THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Leeds

Parish Profile

The new parish of St Robert of Knaresborough, Pannal and St Michael and All Angels, Beckwithshaw came into existence on 1 September 2026, bringing the two former parishes together as one parish.

This form is designed to give an overview of a parish to be used in a vacancy for the appointment of a new parish priest. It will be accepted as the "statement describing the conditions, needs and traditions of the parish" required by the Patronage (Benefices) Measure 1986. Please check all pre-populated data carefully and provide any corrections if needed. Additional information may also be appended.

1. Parish Information

1.a	**Name(s) of parish(es):**	St Robert of Knaresborough, Pannal and St Michael and All Angels, Beckwithshaw
1.b	**Name(s) of parish church(es):**	St Robert of Knaresborough, Pannal; St Michael and All Angels, Beckwithshaw
2.	**Name(s) of other C of E church(es)/centres for public worship in the parish(es):**	Pannal Methodist Church
3.a	**Are you linked formally or informally with any other parishes in the benefice (Y/N):**	No – the two former parishes were combined on 1st September 2026.
3.b	**If Y, please give the name(s) of linked parish(es):**	Not applicable
4.	**Deanery:**	Harrogate Deanery, Diocese of Leeds – Ripon Episcopal Area
5.	**Population:** *[Information as of 2021 census. Please indicate if and how this might have changed]*	Parish Population Under 20 1756 20 to 64 3630 Over 65 1855 Total 7240 Occupied Households 2869 Parish Ethnic Heritage Profile Asian 169 Black 23 Mixed 128

		White 6877 Other 44
6.a	**Electoral Roll Number: 2026 data**	163 (St Robert: 128; St Michael: 35)
6.b	**Date of Declaration:**	2026

7. Worship Attendance

Please provide details of average attendance at Sunday and weekday services. Add any additional rows as required or if hand-written continue on a separate sheet if necessary.
October count 2024

Church	Service	Time	Number of communicants	Adult attendance	Under 16 attendance
St Robert of Knaresborough	Sunday	8am and 915am		80	35
St Robert of Knaresborough	Weekday	Thursday service and Crumpet Church		40	45
St Michael and All Angels	Sunday	11.15 am		12	1
St Michael and All Angels	Weekday	3.30 pm		2	
Combined Sunday attendance				92	36

8. Occasional Offices

Please provide figures for the last 12 months. Add any additional rows as required or if hand-written continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

Church	Baptisms	Confirmees	Weddings	Funerals in church	Funerals taken by clergy
St Robert of Knaresborough	4	6	6	11	2
St Michael and All Angels			1	5	1
Combined	4	6	7	16	3

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9. Communications

Please only include names and contact details that can be shared when this document becomes public. Add any additional rows as required or if hand-written continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

Church	**Clergy**	**Licenced Lay Ministers**	**Lay staff** *eg Youth worker, Administrator etc*	**Churchwardens**
St Robert	Previous incumbent Rev G. Weir (retired)	Susan House; Stuart Newsome; Adrian Cook	Administrator (9 hours a week); Cleaner (4.5 hours)	Stuart Newsome; Claire Pickthall
St Michael	Previous incumbent Rev G. Weir (retired)	Sally Johnson		Carolyn Swales; Kathryn Wilson

2. Parish/Community Information

1.a	**Briefly describe the demographic composition of the parish(es) (eg employment status, population ages, ethnic groups, home ownership, cultural diversity).**	Parish Religious Profile Christian 4166 Buddhist 28 Hindu 30 Jewish 32 Muslim 27 Sikh 14 Other 22 None 2493
1. b	**Are there any specific issues you wish to highlight in relation to the above description (eg high unemployment)?**	The new parish includes Pannal, Burn Bridge, Beckwithshaw and parts of the southern suburbs of Harrogate. Pannal is a semi-rural commuter village with a railway station, regular buses, shops, services, a village hall, sports clubs, uniformed organisations and local businesses. Beckwithshaw is a small, attractive village with a school, pub, village hall, sports clubs and surrounding farms. Moor Park lies on the edge of the village, while Haverah Park includes farmland, reservoirs and a cricket ground. Significant new housing is being

		developed in and around both communities. Harrogate is a prosperous spa town close to the Yorkshire Dales National Park, and many residents commute to Leeds, Bradford, York and beyond.

2. Other local institutions

Please provide information and details (if known) of other important local institutions. Add any additional rows as required or if hand-written continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

Institution	Quantity	Details
Schools (Primary and Secondary)	2	Pannal Primary School; Beckwithshaw Primary School; St Aidan's Church of England High School Harrogate
Youth Centres	**4**	Pannal and Beckwithshaw cricket and football clubs; uniformed organisations
Hospitals		Harrogate District Hospital
Nursing/elderly care homes	4	Crystal Court; Vida Grange; Highgate Care; Vida Court
Local Businesses		Village shops, Post Office, Co-op, pub, garage, dentist, hairdresser, station and local business estate
Neighbourhood initiatives (eg NWA)		Significant housing development in progress across the villages of Pannal and Beckwithshaw
Local Associations (eg tourist groups, historic societies)		St Robert's is believed to be the only church dedicated to St Robert of Knaresborough.
Other Christian Churches		Pannal Methodist Church
Other Places of Worship		

2.b Do the clergy hold any civic responsibilities in relation to the above institutions or within the wider community? If so, please provide details.

Add any additional rows as required or if hand-written continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

The incumbent becomes a trustee of Beckwithshaw Village Hall on appointment.

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3. Local religious partnerships

Please provide information on the parish(es) relationship with local religious groups. Expand the rows as required or if hand-written continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

3.a	**Please state any involvement in local Churches Together**	Pannal Methodist Church, including shared worship and community links.
3.b	**Please state any formal covenants held with other denominations**	
3.c	**Please state any informal ecumenical contacts held by the parish(es)**	

3. Church Information

Please give details for each church individually by copy/pasting the table below or by repeating the information on a separate sheet.

St Robert of Knaresborough and St Michael and All Angels		
A. Congregation		
i	**What percentage of the congregation lives outside the parish?**	St Robert: unknown. St Michael: approximately 60%.
ii	**Briefly describe the demographic composition of the congregation (eg employment status, population ages, ethnic groups, home ownership, cultural diversity, gender).**	St Roberts has a mixture of employed professionals, retired people and young families, with high home ownership and limited cultural diversity. St Michaels has a mixture of retired and employed people, mixed gender and an age profile mainly over 30.
iii	**How would you describe the worship tradition at the church?**	Traditional, central and broad church, ranging from Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion and Common Worship to services in the Celtic tradition and livelier services for children and families. St Roberts has an excellent robed

		choir.	
B. Finance			
i	**What is the average regular weekly giving by persons in the parish(es) 16 years & over?** **What (if any) proportion of this giving is gift aided?**	St Roberts: £11, of which 92.6% is Gift Aided. St Michaels: £7.43.	
ii	**What is the date of the church's last stewardship campaign?**	St Roberts: January 2025. St Michaels: January 2026.	
iii	**How does the church supplement direct giving in order to meets its financial needs?**	Direct giving is supplemented by Gift Aid, donations, grants, fundraising, fees and lettings. The parish seeks to create financial resilience and support of its Christian generosity. The PCC is ambitious in its generosity and hopes for a vicar who is like minded, can encourage confident giving and can help broaden the parish's funding base in support of mission.	
iv	**What was the amount of working expenses paid to the clergy in the last financial year?** **Were these needs met in full? (Y/N)** *If N what was the estimated shortfall*	St Robert: 2024 £2,614; 2025 £2,966. St Michael: £431. Y	
v	**Please provide details of the amount of share requested and paid:** • **in last financial year (2024)** • **in the current year (2025)** • **in the next financial year**	Requested • St Robert – 2024: £101,013; 2025: £109,586; 2026: £110,613 • St Michael – 2024: £13,710; 2025: £13,710.	Paid • St Robert – 2024: £80,800; 2025: £87,700. St Michael – 2024: £13,710; 2025: £13,710.
	Please provide explanation for any discrepancy between requested and actual payments	Parish share has been approached responsibly in the light of available income. The parish will continue working constructively with the Diocese while encouraging greater generosity and developing additional sources of funding.	
	Do you anticipate meeting this year's requested payment in full? (Y/N) *If N provide explanation*	A parish share agreement meeting is pending. The PCC is ambitious in its generosity and will work constructively towards an affordable and	

		sustainable agreement.
vi	**Are there any ongoing capital projects? (Y/N)** *If Y please give brief details of estimated costs and how these will be met*	St Roberts: quinquennial works are in progress, and a replacement kitchen is planned; the 2026 maintenance budget is approximately £34,000. St Michaels: new toilet and kitchenette facilities are in progress, with an estimated cost of £180,000. The work has been approved by the local council and is intended to create a more welcoming and hospitable environment in which people can come together.
vii	**Please append a copy of the last PCC accounts.**	Attached (two sets of accounts to reflect two separate parishes previous to 1st September 2026)
viii	**Please provide details of the any overseas work supported by the Church including the value of any annual donations**	DEC Appeal £750; USPG £500; Turbota – Ukraine Charity £250. Total £1,500.
ix	**Please provide details of the any mission agencies and charities supported by the Church including the value of any annual donations**	Armley Mission Partners £1,300; Wellspring Therapy and Training £1,000; Otley Christian Resource Centre £250; Compassion UK £500; Yorkshire Air Ambulance £500; Mission to Seafarers £450. Total, excluding overseas giving: £4,000.
C. Buildings		
i	**Please provide a general overview of the general state of repair of the church building and environs** *This can usually be found in the 'Executive Summary' of the most recent Quinquennial Inspection report*	St Roberts is a thirteenth-century church with later additions and is Grade II listed. The church is well cared for and generally in good condition; some external repointing remains. St Michael and All Angels is a Victorian church built in the gothic revival style and is Grade II listed.
ii	**Please highlight any major maintenance requirements identified during the most recent**	St Roberts: external repointing and replacement of the kitchen are being addressed

	Quinquennial Inspection	following the quinquennial inspection. St Michael: the project for new toilet and kitchenette facilities is in progress and has been approved by the council (please see notes above)

4. Church Education and Social Provision

1.a	**Name(s) of Church School(s) if applicable:**	No Church school
2.	**How is the school governance structure organised?** *eg aided, controlled, foundation*	
3.	**Approximately how many pupils are currently enrolled?**	
4.	**What is the level of engagement between the church(es) and the school(s)?**	Strong relationships with Pannal Primary School and Beckwithshaw Primary School, and links with St Aidan's Church of England High School in Harrogate. Engagement includes Open the Book, What's the Story, Easter and Christmas activities, school visits and invitations into church.

5. Outreach and Mission

Expand the rows as required or if hand-written continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

1.a	**Please provide details of any regular mission and outreach activities**	Care-home Communion and hymn-singing sessions; Armley project; lunch club; Mothers' Union; Women's Institute; social events; fundraisers; school and community activities.
1.b	**How are you helping people find out about Jesus?**	A range of services for different ages and traditions; social events and meetings; fundraisers; leaflet and card invitations; weekly worship.

1.c	**How are you helping people to grow in discipleship?**	Crumpet Church; Junior Church; robed choir; all-age worship; Lent courses; well-attended Christmas and Easter services; Duke of Edinburgh volunteering supported within the parish; Mothers' Union.
1.d	**How are you helping people to grow in leadership?**	Encouraging, equipping and supporting lay leadership and shared ministry.
2.a	**Are there any overseas link(s) with the parish(es)? (Y/N)**	No
2.b	**If Y, please give details:**	
3.a	**Do you have an organised system to provide outreach and welcome to new members of the community? (Y/N)**	No
3.b	**If Y, please give details:**	
4.	**What role do you play in meeting the needs of the local community?**	Churches open for prayer; strong school, civic and business relationships; Christmas Tree Festival; Christingle; Angel Festival; afternoon teas; patronal celebrations and other community events.
5.	**How do you engage with young people outside of church-based organisations?** *eg open youth work*	School presentations and church visits; links with Scouts, Cubs and Beavers; relationships with sports clubs and other community groups.

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6. Lay Discipleship and Participation

Expand the rows as required or if hand-written continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

1.	What are your education and training provisions for: • Children (*eg Sunday School*) • Young People (*eg Youth Projects*) • Adults (*eg Alpha*)	Details	Approximate numbers
		Crumpet Church; Junior Church; Lent courses	Crumpet Church: approximately 45 (plus adults); Junior Church: approximately 35
2.a	**Please give details of any house/prayer groups**	Lent courses	
2.b	**Are these groups led by lay or clergy?**	Clergy and lay	
3.a	**How would you rate the strength of lay leadership?**	Many people volunteer across a wide range of roles. The new parish has a 21-member PCC and strong volunteer leadership in children's ministry, music, worship, hospitality, tech and communication support and practical service.	
3.b	**What is the source of lay leadership strength or weakness?**	Lay leadership is well supported, with volunteers seeking continued encouragement, training, strengthening and guidance.	

7. Mission

In this section you are encouraged to consider your future priorities and aspirations. You are invited to contemplate areas you feel need addressing, evaluate any limitations which may prevent you from addressing them, and envision what your new priest's role could be to help you achieve your ambitions. Expand the rows as required or if hand-written continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

1.	**Which areas of church life do you feel would benefit from further development in future?**	Deepen prayer, discipleship and confidence in Christian faith. Strengthen our identity as one parish while cherishing the character of

		both churches. Create financial resilience and support our ambitions for generosity.
2.	**What are the main areas of mission that you would like your new priest to prioritise?**	Build on the strengths of the work already taking place with young people and families. Support children to remain connected to church through their teenage years and into adulthood. Work with nearby parishes within the Resourcing Deanery on this opportunity. Build clearer pathways between schools, baptism, community contact and continuing church belonging. Encourage and equip lay leadership and shared ministry, grow confident mission, and strengthen prayerful giving, governance, safeguarding and care of our buildings.
3.	**What are the biggest potential challenges which you and the new priest will need to address?** *Name and elaborate on no more than three*	1. A newly formed parish – establishing and embedding shared systems and processes as two former parishes become one parish, while honouring the distinctive identity of each church. 2. Youth ministry and shared responsibility – building on existing strengths with young people and families, retaining children through their teenage years and into adulthood, and working with nearby parishes within the Resourcing Deanery. 3. Financial resilience and generosity – creating financial resilience and supporting our ambitions for generosity, including thoughtful stewardship, wider funding and a constructive parish share agreement.

8. Additional Information

We are blessed with faithful congregations, committed volunteers, excellent schools, a rich musical tradition, extensive community relationships and a strong safeguarding culture. We want to deepen discipleship and prayer, build a strong one-parish identity, develop ministry with teenagers and young adults, and create clearer pathways from community contact into lasting Christian belonging.

We are not seeking to make the two churches identical. The next incumbent will have the opportunity to

help two faithful congregations grow together: developing a common vision, encouraging collaboration and ensuring that each church continues to flourish in its own setting.

Within our church community, we are committed to providing and promoting a happy, welcoming, compassionate, safe and secure environment and culture in which everyone is nurtured, valued, respected and protected while participating fully and positively in Christ's ministry to love and care for one another.

We are proud of the safeguarding culture developed across the parish. The parish is recognised by the Diocese as outstanding in its commitment to and delivery of good safeguarding practice. This reflects the dedication of volunteers, church officers and clergy who have created a culture in which safeguarding is taken seriously and good practice is consistently maintained.

Our choral and musical tradition is especially valued. The choir, led by our excellent choir director, attracts members of all ages. Popular concerts are held throughout the year and often welcome returning and guest singers.

Events across the year include Advent services and reflections; choral worship; Carols on the Green; Christmas Tree Festival; Christingle; crib and carol services; Lent courses; Palm Sunday worship with Pannal Methodist Church and the traditional donkey procession; reflective worship, prayer and Tenebrae during Holy Week; Easter celebrations; Sea Sunday; Safeguarding Sunday; patronal festivals; Christ the King; Environment Sunday; Harvest thanksgiving; and All Souls' service.

What we offer:
- Faithful and supportive congregations.
- Committed churchwardens, lay leaders and volunteers.
- Strong school and extensive community relationships.
- A rich worshipping and musical tradition.
- Two distinctive churches with genuine potential to grow together.
- Openness to thoughtful change, generous mission and new possibilities.
- A beautiful and well-connected part of North Yorkshire in which to live and minister.

Our congregations, PCC, deanery colleagues and neighbouring parishes want to work alongside the new incumbent, building on what already exists and exploring together what may be possible.

9. The New Priest

Above all, we are praying for a priest who loves Jesus Christ and inspires others to follow Jesus. We recognise that no person will possess every possible gift, but we are especially looking for:

A prayerful, Christ-centred priest – someone rooted in prayer, Scripture and the sacramental life of the Church, whose faith is visible in worship, preaching, relationships and everyday leadership.

A faithful and engaging teacher – someone who communicates the Gospel with clarity, warmth and relevance, helps people engage thoughtfully with the Bible and encourages lifelong growth in faith.

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A collaborative leader of two churches – someone who listens well, builds trust, handles difference with wisdom and helps both congregations unite around a shared vision without overlooking their distinctive character.

A compassionate and visible pastor – someone approachable and genuinely interested in people, able to walk alongside them through celebration, illness, grief, doubt and change while developing pastoral ministry across the whole parish.

A mission-minded enabler – someone with a heart for those beyond the existing congregation, who values schools and community relationships, develops lay gifts and helps the parish turn opportunity into confident Christian witness.

Someone who can encourage prayerful generosity and help people recognise how their giving supports the Church's mission and our parish ambitions.

Someone willing to build constructive relationships with neighbouring churches and deanery colleagues, particularly for mission among children, young people and families.

One Parish. Two Churches. One Shared Future in Christ.

Agreed by the PCC of St Robert of Knaresborough, Pannal and St Michael and All Angels, Beckwithshaw

……..

On the 30th October 2026

Signed: R.Stray ……

Print Name: Rachael Stray ……

Office Held: Parish Secretary ……

Once completed and signed as agreed by the PCC, this form should be sent directly to the Archdeacon's office and to Gemma Shearwood:

Gemma Shearwood
Diocese of Leeds, Church House
17-19 York Place, Leeds, LS1 2EX
gemma.shearwood@leeds.anglican.org

Copies will be circulated by the office to the Patron and Bishop

Please make sure copies all PCC members retain a signed copy of this form for their records.

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