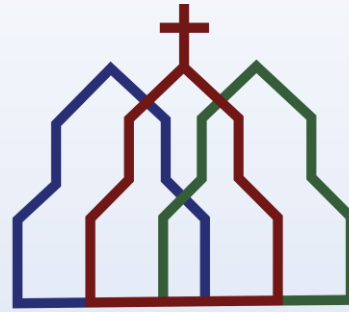




The Parish of
Winkfield Cranbourne & Chavey Down

Profile for the Parish of Winkfield, Cranbourne & Chavey Down



Welcome and Introduction to the Parish of Winkfield, Cranbourne & Chavey Down

We are so pleased you have been drawn to read our Parish Profile and find out more about us.

We warmly welcome you to read through the pages, which will give you a better understanding of who we are, where we are now, what we can offer and what our vision is for the future. We have been in a period of interim ministry, there have been some changes and we wish to carry on our journey.

If you have any questions or would like to talk to us, please do not hesitate to make contact.



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Foreword by the Archdeacon



The benefice is emerging from a period of interim ministry after losing its previous incumbent due to ill health. Much has been accomplished during this time including putting the benefice back on a secure and sustainable financial footing. The PCC has thought carefully about what it means to be a missional church and has been on a journey of learning and change.

We are looking for an interim minister with the insight and skills to continue this process of change and to help the benefice fulfil its ambition to grow the Christian community with each church making its own distinct contribution.

If you have the vision and leadership skills for the task, then there are people here who are ready and willing to work with you.

Please pray with us as we discern who God is calling.

Please contact me if you would like to find out more about this opportunity:

archdeacon.berkshire@oxford.anglican.org

Foreword from the Area Dean



We look forward to welcoming you into the life of the Bracknell Deanery, of which this parish is a member. It comprises eight parishes in total which together reflect the rich diversity of churchmanship within the Church of England and all are united in a shared commitment to the Gospel.

As a deanery, we recognise our calling to encourage one another, to build each other up, and to spur one another on towards love and good deeds. This commitment shapes our life together and guides our discernment. Our diocesan aspiration is to be contemplative, compassionate and courageous whilst we remain attentive to the objectives of our individual parishes and open to the Spirit's leading as we worship, listen, learn, and grow together.

At present, our sole collective priority is children and young people. We are intentionally pausing other strategic commitments as we seek a renewed vision for the deanery, keeping our focus on nurturing faith among the rising generations.

Within this shared journey, the clergy chapter offers a space of pastoral support and shared learning. Relationships are marked by trust, care, and a deep desire to see one another flourish in ministry.

Rev Gareth Morley
Area Dean, Bracknell Deanery

Where Are We & What Does the Area Offer?

The Parish is of a semi-rural nature and is located on the edge of Windsor Great Park. It is a relatively affluent area based around the villages of Chavey Down, Cranbourne, and Winkfield with nearby towns of Windsor, Ascot, Bracknell, Reading and Oxford.

Bracknell has been subject to a retail regeneration programme, so there is now a shopping mall called the Lexicon with well-known shops and places to eat. The area is also well served by various supermarkets.

There are several state and private schools within the parish.



St Mary's Church

Church Road, Winkfield, Windsor. SL4 4SF

- Dates back to 1298
- Strong roots in the Book of Common Prayer and the King James Bible
- Seats up to 300

St Peter's Church

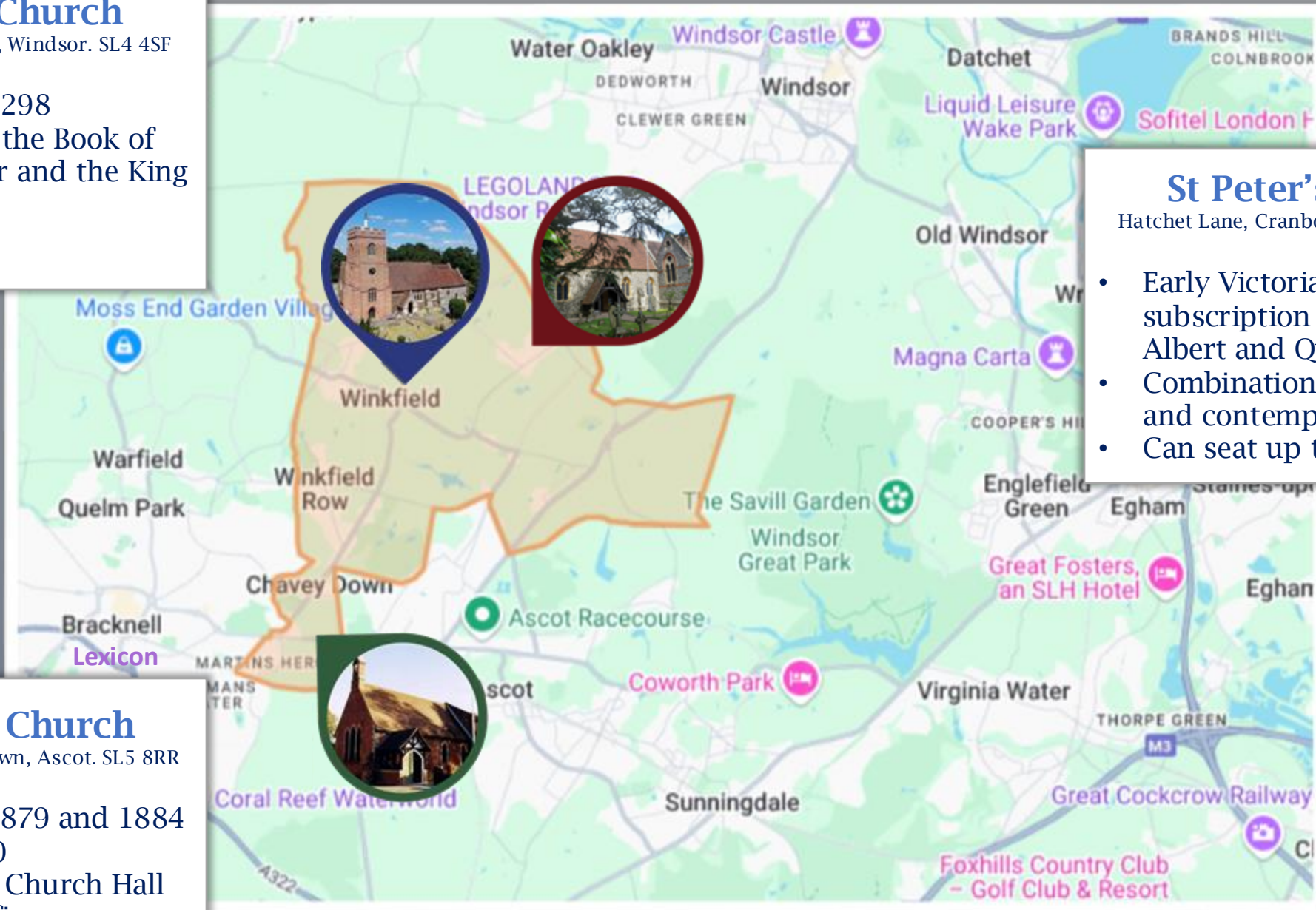
Hatchet Lane, Cranbourne, Ascot. SL4 2EG

- Early Victorian church with subscription from Prince Albert and Queen Victoria
- Combination of traditional and contemporary services
- Can seat up to 120

St Martin's Church

Church Road, Chavey Down, Ascot. SL5 8RR

- Built between 1879 and 1884
- Seats about 100
- Attached is the Church Hall and Church Office



Our Parish Mission Statement

Working together to share God's love within our community

Vision

- Through a journey of increasing obedience to God
- Through developing the devotional life and spiritual gifts by the Holy Spirit
- Becoming a parish which has the ability to be generous and compassionate in giving beyond its community
- Serving the wider world in ways which are relevant and meet its need now, and in the future
- Growing in knowledge and understanding of the Bible
- Understanding what God requires of us

Values

- Celebrating and respecting our diversity
- Developing and learning from each other
- Valuing every member
- Welcoming all those who are new to the parish
- Making friendships and building relationships
- Giving generously in so many different ways
- Growing in spiritual knowledge

Why Would You Choose Us?

- We are a welcoming parish and reach out to others
- Our fellowship creates a feeling of belonging
- We show kindness and care for one another, reflecting Jesus in the way we relate to each other
- We provide a safe, supportive and inclusive environment



We Want to Share God's Love in Our Community

- Growth -spiritual and numerical
- Serving and welcoming everyone
- Nurturing and encouraging all generations
- Volunteering and stepping up



Areas of Focus for our Interim Minister

- Leading us through the process of a better understanding of our mission and purpose, resulting in clear strategy and vision
- Helping us to discover and implement what will deepen our discipleship
- Strengthening relationships and collaboration: a collaborative Interim Minister who listens and enables all of our collaboration and listening in order to take us forward together
- Developing the capacity of leadership and volunteering including equipping and overseeing our current lay leaders and volunteers
- Embedding a sustainable pattern of services and activities: willing to review with us to find a pattern that enables clergy, lay leaders, volunteers and our community of all ages to flourish
- Serving and impacting our wider communities and growing our Church communities
- Before the end of the interim ministry to secure a foundation (through our pattern of worship; discipleship; our governance and safeguarding; finances) and achieve the objectives that will result in sustainable long-term mission and ministry in Winkfield, Cranbourne and Chavey Down

What We Offer to Our Interim Minister

- A warm friendly Parish
- Our support, love and prayer
- Encouragement to maintain a sustainable ministry, looking after our minister's well being
- Shared commitment to take our parish forward
- Willingness to listen
- Dedicated team of volunteers
- Enthusiasm to work with our minister in growing our church community, including families and young people
- A wide range of services and musical styles
- Hardworking PCC and Churchwardens



About The Churches

The Church as a Worshipping People

Across the Parish we offer a wide range of worship, from the Book of Common Prayer through to Common Worship and Crafty Church. The Communion services are led by a minister or currently by visiting clergy.

Other services are led by people from the individual churches.

As three churches we strive to work effectively together. as well as working in our own individual church teams. We want to continue to be three churches working as one Parish. "It is okay to be different," came from the Parish morning.

As pointed out by our Lay Minister John Kimbell:

“Every week, through the words of the Creed, we all declare our faith in the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit - three Persons yet one God, in Divine unity. Likewise, we are three separate Churches (St Mary's Winkfield, St Peter's Cranbourne, and St Martin's Chavey Down) yet one combined Parish - working together for the Kingdom of God.”

Three Persons - One God; Three Churches - One Parish

Would YOU Like to Work with Us?



St Mary's Church

St Mary's is a church that dates back to 1298, with strong roots in the Book of Common Prayer and the King James Bible. Alongside this the church has developed innovative ways of engaging with new families, through additional Family Praise and Crafty Church services, which continue to grow.

We believe there is a tremendous opportunity to move forward as a church with all that we offer, so that our growing number of younger members remains a part of our church family as they grow and do not drift away. We also have the challenge of bridging the gap between our more informal child and family-focused services and our more traditional Book of Common Prayer services. We want to remain faithful to our roots, whilst embracing new methods of making the Common Prayer services relevant and exciting to a new generation.



St Mary's church can seat up to 300 and has a growing Sunday attendance of around 155 across both services ranging in age from one to 90 plus. A significant number of our congregation is drawn from outside of the parish

St Mary's Church

St Mary's is a beautiful church in a rural setting and is a national treasure as a Grade II* Listed building

We have been going to St Mary's for many years, since being attracted by the warm welcome and the traditional 1662 services that we have known all our lives

Music plays an important role in the service, and we enjoy the hymns, anthems, responses and psalms

I was brought up with and prefer the services presented in the Book of Common Prayer

The church has a good musical tradition, including the tower and hand bells

It is rewarding to see young families attending the early services and is enjoyable when the two congregations come together

We were made gently welcome, and we especially liked the fact that the Book of Common Prayer was often used and that families attended. I love the flowing language of the Prayer Book

At St Mary's I have gained solace, friends and spiritual sustenance from the church community

We love the fabric of the church and ring the bells every Sunday

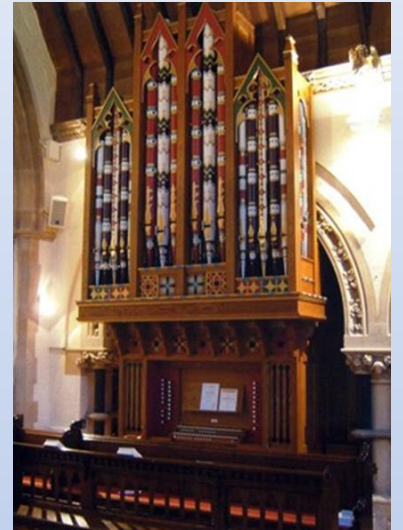


St Peter's Church

St Peter's church was financed by subscription, including by Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, with work commencing in 1846. One of its most striking features is the wooden painted reredos. A major fire in 2006 caused much damage, anger and grief, and one person wrote "We didn't realise what we had until we lost it." Due to hard work, much time and energy it was lovingly restored with some reordering, making the church fit for the 21st century.

There has been improved access for the less mobile, the addition of sound and projection facilities, and wooden chairs replacing pews in the nave, so that up to 120 people can be accommodated. We exist to demonstrate the love of God within our community, helping all people find opportunities to share Christ's love and develop.

Our worship style is a combination of traditional and contemporary, and people enjoy the coffee and chat after the services. We have a feeling of belonging to a "St Peter's family," and care for one another. Recently we have had some families join us, and we want to encourage the children's participation and provide more activities and space for them. Currently the churchwarden and team are working hard on a project to raise £200,000 to repair the roof.



St Peter's Church

I love the singing and atmosphere

Hymns that tie in with the Bible readings

This church was my Sunday school; I was confirmed here and have continued to attend

I came to this church many years ago, and it's so beautiful I can't keep away!

I love the music and singing of traditional and modern hymns and being a member of the choir

There is warmth and welcome as soon as you walk through the door

I love coming to this church to sustain my faith and hopefully continue to grow in loving fellowship

I like the peace and calm when you walk through the door

I like the style of worship and translation of the Bible

The friendliness and welcome are wonderful; it's like a family

As a new member I found the atmosphere welcoming and friendly which was all-embracing throughout the worship

Good fellowship, supportive and loving



St Martin's Church



Situated in the centre of the village of Chavey Down, St Martin's Church has always had strong links with community. It is a small church, which is welcoming, and the "St Martin's family" care for one another.

Two of our parishioners, Mary Knight (former teacher and resident of Chavey Down was very much the Parish matriarch) and Ruth Timbrell, (local historian and life-long villager) fought tirelessly for the village war memorials that are mounted in front of the church today. These two ladies have now passed away, but, as a way of truly remembering them and their love within the village and Parish, funds have been successfully raised for two stained glass panels celebrating their lives.

The monthly 4pm service was started by the previous Interim Minister and is led by local parishioners, continuing to grow and flourish. The thinking behind this is to look at changing service patterns to meet local community needs in the changing modern climate. It works well, as children may have sports clubs to attend earlier in the day but, as one parent said, "It's a nice calming way to end the weekend and prepare for the week ahead."

St Martin's Church

Friendly, informal atmosphere of our small intimate church

The 9.30am and 4pm timings of our services suit our parishioners well

Great place for social chat and prayer

Sense of community, relaxed atmosphere, arts, crafts, tea, coffee and cakes at the 4pm service which are more welcoming and less intimidating for families

Modern English Services using the revised Bible and Children's Bible for the 4pm

Charming, unpretentious, unassuming church

Warm cosy environment

Dedicated volunteers

Worship, simple, straightforward and sincere

Small and less intimidating

Community worship and fellowship in sharing coffee and cake after the morning service



The Parish Children's Thoughts...

We want a Minister
who is kind, laughs
and reads stories

I like
colouring

I like being
with my
friends

I want to go
to Ranelagh

I like reading
from the
lectern

I like singing
and reading
in church

I like sitting
down and
relaxing

It's obvious!
I like the cake 😊



Pattern of Services

This is our current plan of services which are manageable and sustainable for the future .

This has yet to be discussed by PCC. A minister could alternate between the two churches on Week 5

	St Mary's Church		St Peter's Church		St Martin's Church	
Week 1	10am	Family Communion or Family Worship <i>(currently visiting clergy)</i>	11am	Family Praise <i>(currently Holy Communion to fit in with visiting clergy)</i>	9.30am 4.00 pm	Family Praise / Morning Prayer Family Craft Café
Week 2	10am	Family Matins	11am	Holy Communion <i>(currently family Praise)</i>	9.30am	Morning Prayer
Week 3	9.30am 11am	Family Praise Holy Communion <i>(currently visiting clergy)</i>	11am	Morning Praise & Prayer	10am	Community Coffee Morning
Week 4	9.30am 11am	Crafty Church Morning Prayer	11am	Holy Communion <i>(currently visiting clergy)</i>	9.30am	Holy Communion <i>(currently visiting clergy)</i>
Week 5	10am	Crafty Choral Matins	11am	Morning Praise & Prayer	9.30am	Morning Praise & Prayer

Led by the Interim Minister
Led by Associate Lay Minister
Led by the church Lay Team

People from the Congregation are Involved in each Service

- Administering the wine at Holy Communion
- Leading services
- Leading the Intercessions (St Peter's Prayer Team write their own prayers)
- Reading the Epistle and Gospel
- Sides People (Welcome Team at St Peter's)
- Serving / Sacristan
- Organist / Musician
- Refreshments
- Bell Ringing - Tower and Handbells
- Choirs
- Music



Music in the Parish

Across the Parish, music is a very important part of worship in all three churches. We have organists, musicians and choirs, who play or sing for Sunday services and other special services such as the Patronal festivals, Christmas and Easter. The music in each church differs, based on the traditions of the respective church and style of worship.

St Mary's church also has an enthusiastic band of bell ringers and hand bell ringers. The Tower Bell Ringers ring before the main Sunday services, weddings, funerals and every national event. The Handbell Ringers take part in local and national activities and ring during the service on the 5th Sunday of the month and all church festival services.

St Mary's Choir sings at the 10am Family Communion service, the 11am Holy Communion Service, the 11am Morning Prayer service and 10am Crafty Choral Matins Service. The choir is invited to sing at all special events and is available to sing at weddings and funerals. The music director is a student from Royal Holloway.



St Peter's choir sings at each Sunday service. For special occasions the choir has additional singers, members of St Peter's Church who join us, and also sing at funerals and weddings. The choir fellowship meets for choir practice on Thursday evenings and the hymns are chosen together for the following Sunday services. The choir is responsible for teaching the congregation new hymns and there is a voluntary Director of Music at St Peter's.



Children and Young People

This is an area where we wish to grow and develop and would like to work with the new Interim Minister to take this forward in all three churches.

Toddler group at St Mary's Winkfield School – the group meets once a month at the school. Mothers and their children aged 0-3 years arrive for 9.15am. Play lasts for about 30 minutes, followed by refreshments, story-time and singing. A toddler prayer ends the session.

Family Praise at St Mary's – a short, simple, informal service held on the third Sunday of the month at 9.30am. The service is usually a PowerPoint presentation following a theme, with children reading the Bible passages, prayers and some may play an instrument. **Crafty Church** is similar, with an added activity. There are also Family Matins and Family Communion or Family Worship, with children taking part or helping.

St Martin's Crafty Café Service – this takes place on the first Sunday of the month at 4pm, for children and parents. There is a story, a hymn and then a craft session based on the story theme, followed by tea and cakes.

Family Praise at St Peter's – is an all-age service on the first of the month at 11am. Children have started to attend the shorter services with their parents and are invited to get involved in various activities. There is a small junior choir who sang and read at the Christmas Eve Carols & Candlelight

The Parish and the Community We Serve

As a Parish we strive to make a difference in the communities we serve.

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals - Baptisms, weddings and funerals take place at all three churches and the initial contact is through the Church Office. The calendar advertises four baptism preparation sessions and one marriage preparation session during the year. Additional dates can be organised when necessary. These are parish-wide activities

Supporting the Bracknell Foodbank – Across the parish we support the Foodbank with donations of food and financial support.



...The Parish and the Community We Serve

Mission Support St Martin's and St Mary's Churches pay a monthly donation to the East African Mission Society.

The Friends of St Martin's independently support a child in Central America, collecting Sunday refreshment donations.

St Peter's supports the work of Peter Clemison, a former member of their congregation, who works in the Philippines with his wife Becky and family for a charity called YWAM. They work on anti-trafficking and run a safe house for girls.

St Peter's also supports the people of Ukraine with donations of supplies and money and is building links with a school in Ukraine. We also support local charities including the Foodbank and raise funds through support Bag2theFuture.

A defibrillator was installed on the outside wall of St Martin's Church Hall. Available 24 hours a day, the defibrillator joins an important network of devices covering the local area. The defibrillator was purchased and installed using donations from the Thursday Table Tennis Club and the Parish Council, with local residents actively involved in the defibrillator training.

Church Halls – Across the parish there are three halls.

St Martin's Hall and St Peter's Hall are affiliated to those churches.

St Martin's Hall has a private nursery during the day and various community organisations at other times: fitness, table tennis and Guides. Working in collaboration with the village Residents Association we aim to arrange spiritual and social events.

St Peter's Hall has a Montessori school during the day and various community organisations including Cranbourne Amateur Dramatic Association (CADS) and Greek School

Popels Hall, which belongs to the Winkfield Parochial Charity, has a private nursery during the day but can be used by St Mary's for various activities when required. This hall is situated next to the Alms-houses that the charity supports.



Schools – There are two schools within the Parish: Cranbourne Primary School and Winkfield St Mary's (a Church of England Primary School). Winkfield St Marys holds three services a year in St Mary's Church. The Minister is a Foundation Governor and at the present time the Lay Minister and Churchwarden visit fortnightly to take school assemblies. Ranelagh School in Bracknell is a high achieving Church of England School, with a record of academic excellence, and its vision and aims are rooted in the teachings of Christianity. Church attendance, signed off by the Minister, is a current requirement of the admissions procedure. St Peter's Churchwarden and Lay Minister are now going into Cranbourne School.

Christmas – Across the Parish we organise a number of services and concerts for our own congregations and the wider community. The Carols & Candlelight services held on Christmas Eve at St Mary's and St Peter's Churches are so popular that families have to book seats! Chavey Down also holds a Village Carol Service for the community. St Mary's organises and hosts a Music & Merriment Concert at the beginning of December and a Christmas Tree Festival, which opens the second Sunday in December and remains open until after Christmas.



Remembrance Sunday – St Mary's organises and hosts the local Civic Remembrance Sunday service, but there are also Remembrance services in St Peter's and St Martin's.

Candlemas – this is a special service at St Peter's with a specially designed service and set music. St Martin's joined us in 2023. Candlemas also takes place at the other two churches.

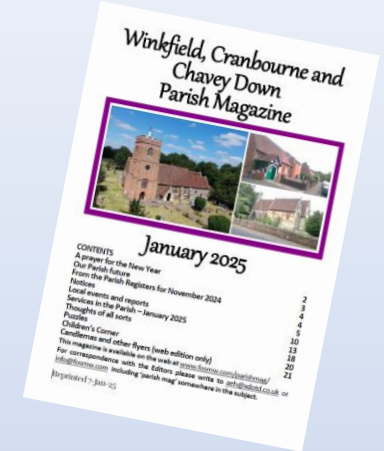
Northern Parishes Arts Week – The Arts Week is an annual week-long event for all ages organised by the local civil Parish Councils during October Half- Term. St Peter's Church hosts a number of events including concerts, workshops and talks of local interest, so many visitors come to St Peters during that week, as the church is one of the venues.

Friends of St Martin's – All adult members of St. Martin's are regarded as 'Friends.' The Friends arrange a rota of tea/coffee served after each service, flower-arranging and cleaning and various charitable fundraising events, including sponsoring a child. Their main concern is the general wellbeing of St. Martin's



Friends of St Marys (FOSMW) – was set up in 2016 to raise money for the conservation, embellishment and maintenance of St Mary's Church. It works in collaboration with the PCC and is a Registered Charity. It works hard to increase the funds available.

St Mary's Women's Guild - The Women's Guild of St Mary's Church, Winkfield has been an important part of the church's life, since 1963 and provides a warming fellowship. Its members are active in fund-raising, tend to the building fabric and arrange or participate in key events and occasions throughout the year

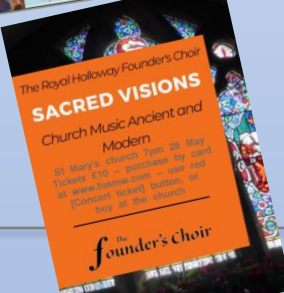


Home Groups - Across the Parish we offer a small number of opportunities for home or Zoom-based Bible study, prayer and discussion. As a Parish we are keen to develop this area of worship and prayer life.

Friendly Faces - The group meets on the second Thursday in the Church Office at 10am and endeavours to keep members aware of anyone in the Parish who might not be able to get to church regularly and may need help.

Parish Magazine - This is being looked at, as donated funding has been used up and we now need advertisers to make it financially viable again.

Events throughout the year



The Church Resources



The Vicarage

The vicarage is situated on the edge of Maidens Green in a quiet lane and only a short walk from St Mary's church. It is an attractive, detached four-bedroom house set in large mature gardens backing onto open farmland.



A gravel drive leads through the front garden to a double garage.

The ground floor consists of an entrance hall, study, kitchen, cloakroom, lounge, and dining-room with patio doors opening onto the back garden. Upstairs the landing leads to four bedrooms, a family bathroom and a separate shower room with toilet and washbasin. The house has central heating and double-glazing. A new kitchen has just been fitted.

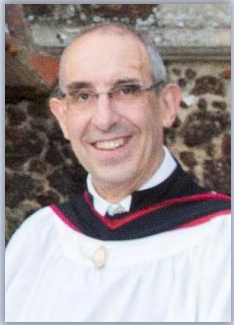


Finance – Overall, the Parish has finished the year by paying 100% of our Parish Share. Looking ahead we must build our cash reserves and general funds, as we will face the same financial challenges in the coming year. PGS giving is now our biggest source of donations.

Our Team

Churchwardens

We have two well established, experienced Parish Wardens, Anne Crewe and Lesley Philpot, who work tirelessly within the Parish.



Lay Minister

John Kimbell is an Associate Lay Minister (ALM). He joined the Ministry Team in 2019 and takes services at St Mary's and St Martin's.

PCC

Following training by CPAS and evaluating strengths and weaknesses, the PCC, which includes a Standing Committee, is working hard on its purpose and effectiveness. There is a Code of Conduct for meetings, and all members understand the responsibility of co-operating and working with the Minister to promote the mission of the church in its Parish. There are 12 members, including two Parish Wardens, Deputy Churchwarden, Lay Chair, who has been taking the meetings whilst in vacancy, Secretary and two Treasurers with two bank accounts (one for St Mary's and St Martin's and one for St Peter's. This works well. The PCC meets every two months, with a break in July and August.



Maintenance of the Buildings

There are individual teams in each church managing the fabric of the buildings and keeping them in a good, safe working condition, by complying with all health and safety and building codes. A member of the PCC is responsible for Parish health and safety. The Community Payback Team cares for St Peter's and St Mary's churchyards and has recently been helping St Martin's Church. Individual fabric teams at each church co-ordinate work and other issues which emerge.

Parish Administrator



Stephanie Lund is our part-time Parish Office Administrator, working with the Interim Minister, the Ministry team, the Churchwardens and Treasurers. She manages the administration for all three churches: their buildings, two churchyards, general events and congregation members and the overall community. Stephanie is also responsible for administration for baptisms, weddings and funerals and deals with all Church Office enquiries.

Safeguarding

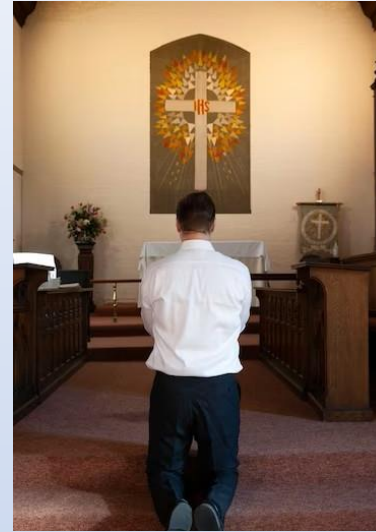
The Parish is committed to the safeguarding, care and nurture of the children and people of all ages within our church community. There is a Parish Safeguarding Officer, who reports to the PCC, and a Safeguarding PCC representative.

Appendices

Notes from the Parish Morning and Retreat Mornings

Appendix 1 is a summary of the Retreats

Appendix 2 is the Parish Morning notes



Appendix 1

June and July 2023 we held two Parish retreat sessions to discuss our way forward to being a flourishing Church.

These were the areas discussed:

- Flourishing together
- Celebrating one another's differences, unity and togetherness
- Spiritual health and self-care
- Exploiting opportunities
- Building on our strengths
- Dealing with threats and weaknesses
- Music development
- Engaging younger families

From these our top priorities included:

- Engaging younger families in all three churches
- Communication between churches

From these two retreat days we hoped that our future leader would lead us, to create a flourishing Parish and “to work together to share God’s love within the community around us”

Appendix 2

In January 2025 we held a Parish meeting with Rhodri Bowen, Parish Development Officer. We worked in groups, following 'The Dwelling' in Philippians 2, and our focus on listening to, knowing and understanding each other and a call of common care for unity. These were our notes :

What do we feel is valued, done well, most Christ-like, and where have we noticed God at work?

- The work of John Kimbell in the Parish
- The music, including the organists, choirs, bells and concerts
- The Parish Magazine and website
- The three congregations joining at least three times a year for Patronal services
- A safe, supportive and inclusive environment
- St Mary's vibrant services for children and family
- Embracing the values of St Martin's
- Kindness and care for one another
- Community
- Welcoming fellowship and the feeling of belonging
- Reflecting Jesus in the way we relate to others
- Encouraging people to step up
- Wonderful Churchwardens who work tirelessly
- Collection for Ukraine
- Arts Week and concerts at St Peter's

What Are Our Priorities for Our Churches and Our New Interim Minister?

- Building on our strengths
- Working with our church teams and congregations
- Leading ministry for all groups in the Parish
- Encouraging and supporting positive relationships
- Growing the church and creating a flourishing Parish
- Being patient, obedient to God and showing humility in Mission
- Giving time, energy and enthusiasm
- To want to make things happen
- Ministering to and spending time in all three churches
- Knowing each church and its members
- Having a clear strategy and vision
- Having ideas for growth into the wider communities
- More use of our churches outside Sunday services
- Showing leadership
- Understanding our Parish
- Having the potential for long-term vision, including the priorities for each church and the whole Parish

Looking Ahead, What Would We Like to See?

- Welcoming and working with a new Interim Minister
- Growth (Spiritual, resources, people, finances)
- Financial security
- Larger congregations but the same friendly welcome
- More families
- More people wanting to come to church
- More people volunteering and stepping up
- Serving the wider community
- Growing more spiritually aware
- More young people taking the churches forward
- More links with the wider community
- Accepting being different is the core of our Parish
- Bible study groups
- Opening our churches more to community events