



Parish Profile



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WELCOME FROM THE PCC



Hello,

Thank you for taking the time to read our Parish Profile. We know that discerning a new calling takes prayer, patience and courage, and we are grateful that you are considering whether God may be leading you to St Mary's.

As you read these pages, we hope you will gain a sense of who we are - not simply what we do. St Mary's has been at the heart of Penwortham for generations, and today we are a church family seeking to follow Jesus Christ through worship, prayer, fellowship and service. We are far from perfect, but we are committed to growing together in faith, encouraging one another and sharing God's love with those around us.

There is much for which we give thanks - a caring congregation, faithful volunteers, strong relationships with our two church schools and a church that continues to serve the people of Penwortham with warmth and welcome. Above all, we are grateful for God's faithfulness and excited about all that He has in store for us.

As we look to the future, we are praying for someone who will walk alongside us - someone who loves Jesus, values people, listens well and leads with humility, wisdom and compassion. We are not looking for someone with all the answers, but for someone who will help us build on the strong foundations already here as we continue to grow in faith, serve our community and discern together where God is leading us next.

If, as you read this profile, you begin to feel that St Mary's could be where God is calling you, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please be assured of our prayers as you continue to seek God's guidance.

God bless,

The PCC



WHO WE ARE



For more than 1,300 years, St Mary's has been a place where people have worshipped God, found hope and discovered they belong.

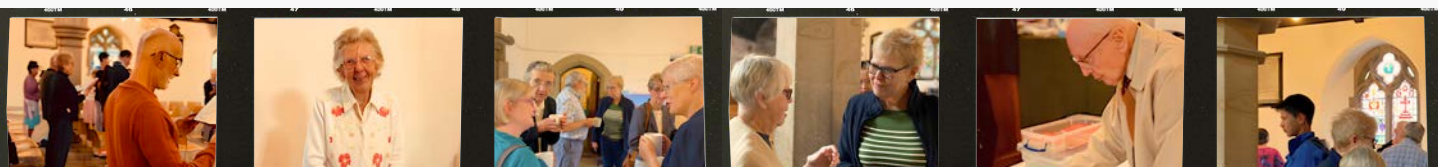
St. Mary's is the ancient parish church of Penwortham, serving a thriving community on the southern bank of the River Ribble, just across from Preston. Rooted in a Christian witness that stretches back more than thirteen centuries, St Mary's remains at the heart of parish life - a place where generations have worshipped, celebrated life's milestones, found comfort and discovered the hope of Jesus Christ.

Today, we are an active Church of England parish within the Diocese of Blackburn and, above all, a church family. With an electoral roll of 110, people of all ages and backgrounds come together to worship, pray, learn and serve. We seek to live out our faith with warmth, humility and generosity, welcoming all who come through our doors. Many families have a deep and lasting connection with St Mary's through baptisms, weddings, funerals and the festivals of Christmas and Easter.

Our Grade II* listed church is one of Penwortham's most recognisable landmarks. While we treasure its history and beauty, it is first and foremost a living place of worship, prayer and hospitality.

We are blessed by close relationships with Cop Lane C of E Primary School and Howick Cross C of E Primary School, as well as many other community partnerships. These connections help us share God's love and strengthen our witness across Penwortham.

As we look to the future, we give thanks for those who have gone before us and look forward with hope to the next chapter in the life of St Mary's. We pray that our next Vicar will join us in building on these strong foundations and helping us to share the hope of Christ with our community.



WHY WE LOVE ST. MARY'S



“Everything. I was christened and confirmed there and was in the choir from 7 years of age. From a religious perspective- I absolutely adore it.

I love St. Mary's Penwortham”

Donald, Tenerife (via Zoom)



“St. Mary's to me is like coming home.

I was christened and confirmed at St. Mary's but then moved away for work and only visited occasionally for the next 30 year. However, 8 years ago I returned to live in Penwortham, and was able to attend St. Mary's again.”

Ann, PCC member



“At St. Mary's my role as church warden is made easier by the enormous help and encouragement offered by the congregation and my fellow church wardens. I thank God for the opportunity to serve Him in such a unique way and look forward to being supportive of our new vicar”

Jill, church warden

“Penwortham St. Mary's means everything to me. They are my second family.”

Wendy, PCC member

“Why I love St. Mary's is how old the church is. Its site reminds me of how Penwortham got its name- ‘homestead on the hill’.

Standing in the beautiful graveyard, I feel the depth of our history and it gives me pride mixed with a sense of inner peace”

Tracey, Mayor of Penwortham”

OUR VISION

To be a sustainable, prayerful community of all ages in a building fit for purpose which enriches the lives of the wider community.

This vision shapes everything we do. It is our prayer that St Mary's will continue to be a place where people encounter Jesus Christ, grow in faith and discover they belong.

The words that perhaps best express the heart of our church are found in our parish prayer. They remind us not only of who we are, but of the people God is calling us to become.



Our Parish Prayer

Lord Jesus,
you brought the blessings of forgiveness
and love,
caring and fellowship to all whom you met
in your earthly life.
So by your grace and in the power of the
Spirit,
help us to share those same gifts
with all who come to St Mary's,
in hope and expectation.

Amen.

We don't simply say these words; we seek to live them. We want St Mary's to be a place where everyone is welcomed, nurtured and encouraged to grow in faith. In all we do, we seek to reflect the forgiveness, love and fellowship that Jesus showed to everyone He met.

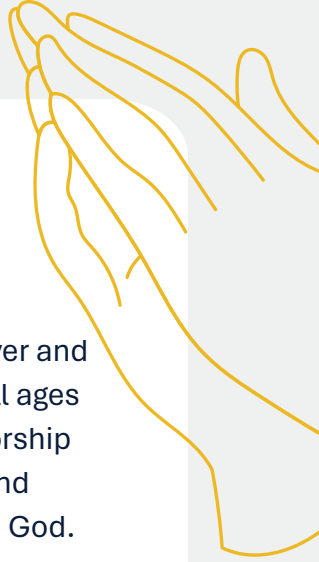




Growing in Faith

Prayer at the heart of our life together.

Our first calling is to know and follow Jesus Christ more deeply. Prayer and worship are at the heart of our life together, nurturing disciples of all ages and helping people grow in faith. Through faithful pastoral care, worship rooted in the Anglican tradition and opportunities for learning and discipleship, we seek to help people deepen their relationship with God.



Growing our Community

Serving Penwortham with welcome and compassion.

We believe God calls us to be a welcoming church at the heart of Penwortham. Building on our strong partnerships with our church schools, we seek to work alongside local schools, the University of Lancashire, Scouts, Guides, Brownies and other uniformed youth organisations, as well as community organisations, charities and local businesses, sharing God's love through worship, hospitality and service.



Growing our Future

Building faithfully for generations to come.

For more than a thousand years, Christian worship has continued on this site. As we look to the future, we are committed to building on that by creating a building fit for purpose that supports worship, learning, hospitality and community life, enabling St Mary's to serve the people of Penwortham for generations to come.



Above all, we want to be a church where people encounter Jesus Christ, discover they belong, grow in faith and are equipped to share His love with others. Trusting in God's faithfulness and guided by His Spirit, we look to the future with hope and expectation.

PENWORTHAM

AT A GLANCE

Penwortham is a thriving and welcoming Lancashire town on the southern bank of the River Ribble. With excellent schools, a vibrant community, beautiful green spaces and outstanding transport links, it offers the best of both worlds—peaceful riverside living within easy reach of cities, coast and countryside.



A PLACE TO BELONG....

COMMUNITY

- Friendly, welcoming town with a strong sense of community
- Active churches, charities and voluntary groups
- New opportunities for mission, outreach and partnership

EDUCATION

- Cop Lane CE Primary School
- Howick CE Primary School
- Other excellent local primary and secondary schools

TOWN CENTRE

- Independent shops, cafés and local businesses
- Library and Arts Centre
- Community events throughout the year

LEISURE & OUTDOORS

- River Ribble and riverside walks
- Hurst Grange Park and playing fields
- Sports clubs and leisure facilities

TRANSPORT LINKS

- Excellent access to the M6, M61 and M65
- Preston railway station just minutes away
- Easy links to Manchester, Liverpool, Lancaster and beyond

FAITH & HERITAGE

- Over 1,300 years of Christian worship
- Grade II* listed parish church
- Strong partnerships with our schools and the wider community

PENWORTHAM AT A GLANCE

Population

22,570

Green spaces and riverside walks

Strong community and heritage

ON THE DOORSTEP OF...



THE LAKE DISTRICT
60–75 mins



YORKSHIRE DALES
60 mins



LYTHAM ST ANNES
35 mins



SOUTHPORT
35 mins



BLACKPOOL
35 mins



MORECAMBE BAY
50 mins

A place with the best of both worlds- peaceful riverside living with excellent connections to cities, coast and countryside.

WORSHIP & PARISH LIFE

A church family rooted in worship, prayer and service.



At St Mary's, worship is at the heart of our life together. Each week we gather to hear God's Word, celebrate the sacraments, pray together and grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. Rooted in the Anglican tradition, our worship seeks to be welcoming, prayerful and accessible to all.

Our Regular Services

Sunday	
8.15 am	Holy Communion (Common Worship Order Two – traditional language)
10.15 am	Family Communion (Common Worship Order One – contemporary language)
Midweek: Thursday	
9.30 am	Holy Communion (Common Worship Order Two – traditional language)

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION - Wednesday 6.30 pm- A quiet space for prayer, reflection and stillness.
2 x PRAYER GROUPS & A HOME BIBLE STUDY GROUP - each on a monthly basis

LIFE EVENTS



BAPTISMS

Welcoming New Life

Celebrating the gift of new life as children and adults are welcomed into the family of God through baptism.



WEDDINGS

Celebrating Love

Sharing in the joy of lifelong commitment as couples make their vows before God, family and friends.



FUNERALS

Comfort & Hope

Walking alongside families with compassion, prayer and the hope of Christ's resurrection at times of loss.

At every stage of life's journey, St Mary's is privileged to walk alongside the people of Penwortham, offering prayer, support and the assurance of God's love. In the past year, we have shared in 32 occasional offices: 5 baptisms, 3 weddings and 24 funerals, including 13 funerals held in church, 6 services held at the crematorium or cemetery, and 5 committals or interments of ashes.

OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Refreshments after our Sunday service, together with seasonal celebrations and community events, provide opportunities to build friendships, welcome newcomers and strengthen our church family. St Mary's is sustained by dedicated volunteers who faithfully serve in many ways - from welcoming visitors and supporting worship to caring for the church and producing the parish magazine and website. Their commitment is one of the greatest strengths of our parish.

AT THE HEART OF PENWORTHAM

Sharing God's love throughout the year

For generations, St Mary's has been at the heart of Penwortham's story. Today, we continue to serve our community by building relationships, supporting local organisations and offering a place of welcome, hope and belonging. We are proud to work alongside schools, charities, churches and voluntary groups, including the 6th Penwortham (St Mary's) Scout Group, a sponsored Scout group with a long-standing association with St Mary's. Through these partnerships, we seek to share God's love in practical ways and support the flourishing of our local community.



Throughout the year, the life of St Mary's is woven into the life of our community through worship, celebration and service.



OUR SCHOOLS

Growing in faith together

One of the greatest blessings of St Mary's is our close relationship with our two Church of England primary schools: Cop Lane CE Primary School and Howick CE Primary School. Together, we share a common purpose - to help every child flourish academically, spiritually and personally within a caring Christian community.

Our partnership is far more than a link between church and school. Through collective worship, church services, pastoral support, governance and shared Christian values, we seek to help children and their families encounter the love of God. Each Year 3 child receives a Bible from St Mary's, which accompanies them throughout their primary education before becoming a gift as they move on to secondary school.



YEAR 3 BIBLES

Every child receives a Bible from St Mary's.



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Regular worship in school and church.



CHURCH FESTIVALS

Christmas, Easter, Harvest and Leavers' Services.



FOUNDATION GOVERNORS

Strong leadership links between church and school.



PASTORAL CARE

Supporting children and families together.



GROWING IN FAITH

Helping every child flourish spiritually and personally.



We are deeply committed to building on these strong foundations. Together with our schools, we look forward to creating new opportunities for worship, spiritual development and community engagement, helping more children and families discover the love of Christ through the life of St Mary's.



Howick Cross C of E Primary School



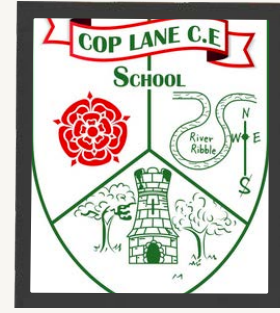
"I can do all this through him who gives me strength."

Philippians 4:13

Howick CE Primary School is a welcoming, happy and inclusive Christian community where every child is known, valued and encouraged to flourish. Our school vision, rooted in biblical teaching, is at the heart of all we do and is a source of courage, strength and joy for both pupils and adults.

It shapes our culture and helps our children grow into confident, resilient and compassionate individuals who are equipped to thrive.

We are seeking a vicar who will work in close partnership with our school, someone who shares our commitment to helping every child flourish and reach their God-given potential.



Cop Lane C of E Primary School



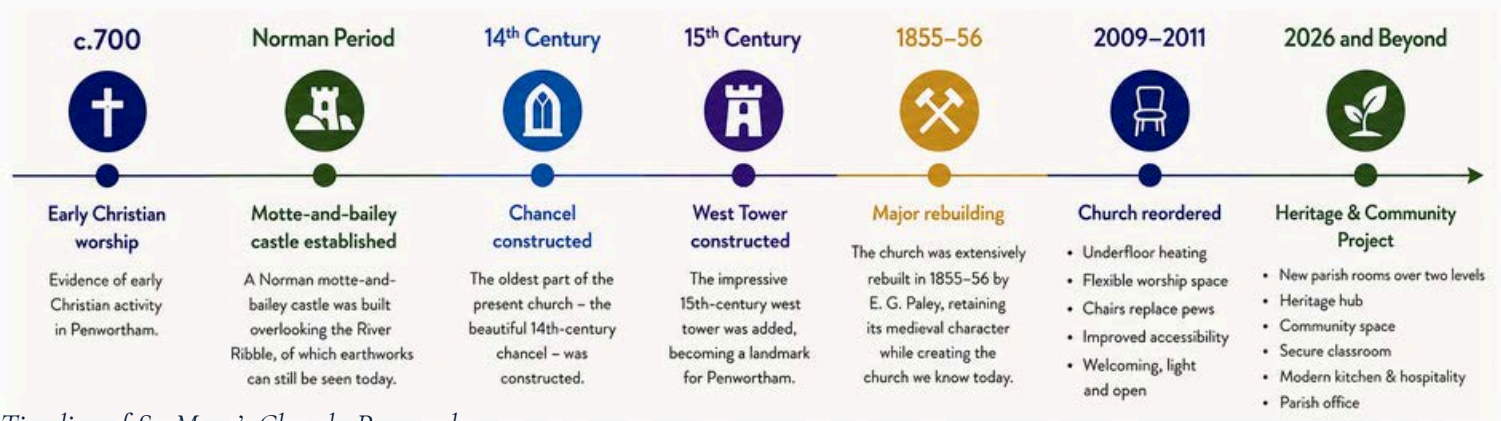
"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me"

Philippians 4:13

Cop Lane C.E. Primary School is a warm, welcoming and caring Christian family, where everyone is valued and supported so that they can flourish. Our vision is at the heart of all we do: we aim to instil a lifelong love of learning, nurture everyone's individual talents, and believe that through Jesus Christ, our aspirations, hopes and dreams can be achieved.

We share strong and valued links with St Mary's Church. We are looking for someone who will help to nurture and strengthen this special partnership even further, and who will take a genuine interest in the daily life of our school community.

Together, we are helping every child flourish academically, spiritually and personally.



Timeline of St. Mary's Church, Penwortham

HERITAGE & MISSION

Building on Centuries of Faith

For more than thirteen centuries, St Mary's has stood at the heart of Penwortham. Generations have gathered here to worship, celebrate, mourn and discover the love of Jesus Christ. From our medieval tower and Grade II* listed church to the remains of the ancient motte-and-bailey castle, every stone tells part of that story. We are privileged to be custodians of this remarkable heritage, but we believe it is far more than a legacy from the past. It is a gift to be shared with future generations.

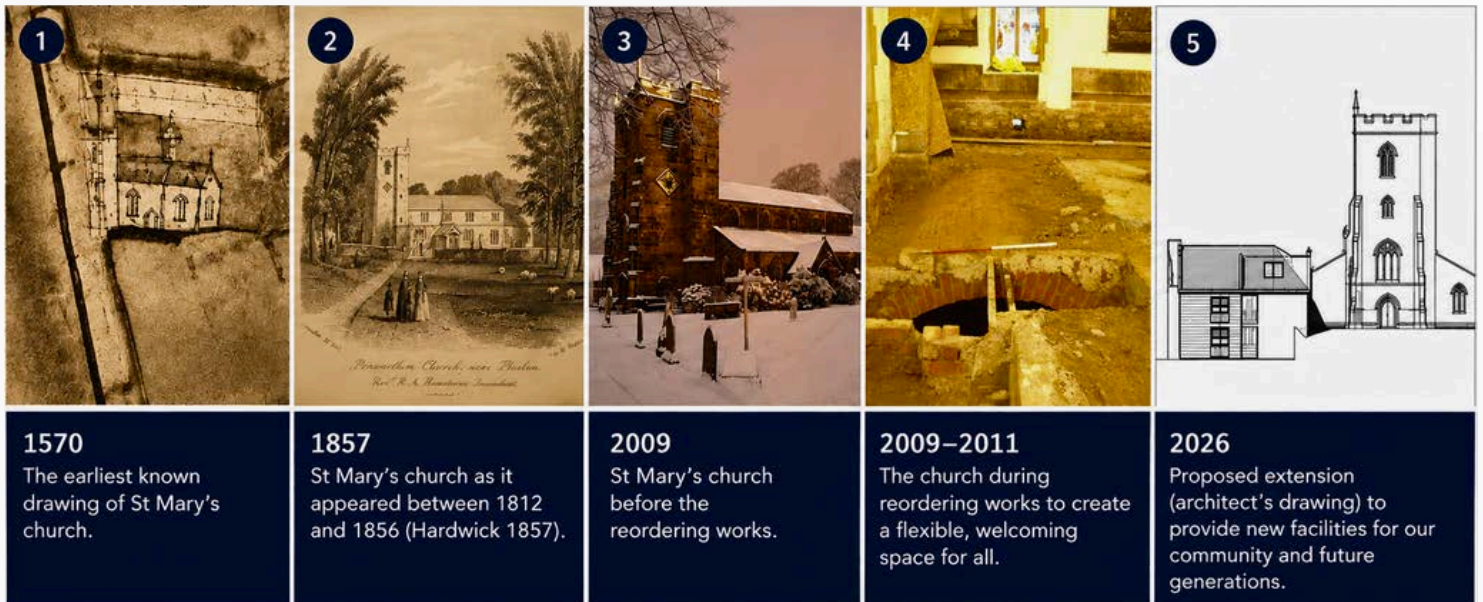
We believe our heritage should never become a barrier to mission. Instead, it should open doors, spark conversations and invite people to explore both the history of this remarkable place and the Christian faith that has sustained it for over 1,300 years.

DID YOU KNOW?

-  Christian worship has taken place on this site for over 1,300 years.
-  The 14th-century chancel is the oldest surviving part of today's church.
-  The 15th-century west tower is one of Penwortham's most recognisable landmarks.
-  The church was extensively rebuilt by E. G. Paley in 1855–56 while preserving its medieval character.
-  The 2009–11 reordering created a flexible, accessible space for worship and community.
-  Our new extension will help ensure St Mary's continues to serve future generations through worship, hospitality, education and community engagement.



ST. MARY'S CHURCH THROUGH TIME



ST. MARY'S PENWORTHAM

HERITAGE PROJECT

LOOKING AHEAD TOGETHER - Shaping the next chapter

Planning permission has been secured, and we are now working to secure Heritage Lottery funding and other grants to help bring this exciting project to fruition.

This development is about much more than bricks and mortar. It is about equipping St Mary's for the next generation of ministry, ensuring this ancient church continues to be a place where people encounter Christ, experience belonging and discover hope.



We are not simply preserving our heritage - we are equipping St Mary's to share Christ's love with future generations.

LOOKING AHEAD TOGETHER -

Our Journey of Faith, Community & Mission

We believe God has exciting things in store for St Mary's. Building on the faithful witness of those who have gone before us, we look to the future with hope and confidence. Together with our new Vicar, we want to deepen our faith, strengthen our relationships and continue serving the people of Penwortham with generosity, compassion and joy.

The priorities shown below are not simply plans - they are shared aspirations that will guide us as we build on our strong foundations and seek God's leading for the next chapter of St Mary's.



YEAR 1

Listening, Building and Growing



GROW IN FAITH & PRAYER

Prayer and worship at the heart of all we do.



BUILD RELATIONSHIPS

A Vicar who takes time to know St Mary's and strengthens pastoral care for all.



STRENGTHEN SCHOOL LINKS

Working closely with Cop Lane CE Primary School and Howick CE Primary School.



DEVELOP BUILDING PROJECT

Move forward with our plans for facilities that serve church and community.



YEARS 2-3

Growing Together



STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIPS

Continue working with local schools, the University, heritage and community organisations.



OPEN CHURCH MORE OFTEN

A welcoming place for worship, heritage, hospitality and community life.



MORE PEOPLE INVOLVED

Encouraging more people to share their time, talents and gifts.



INNOVATIVE ACTIVITIES

Creative activities for all ages that engage and inspire.



FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

Growing our finances and putting our plans into action.



YEAR 5

Flourishing Together



A THRIVING CHURCH

Pulling together and sharing our faith with the wider community.



GROWING CONGREGATION

More people of all ages discovering faith and belonging.



BUILDING FIT FOR MISSION

Facilities that support worship, hospitality, learning and community engagement.



A BEACON OF GOOD PRACTICE

A church that inspires and encourages others.

"Unless the Lord builds the house, those who build it labour in vain"

Psalm 127:1

Life of the Parish

People, stewardship and practical arrangements

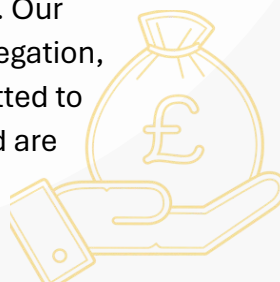
LEADERSHIP & VOLUNTEERS

St Mary's is supported by dedicated Church Officers, Churchwardens, PCC members and volunteers who work together to sustain the worship, mission and ministry of the parish. Their commitment and faithfulness are among the great strengths of our parish.

Bellringing • Worship • Welcoming • Sacristy • Flowers • Churchyard
• Cleaning • Parish Magazine • Heritage • Hospitality • Safeguarding

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

We are committed to working towards a position of financial stability, encouraging generous giving and strengthening stewardship. Our income comes primarily through the generosity of our congregation, alongside legacies and income from lettings. We are committed to using the resources God has entrusted to us responsibly and are grateful that Parish Share was paid in full in 2025.



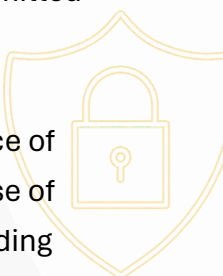
THE VICARAGE

The Diocese of Blackburn is currently reviewing provision of the vicarage following the vacancy. Options are being explored to ensure that the successful applicant has a suitable family home within the parish.

Further information will be provided to shortlisted candidates as plans are confirmed.

SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding is central to the life and ministry of St Mary's. We are committed to creating a safe, welcoming and inclusive church and follow the safeguarding policies and guidance of the Church of England and Diocese of Blackburn. Safeguarding is a standing item at every PCC meeting.



WHO IS GOD CALLING?

"I no longer call you servants... Instead, I have called you friends."

John 15:15

Choosing a new Vicar is one of the most significant moments in the life of our parish. We have prayed that God will lead us to the person He is preparing to serve alongside us- someone who will bring their own gifts and experience, complement those already within our church family, and help us faithfully respond to God's call for St Mary's.

What we are looking for:



A FAITHFUL LEADER

Rooted in Christ

- Prayerful and deeply rooted in faith
- Teach and preach the Bible with clarity and relevance
- Lead us in worship and discipleship
- Help us discern where God is leading St Mary's
- Inspire us through their own faith and example



A CARING PRESENCE

Walking alongside people

- Provide compassionate and effective pastoral care
- Be visible, approachable and available
- Walk alongside people through times of joy and difficulty
- Value every generation
- Welcome newcomers and help people find their place



A HEART FOR COMMUNITY

Beyond our walls

- Be passionate about children, young people and families
- Help us develop our work with under-18s
- Build relationships with schools and community organisations
- Encourage more people through our doors
- Be energetic and proactive in our mission beyond the church



A COLLABORATIVE LEADER

Vision into action

- Help us discern a clear vision and provide strategic direction
- Bring energy, initiative and good organisation
- Help provide financial stability and encourage generous giving
- Encourage others to discover and use their gifts
- Work collaboratively and develop lay leadership
- Help turn our heritage plans into action

PRAYERFULLY DISCERNING TOGETHER

Our prayer for this season of change



**God our Father, who alone
brings growth to your church,
you have welcomed each one
of us in Jesus and called us to
be his body in this place.
Send your Holy Spirit - at this
time of uncertainty and change
– to fill us with vision and
energy and make us faithful in
prayer and worship.
Guide with your heavenly
wisdom, those appointed to
discern the way ahead, that we
may receive the person you
have prepared for your church
here – one who is ready to
serve us with joy, to build us up
in faith and to lead us by
example in loving obedience to
your Son, our Saviour, Jesus
Christ. Amen**

Thank you for taking the time to read our Parish Profile.

We hope these pages have given you a genuine sense of who we are and where God is leading us.

If you feel God may be calling you to St Mary's, we would be delighted to hear from you. Be assured of our prayers as you continue to seek His guidance.



BISHOP'S LETTER

Thank you for showing an interest in a post in the Diocese of Blackburn.

Our Diocese is passionate about the renewal of Parish life. We have a profound belief in the power of the Gospel to transform lives and communities and expresses a firm commitment to maintaining clergy numbers and investing in the mission of the local church. We therefore seek clergy with a personal faith fiery enough to make new disciples for Christ, with a sincere commitment to the Parish as the heart of the church's mission and with the resilience and courage to bring growth and renewal to local churches. We don't want superheroes. Rather we are seeking authentic, prayerful priests of all traditions who share our passion for confident proclamation and generous service.

What's more, you would be coming to the Diocese at a fascinating time of our Centenary in 2026 themed "All for Jesus". We are in the midst of a major process of listening to God and listening to our County as we discern where God is calling us next, a process that will result in a new strategic vision that will last until 2033, the 2000th anniversary of the Resurrection.

We have also recently been successful in obtaining a grant of £25.5m from the Diocesan Investment Programme run by the national church. This will enable us to:

- Offer a transformed pattern of ongoing training and support to clergy, including sabbatical leave as an expectation for all rather than a treat for the few
- Deploy 30 'Ignite' youth and children's workers to parishes around the Diocese
- Invest in urban areas through expanding the M:Power course for urban leaders, employing 18 Urban Pioneers and re-imagining Christian life in areas of particular challenge.
- Expand our Diocesan Renewal Programme which has led to an average of 6% growth in RWA in participating parishes.

We are a Diocese that is united in defying the declinist mindset that has taken hold of so much of Western European Christianity. Through a firm belief in the power of Jesus Christ to change lives combined with strong pastoral ministry and imaginative developments such as new local congregations, we are seeing growth in churches of all traditions. Strong relationships with our amazing family of 191 schools (95% of whom benefit from practising Christian Headteachers) provide another springboard for mission.

As a Diocese we do all we can to love and treasure our clergy. Our programme of Annual Conversations means that every licensed priest has a 90 minute conversation with a Bishop or an Archdeacon every year about their vocation, wellbeing and spiritual life.



*The Bishop of Blackburn
The Rt Revd Philip North*



*The Bishop of Lancaster
The Rt Revd Dr Jill Duff*



*The Bishop of Burnley
The Rt Revd Dr Joe Kennedy*

Continued overleaf

We have appointed an Assistant Archdeacon to advise on clergy wellbeing and we work hard to create networks that enable clergy to belong and find mutual support.

Those in their first incumbency are offered especially focused support. This includes participation in a two year Start of Ministry course, advice and care from a mentor and the oversight of our two outstanding Start of Ministry officers.

Lancashire has been described as “The World in One Diocese” and we can offer a vast diversity of parishes. We serve the most deprived communities in the United Kingdom on the Fylde coast and in East Lancashire as well as remote countryside. We are not immune from the particular challenges to ministry provided by an increasingly secular culture and a divided Church. But what brings us together is a profound and shared love of Jesus Christ and a passionate desire that all should know him, and in knowing him find life.

We really hope you enjoy reading this profile and that it provides all the information you need. If this particular post does not feel quite right, please do get in touch about other parishes in the Diocese that are vacant.

Most importantly of all, please be assured of our prayers as you discern the will of God for the next stage in your ministry.

Vision 2026 and Beyond

Vision 2026 had an agenda for growth agreed by the Blackburn Diocesan Synod in 2015. It challenged our parishes to be healthy churches that transformed their communities as we looked ahead to our diocesan centenary in 2026. It also laid out four ways in which this overarching goal could be achieved: Making Disciples, Being Witnesses, Growing Leaders and Prioritising Children and Young People.

In the Diocese of Blackburn we are inspired by confidence in the Gospel and are ambitious in our desire to make new disciples for Jesus Christ. We are committed to mutual flourishing, to maintaining clergy numbers and to investing in training for new curates.

In the last year, the Diocese has embarked on a major programme of listening to God and our communities as we discern when he is leading us next.

Our Centenary Prayer is:

Heavenly Father, in our Centenary year
we rededicate ourselves and our Diocese to you.
Send the Holy Spirit to give us confidence in our witness,
generosity in our service, and love for our neighbours,
that your Church may be renewed and many come home to you,
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.

You can find out more about our Centenary year by visiting our website:

[All for Jesus: Centenary of Blackburn Diocese in 2026 | The Diocese of Blackburn](#)

Clergy Care and Wellbeing

- Clergy are invited to participate in an 8 year annual programme to keep ministry fresh and vital. This includes periods of sabbatical and regular retreats.
 - We offer an Annual Conversation in which every licensed priest spends 90 mins with a Bishop or Archdeacon discussing ministry and wellbeing.
 - Ongoing theological training and teaching is offered through our partnership with Emmanuel Theological College. Clergy receive free access to a theological library of 22,000 books and regular seminars.
 - Annual Diocesan Clergy Study Days and an occasional clergy conference seek to provide opportunities both to keep ministry fresh and to build relationships with colleagues.
 - We offer first incumbents a mentor and participation in our Start of Ministry Programme.
 - All clergy are entitled to an uninterrupted rest period of 24 hours in each period of seven days and one additional rest period of 24 hours in each month, and in the remaining weeks of the month to take a rest day and a light day.
 - We offer a Clergy Assistance Programme. More information about this can be found on our [website](#).
 - We have a great property department, who will do their best to ensure your house works for you and your family and is well maintained.
-
- We have a beautiful diocesan retreat house in the grounds of a ruined Cistercian abbey, where clergy are welcome to have personal reading days for a modest charge (you can book in for lunch or bring your own).
 - We encourage all parishes in vacancy to consider how they will 'pastor' and support their new priest. The diocese has an anti-bullying and anti-harassment policy.
 - If you are looking for a spiritual director or a mentor we have an excellent Warden of Spiritual Direction and networks of people with whom we can put you in touch.
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- We are always looking for ways for clergy to mix apart from work – including reading weeks, regular hospitality, a cricket team and a clergy walking group. Further suggestions are welcome.
 - We offer free counselling to clergy and their families through the [Inter Diocesan Counselling Service](#) and our own Diocesan counsellor.
 - Clergy Wellbeing is overseen by the Assistant Archdeacon for Clergy Wellbeing, Canon Neil Kelley. In addition our Dean of Women's Ministry, the Revd Lucie Lunn, offers support and care to female clergy in the Diocese.



Whalley Abbey Centre for Christian Discipleship and Prayer