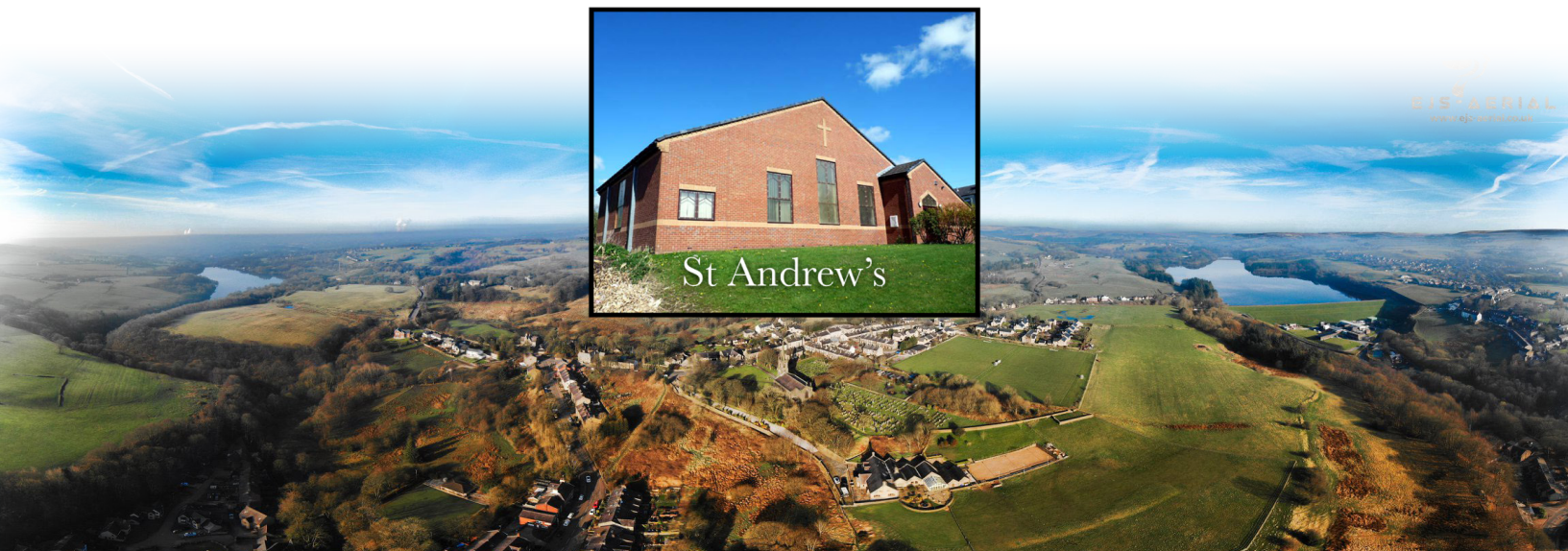
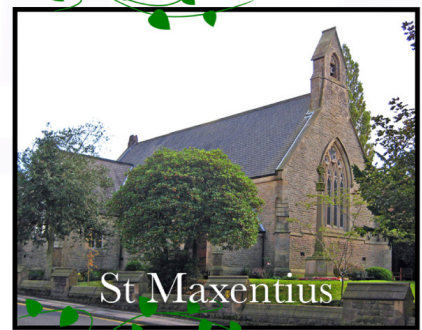
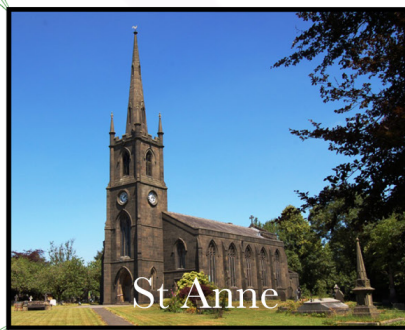
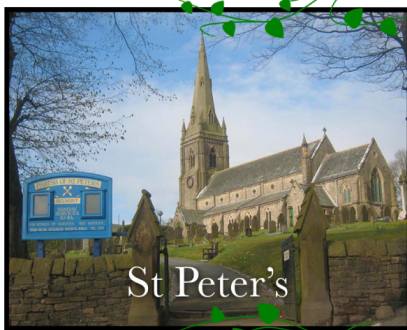


Turton Moorland Team

Four Parishes, Six Churches, One Vision



Turton Moorland Team Ministry

APPOINTMENT of TEAM RECTOR

Full time stipendiary post based within the Turton Moorland Team

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We are seeking an enthusiastic priest who is committed to working co-operatively as part of a team and who is able to help develop and grow our faith. Whilst working as Rector of the Turton Moorland Team, our chosen candidate would ideally have significant experience as a parish priest, able to form and lead us in building the kingdom of God in this place.



Basic Information and Statistics - Appendix i

		PARISH OF BELMONT	PARISH OF BRADSHAW	PARISH OF TURTON	PARISH OF WALMSLEY
3.5	Official Population	350	7711	3237	8855
3.6	Number on Electoral Roll	88	138	155	223
3.7	Average weekly attendance year on year, over the last three years	34	66 (not including WOW)	St A - 43 St J - 12 Total 59	CC - 120 St A - 30 Total 150
3.8	Average weekly attendance of children & young people U16	10	25	St A - 2 St J - 8 Total 10	CC - 33 St A - 18 Total 51
3.9	IN THE LAST TWELVE MONTHS NUMBERS OF				
a.	Baptised	6	17	14	32
b.	Admitted to Holy Communion	0	2	0	15
c.	Confirmed	4	4	0	CC - 3 St A - 4 Total 7
d.	Marriages	1	2	2	2
e.	Funerals	5	8 funerals 7 interments	11 funerals 6 interments	9 funerals 14 interments
f.	Christmas Communicants	68	126	59	77
g.	Easter Communicants	48	104	82	174
h.	Last October survey	54 adults 34 children	Total 65	39 adults 10 children	44 adults 21 children
3.10	Approximate Seating Capacity	170	292 + choir	St A - 275 St J - 80	CC - 250 St A - 80

The Next Team Rector

2 Introduction

The area covered by the four parishes of the Turton Moorland team is located to the north of Bolton, at the northernmost extent of Greater Manchester. The border between Greater Manchester and Lancashire passes through three of the four parishes in the team. In character, the team area varies from suburban Bolton in the south to rural Lancashire in the north. In this dramatic and beautiful setting you will find churches that are firmly rooted in established communities.

While our populations are mixed, the cost of properties often attracts those with steady and larger incomes. Some come with time and talents to devote to building up community and family life. The church also has to find a place among active, secular groups in attracting affiliation and faith.

For many the attraction of church, for those with young children at least, often relates to schools' access. Even so, this opportunity for presenting and calling to faith is a rich seam for building community and kingdom alongside each other.

Church primary schools exist in 3 of the 4 parishes, and one large Church secondary school (Canon Slade) to which significant numbers of our pupils move on. The fourth parish has strong links with the community school in the village. Governing body work and regular contact with the schools is a part of a major commitment of both clergy and lay members. Resourcing ourselves to meet the changing demands is key so that the Church foundation of the schools is not weakened but strengthened in the process.

Team Rector: In vacancy due to the death of our former Team Rector Rev Canon Peter Reiss. As Incumbent he had an oversight of the whole team including support of the clergy team; leadership in the development of the Team Council, acting as Chairperson and co-ordinating the Team MAP process.

Team Curate f/t Revd Hannah Lane, with special responsibility for Walmsley Parish with two churches Christ Church, Walmsley and St Andrew's, Bromley Cross. She has recently been appointed Vicar of St Peter's Bolton and St Phillips Bolton (Bolton Parish Church). Position to be taken up mid-September – date to be confirmed.

SSM Revd Chris Jamieson, with special responsibility for the parish of St Peter's. Currently on long term sick.

In addition, Revd Marcus Bulcock is OLM in the Team and there are a number of retired clergy with PTO who assist.

The Team clergy meet regularly for prayer and planning.

Lay leadership is well established in most of the parishes largely in traditional areas of worship - serving, reading and intercessions - and the maintenance of buildings and administration.

We have three active ALMs covering Children and Youth, Pastoral and Administration, Finance and Governance and three ALMs to be commissioned in September 2024.

Together with one Reader Emeritus and a Lay Reader and another Reader Emeritus to be licensed in July 2024. We have two ordinands in training who have now completed their first year.



3 Basic Information and Statistics (see Appendix i)

- 3.1 Turton Moorland Team comprising of: Christ Church Walmsley with St Andrews Bromley Cross; St Anne Turton with St James Edgworth; St Maxentius Bradshaw and St Peter's Belmont
- 3.2 Turton Moorland Team Rector
- 3.3 Bishop
- 3.4 Archdeacon of Bolton and Salford Ven Dr Rachel Mann
Area Dean Rev Simon Cook
Acting Bolton North East Mission
Community Leader – Rev Viv Masters

4 The Journey to this Point

The last 5 years have seen significant advances in the development of the Team, bringing the parishes together in actual collaboration and building friendships. That has been the guiding principle of ministry here. A major achievement has been the developing of mid-week family services in three of our parishes running during term time.

The monthly Team Youth Church (TYC) is thriving with both adults and the youth leading the worship and activities. Young people get to explore and grow in their own faith whilst taking part in a balance of activities and fellowship. The strap line is fun, food, friendship and faith.



- Part time Team Administrator. Provides the first contact for anyone making enquiries about pastoral/occasional offices, in search of news, or looking for contact. She works closely with the team clergy and the wider Mission Community to ensure the Team rota for all services is adequately staffed.
- We have a single rota for services. This is a strong signal of commitment to each other, and provides a framework that ensures the individual churches feel secure in their leadership but also that all clergy are able to build relationships with the other churches.
- The Team Council has delegated responsibilities agreed by each PCC and is managing two main work streams: Turton Youth Church and the Team MAP, as well as being a forum for exchanging achievements annually.
- We have met as a full Team to commit our and challenges. Each parish sends members who report back to their PCC.
- Joint celebrations where people, choirs and worship leaders come together.
- There is an established pattern of a shared services throughout the year including Holy Week and annual service held at Canon Slade.
- We share learning together through combined Advent courses, and have run mini conferences on Lay Ministry (Eucharistic Assistant support and training) and Prayer and Spirituality, Leading intercessions.



5 Team Mission Action Plan

Our Team and Parish priorities still stand and we are continuing to work on them. The priorities are as follows:

Priority one: ensuring that our buildings are fit for mission.

Priority two: engaging with the local community

Priority three: growing the congregation.

Priority four: increasing lay leadership.

6 Resourcing the Future

We are looking for someone who:

- is enthusiastic about fresh challenges and ready to build the body of Christ across the Turton Moorland Team
- is collaborative in their approach to God's work, seeking to bring out the best in ministry and leadership from the people they work with, lay and ordained
- has sufficient experience and a relish for leading a busy team of well-established parishes
- has the ability and knowledge to discover and develop vocations and ministries, lay and ordained, across the Team
- is comfortable with a range of liturgical traditions, drawing on the diversity of practice within the parishes across the team, as we come together in worship and praise of God's presence among us
- is wholly committed to team working, and especially to motivating and enabling a diverse clergy team to minister effectively
- has an enthusiasm for the many facets of parish life, especially the benefits that come from a commitment to pastoral care and relationships across the age range
- is ready to engage with the interests of the local communities, building support and openness to existing and new relationships
- is ready to discover the benefits of what we can achieve together under God as an extension of parish life.

In short: someone with strong gifts in ministry and leadership.



7 The Parishes of the Team

St Maxentius, Bradshaw

The Parish of St. Maxentius is situated in the SE corner of the Team. The original village has been much developed and is now predominantly suburban in character though with some farmland remaining.



There is one main service on a Sunday at 9.30am. Holy communion has a regular attendance of 80-100, which includes our active and growing Little Church for 0-5 year olds with more families joining with toddlers.

However, it also evolving to meet the needs of our 6-8 year olds. To accommodate this growth we will be looking to develop more leaders with some of our Young people going on as Young Leaders. This runs separate to the main body of the church but join the congregation for communion. After communion the children are encouraged to share what they have done.

Refreshments are served after the service to encourage fellowship. On the first Sunday of the month an “All age family worship” is usually delivered by our Ordinand and ALM for Children and Youth. This is a creative worship that aims to offer something for all, including more modern worship songs and creative prayer.

However, St Maxentius is intergenerational EVERY week as we have children that always attend.

Moving forward, the Mission, Ministry and Worship team will be looking at ways in which we can engage everyone allowing them to grow spiritually and in faith every week.

A weekly said morning prayer or communion service is held on a Tuesday morning which is regularly attended by 12 to 14 people.

On a Wednesday during term time our WOW service – Worship on Wednesday – is run by our ALM for Children and Youth and our Ordinand. The service is an interactive family worship that takes place at 6pm.

We regularly have between 40 to 50 families. The children and young people are encouraged to lead and participate in different parts of the service. We offer a Eucharist service once a month in the form of Nursery Rhyme Mass, led by Rev Hannah.



We are a church of growth in this area and we need to maintain this and to grow in this area. We consider this as an integral part of what we do in our church.

During the Spring term our Ordinand prepares them for Admission to Communion for children in Yr 3 and above. They meet with their sponsor over a five week period. Confirmation classes now take place as a team activity, through Turton Youth Church (TYC), during the Autumn term for children in Yr 7 and above with a small number of adults also being confirmed each year.

We have a robed choir and a servers' team of all ages. Members of our church are involved in reading the lessons, intercessions and Lay assisting at the Eucharist.

The PCC support people in our congregation to become part of the church and to take on responsibilities including ALM training, fabric, social, administration and youth.

Strong links are maintained with the day school.

Weekly assemblies are led by our Ordinand and ALM for Children and Youth.

Our Mother's Union is very active, meeting monthly in church. It also plays an important pastoral role within the congregation.

St Maxentius has an active social calendar and fundraising programme including coffee mornings, afternoon teas, BBQ to celebrate St Max day, Christmas Fair and Nativity Festival.

Objectives for 2024/25: Continue to explore how we can re-purpose our Church building to provide a space for our younger children on a Sunday morning as well as enabling us to provide community meeting and activity spaces with new kitchen facilities and an indoor bathroom. We aim to start a monthly Toddler group or Tots Praise. Tea, Toast and Tots with Wiggle.

Drop in/Sacred Space linking St Maxentius and Canon Slade with support of CCP team.

<https://stmaxentiuschurch.co.uk>



St Peter Belmont

St Peter Belmont is a village parish comprising about 300 homes. It is the third smallest and one of the most remote parishes in the Diocese of Manchester and is the most rural in the Team.



Most of the working residents commute to Bolton, Blackburn or Manchester. St Peter's is the only church in Belmont so its congregation is drawn from a variety of Anglican and other Christian traditions, giving it an ecumenical feel. Sunday morning worship attendance averages approx. 30 adults and 10 children and the service takes one of several forms, ranging from Morning Prayer, communion and Celtic communion to more modern all age services. Our Wednesday morning communion service, focusing on praying for the sick, attracts around a dozen people. A well-attended Sunday School meets in the Parish Room during worship and the children join the congregation at the end of the service to share what they have been learning. Children are encouraged to participate in the leading of worship and usually read prayers, and sometimes provide activities, in the monthly all-age service. We also have an active Youth Church group, which is part of the Turton Youth Church.

There has been a long tradition of lay involvement in worship and other church activities which is now being affirmed and extended through ALM training;

we currently have 1 Lay Reader, 1 Reader Emeritus and 2 ALMs to be commissioned in September 2024.

Currently most of our services are taken by a non-stipendiary minister, ordained to the team but with primary focus at St. Peter. He also provides pastoral support for the church and village.

We have a strong Mothers' Union and we actively support local, national and international Christian organisations. We have a, newly formed, house group that meets fortnightly and have a hand bell ringing group which performs at our carol service, along with our small, but enthusiastic, choir.

Belmont has a strong, if increasingly threatened, sense of community and the bimonthly Church magazine is delivered to every home in the parish. The church has fostered close relationships with the community primary school and pupils contribute to events and special services. There is no church or village hall so social events, including seasonal Fairs and exhibitions are held in the main church building. Community organisations, such as a monthly Luncheon Club, also use the church.



Since October 2018 we have hosted an Outreach Post Office for two hours a week on a Friday morning and this is complemented by a Church-run café, which raises valuable funds.

Although by national standards the parish is relatively wealthy and problem-free, church membership is drawn largely from retired people and young families so both recruiting people for leadership positions, and raising the parish share, are always a challenge. Despite this, the parish is blessed with many volunteers, who will help in any way they can, and this makes a positive impact in the running of the church.

The Victorian building has deteriorated over the years, but the congregation and community have raised the finance necessary to restore the spire and roof to good condition as well as install a new, energy efficient, heating system. As part of our Mission Action Plan we are actively seeking to re-order the church building to provide more appropriate community space whilst maintaining and enhancing the integrity of the worship area. A committee, involving other village groups, is actively promoting this and is to apply for lottery heritage funding to complete the project. One area of particular concern however is the management and condition of the churchyard, although certain aspects of this will be included in the re-ordering/community room project, which will see a new garden of remembrance created within the graveyard.



Christ Church Walmsley and St Andrew's, Bromley Cross

The Parish of Walmsley covers most of the area of Egerton and Bromley Cross and is served by two church buildings: Christ Church Walmsley (built 1839) and the daughter church, St. Andrew's, Bromley Cross (built 1994). The Parish is substantially residential, surrounded by open countryside and moors.



Christ Church Walmsley is a traditional church building, but forward looking in its mission and worship. It encompasses a Parish Community Hall which is well used by local community groups and the Hideaway which is a modern two storey building leased on a long term contract to a third party.

In 2024 Christ Church is celebrating 185 years of worship with many events planned including two open days and various social gatherings.

St Andrew's is a more informal church. It is a dual-purpose building with facilities for worship and local community groups. Plans have been submitted for development to increase storage and kitchen space - plus room for the growing numbers in Sunday School - to accommodate this growing, thriving church.

On a Thursday evening we have a weekly interactive family worship during term time.

There are strong links with Walmsley C of E Primary School. Weekly services are held in school during term time with a Church service once a term. The Ethos group help to lead the worship in Church and there are plans to introduce 'Open The Book'.

The Parish has a strong community spirit with many groups working together to offer people support, companionship and fun!

Both churches have monthly coffee mornings. Christ Church Walmsley has a thriving Eco group who meet weekly for gardening and ground care; it received a well-deserved Bronze Eco award in 2023.

The Mothers' Union continues to flourish and there is also the opportunity to enjoy lively Bible-based discussion at the Monthly House Group meeting. There is an enthusiastic walking group and a 'Talkin Tables' group has been introduced for informal 'chat and company'.



Values that drive our life as a church are:

- Being a church where prayer is central to our lives
- Valuing all people by being open and inclusive
- Sharing what we have with others

In the 2023 Quinquennial it was noted that:

St. Andrew's church needs no significant repair. Planning permission and final faculty permission is awaited so that the extension work can start.

There are significant repairs recommended at Christ Church Walmsley. Plans are underway to commence a programme of repairs, with a view to restoring this beautiful church to its former glory.

Information about all Church services, parish events and activities can be found in the monthly Parish E-news and on our Parish website.

<https://walmsleyparish.org>



The Parish of St Anne Turton

The parish of St Anne Turton comprises the two churches of St Anne Turton and St James Edgworth which stand in the popular residential villages of Chapelton and Edgworth.



St Anne Turton is the parish church surrounded by a very well-maintained open churchyard. The church is traditional in construction and style of worship. This impressive 1841 building has Grade II listed status with the unusual feature of a pulpit that is also the village's war memorial. The congregation aspires to a broad age range, but post lock-down is now primarily of retirement age.

The church plays an important role in village life, with many family connections through the pastoral offices of weddings, baptisms and funerals as well as the civic Remembrance Service and the ever popular Carols by Candlelight. Notable regular user groups are: a weekly Baby and Toddler Group run by the Mothers Union which is a great outreach to new families in the community, the Mothers Union who meet monthly, North Turton Parish Council who meet tri-annually and the local primary school.

St James Edgworth church was built in 1905 as a mission church and parish hall and is less traditional in appearance and style of worship. The congregation was family based but post lock-down reduced in

number with fewer families attending. Services are currently held on the first and third Sundays each month. A special Tuesday early evening Family Service which meets during school term time was introduced in 2023 and attendance numbers are growing.

The space at St. James serves as a community and parish asset. A recent campaign to increase income through community hirings of our church buildings has resulted in regular weekly hirings by exercise and dance groups, the Brownies and ad-hoc hirings for craft fairs and private parties.

To accommodate the differing styles of worship between the two churches St Anne have a sung Eucharist on the first and third Sunday of each month when St James have their own Eucharist and revert to a spoken Eucharist on the other Sundays when St Anne is the only church open in the parish.



St Anne also has a Wednesday morning BCP Eucharist. We have sought opportunities to bring both congregations together to enjoy the benefits of a wider fellowship, fundraising activities and to deepen our understanding of our shared mission and purpose under God.

The parish is well established within the local community and served by the PCC and a dedicated group of volunteers who assist with all aspects of the running and maintenance of the churches, their services and buildings. Nevertheless, there are challenges. Both churches are well maintained but ongoing issues of maintenance require significant resources both in time and money. Declining church attendances at both churches if not checked will eventually mean some hard decisions need to be made. We must increase the number of children and younger families attending church and whilst a start has been made with the Tuesday Family Service more needs to be done. A parish campaign to increase giving has recently been launched so that we can pay our parish share in full and continue to maintain our buildings and churchyard.

We know that we should serve others and be a ‘worshipping, growing and transforming Christian presence at the heart of every community’. Our key priority going forward is growth based on:

Worship: being more flexible in our forms of worship to both retain existing and grow younger congregations

Mission: becoming more outward looking, pastorally kind to the needs of others and welcoming

Communication: incorporating modern technology and use of the ‘Church Near You’ websites and social media to reach a wider demographic

Church leadership: extending the opportunities for lay leadership; we have one participant on the Pastoral ALM leader course.



8 Schools

St Maxentius Church of England Primary School

At St Maxentius CofE Primary School, we are a strong community-based on Christian beliefs and values, with an understanding of the awe and wonder of God, His word and His love. Our Vision is at the heart of all we do and our values and motto guide us towards this, influencing all aspects of school life. We encourage our children to relish challenge, rise to difficulties and face them with strength and courage. We ask our children to believe in themselves as we do in them, as with self-belief, anything is possible! Our children are resilient and never give up, learning from their mistakes and finding success in their journey, reassured that God is with them supporting and guiding all the way!

We offer a stimulating and varied curriculum, supported by a wide range of enrichment activities and extra-curricular opportunities. There is an excitement and pleasure in learning and children achieve well. The uniqueness of each child is celebrated, and each individual is nurtured through the partnership of children, parents, staff, governors and the church in our St Maxentius family. We are dedicated to providing effective teaching and learning with a holistic approach so that the children can shine. We nurture children's spiritual, faith and personal growth which leads to happiness and fulfilment. Above all, we provide a safe, caring and nurturing community based on foundations of Love, in which everyone is valued and belongs enabling each child to grow and flourish.

We would love our Team Rector to work in partnership with us to support our children in their faith journey and spiritual development. Someone who will lead worship and be a visible presence at school events and special occasions. We value our strong church links and would want someone who is able to strengthen those links even further. As a school we promote intergenerational work and see

the huge potential and benefits from this and would like to work with someone who shares this vision. St Maxentius school and Church is at the very heart of the community and we are passionate about making a positive impact within it.

We are looking for someone who is like-minded, an advocate of change and a difference-maker!



Turton & Edgworth CofE Methodist Primary School - Head Teacher, Craig Wheatley

We would like the relationship between school and Rector to be consistent and for him/her to visit school frequently, and “...not just during worship but some lessons too”! We would like the relationship to be ‘comfortable’ and the new Rector to be very approachable and interested in them. We would like Worships to be a good mix between the ‘traditional’ (such as call and response and singing) and interactive, such as puppets when story telling. We like it when Worship is interactive. We would like worships to be enjoyed by our youngest children. We hope that the new Rector is kind and can have some fun with them. We hope that children are encouraged and welcomed at church.

Walmsley CofE Primary School – Headteacher, Joanna Atherton

We would like to develop a really strong relationship with the new Rector. We would very much like the Rector to become part of our Walmsley family and join us in school frequently. We would like worship to be lead in school but would also like to go up to church, at special times of the year but also for some of our weekly worship sessions. Singing is a really important part of our worship in school. We love to sing and would like this to continue to be a special part of worship. One thing that is really important to many of us is the Thursday evening worship in church that many of us attend with our families. We would like very much for this to continue.





9 Mission Community Bolton North East Mission Community

In 2021 Manchester Diocese finalised the 4 Mission Communities as part of the new Bolton Deanery. The Bolton North-East Mission Community is made up of seven parishes, eleven churches, stretching from Harwood and Brightmet up to Turton and Belmont. There are two Antioch Network congregations, five primary schools and two C of E Secondary Schools.



The Mission Community began with a foundation of three stipendiary staff members and one curate, as well as one stipendiary and one curate clergy for the Antioch Network.

Whilst the previous incumbent was ill one of the vicars agreed to temporarily take on the role of Mission Community Leader with the aim to provide support for the clergy and facilitate collaboration among churches. We launched the formation of the Mission Community by holding a celebration service with the intention to come together and outline our priorities through worship and praise. This has continued and we have run a number of events including Advent and Maundy Thursday services, quiz evenings and more recently the 'gathering'. This was an initiative where people from all parishes and all ages were invited to participate with the aim of encouraging each parish to plan and host a unique event or special service.

In addition to the challenges faced by the Mission Community, several parishes have struggled to fill key leadership roles, including wardens, treasurers, and PCC Secretaries.

Furthermore, the cost-of-living crisis has taken its toll on our churches, with many people deeply concerned about the impact it is having on their church finances. This reality is compounded by the need for significant maintenance and repairs on some of our historic Victorian buildings, which requires additional funding and resources.

Despite the challenges we face, Bolton North-East is also home to vibrant and caring Christian congregations that are deeply rooted in their communities. These worshipping, growing, and transformative communities are a testament to the resilience and faith of our people, and we are committed to supporting one another as we navigate the complexities of our current context.

St James Brightmet has been running Fun-Days for the community – and from those couples are asking for church weddings; St Maxentius Bradshaw, Christ Church Walmsley, and St James Edgworth all have a flourishing midweek service for children and families, each week these services draw in over 200 people.



Midweek services also provide a spiritual home for older people, including the bereaved and the struggling.

St Peter's Belmont hosts the local Post Office and café on a Friday.

Several parishes have churchyards and host burials and interments for the local community. We welcome families for baptisms and still have weddings to solemnise and celebrate. Our parishes are different, so we won't all be the same, but we all are one in Christ. St Paul's Astley Bridge has a church school with a multi-cultural intake. We seek to work with all our schools.

We are blessed with local ministers, ordained and Lay, and further blessed that there are people coming forward for ministries. The Antioch congregations encourage people not just to attend but to participate.

While we've faced significant challenges our churches and local congregations are humble, community-focused places that serve their immediate surroundings. What matters most to us is that our historic buildings remain vibrant hubs of worship, peace, prayer, and welcome for our local communities. Similarly, we strive to be a people of worship, peace, prayer, and welcome, reflecting the values and character that we hope to instil in those around us.

Please contact Archdeacon Rachel (0161 761 6117) for a link to additional information including parish and Team accounts.

