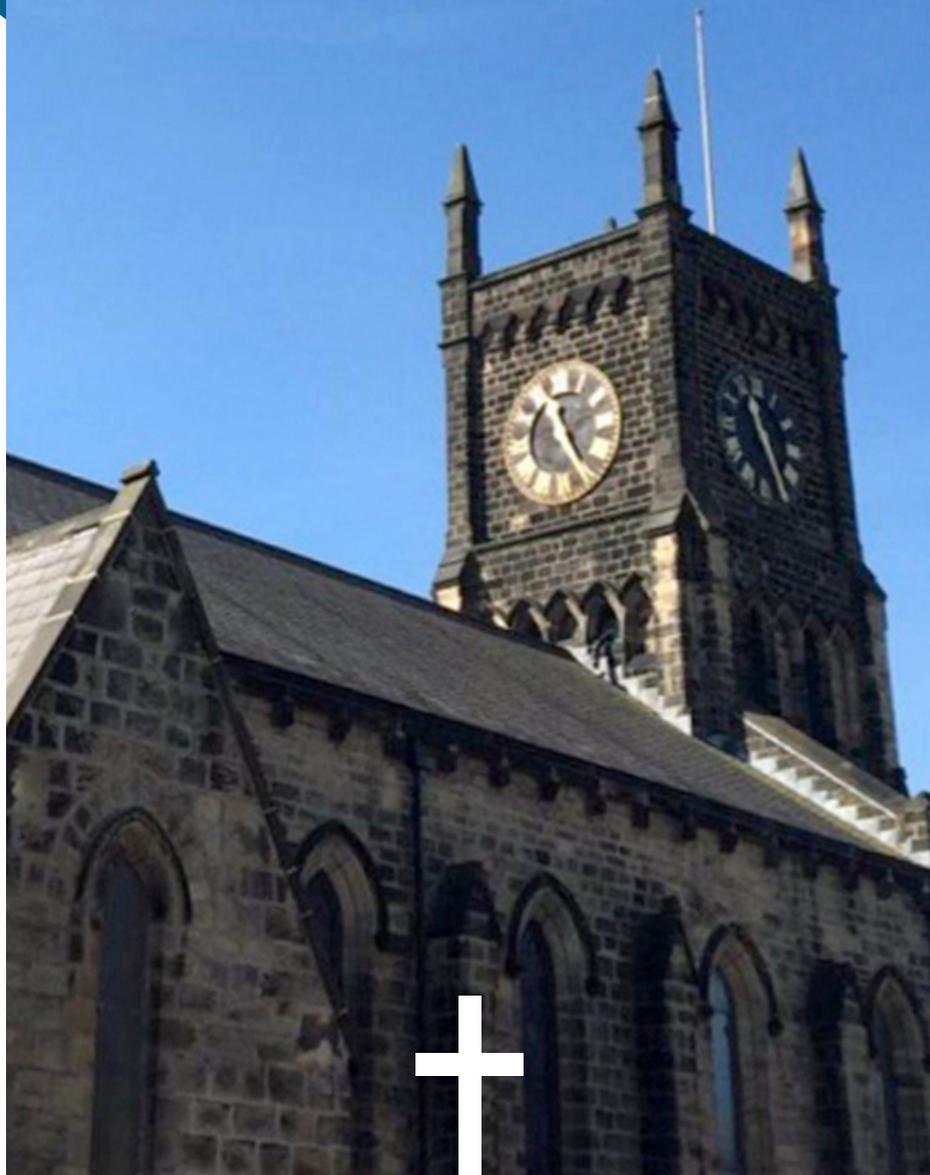




St John's of Farsley

PARISH BROCHURE 2020





Welcome to St John's Church, located in the Leeds parish of Farsley. This brochure seeks to give you an idea about who we are so that you can consider whether God is calling you to lead us through the next chapter of our journey.

St John's Church is a friendly and inclusive church grounded in our mission to love and support our local community. As a diverse mix of people, we warmly welcome all, irrespective of age, ethnic, social, family or relationship context. We are twinned with the church in Rodley, which is served by both Methodists and Anglicans. We hope that you may prayerfully consider whether God is calling you to take on this key role. We are certainly excited about what God might have in store for us.

We have a mobile friendly website ([link](#)) and you can also find us on Facebook ([link](#)).

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OUR PARISH & CHURCH

St John's in Farsley has a long and rich history, being mentioned in the Domesday book. It played an important role in the industrial revolution and the village today retains many of its industrial heritage buildings. St John's, a Victorian church, was consecrated in 1843 and largely has remained unaltered since then. Our latest Quinquennial in October 2019 identified no urgent repairs. Rodley church will have its inspection in the next 5 years. The church is supported by the Friends of St. John's, a Secular Society dedicated to its conservation.

Farsley, located between Calverley, Bramley, Stanningley and Rodley has a population size of 11,140, supporting 3 primary schools. Farsley is a vibrant market village, with many family run businesses, pubs, restaurants and activity

centres for all ages. Over the last 10 years, 2 successful business brothers, John and William Gaunt have invested £7 million in a 10-acre site, Sunny Bank Mills complex, that was previously part of Farsley's industrial heritage. This redevelopment has created 100's of jobs and brought more than 70 businesses into the area.

Rodley, also can trace its origin back to the 1086 Domesday book. Whilst it is smaller in scale than Farsley, it has a thriving community, and wonderful natural beauty. It sits alongside the Leeds & Liverpool canal, that has been much restored to allow people to enjoy. Rodley has a large wetland nature reserve, carved out from the decommissioned water treatment works. It is open to public free of charge and is home to a great variety of wildlife.



Farsley & Rodley have excellent transport links, a nearby large train station, the Leeds inner ring-road close by that links to the Leeds city centre and motorway. There are a large number of buses that provide transport 7 days a week, with a bus stop right outside Farsley church.

LEEDS DIOCESE

The Anglican Diocese of Leeds comprises five episcopal areas, each coterminous with an archdeaconry. This is now one of the largest Dioceses in the country and its creation in 2014 is unprecedented in the history of the Church of England. It covers an area of around 2,425 square miles with a population of around 2.62, 400 people. The Diocese comprises major cities (Bradford, Leeds and Wakefield) large industrial and post-industrial towns (Halifax, Huddersfield and Dewsbury), market towns (Todmorden, Harrogate, Skipton, Richmond, Ripon and Wetherby) and deeply rural areas especially in the Dales. The whole of life is here, along with all the richness, diversity and complexities of a changing world.

Five area bishops (Bradford, Huddersfield, Ripon and Wakefield) and five archdeacons (Bradford, Halifax, Leeds, Richmond and Craven and Wakefield, assist the Diocesan Bishop (The Rt. Revd Nicholas Baines)

Our vision as a Diocese is about confident clergy equipping confident Christians to live and tell the Good News of Jesus Christ. For all our appointments we are seeking clergy who have a joyful and confident faith and with a commitment to church growth both numerical and spiritual.



OUR TEAM & VISION

Since our vicar retired in January 2020, and our curate secured a position as vicar at nearby church, we are supported by an experienced lay reader, 2 dedicated church wardens, and a strong team of volunteers in the congregation. A curate from a local church is providing ministry during our interregnum.

We attended the LYCiG conference in 2016 and since then the church leaders have taken this forward to develop a bold vision and strategy to lead us in mission and growth.

Our 3 visions are:

HOLISTIC

A VISIBLE CHURCH
'Living Sunday every day.'

A church visibly living out its faith in thought, word, and deed.

INCLUSIVE

A GROWING CHURCH
'Inviting others to grow with us.'

A church growing in number and commitment; welcoming, encouraging, and including all people in every aspect of church life.

SPIRITUAL

A WORSHIPPING CHURCH
'Fanning the flame of faith.'

A church always seeking to worship, know, and experience God more deeply.

OUR PURPOSE

At St John's and Rodley, we aim to serve all God's children both in worship, pastoral care and everyday life. We offer a caring and nurturing environment for all to get to grow in the love of Christ.

We prayerfully strive to bring Christ's mission by following the the 3 key aims across:

MISSION

Supporting local community:
Monthly Farmer's Market,
Monthly Parish Lunch,
Sunflower Memory Cafe,
Regular church/community outings,
Many more...

EVANGELISM & DISCIPLESHIP

We have an active social media presence, promoting our church and the Gospel. 3 house groups. ABC church each Sunday.

OUTREACH

Weekly AA meeting,
Supporting local food bank,
Children's society,
Caring for Life,
Hosting WYDAS Asylum Seekers



OUR CONGREGATION & WORSHIP

Our congregation is a healthy mixture of young families through to retirees. We have a few members with learning and physical disabilities, our church is well set up to support a range of disability needs.

We also have a lay reader who supports our services. Many of our congregation provide support with; intercessions, readings, preaching, leading services, and running Sunday School and ABC for our children.



WE PROVIDE SERVICES AT BOTH ST JOHN'S AND RODLEY CHURCH:

BCP Holy Communion Sunday 8.30am

Parish Communion Sunday 10.30am

Weekday Holy Communion Wednesday 9.30am

Rodley Holy Communion Sunday 11.00am

ABC Church Sunday 9.30am





Music

St John's is lucky enough to have a wonderful pipe organ which was fully restored four years ago. This is used for all services with music with the exception of once a month when our music group leads the service with modern instruments. We have a regular small choir which is enlarged at the monthly Book of Common Prayer Evensong service and around at Christmas for our candlelight service. We use a very wide mix of music to worship, both traditional and modern, including video songs when appropriate. We also have music to accompany our two Christingle services and the outdoor Sunrise service in the park early on Easter morning.





VICARAGE

The vicarage is situated next to the church, with a path that cuts straight through to the church grounds. It is a good sized 4 bed detached property, with mature gardens. It has an integral garage and has been adapted for full wheelchair access. It has a drive that can accommodate

two cars, and there is also ample parking along the road side. It is surrounded by a mixture of high walls and hedges that provide both privacy and security. During the summer the gardens have been used to host Sunday school activities to great success.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Throughout the year we have regular social events. We join together on walks in the local countryside (that we try to incorporate a nice spot for cakes and tea).



We have a stone pizza oven in the church grounds that we use to share food and fellowship with the community.

In 2019 we took a coach trip with a large number of the congregation for a day-trip to Whitby.



We host a monthly farmers market; local trades-people will sell their wares in our car-park and Church hall.

Every bonfire night we hold a “bonfire without bangs” event in our car-park. This brings a large number of Farsley families together, to share sparklers, food and friendship, without the loud bangs.

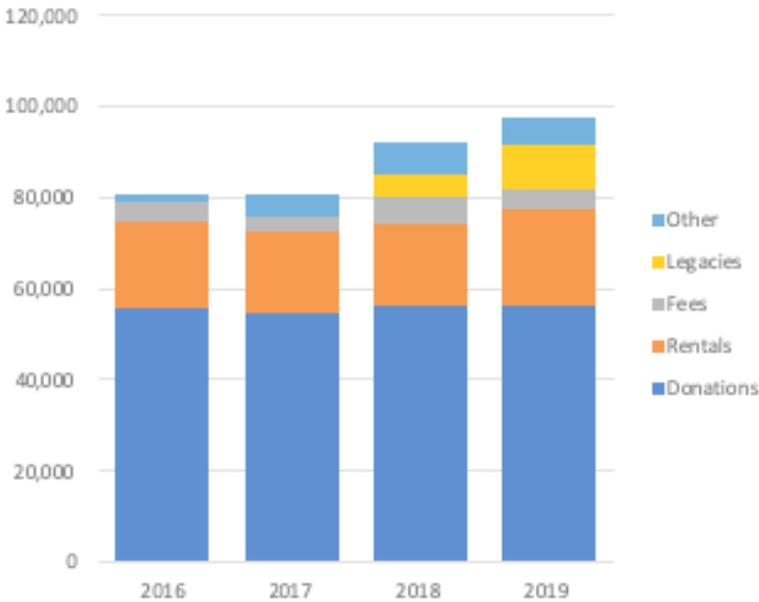


FINANCES

St. John's finances are strong, with a good level of reserves and multiple streams of income. The majority of our income comes from donations to the church, but we also own a church hall, flat and offices which are all rented out. We are rooted in the community and many community groups use our facilities, which we are happy to support. For over 10 years, we have paid our allocated Share, contributing to the Diocese of Leeds' ministry, in full.

Recently we have secured funds from our local Co-Op to 'zone' areas of the main church building - including a children's area within the church and curtains to separate different areas of the building. We have had successful giving for building projects, such as Farsley's and the Church of England's first Changing Places toilet, organ restoration and interior building works. We are currently building funds to upgrade the heating within the church and hall.

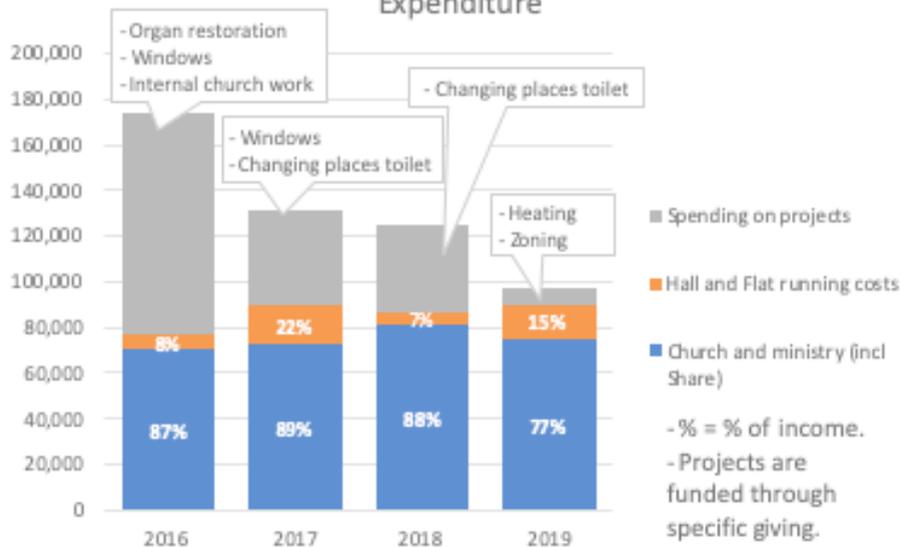
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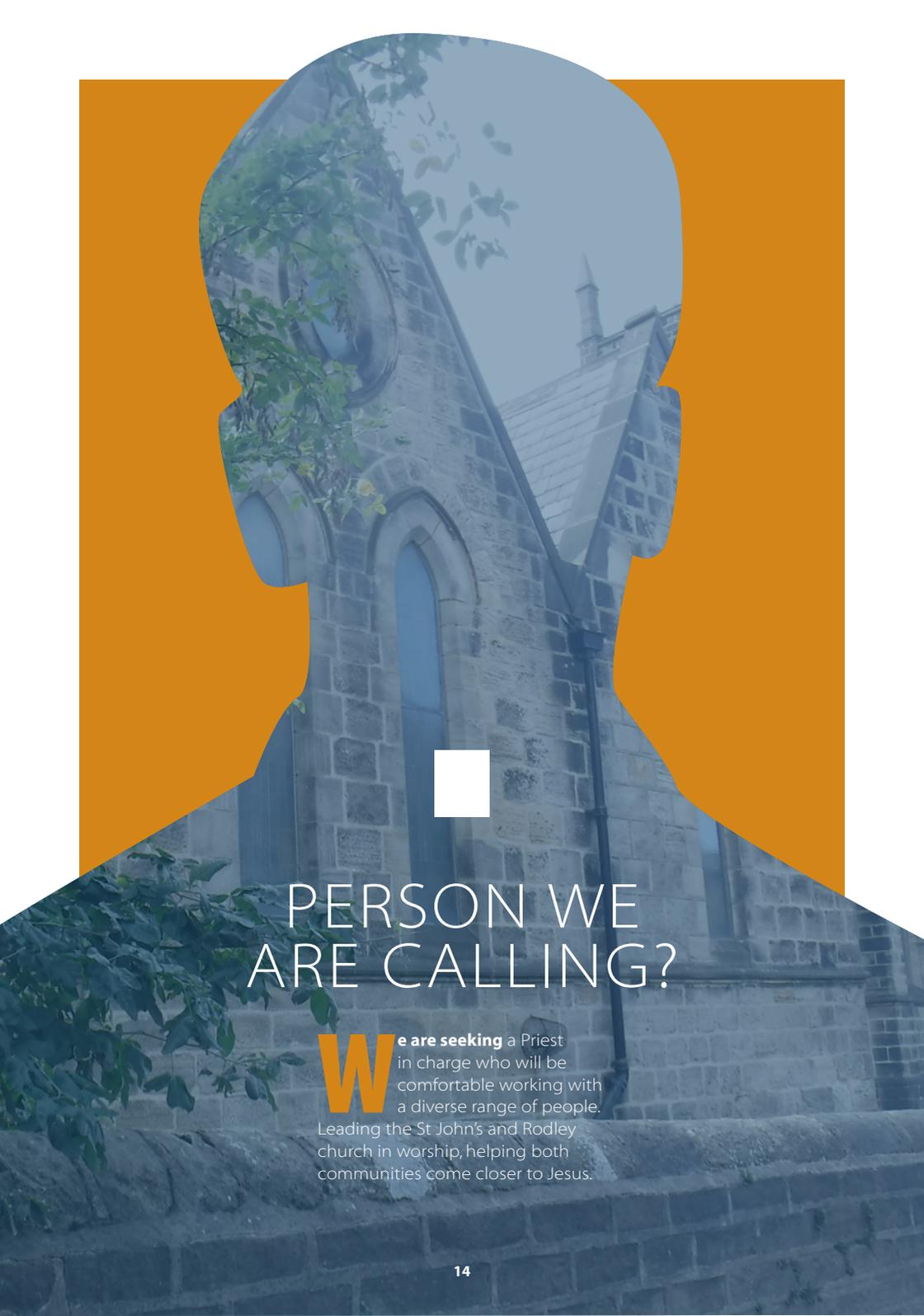


Payment of share



Expenditure





PERSON WE
ARE CALLING?

We are seeking a Priest
in charge who will be
comfortable working with
a diverse range of people.
Leading the St John's and Rodley
church in worship, helping both
communities come closer to Jesus.

We are seeking someone who will:

be community-focused, a visible and known presence in the local and wider community within and beyond church.

encourage and grow existing lay ministry, leading us forward in worship, spiritual growth and outreach.

be willing to reach out ecumenically and build relations including work in and through the church at Rodley.

be open-minded to a range of worship and a broad expression of faith.

continue to include the tradition of using the Organ and Music Group within services to include all ages.

continue the strong traditions of welcome and inclusion in both Farsley and Rodley Churches.

embrace the vision we have created at and for St. John's and develop, enhance and build on this using their own gifts, in their own way.

be able to build relationships with all ages.

What can we offer our vicar:

The prayers and friendship of our congregation, leaders and community

The support from experienced volunteers helping to cover worship, pastoral care, and day to day running of the church and hall



stjohnsfarsley.org.uk

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