



# St Mark's Woodthorpe

Journeying together in Faith

## Parish Profile



Patron: Bishop of Southwell and Nottingham

## HELLO AND WELCOME

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Thank you for taking the time to consider being our incumbent here at St Mark's Woodthorpe.

We hope that you find this document informative and inspiring. We pray for all parties in the process for God's guidance and wisdom to make the best appointment for all concerned.

We believe that the challenges within this Vacancy will be the precursor of exciting times ahead and we look forward to further development and growth within our spiritual journey. We believe the foundations have been laid for something remarkable to happen here.

We pray that you feel God is guiding you to join us in our journey of faith.

We welcome any further questions or to arrange a visit prior to your application.

Please contact our church wardens:

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## OUR DIOCESE

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The Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham incorporates the City of Nottingham, the whole County of Nottinghamshire and five parishes in South Yorkshire. The population is 1.15 million – 51% live in the greater Nottingham conurbation, 31% in ex-mining areas and 18% in rural. There are 305 churches (252 parishes), served by 119 stipendiary clergy and 228 licensed lay ministers.

In 2024 we launched our refreshed vision of Living Hope for the city, towns, villages of Nottinghamshire and beyond. We believe the presence of thriving, growing churches across the diocese is vital for people to discover Living Hope and make the best decision anyone could ever make for their lives – to become a disciple of Jesus Christ. To enable this vision, we are committed to our mission of growing disciples of Christ with compassion, confidence and courage. To support both parishes and the diocese in implementing our mission we have identified 7 areas of focus: inspiring worship, reaching younger, enhancing diversity, growing leaders, enabling commitment, encouraging generosity and nurturing prayer. This vision is set out in more detail on our website.

It is my hope that each worshipping community in the diocese will develop a compelling picture of its own future in God's purposes with an expectation of growing numerically and in the scope of its mission. It is my prayer that the new vicar of St Mark's Woodthorpe will have the creative leadership and imagination to develop discipleship, plan for growth and reach out to the unchurched of all ages in its locality.

As you consider the role of vicar of St Mark's may I encourage you to take time to look over and reflect on our diocesan vision as part of your discernment as to whether God is calling you to be part of this diocese at this exciting time.

I look forward to welcoming the new vicar of St Mark's to join us on this faith-filled journey.

*Rt Revd Paul Williams, Bishop of Southwell & Nottingham*





## OUR DEANERY

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St Mark's parish is full of exciting opportunities to grow disciples of all ages in different contexts. It is a more modern church, nestled in the estates of Woodthorpe. One of the suburban parishes in the deanery, with schools, and other opportunities for developing mission and ministry, there is opportunity to work collaboratively with surrounding parishes and denominations in both Arnold and Mapperley. St Mark's congregation has a capable core team of people who, having given themselves away in a local church graft, are wanting to grow beyond their current ministry once again, and who need someone who can encourage them into this next step in their journey of being living hope to the people of Woodthorpe and beyond.

Gedling Deanery has a mixture of suburban Nottingham and commuter villages, with a small amount of urban estate. The clergy and ministry teams have a collaborative and supportive working relationship across the deanery within its varied traditions, and have been encouraged by the SMMIB outcomes, hopeful that it will result in the revitalisation of a significant part of the deanery. As a clergy chapter we are praying for and looking forward to working with the new vicar at St Mark's as we join together to grow disciples with compassion, confidence and courage throughout deanery.

Do feel free to get in touch with me if you'd like to discuss anything about the post.

*Rev Sam Hustwayte*  
[vicar@stwilfrids-church.co.uk](mailto:vicar@stwilfrids-church.co.uk)



## OUR NEW VICAR

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St Mark's is an evangelical church and we would expect our new vicar to flourish within this setting and to inspire and develop spiritual gifts. So, we are looking to appoint a person who has:

- A personal devotion to the Lord reflected and rooted in prayer
- A vision for and a commitment to evangelism and church growth across all ages
- A pastoral and compassionate heart
- Inspirational and diplomatic skills in communication and delegation
- A new vision
- The ability to recognise and encourage gifts and ministry within our congregation and facilitate training of clergy and laity
- Enthusiasm to lead the congregation into a deeper walk of faith and draw fringe members into fuller participation in the Church's ministry
- The capacity to see new missional opportunities and to implement them
- The ability to inspire a variety of worship and musical styles, including contemporary expressions
- A commitment to, and expertise for, engaging biblical teaching and whole-life discipleship
- The ability to relate to, and inspire, children, young people and young families

## Priorities

- To grow existing church congregations numerically and spiritually, reflecting the age and social profile of the parish
- To continue engaging with schools and other organisations working with children and young people and looking for new opportunities to disciple the young
- To encourage generosity in time, talents and treasure
- To encourage the use of Spiritual Gifts within the church

## OUR CHURCH - *All Welcome, All Involved, All Sent*

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**Inspiring Worship** - *St. Mark's believes that coming together to meet with God should be the most captivating hour of anyone's week and holds two regular Sunday services.*

**8.45am** - This is a more traditional service using Common Worship with Communion alternating with Morning Prayer each week, Communion is taken from the top Communion table. It is not currently a robed service and sung worship is usually led by a pianist.

**10.30am** – This service is more vibrant and less formal with contemporary music played by our worship band. Children usually leave the service after about 15 minutes to go to their own groups, returning at the end of the service.

Communion is normally celebrated twice a month and includes children and teenagers. The liturgy is projected onto the screen, along with all the songs. (During the vacancy we are holding Communion service once a month).

On the 2nd Sunday of the month we have Morning Worship and the '4th Sunday Service' is an intergenerational service led by a team representing all ages.

There is a chance to talk with friends over tea, coffee and biscuits after all these services.

Prayer ministry is available after each service and our Welcome Team and Coffee Bar Team ensure that everyone is made to feel welcome.

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### **Nurturing Prayer** – *we believe prayer changes everything*

**'Zoom' prayer meeting** - We gather at 9am every Thursday morning for prayer for the ongoing life of the church and its members, the parish and the wider world. We meet via Zoom with around 8/9 people joining in from their homes.

**Worship & Prayer** - On the 4th Wednesday evening of each month at 7.30pm we have a Worship & Prayer service where, after a time of sung worship, we pray for different topics, which vary each month.

**"Julian" Prayer Meeting** - These are silent prayer meetings held in church on the 1st Tuesday of the month at 7pm and lasting 30 minutes. This is time between those who come and God in a prayerful atmosphere. As this is personal prayer, we do not share what we have prayed about or anything we may have received from the Lord.

**Growing Leaders** - *the harvest is plentiful and we encourage everyone to get involved with our various ministries.*

A number of curates, ordinands and lay ministers have grown out of St Mark's. We currently have 5 lay ministers and readers. Additionally in recent times, a former vicar of St Mark's (now retired) has been leading and presiding at one 8.45 communion service each month and has on a weekly basis been pastorally providing home communions.

### **Ministries**

- **Pastoral visiting** – visiting the sick and housebound and offering communion
  - **Marriage Course**
  - **Alpha**
  - **Thrive** – one to one mentoring
  - **Home Groups** – 6 groups with a total of 70 members
  - **Prayer ministry**
- 

**Enabling Commitment** - *We believe that there is nothing better anyone can do with their life than to become a follower of Jesus. With that in mind, we encourage everyone to get involved in our various activities.*

### **Activities**

- **Thursday Club** – a monthly meeting for older people, church and non-church members. Includes various speakers, tea and cake
- **Open Church** – every Monday morning for older church and non-church people Opportunity to chat over coffee and cakes
- **Reloved** – twice yearly sale of good quality babies and children's clothes, toys, books and baby equipment. Profits go to various charities
- **Dove House** – a local house owned jointly by church members and overseen by Hope in Action. Church volunteers support young mothers and their babies living in the house
- **Refresh Café** – Wednesday mornings in term time. A group for parents/carers of pre-school children. Pastries, coffee and a listening ear provided. A 'Thought for the Day' is given each week as well as songs and activities
- **Door to Door** – once a month, during the spring and summer, a team go out knocking on doors in the Parish. We introduce ourselves, hand out relevant flyers and offer to pray when appropriate
- **men @ stmarks** – a group specifically for the men in our parish currently meeting once a month for breakfast
- **Ladies Night Out** – a monthly evening out



## Reaching Younger – *Jesus is the surest foundation for life*

**CYM** - We have a Children's and Youth Minister, Tim, who is employed for 28 hours a week. His role is to oversee the 0-18s ministry, including Sunday groups, mid-week groups and links with schools. On Sunday mornings at 10.30am during term time there are 3 groups: Sparklers for pre-school children; Rockets for Reception to Year 5 and Game Changers for Year 5 to Year 9. On Sunday evenings at 6.30, we have Edge, for Year 10+.

**Youth Café** - for Year 6 and 7 children, runs after school on Wednesdays. It has about 27 regular children most of whom do not usually attend church on Sundays. There are games and refreshments and a Thought for the Day. In addition to Tim, we have 45 volunteers supporting all the various Children and Youth groups. Tim also goes into the local primary schools, and they visit the church as part of their R.E. syllabus and for events such as Christmas carol services.

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## Encouraging Generosity – *We serve a God of abundance and every good gift comes from Him.*

**International Partnership Links** - 2025 sees the 50th Anniversary of our long-standing, vibrant relationship with the Anglican Church in Burundi. Over the 50 years of this relationship with St. Mark's Woodthorpe, fruitful links have been built up. Many members of the clergy from Burundi have visited us here and members of the congregation have visited their country, and we hope to visit again in 2026

We give significant support to Burundi through prayer, the exchange of news and giving. We have an annual 'Burundi Sunday' when we focus our prayer & giving on a particular project or need. In 2024 we raised over £4,700.00 which went to the church and school in Buterere to help them finish their buildings.

**Azaria** – our CMS (Church Mission Society) link mission partner in Guatemala.

For several years we have supported Azaria in her work with the children in Guatemala. We hope to welcome her to the church in July, this will give Azaria the opportunity to tell us about her work in person and get to know us better on a personal level.

Each year we give a fixed proportion of the church's income to support a number of charities, home and overseas.

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## Enhancing Diversity – *Each person matters to Jesus and is precious in His sight.*

For several years our values at St Mark's have been 'All Welcome, All Involved, All Sent'. This means we offer a warm welcome and celebrate diversity. We seek to involve everyone drawing upon each other's unique gifts and talents. We recognise that we are sent into the world to serve God and our neighbour, through the jobs we do and the lives we lead. We have had some biblical teaching on inclusivity and would welcome further teaching and leadership on this.

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES

These images provide an idea of some of our regular Church activities.

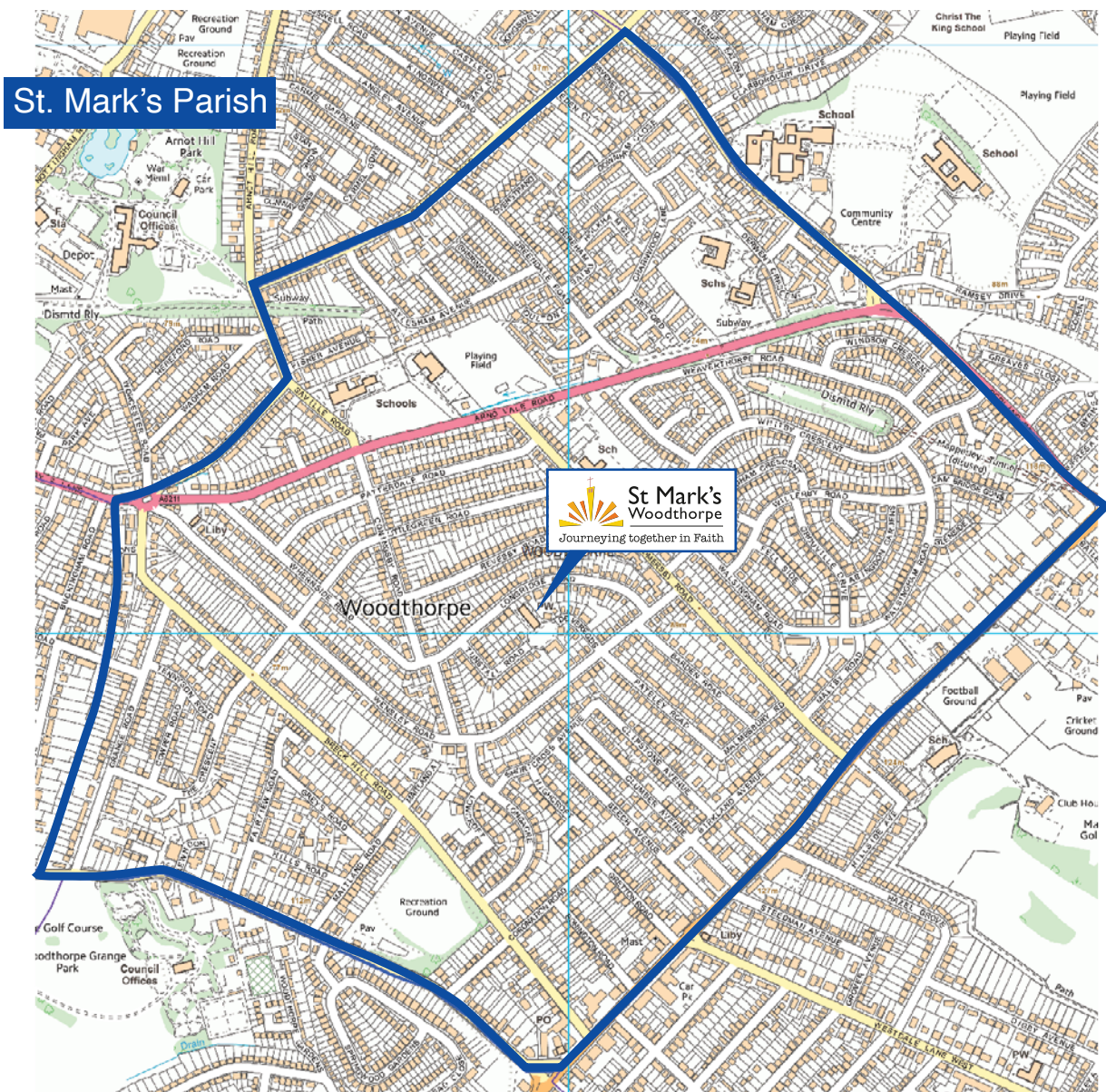




## OUR LOCATION

The Parish of St Mark's Woodthorpe is located approximately three miles north northeast of Nottingham City centre and within the Borough of Gedling and Arnold. The area is primarily middle-class. The parish has five schools; one a Roman Catholic primary and the other four comprising of two infant schools and two junior schools. The local comprehensive school is just over the parish boundary in Arnold.

The Parish has a hub of facilities on the Mapperley Plains Road including small local shops, coffee bars, restaurants and public houses. Major supermarkets can be found in Arnold just a short drive away. There are very good bus routes into town and out into rural areas. During the last decade there has been a general increase in the number of families living within the parish and a change in ethnic diversity. There are many housing estates just outside our Parish boundary and a number of families are travelling to join us at St Mark's.





## CHURCH BUILDINGS

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### The Vicarage

The Vicarage is situated on Melbury Road and access to the Church and Hall is possible through the back garden.

It is detached with double glazing, and has gas fired central heating, cavity wall insulation and solar panels on the roof. Downstairs it has a through-lounge, open plan dining area, kitchen, utility room, study, cloaks/toilet and attached garage. Upstairs are four bedrooms (two with fitted wardrobes), bathroom, separate toilet and airing cupboard. At the front there are two entrances to a curved drive, a lawned area with trees at one side and shrubbery and plants at the front of the drive. There is a secluded good-sized rear garden.



## CHURCH BUILDINGS

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### The Church

St Mark's Church was built in 1961 and consecrated in June 1962. It stands high and proud and its tower, with illuminated cross, can be seen from all around Woodthorpe and its surrounding area.

The church, church hall and vicarage are built on a single plot of land with easy access between them. The car park has access from De Vere Gardens and Tunstall Road.

Internally the church is attractive and light with a long nave and high decorative ceilings supported by slim pillars. In the chancel area, the removable communion rails on the dais, provide flexibility for the conduct of services. There is a small chapel which can seat 30. Towards the back of church, there is a coffee bar and the bell tower is an area where parents can feed or calm children during services.

The church has a pipe organ situated on a second floor above the chancel area. We also have a piano, an electric keyboard and a drum kit, used during services.

There are audio/visual systems for use in services and an induction loop throughout the church.



## CHURCH BUILDINGS

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### The Church Hall

We see the church hall as part of our outreach ministry. It is well used and has been self-funding for a number of years. It is a well-maintained community hall opposite the church, with a large car park separating the buildings.

Inside there are 2 halls and a lounge that are used for church activities and hired by the local community. There is a well-equipped kitchen.



### The Church Office

We have an administration office within the church building, and we employ an administrator for 3 days a week. The administrator offers support in organising events and maintaining the church timetable and diary. Amongst many other things, she also deals with payments and bookings for the hall.





St Mark's  
Woodthorpe

Journeying together in Faith

Appendices



## Church Finances

### Financial Statements - Prior Year Comparison

<b>Current Assets</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Debtors	1301	2338
Bank Acc	16,952	47,971
Petty Cash	1	1
CBF Interest Acc - Projects	61,871	31,871
CBF Interest Acc - General Investments	10,142	10,142
CBF Equity Investments - UK Equity	27,249	27,249
CBF Investments - Investment	32,647	32,647
CBF Investments - Property	15,451	15,451
	<b>165,614</b>	<b>167,670</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Creditors - Short term	0	906
	0	906
<b>Current Assets less Current Liabilities</b>	<b>165,614</b>	<b>166,764</b>
<b>Total Assets less Current Liabilities</b>	<b>165,614</b>	<b>166,764</b>
<b>Long Term Liabilities</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total Assets less Total Liabilities</b>	<b>165,614</b>	<b>166,764</b>
<b>Funds</b>		
General Fund	159,456	143,383
Des. Church Hall Fund	0	300
Des. Building/Windows Fund	0	205
Des. CYM, Youth Café, Holiday Club, Refresh	5419	2423
Des. Youth & Children Fund (grant)	0	7228
Organ Service/Repair Fund	773	881
EEB Bank A/c Fund	1008	1008
P & L Account	-1130	11335
Previous Year Adjustment	88	
	<b>165,614</b>	<b>166,764</b>

#### SHARES

C of E General Investments 18,252.1700 units @ £1.9976 per share. Value £36,460.53 @ 31/12/2024

C of E Investment Fund (Equity) 2,412.1200 units @ £23,1227 per share. Value £55,774.73 @ 24.12.2024

CBF C of E Property Fund 11,437.0700 units @ £1.2329 per share. Net asset value £14,089.33 @ 31.12.24

## Church Finances continued

### Financial Statements - Prior Year Comparison continued

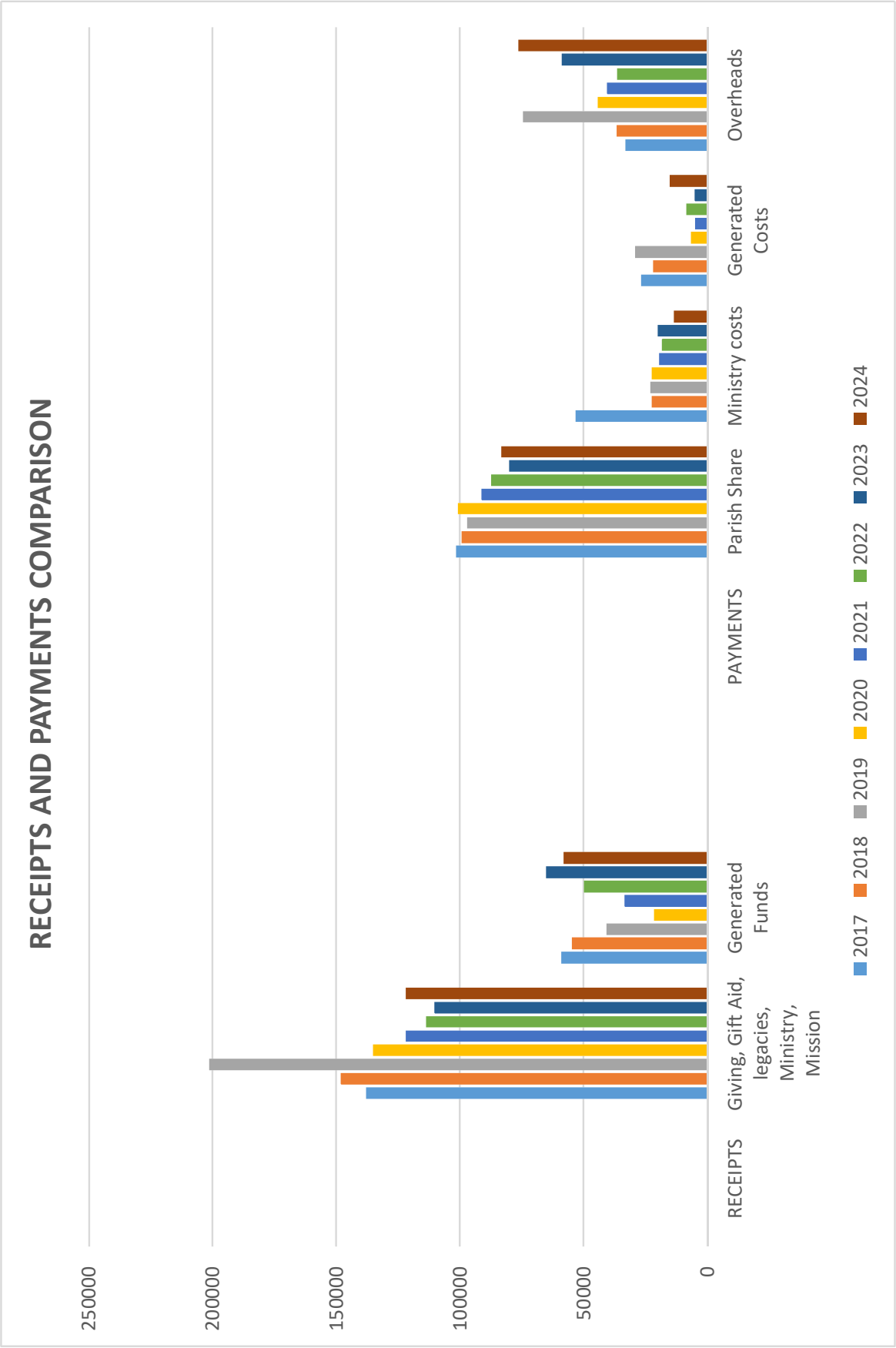
<b>Receipts</b>	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
Voluntary Receipts: Planned Giving	91,279	85,326
Collections at Services	3302	4374
Gift Aid recovered	24,660	20,102
Legacies, Miscellaneous	2772	361
Generated :CCLA Investment interest	6290	5039
Easy Fundraising/Ink Cartridge	294	97
Coffee Bar	54	60
Flowers/Thursday Club	405	160
Church Hire/Mission Events	5671	5139
Church Hall Hire	25,388	29,022
CYM/Youth Café/Holiday Club/Refresh Café	5802	4643
Funerals/Weddings/Baptism	1726	664
Designated: Mission/Outreach/Hall	475	684
Reloved Sale	1790	1570
CYM Fund	98	15000
Building/Windows	10,000	205
Restricted: Giving/CYM salary/Burundi	7685	3006
	<b>187,691</b>	<b>175,453</b>

<b>Payments</b>		
Church Activities: Charitable Giving	5903	8871
Parish Share	83,309	80,212
Vicar's discretionary	150	146
Clergy & staff expenses	2625	1272
Travel	966	1639
Training	479	374
Readers	60	57
Audio & Visual equipment	537	269
Office Administration	1827	2445
Publicity/Website/Broadband etc.	1017	903
Flowers	324	293
Generated Funds:Mission/Outreach	11	137
CYM/Youth Café/Holiday Club/Refresh Café	6204	3971
Coffee Bar	726	511
Designated: Reloved	1790	1570
Restricted: Burundi	6419	2602
	<b>112,346</b>	<b>105,272</b>

<b>Overheads</b>		
Salaries, PAYE, Pensions, HMRC	29,400	27,187
Accounts subscription	1504	1355
Bank Charges	130	4
Church Insurance & Licences	2781	2671
Church Utilities (Gas & Electric)	5268	6550
Church Water, Waste, Repairs	13,230	2455
Church Cleaning, Gardening	6055	5102
Hall Insurance & Licences	1561	1681
Hall Utilities (Gas & Electric)	3422	5197
Hall Water, Repairs & Equipment	8336	2322
Hall Cleaning	4786	4320
	<b>76,474</b>	<b>58,845</b>
<b>Net Profit/(Loss):</b>	<b>-1130</b>	<b>11,335</b>



Financial Statement - Receipts and Payments Comparison



## Church Finances continued

### Budget 6 Year Forecast

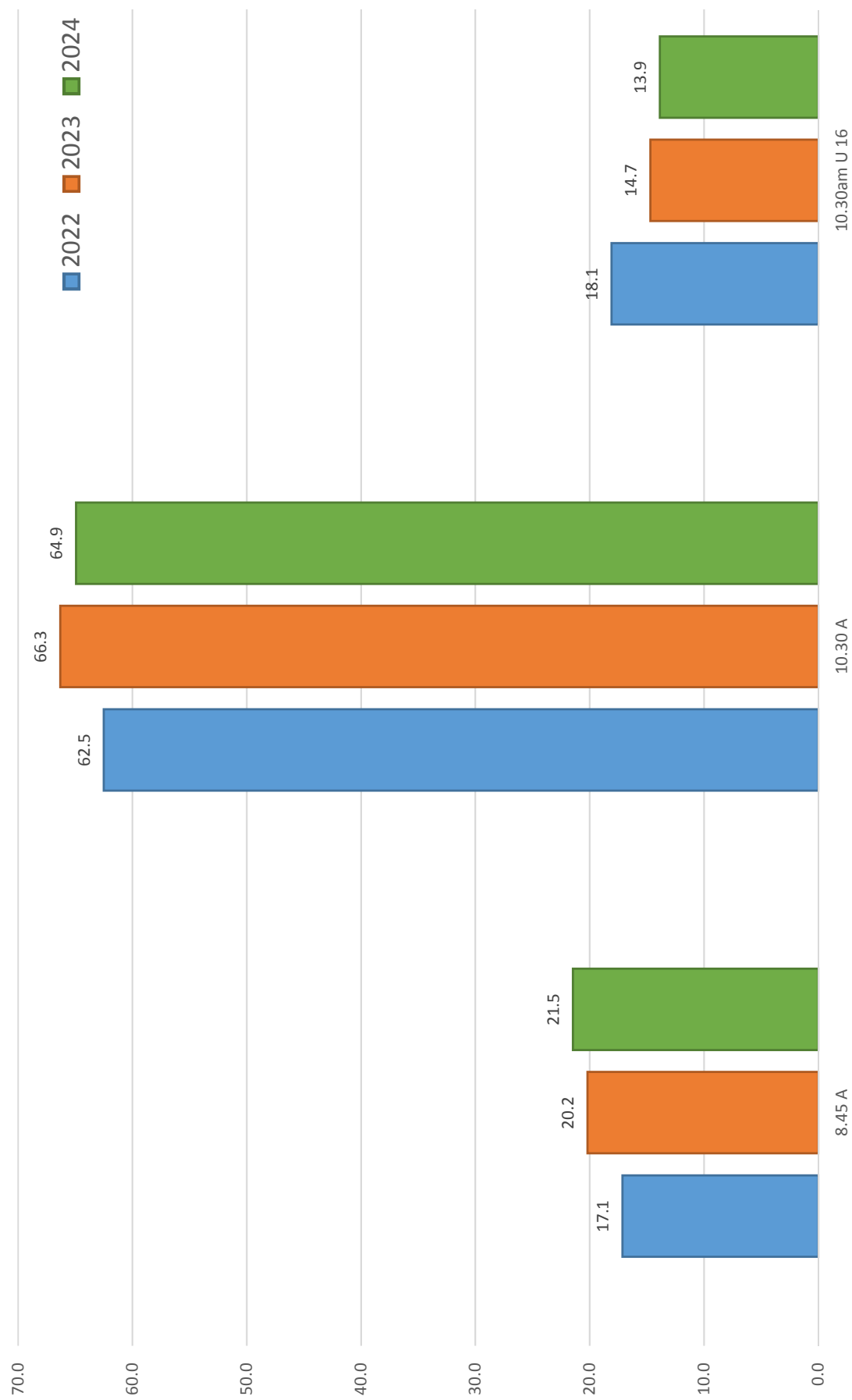
	Actual 2024	2025 Budget approved at Nov '24 PCC	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
<b>Total Receipts</b>	187,691	162,937	166,196	169,520	172,910	176,368	179,895
<b>Payments</b>	112,346	114,388	116,676	119,010	121,390	123,818	125,645
<b>Overheads</b>	76,474	63,316	64,582	65,874	67,191	68,535	69,906
<b>Net surplus/(Loss)</b>	-1130	-14,767	-15,062	-15,364	-15,671	-15,985	-15,656

#### NOTES:

1. 2024 Fundraising for Burundi - Food Crisis and Burundi Sunday. Total £6419 which includes gift aid sent.
2. 2024 Fundraising for Church windows £10,000. Balance pay in 2025 £3829 and £1200 raised by February.
3. 2025 repair to Audio visual equipment required. Waiting for quotes so not included in figures.

# Attendance

Average Attendance 2022 - 2024





## SfM Dashboard for the Parish of Woodthorpe in the deanery of Gedling

### Parish Census and deprivation summary

Parish population (2021): 7965

	Parish	Diocese	National
% aged 0-19	22%	23%	23%
% aged 20-44	25%	33%	33%
% aged 45-69	35%	30%	31%
% aged 70 & over	19%	14%	14%
% Christian	45%	43%	46%
% non-Christian religion	5%	7%	11%

Parish deprivation rank (IMD 2019): 11907

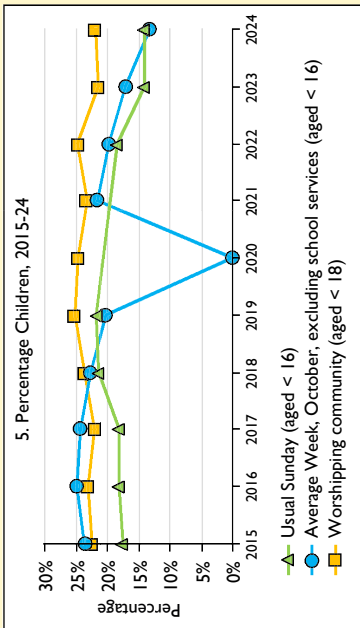
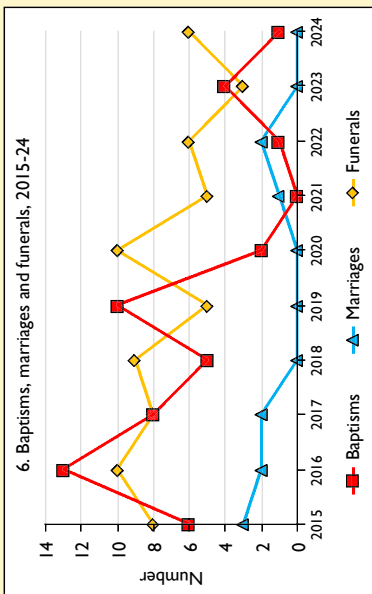
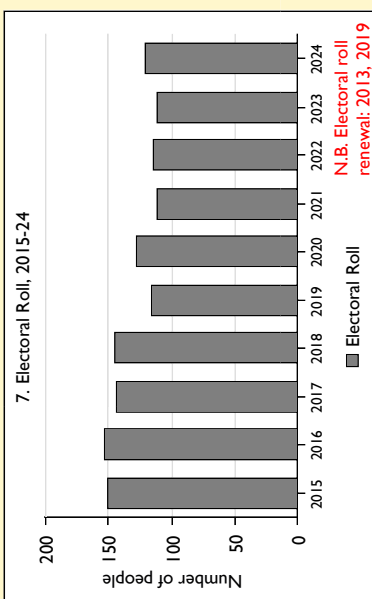
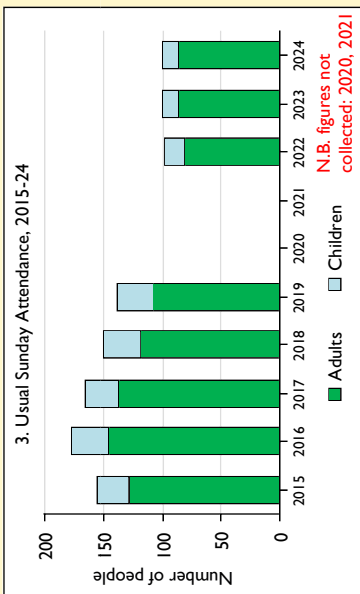
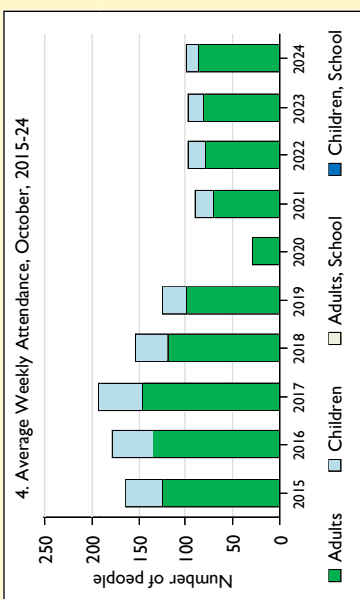
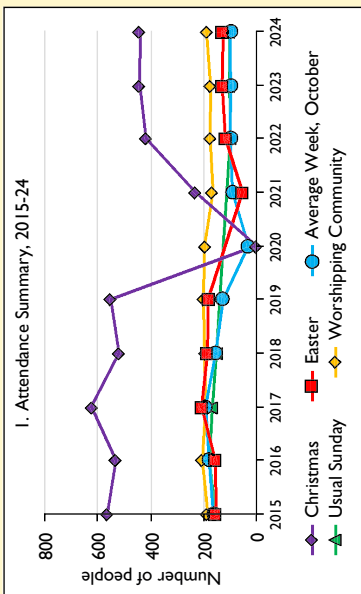
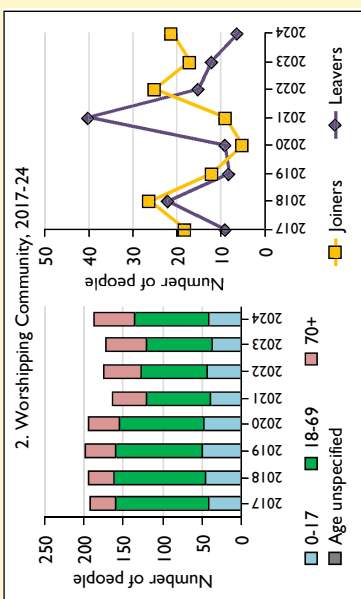
(1=most deprived parish in the Church of England, 12,239=least deprived)

For more detailed census & deprivation info: see <http://arcg.is/IRa4CS>

<https://www.churchofengland.org/researchandstats> and

<http://www2.cuf.org.uk/poverty-england/poverty-map>

Number of churches in parish (2024): 1 Parish Code: 380281



This dashboard contains figures as submitted by churches currently in the parish

**Attendance statistics:** taken from annual Statistics for Mission returns.

Average weekly attendance: attendance at Sunday and midweek church services & fresh expressions in October; Figs 1 & 5 do not include attendance at services for schools.

Easter: Easter Eve & Easter Day; Christmas: Christmas Eve & Christmas Day.

Baptisms: all baptisms & thanksgivings.

Marriages: marriages and services of prayer & dedication after civil marriages.

Funerals: those held in church & at crematoria/cemeteries.

Because of pandemic-related church closures, Easter figures were not collected in 2020.

**Census data:** taken from the 2021 national Census.

**Deprivation statistics:** IMD taken from the English Indices of Deprivation, published by the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, Sept 2019.

The above statistics have been mapped onto parish boundaries so are approximations.

For more information, see: <https://www.churchofengland.org/researchandstats>

