

Drypool Team Vicar

**With responsibility for St John's
and Victoria Dock**



Contents

Letter from the Bishop of Hull	Page 3
Letter from the Team Rector	Page 4
Drypool Parish	Page 5
Our parish	Page 5
Our city	Page 6
Our team	Page 7
St John's Church	Page 9
Location, Congregation	Page 9
Team	Page 10
Services	Page 11
Groups	Page 12
Building	Page 15
Vision	Page 16
Victoria Dock Church	Page 17
Location	Page 17
Congregation, Team	Page 18
Services, Groups	Page 19
Building	Page 20
Vision	Page 21
St Columba's Church	Page 22
Drypool in numbers	Page 26
Accommodation	Page 27
Hull Deanery	Page 28
What we are looking for	Page 30

Greetings in Christ's name!



Thank you for prayerfully discerning God's calling to the Drypool Team Ministry and also to the East Riding Archdeaconry in the Diocese of York. We trust this profile will begin to give you an understanding of the churches and parish, but above all, we welcome you to come and meet us here!

This post has become available at a very significant time in the life of the Diocese.

We have committed together in *Living Christ's Story* to being people who tell the story of Jesus' life death and resurrection and who also tell the continuing story of what Jesus has done through his church, which includes what Jesus has done and continues to do through each of our own lives. These are times that require us to be simple, humble and bold.

To make the vision of *Living Christ's Story* a reality, our diocesan goals are:

- Becoming more like Christ
- Reaching people we currently don't
- Growing churches of missionary disciples
- Transforming our finances and structures

You can explore this vision and our commitment to it on our Diocesan website.

The Drypool Team has much to commend it – they have a great love for the gospel and for the communities they serve. It is a well-established Team, who are always seeking how best to express their shared life. As you will see from the Profile, the Team Vicar's particular role is focused on two quite different communities and this brings a refreshing variety of contexts for local ministry and living out the gospel.

As a Diocese we pray together the prayer of Teresa of Avila, "Lord, what do you want from me?" This is our prayer for *Living Christ's Story*. We pray this prayer particularly for you in this time of discernment. We hope that you will hear Christ's call clearly and we look forward to prayerfully sharing this discernment with you.

If you would like a fuller picture than the Profile offers please contact Dave Griffith-Jones, the Team Rector by phone (07775 563126) or email dave_gj@hotmail.com and/or Archdeacon Andy Broom by phone (01482 881659) or email (ader@yorkdiocese.org). We are keen to support you as you discern this call.

With our prayers,

+Eleanor

(Bishop of Hull)

Welcome!



Thank you for taking the time to read this profile. I believe this is a really exciting post in a wonderful parish, leading two churches that are keen to grow and reach out, with so many opportunities and lots of potential.

I arrived in Drypool in 2016 with my wife Helen (a science teacher) and our 4 children and I love living and serving the Lord here.

The friendly people, the sense of community, the restaurants and theatres in town and the coast nearby make Hull a great city to live in. Outside of church I daydream about hills I want to climb, and now that my body is too old for sport my competitive side is directed at chess and snooker.

I trained for ministry on Cornhill Training Course in London and at Wycliffe Hall in Oxford, and was a curate in Toxteth in Liverpool. I have a strong heart for urban ministry. I'm passionate for Jesus to be honoured in east Hull, for the churches to be what he wants us to be, and for the lost to hear his good news. I'm an orthodox evangelical – big on grace, the cross, the Bible, evangelism, discipleship and preaching. I'm a member of the Alliance and part of the planning team for a church planting network called Hull 2030. I regularly contribute to Explore Bible reading notes.

I really value working in a team and am looking forward to having a new colleague. I'm keen to delegate (maybe I'm just lazy!) and to let our next team vicar lead at St John's and Victoria Dock without me interfering and telling you what to do – I'll be there to support you and pray with you and cheer you on.

The previous team vicar served here for 12 years, and only left because he had to retire due to ill health. During his 18 months of cancer treatment, the members of St John's and Victoria Dock stepped up really well so that both churches have continued to minister and flourish. They are looking forward to what God has in store for them in the next chapter.

If you would like to find out more or have an informal chat, please get in touch: phone 07775 563126 or email dave_gj@hotmail.com

With prayers that the Lord would lead you into the good works he has prepared for you to do,

Dave Griffith-Jones, Drypool Team Rector

Drypool Parish

Our Parish



Drypool Parish is in the heart of east Hull and must be one of the most interesting and diverse parishes in the country. Bordered by the River Humber and River Hull on two sides, and the city's largest park on another, it is home to nearly 25,000 people in a great variety of communities.



Within our parish boundaries we have The Deep aquarium and a busy shopping area along Holderness Road. The Siemens development on the docks produces wind turbines for the North Sea wind farms, and Reckitts Benckiser recently opened a Science and Innovation Centre on their historic site here. We are home to cafes and takeaways, a Lidl and an Asda, the city's hospice and prison, and 7 primary schools.



Our parish includes Victoria Dock, a modern housing re-development, and Garden Village, built a century ago by a Quaker industrialist for his workers. There are streets of terraced houses, and some social housing. The majority of residents are still white working-class locals, though there is increasing ethnic diversity. Because so many residents grew up here it has a real sense of community and identity.



Our City

Kingston upon Hull (or 'Ull as we call it) is the largest city in the East Riding of Yorkshire, with a population of 268,000. It's a well-kept secret that Hull is a nice place to live – people who have never been to Hull tend to have a low opinion of it, but those who have been here love it! In 2017, Hull was UK City of Culture, which helped to change some people's perceptions of the city, and gave its residents greater pride in their home town.

"It's a well-kept secret that Hull is a nice place to live"

The city centre has three shopping centres and many places to eat and drink. The Sunday Times recently named HU1 as one of the coolest 11 places to live in the UK for its independent shops, cafes and cultural venues, especially in the Fruit Market quarter by the marina. The Museum Quarter and Ferens Art Gallery are great to visit, as is Hull Minster, the largest parish church in England. City Hall, Hull New Theatre and Hull Truck Theatre all attract good touring productions.

Hull University and the two hospitals boast good reputations. Hull City AFC play in the Championship and there is a strong rivalry between Hull KR and Hull FC rugby league teams (Rovers on our side of the city!).

Near to Hull there are beautiful walks on the Yorkshire Wolds, and the beaches on the East Yorkshire coast are in easy reach. Spurn Point is a unique spot to visit. We are connected to the rest of the country by rail and the M62, and the ferry to Rotterdam departs each night from just next to our parish.



Our Team

Drypool Parish is a team ministry consisting of 3 churches, with 2 church buildings at St Columba and St John's (Victoria Dock Church meet in a community hall). It is led by the Team Rector (who is responsible for St Columba's) and the Team Vicar (who is responsible for St John's and Victoria Dock). We have a curate, Jonny Guy, who is coming to the end of his training, and have often been used by the diocese as a parish for curates because of the opportunities and variety of ministry here.

Our vision is to “proclaim the Christian message of hope to the people of Drypool parish”.

We have been an evangelical parish since at least the time of William Wilberforce, who bought the patronage of St Peter's the original parish church and passed it on to Charles Simeon. Henry Venn, one of our Rectors, was instrumental in founding the Church Mission Society which we continue to support.

The PCC has responsibility for the team as a whole. Its goal is for our churches “to strengthen each other by sharing resources, ideas and encouragement, so that we can reach all parts of our parish with the gospel”. It meets 4 times each year and employs the families workers at St Columba's and St John's. Richard Liversedge is the Lay Chair of PCC and also our parish treasurer.



The PCC has discussed the Prayers of Love and Faith, and there are a range of views on our response. In 2024 it decided not to use the prayers in the parish, but also not to use the Ephesians Fund or seek alternative spiritual oversight at this time.

Drypool parish, showing areas served by St Columba (red), St John's (blue) and Victoria Dock Church (green)

Each church has its own DCC (District Church Council), chaired by the clergy responsible for that church. Because each church serves its own distinct area for mission and has its own needs, most of the important decisions that affect church life are made at DCC level. They tend to meet about 6 times each year.

Although each church has its designated clergy and its own leadership, we are keen to build closer relationships between the churches, building on the progress we've made over the last couple of years. We have a couple of team services together each year, and a parish day away in Bridlington each September (*see photos below*). 'Deeper' teaching evenings once a month and men's and women's breakfasts are open to anyone across the parish.

All of this means the Team Vicar has the freedom to lead at St John's and Victoria Dock, but also plenty of support in the parish for them, their family and the churches they serve.



St John's Church

St John's is a church that is passionate about serving its local community. In a building redesigned for the purpose, a small number of people manage to make a huge difference in the lives of local people who need it most. The challenge ahead is to make the most of all the opportunities we have to share the gospel, to sustain and build the team that run everything, and to build on our growing families ministry.

Location

St John's area is mostly terraced housing and includes the most densely populated part of Hull. It is an area of significant deprivation, and this has shaped the character of St John's as a church that is there to help members of the community when they need it most.



St John's has strong links with 2 primary schools, Estcourt and Craven – clergy take assemblies in schools, and the schools visit the church for special services at harvest, Christmas and Easter.



Congregation

We are a small but very committed congregation – most of us have joined the church in the last ten years. On a Sunday we average about 20 adults and 15 children but we have things on and see each other most days of the week!

The most significant change to our congregation in the last few years has been a few Nigerian families joining us, who have blessed us with their joy, faith, energy and wonderful cooking! They have been fully integrated into our church family.

Team

Lesley Durham and Mel Whetton (*right*) have been church wardens at St John's since 2023. They do their best to keep us all in order and they help with pretty much everything!

Revd Nick used to be the chaplain at Hull prison, until he retired in 2023. He is available to lead and preach one Sunday each month, and is fully involved in helping out during the week when he's not singing in a choir or playing chess.



Jodie Whetton (*left*) is employed as our families worker for 14 hours per week. She has 3 children and in 2021 she went on the Mustard Seed course, a diocesan programme to raise up local leaders in areas of deprivation. She has worked for the church since 2022, supported by grants from the Church Commissioners, and we have been allocated a grant from the Ann Watson Trust to enable us to continue to employ her in 2025-26. Jodie loves to get alongside mums to support them in their struggles and to share her faith with them, and to help children and young people get to know Jesus better. She has loads of enthusiasm, is great at connecting with people and is brilliant at inviting. The Team Vicar will be her line manager.

Karen Okra is passionate about community engagement across Hull, and we employ her on a sessional basis to lead the Thursday Craft and Social Group using grant funding. She also volunteers at the Friday pantry.

Kike Adewale-Adesina works in a local primary school and on Sundays she teaches the children at the back of church. She's introduced us to 'Kike rice' and is on the DCC.

Richard Liversedge acts as treasurer for St John's.

Many other people help in lots of other ways too but we can't mention them all!

Services

Our Sunday service St John's is at 9:30am in the worship space at the front of church. We have Communion twice a month and a Service of the Word the rest of the time. We use printed service booklets, but would like a bit more variety in the liturgy. We sing along to videos projected on to a screen, which enables us to sing a good variety of hymns and songs and to learn new ones (we have an organ but no organist). It's evangelical in style, pretty informal and clergy don't wear robes. We value dynamic biblical preaching and the chance to pray together. After the service we have tea, coffee and biscuits and a time to chat, although the vicar usually needs to rush off to Victoria Dock.

"We would love to develop a Sunday School"

The children sit around a table at the back of church, being taught by Kike or one of the other mums. They join in the last song with us on the drums. We have a room that was hired out that will soon be available again and we would love to use that to develop a Sunday school, as we don't feel that we are making the most of our opportunities with the influx of children we've had. We are also open to having more all age services together, so that the children can feel fully part of the church.

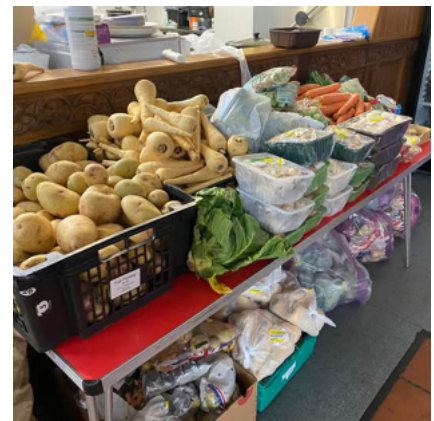


On Wednesday mornings we have a small communion service each week at 10:00am, which is a place for our hard-working team to come and receive. At times, we have followed this with a Bible study. We hope that our new vicar will help us to find patterns of prayer, Bible study and worship that encourage us all to grow in our faith and keep serving.

Groups

Friday pantry – our biggest event each week is our Friday morning pantry, where people can buy a bagful of food for £2.50. We collect the food from FareShare and some other charities and companies. We open up the whole church so that people who come can stay and chat and have a drink, and it has a lovely sense of community. We feed about 60-70 households each week, and at least 8 different languages are spoken. We have good links with local organisations who come and offer their services, and we have church members trained to offer advice about utility bills and benefits, as well as signposting to other services.

Pantry embodies everything we love about St John's – it is open to everyone and serves people in need, and is a big, loving and messy community. The vision has always been to offer the Bread of Life to people as well as physical bread, so we hope to be able to make more of all the connections it gives us to do more evangelism among the people we have contact with.



Play group – Jodie runs a play group for parents, carers and pre-school children on a Thursday morning. Numbers vary between about 20 and 30 families, and it is particularly a place where mums who are struggling find support and advice. Jodie also invites them to other activities at church, and mums who came first to playgroup have joined us at WOW and Together Tuesdays.



Thursday Craft and Social Group

Karen runs this group with a couple of volunteers to be a place which has evolved into a place where people can share their ideas, common interests and concerns about everyday life. They know there is someone to talk to and listen. About 10-15 adults come each week and know they are wanted and have a place to belong. They often work on creative projects together and raise money for local causes. It has been a stepping stone into church and a link for individuals becoming interested and attending services.



Worship on Wednesday (WOW)

At tea-time on Wednesdays our families gather for WOW, our beautiful and chaotic families ministry! We sit round tables with drinks and crafts, and Jodie or one of her team lead Bible teaching from the front, with crafts, games, quizzes, songs and prayers linked into the theme. Then we eat the tea that Mel and Lesley have cooked for us.

WOW has been the main chance we have to teach our children the faith while we haven't had a Sunday School, and has also been a gentle way in for families who we know from school or pantry but who have no church background.



Together Tuesdays – these began in autumn 2023 as an attempt to bridge the gap between the community activities we were doing and our worship. So on Tuesday mornings we try to put on groups that will help people develop life skills (e.g. parenting course, cooking on a budget, baking, crafts, gardening) and also at least one group that will help people to develop a relationship with God (e.g. Unlock Bible study, START course, Alpha course, prayer space). In the past 2 years we have used a Warm Spaces grant from the Council to help fund it.

In 2023-24, we started with practical courses and then invited those who came to join a START course, and then to do Alpha. Through this one playgroup mum became a Christian, and she was one of 15 people baptised in a hot tub in a brilliant service in September 2024. We're praying that we can see many more people make journeys like hers in the coming years.

Youth group – one of our joys is having a strong group of secondary school age boys, and so in early 2025 our curate started a monthly evening discipleship group for them. About 8 have come each time, for pizza, Bible study, games, prayer and discussion. We want to help these boys to know their identity in Christ and to live for him as they grow up.



Building

St John's building is 100 years old, but in 2010 it was substantially restored and refurbished using an EU grant to be both a church and a community centre. It is now a beautiful and flexible space with a kitchen, stage area, several rooms and a mezzanine. There is no graveyard: it has a garden where we encourage people who come to join us in growing our own food, along with a small car park and space for the children to play. Since the reordering the community really feel like the building is theirs, and it is a great space for all our community activities.



Vision

We have a very strong identity as a church that is there for the community, so we want to keep serving them and being open to them. There are 3 main ways that we are praying that our new Team Vicar will help us to take steps forward:

- We want to make the most of all the contacts we have with people to share the good news about Jesus with them, to pray with them, and to help them to become followers of Jesus. We want to build on the initial success of Together Tuesdays to build bridges and pathways into church. We want to do a better job at discipling and following people up when they do give their life to Christ.

- We want to develop a pattern of worship, Bible study and prayer that sustains the church members in their relationship with God and in all the different ways they're serving. This will probably involve starting something in an evening for members who work during the day. Ideas people have mentioned include a house group, prayer ministry, prayer times, men's and women's group and a follow up course to Alpha, but we can't do all of them!

- We want to build on the families ministry that has seen such blessing over the last few years. We hope to develop a Sunday school for children, and to strengthen the youth group that has just begun. We expect our new vicar to keep investing in Jodie so that her ministry among parents can keep being fruitful.



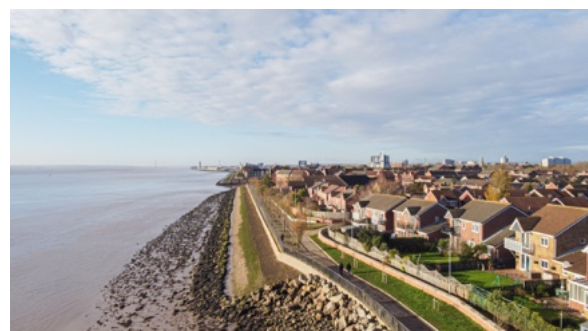
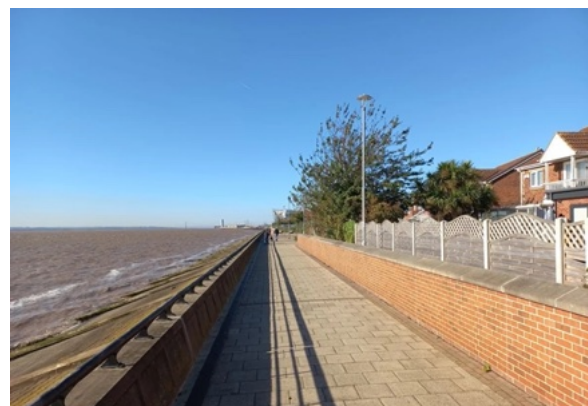
Victoria Dock Church

Victoria Dock Church was planted in the early 1990s when the housing was being built, meeting in the Village Hall rather than their own building. It is a close-knit, supportive and friendly community who are keen to raise their profile on the dock so that they can reach more people with the gospel.

Location

Victoria Dock Village is an upmarket development of a redundant dock, in walking distance from the City Centre, and with beautiful views across the Humber. It has the status of an urban village. The housing is a mixture of detached and semi-detached houses, along with flats. It has a population of just over 3000, some of whom are transient professionals who come to work in places like the hospitals and then move on. While people on Victoria Dock don't have the same financial needs as the rest of the parish, we are conscious that they do have emotional, social and spiritual needs. The next team vicar needs to have a heart for Victoria Dock as well as for the needier areas of the parish.

The church has had good links with the Victoria Dock primary school through assemblies and Christingles, but these need building up again. The Dock has its own pub and shops, as well as the Victoria House Residential Home and Humber View which is retirement housing.



Congregation

Victoria Dock Church is an extremely close and supportive community. Some of us have been here together since the church was planted over 30 years ago. Members look after one another and encourage each other in faith and prayer. We offer a warm welcome to anyone new who joins us.

We are keen to support mission and ministry going on elsewhere. We collect food for Hull Foodbank, and Steven Lack is our rep for the Acts 435 charity that seeks to connect Christians who want to give with people in need. Church members also help out at St John's when needed.

We have sadly shrunk in terms of numbers since we stopped having our own designated vicar in 2013, and have not had any families or children since before 2020. There are usually about 15 of us on a Sunday morning. We're not getting any younger and some of us don't have the energy we used to, but we are keen to reach out. In the last year 2 young women who live on the Dock have joined us and are now asking about getting confirmed, and that encourages us that God still has plans for us – if we can raise our profile on the Dock we are confident we can grow again.



Team

The DCC work alongside the Team Vicar to lead Victoria Dock Church. At the moment it consists of Melanie Mills (our super organiser), Geoff Howlett (quizmaster), Marlene Harrison, Vivien Boniface and Elaine Galloway (our Deanery Synod rep). Nigel Mills is our treasurer.

David and Kat Cooper worship with us when they're not leading sung worship elsewhere in Hull. They lead worship and David preaches one Sunday a month and they lead music on another.

Margaret Liversedge is a Reader mostly based at St Columba's, but lives on the Dock. She leads our house group, and also some Sundays.

Services

Our Sunday service starts at 10:45am, which can be a bit tight if you're coming from St John's... Our worship is informal, contemporary, evangelical, with a digital projector used for songs and liturgy. Robes are not usually worn. We celebrate Communion once a month.

On the first Sunday of the month we have Café Church, seated around tables. Sometimes these have a special theme or a visiting speaker. We have a Remembrance Sunday service on the bank of the Humber, and an Easter early morning service by the river too. On Christmas Eve we host a popular carol service that 70-80 attend – we would love to find a way to follow up with the people who come.

Groups

We have a Tuesday evening house group which Margaret leads, hosted in a church member's home. We gather for fellowship, Bible study and prayer and appreciate this chance to learn and grow.

Church members also lead a monthly book group that includes a variety of people from the Dock.

We would like to be able to start a new group that can help us to connect with more people on the Dock. When the time is right, we would also like to run an evangelistic course to help people come to faith.

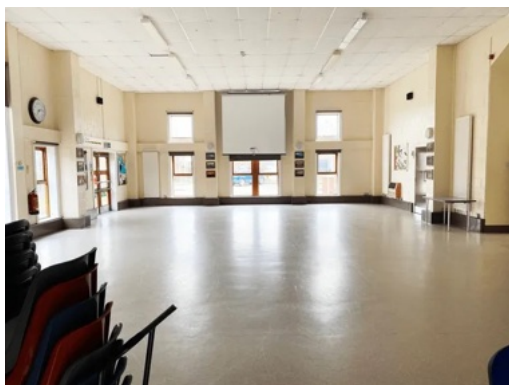


Building



We don't have our own building, but meet in the attractive Victoria Dock Village Hall, which is managed by a Community Association. The church was involved in the development of the building, and the constitution gives us a right to hold services there on Sunday mornings. There is a good space for worship, plus a kitchen and a foyer to share coffee in.

On the one hand, this means we don't have the expense of having to maintain our own building. That saves us a lot of money, hassle and effort!



On the other hand, not having our own building has meant that we find it much harder to get noticed. (Hull Minster is just across the River Hull and has a much higher profile).

We have a website and a Facebook page along with a noticeboard inside and outside the Village Hall, and can advertise in the Citadel, the local newsletter. We also deliver Christmas invitations around the Dock. Despite this, some people live on the Dock for years but haven't heard of us. Raising our profile and building new connections is a top priority for us in the coming years.



Vision

We want to continue to be a loving, supportive and prayerful community serving the Lord on Victoria Dock.

We want to keep worshipping the Lord, praying, listening and following him, and offering a warm welcome to others.

We also want to reach out so that more people on the Dock can meet the Lord for themselves.

We recognise that this will probably not be through families (though God might surprise us!), but there are many young adults, empty-nesters and retired people on the Dock for us to reach.

So our main prayer for this next chapter is that we can raise the profile of our church.

We want more people can hear about Jesus and meet with him through us. We are looking for a Team Vicar who will have a heart for the Dock and will get involved here. We hope they will help us to make connections with the school and with groups that already meet. We want to find ways to be more visible as a church – people need to know we're here before they can contact us and join us.



St Columba's Church

St Columba's strapline is: "By God's grace we are a family who follow Jesus and reach out to our community". We are called to make disciples, and our vision is to grow in faith, in unity and in number. We are a warm and welcoming evangelical church with a strong core of mature members who have been with us for decades, and in recent years a growing ministry among families.

Location

St Columba's is situated on Holderness Road, one of the main routes through east Hull, and is on the corner of Garden Village. The area it serves is generally speaking a bit better off than around St John's, but not as affluent as Victoria Dock. Since most people who live around here also grew up here, many people have a connection with the church through parents, christenings, school links or play groups.

St Columba's has links with 4 primary schools: Stoneferry, Westcott, Mersey and Buckingham – clergy take assemblies in all 4 schools, and we host carol services for them and have opportunities to visit classes too.

Congregation

We are a congregation of all ages – there are usually about 60 adults and 25 children in the building on a Sunday, from a worshipping community of roughly 90 adults. Over half of our members have joined the church in the last 10 years, and our median age is about 40.



Team

St Columba's is led by Revd Dave Griffith-Jones (the Team Rector), along with Margaret Liversedge (our Reader), Dale Curristin and John Saunderson (Wardens), and the DCC, who meet 6 times per year. Lucy Curristin is our treasurer.

We employ Lois Thomas for 20 hours per week as our families worker. She has been amazing at running our midweek groups for families and making connections with parents. She loves visiting, is brilliant at listening, and is passionate about telling everyone she meets about Jesus. She is full of energy, hugs anyone that moves, and always has some chocolate in her bag if you need it!

We are an all-hands-on-deck church where we encourage everyone to chip in – our rota for helping out on Sundays has over 50 names on it.



Services

Our main service is at 10:30am on Sundays – we follow a pattern of Communion twice a month, with one Service of the Word and one all-age service. We are low church but not completely informal. Clergy wear cassock, surplice and preaching scarf except for all age services. Liturgy comes from Common Worship and is displayed on a screen. We have a lovely music group led by Liz Harrison on piano who lead us twice a month, and the rest of the time we sing along to videos. Sermons are about 20 minutes long and follow through books of the Bible rather than the lectionary.



We have 2 Sunday school groups that meet 3 times per month, and in church families can sit at tables with colouring and crafts for younger children. Most people stay for a cuppa and a chat at the end. We put a big emphasis on invitation, encouraging the congregation to invite people they know to church and special services at Harvest, Christmas and Easter.

Groups

We have various groups that meet through the week to build community and strengthen each other in our faith, following the Acts 2:42 pattern of teaching, sharing, eating and praying together:

- Two house groups, led by Sandie Thompson and Margaret Liversedge, meet on Tuesdays for fellowship, Bible study and prayer
- Mothers Union meet once a month on Wednesdays, led by Kath Grantham
- This year we have set up a network of 'triplets' – groups of 3 people who meet once a fortnight for support, Bible study and prayer. We have 25 people involved in these at the moment.
- There is a men's breakfast once a month and a women's breakfast once every other month on Saturday mornings.

We also have groups focussing on reaching and discipling families:

- Starting Blocks is a popular Christian-ethos playgroup in church on Tuesday mornings, led by Lois and her volunteers. It includes free play, crafts, refreshments, songs, a Bible story and prayer and attracts about 40 families each week.
- Thursday Baby group is a smaller group of up to 10 mums that gives Lois a chance to offer more focussed support.
- Thursday Night Thing is our main discipleship group for families – it's at Thursday teatime and includes crafts, activities, baking and a chance to chat; followed by all age worship with songs, Bible teaching and prayer; and finishes with us all eating and clearing up tea together (we eat KFC – Keith's Fantastic Cooking!). About 40 people come each week and it has really helped families to feel like they belong.

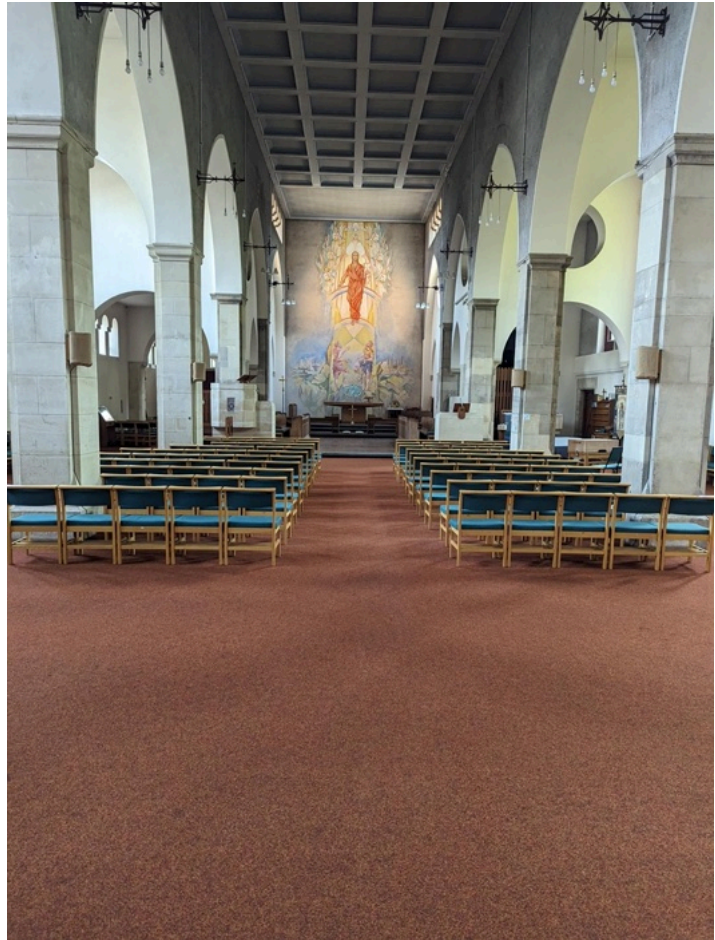
We also run an evangelistic course each term for a small group of people discovering faith – recently we have run Alpha, Christianity Explored and 321.



Building

St Columba's is the largest church building in east Hull. After the original building was bombed in the war, the current church was consecrated in 1960. It was reordered in the 1990s with carpet, chairs and kitchen, which makes it a really flexible space for all the different groups we run during the week.

On the same site there is a church hall which is used for Sunday school and rented out to groups during the week, along with toilets, a second kitchen and another room.



Drypool in Numbers

Figures for 2024		Drypool Parish	Victoria Dock	St John	St Columba
Average Sunday attendance	16 and over	89	14	18	57
	Under 16	39	0	14	25
Worshipping community	Over 70	50	12	3	35
	18-69	103	8	30	65
	11-17	21	0	6	15
	0-10	40	0	16	24
	Total	227	20	68	139
Electoral roll		174	18	55	94
Baptisms	Infants	7	0	0	7
	1-17	20	0	13	7
	18 and over	5	0	2	3
Weddings		1	n/a	0	1
Funerals		6	n/a	0	6
Income (£)		151,018	11,924	28,622	110,472
Expenditure (£)		141,190	16,322	25,946	98,922
Unrestricted reserves (£)		57,649	12,495	17,012	28,142
Freewill Offer for 2025 (£)		59,400	8,000	8,400	43,000

When combined with our share of the Low Income Community Funding, our Free Will Offer to the diocese currently covers the direct cost of ministry in the parish for 2 stipendiary clergy.

Accommodation



The vicarage is located at 383 Southcoates Lane, about 200 metres from St John's and with good access to Victoria Dock and the rest of the parish. It is a double-fronted terrace house that was originally built by a builder for himself and his family.

Downstairs off the entrance lobby it comprises a lounge, dining room, study, cloakroom and kitchen with large pantry. Upstairs there are 4 bedrooms, bathroom and toilet. There is a single garage at the back of the garden. The diocese have committed to completing repairs and improvement works before the team vicar needs to move in.

Hull Deanery



Area Dean
Revd John Cowan



Lay Dean
Dr Tim Scott

Hull Deanery is a family of 28 parishes and we're delighted that you're considering joining us here - in the largest Deanery in the country by population! We're on a journey of bringing to fruition our vision of being a local network of churches, inspiring, influencing and leading mission and ministry. The latest stage of this is that we're now in the process of delivering our Hull Deanery Plan as part of the refreshed Diocesan vision 'Living Christ's Story'. And we recognise that enthusiastic people bringing new life, distinctive gifts and fresh ideas can really enhance what we are working on together.

We are a predominantly urban and suburban deanery, though our boundaries do extend well beyond the city boundary (especially to the west of Hull) into the East Riding of Yorkshire, and we are socially and economically diverse (including significant areas of deprivation). Our churches vary in their churchmanship, and in this we seek to learn from one another and bring out the best in each other. Hull is a pioneering city and we seek to be a pioneering deanery - we've long had a Fresh Expressions Adviser and new forms of pioneer ministry continue to be added, especially under the banners of the innovative new Diocesan initiatives 'Mustard Seed' (growing disciples in places where life is tough) and 'Multiply' (pioneering new worshipping communities among those in their 20s to 40s). Alongside this, there is a commitment to revitalising existing parishes and seeking healthy church growth.

Hull Deanery consists of three sub-areas – East, West and Central&North – each with an 'Associate Dean'. Whilst we have one Deanery

Synod and one Deanery Leadership Team, the size of the deanery means that it's helpful for some things to happen within these sub-areas including clergy chapter and some mission initiatives. Examples of this include the 2020 'Come and See' mission, and the previous 2017 missions with Archbishop Sentamu – missions which have helped take forward our working together for the sake of the gospel. Churches in Hull also work together ecumenically under the banner of 'Believe in Hull' – originally a 2013 mission initiated by former Bishop Richard, then reinvigorated to make the most of the opportunities of Hull being UK City of Culture 2017, and continuing to develop outreach opportunities since then. (A related initiative SEARCH helps us in social engagement.) And some churches are involved with Hull 2030, a partnership of churches inspiring and encouraging church planting initiatives. We also rejoice in the particular role that Hull Minster is developing since being named as a Minster in 2017 – a source of growing blessing to the city and to the wider deanery. Hull Deanery is a creative and vibrant place to be!

We are excited about the new possibilities being explored in our Hull Deanery Plan for mission and ministry (developed during 2022) as we build on the good things already happening, yet seek: a new empowering and equipping of both lay and clergy, a more kingdom-shaped sharing of resources in solidarity with one another, improved communications to further deepen our sense of partnership, and a greater encouragement of one another in gospel outreach, all grounded in a renewed reliance on God in prayer.

In the past two years we've put on a series of gatherings (lay and clergy) for mutual support and learning in particular areas of mission and ministry (midweek all age congregations; outreach among older people; digital transformation; lay ministry) and have also established a pattern of two Deanery Services each year to bring us together in worship. The latest progress is that we've been able to increase our capacity to take forward and develop this plan (under the banner of *Heart for Hull*, with the possibility of seeking further national funding) by employing a *Heart for Hull* Enabler and an Administrator. And following our last *Heart for Hull* workshop on 'Wholeness in tough places', our next one will be on 'Children and young people'.

Hull Deanery is an exciting place in which to live and minister – we'd be pleased to welcome you here!

What we are looking for

We are looking for an evangelical minister who lives out their faith with humility and integrity. They should be a prayerful man or woman of God who keeps in step with the Spirit. We hope to find a biblical preacher who tells us what we need to hear from God's Word, someone who finds ways to encourage and equip believers to keep going and keep growing in their faith.

We are praying for a vicar who has a heart for ministry in both deprived and better-off areas, who will love our diverse churches and communities the way we do. They should be an approachable and kind pastor who can help people in the good and bad moments of their lives. They need to be a team player and team leader who values lay ministry and helps others to develop – both paid staff and volunteers. Not someone who does it all themselves!

We are seeking someone missional who will help us to reach out to our communities. At Victoria Dock that means someone who will be visible and help us to raise our profile. At St John's, we need someone passionate about community engagement, who also loves sharing the gospel and seeks opportunities for contacts to become disciples. They need to welcome the challenge of helping children, young people and families to follow Jesus.

We hope to appoint a clear communicator who can help our three churches to work well together, and a godly example who upholds the highest standards in safeguarding.

If you think that could be you, please get in touch!