

# **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 priest-in-charge. Additional information may be given by way of a Parish Profile.*

PARISH: Whaley Bridge DATE: 4<sup>th</sup> January 2020

DEANERY: Chadkirk

### **SUMMARY OF INFORMATION**

- |   |               |
|---|---------------|
| 1. Number of C of E churches/places of worship in the parish:   | <u>Two</u>    |
| 2. Population.  | <u>10,375</u> |
| 3. Number on electoral roll.  | 88            |
| 4. Usual Sunday attendance ( <i>taken from last annual return</i> ) under 16 years of age:                                | 4             |
| 16 and over:  | 40            |
| 5. PCC ordinary income ( <i>i.e. total of voluntary income and other ordinary income taken from last annual return</i> ): | £ 74,398.25   |
| 6. Average weekly gift per regular giver:   | £15.00        |

### **PERSONNEL**

1. Name of (former) incumbent:  
Revd Dr Margaret Jones
2. Name(s) of Assistant Clergy (*indicate whether stipendiary (SM) or self-supporting (SSM)*):  
None
3. Name(s) of Readers, Pastoral Workers and any other licensed lay workers:  
Readers, Beryl Axcell, Michael Connell (Emeritus), Pastoral Worker, Sue Mellor
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:

Administrator, part time, Anne Ford, 4hrs per week
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## THE PARISH

1. Is the parish inner urban/urban/suburban/village/scattered rural? Small rural town
2. Is the population
  - (a) static rising or falling? Rising slowly
  - (b) settled or mobile? Settled
3. Is the population
  - (a) Predominantly retired/middle-aged/young families?     
Retired 19% Middle aged 41% Young Families 40%
  - (b) Does it include: professional/executive/manual/unemployed?     
Managerial & professional 45%, Other non-manual 25%, Manual 28%, Unemployed 2%
  - (c) Describe any ethnic groups resident in the parish:

None
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4. Estimate the proportion of housing:
  - (a) owner-occupied: 80%
  - (b) local authority: 8%
  - (c) privately rented: 12%
5. Please list:
  - (a) Number and types of schools in the parish:  
Three infant/junior schools:- Two are Church of England schools, (ONE Controlled, ONE Voluntary Aided), the third is a county primary school.
  - (b) Number of nursing homes/elderly persons' homes:  
None (There is, however, a sheltered housing scheme with 48 dwellings)
  - (c) Any youth centres? No
  - (d) Any community centres? No
  - (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?  
Padre to branch of The Royal British Legion
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 with a Eucharistic Tradition, diverse theological outlook and practice

2. Give the pattern of Sunday services:

8.00am	BCP Communion	Alternate Churches
10.30am	Parish Eucharist	Alternate Churches (1st Sunday of the month, Café Eucharist at Holy Trinity Church)
3.30pm	Messy Church	Bi-monthly, Holy Trinity Church
6.30pm	Evensong	Monthly at St James Church

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

Book of Common Prayer or Common Worship, Order 1?  
Common Worship Order 2, Eucharist Order 1

Is there a traditional use of	eucharist vestments? Yes/No	Yes
	coloured stoles? Yes/No	Yes
	scarf and hood? Yes/No	No

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

The Complete Anglican Hymn Book, except at café Eucharist

5. (a) What percentage of the congregation lives outside the parish? 10%

(b) Does any one age group, gender or social class predominate in the congregation?  
Female over 70yrs, diverse social composition

6. Average number of communicants on a normal Sunday: 30

7. Numbers during the last year

of baptisms:	14
of confirmation candidates:	6
of weddings:	9
of funerals in church:	15
in crematoria:	9

## BUILDINGS AND CHURCHYARD

1. (a) Name of the parish church; We have two churches:- Holy Trinity, Fernilee; St James, Taxal

(b) Year(s) built; Holy Trinity 1905; St James, ancient tower (12<sup>th</sup> century), body of church is Victorian

(c) Date of last quinquennial inspection; Holy Trinity 2018; St James 2017

(d) List any urgent repair work still to be done:

Holy Trinity, South facing roof is being re-slatted this Autumn. The work should be completed by Christmas. Funds are in place for payment of this work.

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

None

(Since the closure in 2018 of Kettleshume Chapel, which was used for Methodist and Anglican Services, we have held services on Sunday afternoons (1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays) in Kettleshulme Church of England Primary School. Where there are five Sundays in the month, the fifth service is a Service of Healing, also attended by people from many other denominations.)

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?      None

(Give addresses, use and condition)

Use	Address	Condition of repair
N/A		

5.	Has the church got a churchyard?	Yes/No	Yes
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	Is it still in use?	Yes/No	Yes
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	How many new graves were opened last year?	2
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	How many re-openings were there last year?	6
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	Estimate how many years are available for new graves:	15
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	Is there a special area for the interment of ashes?	Yes
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## 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.

ChristmasTree Festival Ladies Swap Shop (Clothes and Accessories) three times a year Summer Fare Coffee Mornings Brass Band concerts Occasional BBQs
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4. (a) What was the amount of expenses paid last year to the:	incumbent	£ 4,000
	assistant clergy	£

Were these the full amounts claimed? Yes

If not, why not? N/A

(b) Does the PCC pay a lump sum or reimburse actual expenses claimed?

PCC to establish a policy in consultation with the new incumbent.

Is a claim form used? Yes.

5. What is the current amount of Parish Share payable by the parish?	£ 36,286
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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
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If not, what amount was paid:	£ N/A
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In the current financial year, is the PCC up to date with its Parish Share?	Yes/No	Yes
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7. Is there any capital project in hand at the moment? Yes/No Yes

Please give brief details with costs and how they are to be met.

Re-slatting of south facing roof of Holy Trinity Church. Work due to finish December 2019. Funds identified within church reserves. (Now completed and all financial obligations settled).

## CHURCH EDUCATION AND SOCIAL PROVISION

1. (a) Is there a church school in the parish? Yes/No Yes TWO  
Is it controlled or aided One of each  
(b) Number of children on roll: Taxal and Fernilee 219 (rising)  
Is the number static/rising/falling? Kettleshulme 52 (static)  
(c) What relationship/links are there between church and school?

*Taxal and Fernilee C of E School*

Regular assemblies; services in church four times a year; Foundation Governor

*Kettleshulme C of E School.....*

Regular assemblies; Nativity held in Holy Trinity Church; School Governor

*Whaley Bridge Primary School.....*

Pupils come to Holy Trinity Church for seasonal services; Vicar and Readers hold regular assemblies

- (d) If the school is aided, what is the condition of the building?  
Both in good condition

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

- (a) children:

Explorers during morning service

Messy Church (bi-monthly, moving to monthly from March 2020 )

CATS (Carers and Toddlers) for pre-school children accompanied by carers (monthly)

- (b) young people:

Nothing at present. Confirmation classes when required.

- (c) Adults:

There is one weekly fellowship/study group.

Confirmation classes are held when there is a need.

Interdenominational Lent study groups are organized by Churches Together in Whaley Bridge (CTWB) and well supported by our church members.

An Alpha Course was organized by CTWB last Spring and was well supported by all churches including our own. There are plans to run another course next year.

3. List church organisations with approximate numbers for:

- (a) children: CATS 11; Messy Church 30+; Explorers 4

- (b) young people: N/A

- (c) adults: Fellowship Group 10

4. Give details of house/prayer groups:

One fellowship/bible study group meets weekly

5. Are the leaders clergy or lay? 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?

Very strong lay leadership, 2 readers, 1 pastoral worker and numerous other hard working committed Christians in a variety of "leadership" roles. This is due to the quality of the personnel and the encouragement of the Priest-in-Charge.

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

An Alpha Course was run in the Spring of 2019 in conjunction with CTWB. There are plans to repeat this in 2020.

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

The Fellowship Study Group and involvement in CTWB events

### **ECUMENICAL RELATIONS**

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

Ecumenical relations in Whaley Bridge are excellent. There are many joint church activities organized through a vibrant CTWB, of which our recent vicar was chair for five years. All the churches are represented in CTWB, Church of England, Good News (evangelical), Uniting (Methodist, United Reform and Baptist) and Roman Catholic.

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

No

3. What informal contacts are there?

CTWB Luncheon Club, organized and run by a multi-church team, provides lunches and social interaction twice a month for lonely and isolated adults. About 30/40 people come regularly. For many it is the highlight of the week.

CTWB organizes the Lent Study Groups each year and these are interdenominational.

The Lent Groups are followed by a joint service and on Good Friday an open air service on the top of Eccles Pike to which many people walk, whatever the weather,

One or two coffee morning each year help to raise awareness of CTWB as well as funds.

CTWB always provides a float for the local carnival as well as entertainment for children.

## OUTREACH AND MISSION

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

We contribute to a CMS Link which supports local missionaries, Jason and Tracy Day in their work in Thailand. We are committed to send £400.00 annually but hold other fund raising events, mostly coffee mornings, to help them.

Christian Aid Varies annually

Bangladesh Mission Varies annually

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

The Children's Society is supported by collections at the annual Christingle Service

Donations are sent to the Christie Hospital

Food, toiletries etc are sent regularly to the Zinc Project (High Peak Food Bank)

Donations of food are also sent to The Wellspring Centre in Stockport which is a resource providing meals for the homeless 365 days a year.

3. Is there an organised system of evangelism in the parish? If so, please describe it. No

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

Baptisms:- The Pastoral Worker keeps in touch and encourages families to come to CATS or Messy Church. An anniversary card is sent a year after to baptism.

Funerals:- The one who officiates at the funeral contacts the family about six weeks later to see if all is well. If necessary a visit is arranged. Bereaved families are invited to the annual Service of Light which is held at St James Church at All Souls.

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

We visit Cromford Court Sheltered Housing Development bi-monthly, for a social afternoon including a quiz or sing/song or readings followed by afternoon tea.

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

There is a Pastoral Team Co-ordinator working with a small team.

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

None

## PUBLICATIONS

1. If there is a history of the church/parish, please e-mail (or send) a copy.

Yes

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

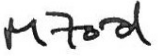
1. What are your current Growth Action Planning (GAP) goals for the next 5 years?

N/A

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

Following a recent short questionnaire to congregation and other church the following areas have been identified as priorities for development:

- Becoming bolder and more confident in reaching out to the wider community of Whaley Bridge;
- Developing a greater diversity in our styles of worship;
- Developing a focus on teaching and discipleship as we learn to follow Jesus together;
- Developing as a community to become more accessible for families and young people and encourage them to follow Jesus with us;
- Continuing to work closely with the other Christian communities in the town.
- Deepening and developing our prayer life as a community.

Signed on behalf of the PCC:  Office held: PCC Vice-Chair

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

1. The Bishop of Chester, Bishop's House, Abbey Square, Chester CH1 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). (Hardcopy)
6. The Rural Dean (Electronic copy)
7. The Deanery Lay Chair (Electronic copy)
8. The PCC representatives.