

All Souls' Church, Little London



All Souls' Church, Little London has been a Conventional District for 8 years, receiving spiritual and legal oversight from the previous Incumbent of Saint Martins', Potternewton. Responsibility for worship and pastoral care at All Souls' has been undertaken by Associate Ministers, currently Mother Lynne Grey, until April 2026. The Conventional District is set to be reviewed during the later part of 2025.

All Souls' has a strong history of Anglo Catholic Worship, and currently is Liberal Anglo Catholic, supporting the ministry of women in all its forms. All Souls' Church is an inclusive and welcoming community where all individuals are respected, valued and given equal opportunity to fulfil their potential in accordance with our churches Equality and Diversity Policy. The Church passed a resolution in support of Living in Love and Faith during 2024.

Worship at All Souls' consists primarily of Solemn Mass on a Sunday at 11am, and Midweek Mass at 10:30am on a Wednesday morning. These services take the form of Common Worship, with organ music, hymns, gospel procession, incense, bells, vestments, serving party and deacons. This allows many individuals the opportunity to participate in reading, intercessions and lay ministry. Music is particularly important to the church congregation and the church is fortunate to have a Grade 2 listed instrument built by Abbott and Smith.



All Souls' has an active spiritual ministry, where Mother Lynne is actively supported by visiting/retired clergy and the two Licensed Lay Ministers. This includes celebration of major feast days (primarily on Thursdays), Healing Ministry once a month, confession by appointment, stations of the cross, bible study and meditations. The church has an established and committed congregation, but encouragingly has seen recent growth from the local student population who are seeking Anglo Catholic worship. The current Electoral Roll stands at 30 with 11 living in the Parish and the

current worshipping community on Sundays stands at 25, including 4 children and 12 at Midweek Mass.



Within the current arrangement, All Souls' attempts to engage as fully as possible with the local community, given the resources available, as much of this outreach is undertaken by lay members of the church.

All Souls' engages with the two Primary Schools, hosts a local youth project for disadvantaged children, students from the local universities and colleges, has an 'Open Door' to the local community for private prayer whenever possible, which is enhanced by a Listening Ear project on a Wednesday following Mass. All Souls' has a small Food Pantry and supports the local homeless community as part of the wider ministry and charitable giving. The Church has historically been a Garrison Church, and has recently restored this link through HMS CERES, which has allowed a civic link to be established in addition.



The District Church Council has all offices filled and the members are faithful and capable, but also aware of areas where the church could be enhanced and try to be proactive in implementing policy into practice, as well as reflecting on the current needs of the church from governance, the local community, mission, worship and self-development and personal and spiritual growth.



The Church finances support the current arrangement and ministry. The Parish Share contribution has been fully met with no debts. Income is supplement by a mobile phone mast and car park rental, and the DCC have been proactive in further supplementing income through the use of

the building for rental, concerts, other faith groups and supporting the local student community.

The Parish is part of inner city Leeds, and has a small population of 4,500. It serves the diverse communities of Little London, Blenheims, Bagby Fields and Lovell Parks. Many of the residents live in high rise of gated communities, which makes engagement challenging and has all the attendant issues associated with deprivation and other socio-economic factors.

The Church plant is a Grade 2* listed [Hook Memorial] Church, which is of significant ecumenical and civic importance within the City of Leeds. It was designed for Anglo Catholic worship by George Gilbert Scott, his last building. Despite this' the DCC utilises the plant creatively notwithstanding the confines of its listed status. A recent refurbishment project has been completed, creating a suite of rooms including a toilet, modern kitchen, a pastoral care space and a meeting room/worship space during the winter months.

An Away Day was completed during 2025 using the Diocese 'Compass Tool' affirmed the need to develop our spiritual life, pastoral care, mission and outreach, which additional priestly input would further help the recent growth at All Souls', and support the efforts of the DCC and congregation to keep the Christian presence alive and visible within the local community.

