Parish Fact Sheet

**Incumbent**



Diocese of Chester

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: All Saints, Great Saughall

DATE:

DEANERY: South Wirral

# SUMMARY OF INFORMATION

1. Number of C of E churches/places of worship in the parish:
2. Population.
3. Number on electoral roll.
4. Usual Sunday attendance *(taken from last annual return)*

one

3,000

63

under 16 years of age: 1 to 4 16 and over: 35

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None

1. PCC ordinary income *(i.e. total of voluntary income and other ordinary income taken from last annual return)*: £ 20,998
2. Average weekly gift per regular giver: £ 11.54

# PERSONNEL

1. Name of (former) incumbent:

Rev Canon Stephen Mansfield

1. Name(s) of Assistant Clergy *(indicate whether stipendiary (SM) or self-supporting (SSM))*:

Rev Gareth Thomas

1. Name(s) of Readers, Pastoral Workers and any other licensed lay workers:

Dr Robert Brook, LLM

1. 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

# THE PARISH

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

Village

1. Is the population
   1. static rising or falling?
   2. settled or mobile?

Rising

Settled, mostly

1. Is the population
   1. Predominantly retired/middle-aged/young families? A mixture of all three categories.
   2. Does it include: professional/executive/manual/unemployed? All of these categories
   3. Describe any ethnic groups resident in the parish:

White 2,586

Asian 28

Black 5

Mixed/multiple 30 Other ethnic group 9

Data are for the Saughall and Shotwick Park civil parish

1. Estimate the proportion of housing:
   1. owner-occupied:
   2. local authority:
   3. privately rented:

83.3%

9.8%

6.9%

1. Please list:
   1. number and types of schools in the parish:

One, Saughall All Saints C of E Primary School (controlled)

* 1. number of nursing homes/elderly persons’ homes:

None

* 1. any youth centres?

None

* 1. any community centres?

(e) name(s) of hospitals in the parish: None

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One. Vernon Institute, Church Road, Saughall

1. Name of hospital, if any, of which the incumbent is chaplain:

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Mostly Ancient & Modern (2013), sometimes Hymns Old and New (1996) For new songs, a TV screen is used.

None

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

School Governor

1. Are there any links with local industry?

None

1. Does the parish have any significant social problems, e.g. high unemployment?

None

# CHURCH SERVICES

1. How do you describe the church tradition?

Traditional catholic / modern catholic / central / open evangelical / conservative evangelical or some other label?

Open evangelical

1. Give the pattern of Sunday services:

Due to three parishes being combined into one benefice, services moved from 10.30 am to 9.30 am, so the vicar could attend one of the other two at 11.15 am.

Until the incumbent's retirement, there were three Holy Communion services per month, and a

non-communion family service on the 3rd Sunday. On 5th Sundays there was typically a less formal family Celtic-style communion or a similar alternative form of worship. Evening services had lapsed by 2018. In the current vacancy there are 2 communion and 2 non-communion services per month.

The past two incumbents and the SSM (all retired), the current Associate Minister and the Licensed Lay Minister were/are all evangelical in tradition, serving in a congregation comprising a largely central tradition. Music is led by the pipe organ except for family services when a keyboard is used, accompanied by other instruments when available.

1. 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 No

coloured stoles? Yes/No Yes

scarf and hood? Yes/No Yes

1. What hymn book(s) is/are used?
2. (a) What percentage of the congregation lives outside the parish?

Less than 10%

(b) Does any one age group, gender or social class predominate in the congregation?

Majority are retired, mostly women.

1. Average number of communicants on a normal Sunday: 35
2. Numbers during the last year

of baptisms:

of confirmation candidates: of weddings:

of funerals in church: in crematoria:

3

0

3 21 3 at crem only

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

Yes/No No, in good order

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# BUILDINGS AND CHURCHYARD

1. (a) Name of the parish church; All Saints, Great Saughall
   1. Year(s) built; 1897
   2. Date of last quinquennial inspection; 2017/8
   3. List any urgent repair work still to be done:

In good order

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

None

1. What other buildings *(e.g. church hall, curate’s house)* and land (not churchyard) does the parish own?

*(Give addresses, use and condition)*

None

1. Has the church got a churchyard? Yes/No Is it still in use? Yes/No

How many new graves were opened last year? How many re-openings were there last year?

Estimate how many years are available for new graves: Is there a special area for the interment of ashes?

Yes

Yes

1

4

5+

Yes

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

N/A

Is a claim form used? N/A

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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

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

Soup & Pudding (monthly), Passover Meal,

Harvest Supper, Christmas Fair, Concerts (bi-annual),

1. (a) What was the amount of expenses paid last year to the:

incumbent £ Nil assistant clergy £ N/A

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

Vicar declined

1. What is the current amount of Parish Share payable by the parish? £ 2,990/month
2. 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 No, 75%

If not, what amount was paid: £ 2,177/month

In the current financial year, is the PCC up to date with its Parish Share? Yes/No

Yes, 100% resumed

1. 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.

Front doors £5,000 costs to be met from fundraising. Removal of pews submitted to DAC

# CHURCH EDUCATION AND SOCIAL PROVISION

1. (a) Is there a church school in the parish? Yes/No Is it controlled or aided? Yes/No
   1. Number of children on roll:

Is the number static/rising/falling?

Yes

Controlled

269

Static

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There is no Sunday school. There is a play table in the Lady Chapel (north transept) and also a play area at the back of the church.

* 1. What relationship/links are there between church and school?

When we were a church on our own, the SSM at the time took assemblies and was a frequent visitor to the school. Covid had a severe effect upon relationships, during which the vicar conducted assemblies via Zoom.

The church hosts a monthly Kids' Ark after-school group comprising about 25 primary school children with parents.

* 1. If the school is aided, what is the condition of the building?

Built in 2009, in good order.

1. What provision is made by the church for teaching:
2. children:
3. young people:

None

1. adults

None

1. List church organisations with approximate numbers for:
2. children:
3. young people:
4. adults:

0.

0

0

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The church has one LLM (Lay Reader) who leads two services per month. He and his wife also led the 24/7 Prayer Course mid-week meetings. During the vacancy he is responsible for funerals.

There is a core group of a dozen or so on the PCC who work very well together and form a strong team.

1. Give details of house/prayer groups:

During the covid-19 lockdown, the vicar set up mid-week evening Bible studies by Zoom. Initially this was 'attended' by 8 or 9 people across the three parishes, but numbers declined somewhat over time. Since then there have been no regular mid-week meetings although there have been specific courses of fixed duration; viz. the 24/7 Prayer Course and the Living in Love and Faith course.

1. Are the leaders clergy or lay? N/A

# 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?
2. Does the parish have a discipleship course? (e.g. Alpha, Emmaus, Christianity Explored). 24/7 Prayer Course ran in 2021-22, Living in Love and Faith group in 2022.
3. What other opportunities does the parish provide to lay people to deepen their discipleship and vocation?

Not within or by the parish, but two members attended Diocesan Lay Conference at Hayes Conference Centre, Swanwick, in 2022.

# ECUMENICAL RELATIONS

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

An informal link exists with churches in the village.

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

No

1. What informal contacts are there?

In the past (5 or more years ago) there were occasional joint services with Saughall Methodist chapel and St. Bartholomew Church in Wales, Sealand. Due to many changes of minsters across the 3 churches these lapsed, exacerbated by Covid restrictions. However, very recently all 3 churches have indicated that we are committed to restarting rotating joint services on 5th Sundays, starting in July 2023.

# OUTREACH AND MISSION

None

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

Collections are taken for Christian Aid week and emergency appeals (Ukraine, Turkey/Syria)

Before Covid, we ran a very successful Traidcraft Fair Trade stall, but this has lapsed, and Traidcraft is now in administration.

It would be good to explore the Diocesan links with DRC and/or Melanesia (the LLM and his wife lived in Papua New Guinea for many years, so although a different Province, it has a Melanesian culture).

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

We collect food and household items for Save the Family.

Church members support village community charitable events and activities.

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

No.

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

The recently retired vicar was diligent in following up the bereaved after funerals. A number have commenced worshipping with us. We hold an annual memorial service around All Saints' Day.

Invitations are issued and it is very well attended.

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

These issues are prayed for on most Sundays.

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

Only informal.

1. What work does the church undertake with young people, other than in church-

based organisations *(e.g. open youth work)*?

# PUBLICATIONS

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

Attached.

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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

Over recent years we have embarked on developing the church for the community. This started in 2019 with an expanded kitchen and storage area. The monthly soup and pudding lunches have shown the potential. Since resuming after lockdown our number have increased from 40 to 50+.

We have submitted an application to DAC to remove the pews and replace them with chairs to allow more flexible use of our large nave. We also plan to move services back to revert to 10.30 am to encourage families to attend.

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

* We would like to improve liaison with the church school.
* Develop music in the church especially among young people, but this depends on identifying people with singing and instrumental skills.
* The voters' register shows that there are 120 single men over 65 yrs in the village for whom nothing is done. Once we have the appropriate space we would like to explore scope for a hobbies club, repair shop, walking group, with spiritual dimensions.
* There isn't a tradition of any midweek evening (or daytime) regular fellowship meetings for prayer, Bible study, etc. It would be good to develop these, and maybe we need some innovative ideas.

Signed on behalf of the PCC:

Office held:

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.