

Parish of Sanderstead Parish Profile

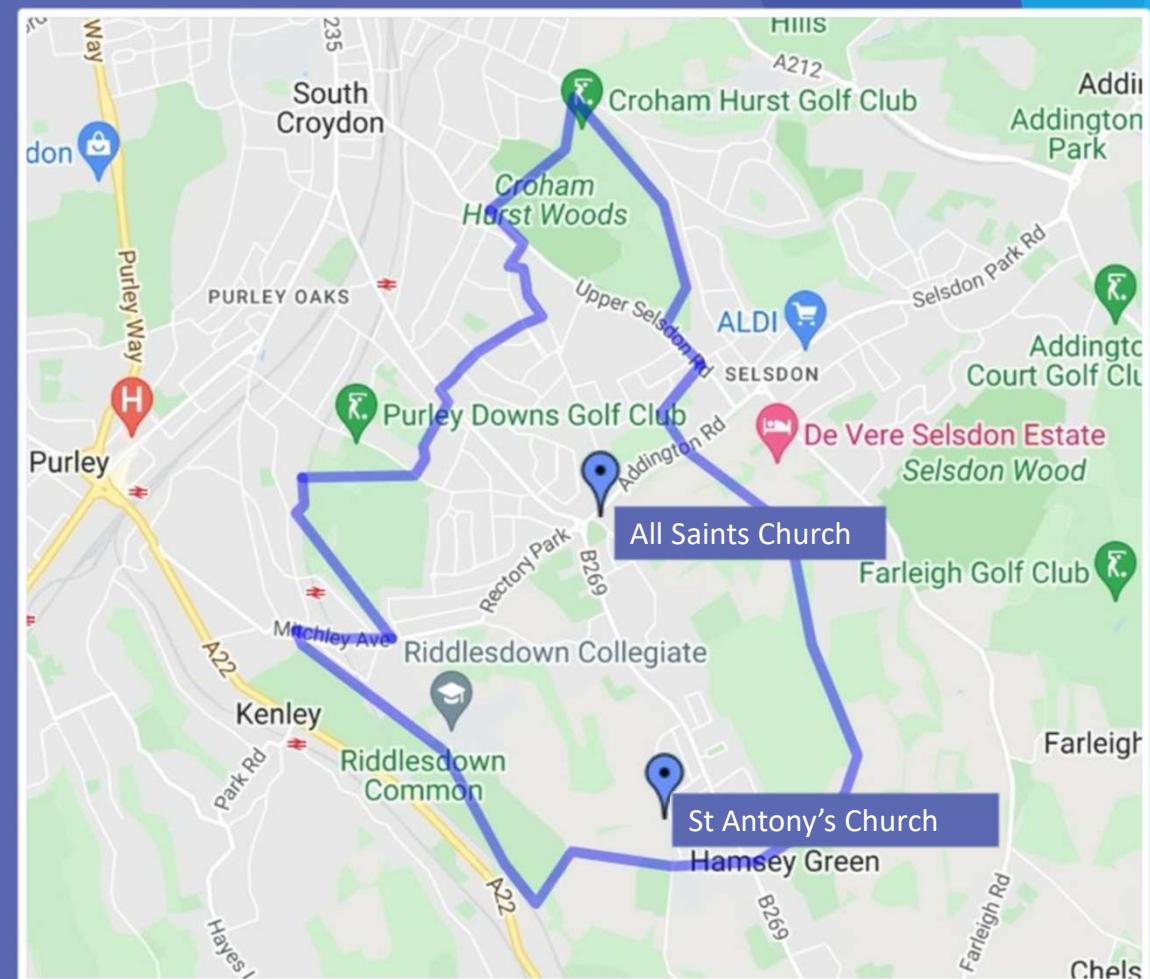
All Saints with St Antony's

**Growing in Christ, working together with
the community and sharing God's love.**





Parish of Sanderstead



Parish Office: Onslow Gardens, South Croydon CR2 9AB

Welcome

We want to extend God's welcome to all as we proclaim Jesus and serve our community.

People have been coming to All Saint church in Sanderstead for over 800 years to meet with God. Of course, over the years many things have changed, but one thing remains the same: at the heart of church life is Jesus Christ, God's Son, who gave his life by dying on the cross so that all might be forgiven and enjoy eternal life.





Our Church and Our People

There has been a church on the site of All Saints, Sanderstead since at least 1230AD, worshipping God and serving the community. History books indicate that there has been a church on the site since the time of the Domesday Book.

Our present congregation seeks to continue this faithful witness to the Gospel, and to share in God's mission in this part of South Croydon, within the Diocese of Southwark.

The parish is served by a Rector (post vacant) based at All Saints. Four retired clergy (who have Permission to Officiate) give support when they are able. Lay leaders lead a variety of services. The Diocese will appoint a pioneer minister, who will be based at St Antony's, but will serve the wider community.

A Children and Families support worker is employed part-time at All Saints. Two part-time administration assistants are based in the parish offices, one of whom manages the hall bookings.

The majority of church members live within the parish. There are 133 people on the electoral roll, although not everybody on the electoral roll attends church due to age or infirmity. A monthly, Sunday afternoon 'Messy Church' service attracts between 80 and 150 children, parents and carers. The Sunday morning congregation' consists mostly of people in the 60+ age range, with some young families attending.

The 2021 census shows that the average age of people in Sanderstead was 43.4. Local schools are heavily over-subscribed as young families continue to move to the area. However, church members realise that, if the church is to grow and flourish, it must attract and welcome young families. In 2023 the church agreed a strategic focus on children and families, and the needs of this group is at the forefront of all decisions and activities.



All Saints Sanderstead

All Saints Sanderstead is a closely-knit, caring, bible-believing fellowship. We believe that the Kingdom of God is open to all, and we seek to follow that example. The congregation is generous, respectful and accommodating. We are not seeking to become a platform for those who create sharp divisions or are stridently seeking to pursue particular issues such as those encompassed by Living in Love and Faith which we understand has caused a division in some Anglican communities.

Our priority is to live together in unity and peace in all things and to focus on proclaiming the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. We welcome and encourage leaders and ministers regardless of gender or sexuality. We attach great importance to our work among children and families and have adopted that as our number one priority. We would be looking for our new incumbent to be personally involved in leading and developing this aspect of God's mission in Sanderstead.



St Antony's, Hamsey Green

St Anthony's is a hall church in Hamsey Green, a suburban settlement that stretches along the B269 Limpsfield Road south of Sanderstead Village. It is the only church in the area. The building is used as a community resource during the week and converts occasionally into a church when services are to be held.

Following the reorganization of the team ministry in 2019, attendance has declined significantly. The PCC envisages new work starting here, when the pioneer minister is appointed, to develop a worshipping congregation.

A Women's Social Group (formerly Young Wives) meets fortnightly on Thursday evenings. T4U is a small group that offers refreshments and a chat for the elderly, fortnightly on Tuesday afternoons.





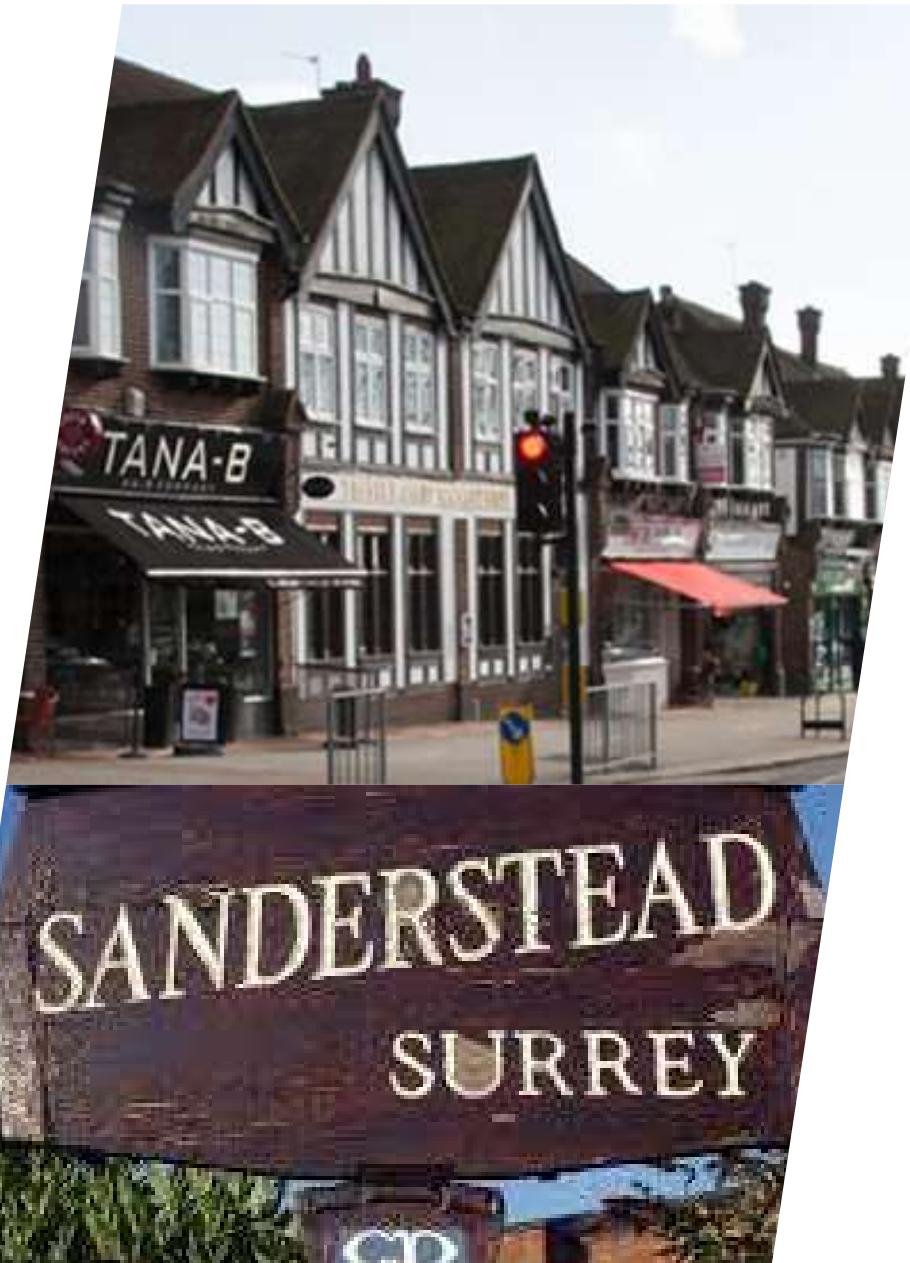
Our Parish

The Parish of Sanderstead lies on the northern edge of the beautiful North Downs and forms part of the southern boundary of the Greater London Borough of Croydon. It is essentially a quiet suburban parish that includes Sanderstead, Riddlesdown and Hamsey Green, lying approximately three miles due south of Croydon Town Centre.

The 2021 census recorded the population of Sanderstead as 15,774 people living in 6007 households.

The 'Christian' community represents the largest religious group, making up 50.55% of the population. The next biggest group is 'No religion' at 31.01%.





The area is popular with established families who enjoy its amenities and pleasant 'village' atmosphere.

The attractions of living in the area include;

- * accessibility to open spaces and woodland
- * good local Nursery and Outstanding Primary and Secondary Schools
- * good local shops including Waitrose, Sainsbury & Tesco; larger shopping centres are available in Croydon, Sutton and Bromley
- * good local bus services, access to Croydon's Tramlink and fast rail links from three local stations via East Croydon to London, and south towards Gatwick Airport, Brighton and the coast
- * a London Overground link from West Croydon to East London
- * access to the M25
- * many opportunities for sport and recreation



Children and Families

Children and Families are a priority for the parish. We welcome children to all our services. Children are also welcome to explore the children's area at All Saints, with books, toys and crafts.

Less formal Family Worship services are held on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month.

Toddler groups are open on Tuesdays and Fridays at 9.30-11.30am. Messy Church is usually on the second Sunday of the month at 3.30 pm. There are also Messy Easter, Messy Christmas events and summer holiday activities.

Services in church continue to be live streamed, and videos of services are available on our [YouTube](#) channel.

- ▶ **Parent and Toddler groups** (twice, weekly): The groups are very popular with parents/ carers and can attract up to 50 toddlers/ babies per session. A rota of volunteers facilitates the groups and activities.
- ▶ **Jigsaw activities** (in church, first Sunday of the month): Activities are available for children.
- ▶ **Messy Church** (Monthly, Sunday afternoons) there is a growing link between the Toddler groups and the Messy Church sessions. There are also Messy Easter and Messy Christmas events.





Messy Easter in the church



- ▶ **Uniformed Organisations:**
Rainbows, and Brownies meet in the church halls. Beavers, Cubs and Scouts meet nearby. Uniformed organisations attend key services during the year.
- ▶ **Holiday Club for Children:** This takes place in the church halls during the last week of the school summer holidays.



- ▶ **Elderly care:** There are a growing number of care and residential homes in the parish. All Saints offers monthly services at Langley Oaks Care Centre, which serves people with dementia.
- ▶ **'Staycation' for the elderly:** Plans to reinstate this are being developed.
- ▶ **Coffee Pot:** Fortnightly coffee/tea and cake mornings. All are welcome, but this is mostly attended by the elderly.
- ▶ **Sunday Lunch:** (monthly) Organised by All Saints alongside Sanderstead Neighbourhood Care for the over 65s and held in the church halls.





- ▶ **Home Groups:** fortnightly bible study and mutual support groups
- ▶ **The Mothers' Union** meets monthly: a prayerful group that participates fully in the life of the church and outreach into the community. It has prepared and run this year's Mothering Sunday worship, organised the Ecumenical World Day of Prayer and at Christmas distributed more than 200 Christmas Angels to children and parents of the Toddler Group, Christingle and Carol services.
- ▶ **Music:** An organist and choir support formal services and a worship band and singing group support the less formal services.
- ▶ **'Can we pray for you?' offer for all.**
- ▶ **Two teams of Handbell Ringers are based at All Saints.** Both teams of bell ringers use four octaves of American Handbells and a two-octave set of hand chimes. They practice regularly in All Saints Church and give performances locally at a variety of venues.

- ▶ **The Parochial Church Council** meets six times a year on average, with working groups taking forward detailed work in various fields of the church's ministry and mission. The PCC is responsible for the day-to-day running of the churches, including for buildings and finance and expenditure. It is also responsible for parish policy and vision.
- ▶ **Mission links:** The parish regularly supports the work of local, national and international charities such as Welcare, Croydon Refugee Centre, The Children's Society, CRISIS, Embrace the Middle East, International Needs and Sanderstead Neighbourhood Care.
- ▶ **Craft Group - Adults** (monthly): Meets in the small hall. Open to all. The group continues to grow in numbers and has supported several national/ local charities.



A walking group and social activities for all are organised by the Men's Group

The church has a stall at local events in order to meet the community and share activities.

- * Sanderstead Community Day at Sanderstead Recreation Ground
- * The Gruffy Fayre – Run by the local scouts group

Many of the congregation at All Saints are actively and quietly involved in their own personal ministry outside the church in numerous and various charitable, uniformed and other support groups.



Current Pattern of Worship

All Saints

► **First Sunday**

9.30 am Holy Communion with choir and children's group

► **Second Sunday**

9.30 am Less Formal Worship followed by Holy Communion

► **Third Sunday**

9.30 am Holy Communion with choir

► **Fourth Sunday**

8.00am Said Communion

9.30 am Less Formal Worship with worship band (no Holy Communion)

► **Fifth Sunday**

9.30 am A chance for creative worship

► **Messy Church**

► 3.30-5.30pm on the second Sunday each month

► **Prayer Meeting**

► Last Saturday at 9 am

► **Midweek Communion**

► 12.30 pm on the third Thursday each month

► **St Antony's**

3.00pm Sunday - Café Church group



Life Events, Rites and Celebrations

Average number per annum over the last three years of:

- Weddings: 4-5
- Funerals: 25
- Baptisms: All Saints' 3-11
- Confirmation Candidates: 3-6
- Regular 'home' Communions: 12

Christian Initiation (Baptism and Confirmation)

All enquirers for baptism are invited to attend a baptism preparation class which is held every six weeks in the church. This is an opportunity to get to know the families, talk to them in some depth about what baptism is all about and undertake a formal application process. They are offered a welcome 'Thanksgiving for the Birth of a Child'. However, almost all applicants appear happy to go straight to baptism. Preparation is tailored to the needs of specific couples. The baptism policy is thus 'open' but done as a serious process.



Children are admitted to Holy Communion after preparation from aged seven years with a view to Confirmation in the mid-teenage years. Alpha & Emmaus have been used over the years in preparation. Confirmation services are held on a Deanery basis.



Marriage

We welcome those who wish to marry in the church, including divorcees, subject to normal rules about living in the parish or having an appropriate link with the parish.

Safeguarding

The churches follow the National and Diocesan legal and procedural framework for safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.



Churches Together in Sanderstead

We are pleased to be working with Sanderstead URC, Sanderstead Methodists and the Holy Family RC church.

Events such as “School of the Spirit”, Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and Christmas Carols at Sanderstead Parade have in the past been well supported.





All Saints Church Building

All Saints Church occupies a landmark location at the top of Sanderstead Hill with commanding views over London. The church is a Grade 1 listed building. It has been extended four times in its history, the latest being in 1981, when a large side chapel was built. This makes for a surprisingly large interior, which can be challenging liturgically, as many of the sightlines are difficult, though providing interesting separate spaces for smaller services and activities. However, the sightlines problem has largely been overcome with video screens, and a technical team to provide online live streaming of services.



The fabric of the church is in fair condition for its age, having had several major works completed in recent years e.g., the roof, stonework, the Lychgate and War Memorial. The last quinquennial review was carried out in September 2023. Urgent building matters arising from the review have been dealt with. The balance of the items identified are planned to be incorporated within the scope of Project 800.

We replaced pews on the North side of the church with more comfortable chairs eight years ago.

Project 800

All Saints will reach its 800th Anniversary in 2030. A working group has been established to ensure that the event is celebrated appropriately focusing on

- ▶ Providing greater usability and flexibility of the space for use by both the church and the community.
- ▶ Exploring the provision of lower energy heating and lighting systems to reduce our carbon footprint.
- ▶ Carrying out identified repairs and redecoration to the historic building to ensure that it is preserved for future use.
- ▶ Celebration – Events to celebrate the 800th Anniversary in 2030.

The group is also looking at ways in which the local community can become involved and more engaged with the church and its facilities.



All Saints church halls were built in the 1950s. The building includes meeting rooms and offices, one of which is occupied by 'Sanderstead Neighbourhood Care', a local charity. Refurbishment of the halls will form part of Project 800.



There are two part-time caretakers/ keyholders. Who clean and oversee the day to day running of the halls and grounds.

The halls connect to two flats, owned by the PCC. One flat is rented by one of the caretakers. The other flat is currently occupied by a Ukrainian family. The PCC also owns a three-bedroom house between Sanderstead and Hamsey Green (just over one mile distance from the Church).



Finance

In a typical year we would expect to see:

Full parish share being met (currently £89,000 approx.). However, due to specific reasons, the current year pledge is less than this.

Expenditure in the region of £250,000 - £300,000 excluding major projects.

Income of similar amount represented by :-

Committed giving £90,000

Lettings £80,000

Gift aid £26,000

Investment income and other donations and legacies £30,000

Financial Statements: Parish of Sanderstead

Year to 31st December 2024

RECEIPTS / INCOME	£	PAYMENTS / EXPENDITURE	£
Voluntary Giving		Fundraising costs	212
Planned giving	82,140		
Collections	4,540		
Sundry donations, appeals etc	12,759	Church Activities	
Gift Aid	21,604	Mission giving & donations	8,000
Donations & Appeals	6,690	Diocesan quota	86,304
Grants	6,857	Staff costs	26,480
Total voluntary Giving	134,590	Clergy & staff expenses	4,073
		Family Support Admin	6,018
		Organists, choir & music	8,847
		Total Church Activities	139,722
Activities for Generating Funds		Church Expenses	
Bookstall	301	Church running expenses	22,461
Property & hall lettings	115,309	Halls running expenses	61,429
Parish fees	14,208	Church maintenance	8,529
	129,818	Other property maintenance	5,530
Income from investments	20,377	Upkeep of churchyards	15,972
Other income	5,499	Office costs	7,459
		Professional fees	3,650
		Sundries	14,488
		Total Church Expenses	139,518
TOTAL INCOME	290,284	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	279,452

The Parish of Sanderstead

Statement of Financial Activities For the Year Ended 31 December 2024

THE PARISH OF SANDERSTEAD STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Endowment funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Incoming & endowments	3					
Donations & legacies	3.1	133,991	599	-	134,590	161,057
Charitable activities	3.2	125,301	4,517	-	129,818	130,008
Investments	3.3	19,356	1,021	-	20,377	20,026
Other income	3.4	5,499	-	-	5,499	5,188
Total income & endowments		284,147	6,137	-	290,284	316,279
Expenditure	4					
Fundraising costs	4.1	212	-	-	212	324
Charitable activities	4.2	263,268	15,972	-	279,240	333,328
Total expenditure		263,480	15,972	-	279,452	333,652
Net (expenditure)/income before investment gains		20,667	(9,835)	-	10,832	(17,373)
Net gains and / (losses) on investments	10	1,809	842	617	3,268	5,550
Net (expenditure)/income net movement of funds		22,476	(8,993)	617	14,100	(11,823)
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward	14	1,267,020	17,030	26,000	1,310,050	1,321,873
Total funds carried forward		1,289,496	8,037	26,617	1,324,150	1,310,050

All activities are regarded as continuing.

The above statement includes all recognised gains and losses during the year.

The notes to the accounts form part of the financial statements



The parish contributes through the Parish Support Fund.

Numbers on Electoral Roll - 133

Average Number of Sunday
Communicants - 65



Is God calling YOU to be our new Rector?

We are looking for someone who will work collaboratively with the wardens, PCC, lay and ordained ministry teams and the congregation to develop the vision for the church. This is to enable Children and Families work to be our priority in order to grow the church, both in numbers and spiritual maturity. The Rector will care and tend for the existing ageing congregation, many of whom have faithfully served the church for many years, placing a high priority on pastoral care.

We are looking for someone who has a passion to share the love of Christ to our church and community.



We are praying that God will find us

A confident, spirit-filled, prayerful, mission-minded leader with:

- ▶ good communication skills, the ability to engage and encourage people across the age ranges and to convey the church's mission, vision and priorities.
- ▶ a commitment to faithfully preach the Word of God in thoughtful and stimulating ways.
- ▶ good, proven, interpersonal skills.
- ▶ empathy and good listening skill.
- ▶ an ability to build relationships both within the church, in the local community and between local churches in Sanderstead, in the deanery and the episcopal area.



- ▶ the ability, willingness and experience to help us to further develop our less formal / modern worship services, including a wider range of musical worship and a deeper corporate prayer life.
- ▶ a 'servant' and pastoral heart.

'In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature^l of a servant, being made in human likeness.'
Phillipians:2 v 5-7





What we can offer

- ▶ a warm, loving, caring, prayerful, supportive and accommodating congregation that participates actively in the ministry of the church.
- ▶ a willingness to grow spiritually, to pray together, to meet and learn together in home groups.
- ▶ a church based on a sound financial footing, with a generous congregation.
- ▶ a fine, well maintained, spacious family-sized rectory.
- ▶ a long heritage of faith and commitment.

Where we are now, as a worshipping community ...

- ▶ We are a church that is spiritually alive and awake to the mission that God has set before us.
- ▶ We have a love for God's Word and a desire to proclaim it.
- ▶ We are a warm and caring fellowship that genuinely wants someone to lead us in God's mission here in Sanderstead.



Accommodation and Stipend

The Rectory is a good size 1950s built 4 bedroom detached house with a garden in a quiet local road. It would make a good home for a family with children, and it is near to good primary and secondary schools.

One garage has been converted to provide comfortable office space. The house was purchased by the diocese in July 2016 to replace a larger building that required much work.

The stipend is in accordance with the diocesan scale for incumbents and includes National Insurance and pension. Expenses will be paid in full in accordance with diocesan guidelines and practice.





“We are praying for the right person to be called to be our Rector.

Our prayer is that God will guide you and us in this decision.”

The Diocese of Southwark

Southwark is a diverse and vibrant Diocese, founded in 1905, covering South London and East Surrey. It serves the 2.8 million people in the 16 local authorities of South London and East Surrey through 356 places of worship, 293 parishes, and 106 church schools. The Diocese is divided into three Episcopal Areas – Croydon, Kingston, and Woolwich – each with an Area Bishop, two Archdeacons, and a team of clergy and laity who carry out various roles relating to vocations, minority ethnic concerns, women's ministry, social justice, mission, ministerial training, as well as a range of lay ministries.

Southwark Cathedral is on the River Thames near London Bridge and Shakespeare's Globe Theatre.

Southwark Vision 2024-2035 is Christ Centred, Outward Focused. This next evolution of our vision comes as we continue to walk together, discerning God's wisdom and guidance in our shared pilgrimage of faith. Keeping Christ as our centre and the focus of unity, we will continue to turn outwards – seeking to support, encourage, resource and learn from one another as we serve our parishes and God's world.

<https://southwark.anglican.org/about-us/who-we-are/southwark-vision/>

Some useful links for more information

Sanderstead Parish www.sanderstead-parish.org.uk

Diocese of Southwark www.southwark.anglican.org

Sanderstead Residents Association: www.sanderstead-residents.co.uk

London Borough of Croydon www.croydon.gov.uk

Croydon Local Plan <https://www.croydon.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2024-07/croydon-local-plan-2018-revised-2024.pdf>

Croydon Growth Plan www.croydon.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2025-05/croydon-growth-plan-2025-final.pdf

Gresham Primary School www.gresham.croydon.sch.uk

Atwood Primary School www.pegasusacademytrust.org/atwood-primary-school

Riddlesdown Collegiate www.riddlesdown.org

Sanderstead WI www.sandersteadwi.org

Sanderstead Village WI www.sandersteadvillagewi.co.uk

Sanderstead Cricket Club www.sanderstead.play-cricket.com

Croydon South Rotary Club www.rotarysandersteadandselsdon.com