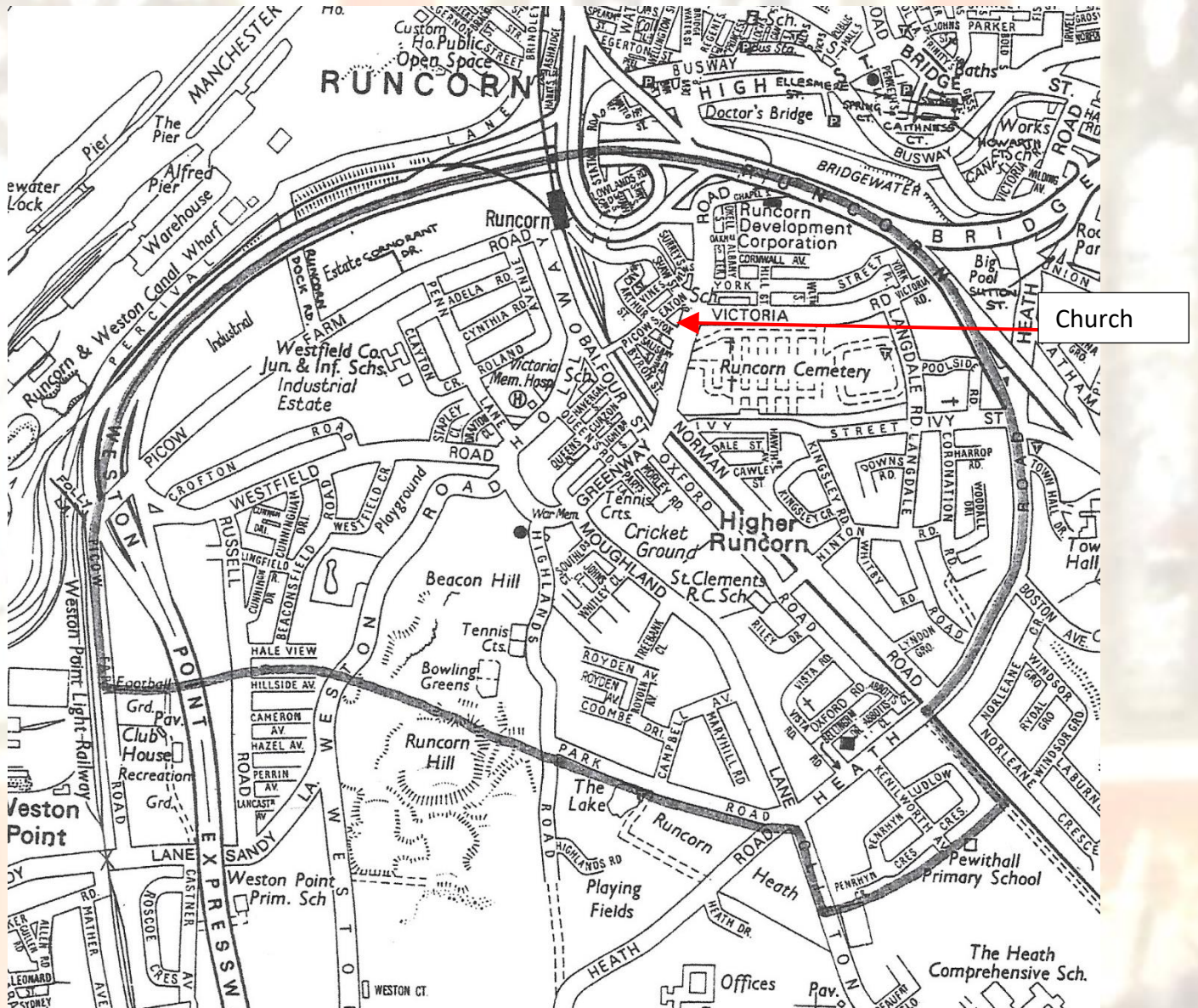
Restricted funds total £5656: choir fund £510, music fund, £1033, West Wall repair fund £4113 plus £14905 in the Maintenance Appeal Fund.

Maintenance Appeal Committee

The Maintenance Appeal Committee was set up to raise money through fundraising activities to keep the church building and interior in good repair. To this end we have run our monthly Tea & Toast and a 50=50 club as the mainstay of our fundraising activities. We also had two Quiz Nights, a summer fayre, Carols around the Christmas Tree and a farmhouse supper; these events raised a total of £9407.55 in the year.

On the expenditure side we paid for some repair work to the organ, roof maintenance, a new central heating boiler was installed in the Meeting Room; we also paid for the lawns to be cut and some survey work to be carried out on the church. This totalled £12,697.19. This left us with a balance of £14,905.45 in the account.

10. Parish and Local Map



11. Church History & Design.

The Church was completed in 1892 and the architect was T D Barry of the Liverpool firm of T D Barry and Sons. Originally a daughter church of the Parish Church of All Saints down by the Mersey. It became a Parish in its own right, known as St Michael and All Angels, in 1932.



It is in the Decorated Gothic Style using sand stone from a local Runcorn quarry. It comprises a nave with north and south aisles with a polygonal porch and baptistery on either side of the west end. At the east end, the chancel has a polygonal apse with a Vicar's and choir vestry to the north. The chancel is raised from the nave with the Altar on a dais, with an ornamental marble mosaic floor. Above the Altar are windows by Clayton & Bell and Wailes and Strong that depict the Ascension, the Nativity and Judgement Day. The Nave holds up to 450 people.

In the 60's a side chapel was added in the south aisle dedicated to St Peter to recognise the handing over to the parish a number of artefacts from the closed Mission to Seafarers chapel near Runcorn Dock. These artefacts included 2 stained glass window (one in the vestry and one now at the entrance of the Meeting Room depicting St Peter) and the responsibility for the maintenance of the Seamen's Grave in the adjacent local cemetery. A memorial was placed in the south aisle in 2013 to commemorate William Shaw and his wife Mary, who were responsible for the building and development of the Seamen's Mission and the purchase of the Seamen's Grave. In 1992 building commenced on a meeting room attached to the church which now provides a room that can accommodate up to 80 people, a kitchen, toilets and a store room. This can be accessed from outside or directly from the church nave.



In 2018 the church entrance porch was made more welcoming by installing internal glass doors and the removal of part the wood screen and replacing it with large glass window. Now on entering the porch you can view the inside of the beautiful church.

12. Demographics

The Church is surrounded by terraced houses that were built prior to the church. Other housing in the parish is a mix of detached and semi-detached houses and bungalows. On the northern fringe of the parish there are number of industrial and commercial premises. In the parish there are a Methodist and Roman Catholic church and primary school.

: Runcorn: St Michael and All Angels

Deprivation rank (1=most deprived, 12,425=least deprived) 2,352

The Parish is among the most deprived parishes in the country

Parish population	6,656
Parish number of occupied households	2,960
Area (square miles)	0.7
Population density (people per square mile)	9,467
% aged 0-4	5.8
% aged 5-17	14.3
% aged 18-29	14.1
% aged 30-44	20.1
% aged 45-64	27.1
% aged 65 and over	18.6
% White ethnicity	98.4
% Christian	72.6
% Other religion	0.3
% No religion	20.8
% Religion not stated	6.0
Church Urban Fund poverty lookup tool	More info
Parish Code	590061
Parish local name	Runcorn: St Michael and All Angels
Parish legal name	St. Michael and All Angels Runcorn
Benefice	Runcorn St Michael and All Angels
Benefice ID	09/220 W
Deanery	FRODSHAM
Deanery ID	59103
Archdeaconry	CHESTER
Archdeaconry ID	591
Diocese	Chester
Diocese ID	9

13. Publications

Weekly news sheet for Sunday and Wednesday services

Monthly printed Magazine

Patchwork sent to all consenting parishioners via e-mail and a few printed copies

Web site: runcornstmichaels.org.uk

Facebook – [Saint Michael and All Angels Church, Runcorn](#)

Instagram – [stmichaelschurchruncorn](#)

14. Meeting room

Well used :-

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
After-service refreshments	Little Treasures	Crafters	After-service refreshments	Bible study. Morning Prayer		Tea & Toast (monthly)
				Place of Welcome	Setup for Tea & Toast	Baptism prep (monthly)
				VML Wellbeing		All Angel Artists (monthly)
		VML Big Sing	VML Drama group	VML rehearsals		

VML = Victoria Music Ltd a Charity that runs “wellbeing” events

15. The Vicarage

The vicarage is a good-sized house, conveniently situated for church on Greenway Road. The diocese is currently planning a significant refurbishment during the vacancy.



16. Bibliography

St Michaels WEB site

www.runcornstmichaels.org.uk

Church Urban Fund

www2.cuf.org.uk/parish/590061