



**BISHOP OF BIRMINGHAM**

The Rt Revd Dr Michael Volland



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## Words of Welcome to Church of England, Birmingham

Thank you for showing an interest in in the post of Interim Priest in Charge of St Michael, Boldmere within this Diocese.

This is an exciting time for Church of England Birmingham, as we seek to share the good news of Jesus in the West Midlands and pursue our vision of a *Transforming Church* in order to see *growing churches at the heart of each community*.



To give some context to our city and region, Birmingham is the UK's second city, is super-diverse, and has the youngest urban population in one of the most lively, diverse and creative city regions. As a diocese, Church of England Birmingham (CofEB) was founded in 1905, is geographically small but densely populated, covering an area of nearly 300 square miles and includes parishes in Birmingham and parts of Solihull, Sandwell, Warwickshire and Worcestershire, and often to people's surprise, our rural parish communities make up 15% of our family.

Birmingham is the 'poorest' CofE diocese (based on IMD rankings) but also one of the most generous (based on giving as % of income). We are recognised for being innovative, making good use of scarce resources, which resonates with the character of Birmingham being known as the 'city of a thousand trades'.

Churches in our Diocese embrace a wide spectrum of traditions from evangelical and Catholic, liberal to conservative and choral to charismatic in their outlook on mission and ministry. I am committed to ensuring that all can find a home, and flourish alongside lay and ordained colleagues within Church of England Birmingham.

Finally, thank you for showing interest in this post, and I hope the profile provides all the information you need. Be assured of my prayers as you discern whether this might be the role and region to which God is calling you. Please pray for Church of England Birmingham as we seek to witness to Christ and see lives, families and communities transformed by the power of the Spirit and to the glory of God.

Yours in Christ,

The Rt Revd Dr Michael Volland  
Bishop of Birmingham

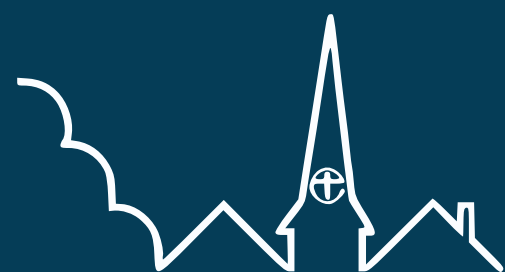


THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND  
BIRMINGHAM





# St Michael's Church, Boldmere Parish Profile



St Michael's Boldmere

# St Michael's Boldmere aims to build a community where:

Jesus Christ is worshipped.  
Faith in Him is developed.  
Relationships through Him are transformed.

So that through the power of the Holy Spirit  
we are able to share God's love with others.

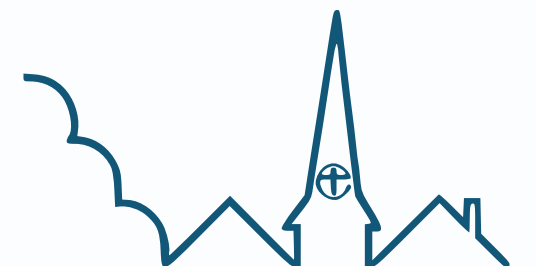


# Appointment of an Interim Priest In Charge for 3 Years

In the last few months, the PCC prayerfully considered God's plan for St Michael's as we move forward . After 2 half day sessions, we set out our vision which was then shared with the congregation.

We are looking for someone who can help us discern where God is leading us and walk along side us as we turn the vision into action . We want you to fully use your skills and abilities. We have many capable people who are energised, and you will be someone who can empower those with different skills to use them to support your ministry.

The PCC are looking to appoint an Interim Priest In Charge for three years to lead us through our transformation.



St Michael's Boldmere



# Our New Priest In Charge will be:

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- Excited by our Vision and can help us to shape and deliver our plans.
- A Holy Spirit led mature Christian that can identify and encourage the gifts of the Spirit and develop initiatives that nurture and sustain spiritual growth.
- Collaborative, able to invest in outreach initiatives that bring faith and understanding of Christ in everyday lives.
- Someone who has a heart for discipleship and outreach and can communicate by teaching, preaching and sharing stories.
- Able to deliver diverse styles of worship, music, and services to welcome both the church and unchurched.
- A resilient and pastorally minded priest who can communicate well in one-to-one situations as well as within groups and teams.
- An emotionally intelligent and collaborative leader who values partnership, recognises skills and talents and can coach both paid staff and volunteers to achieve their potential.
- A well organised and skilled manager of time, people and resources who can cultivate a culture of generosity.

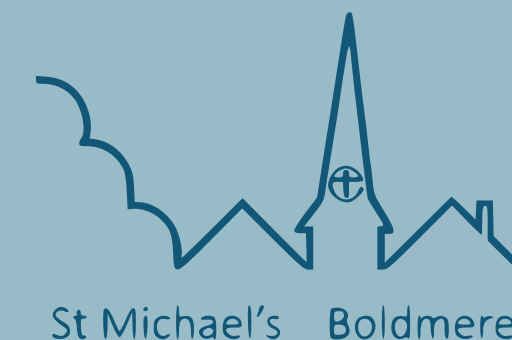
# Main Challenges and Resources

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Over the next 3 years we need help developing and delivering :

- A revival of God's Church amongst the younger generations in Boldmere by Growing Church Younger whilst recognising the valuable contribution of a faithful and committed congregation.
- Strong partnerships with other Churches and charities in the local area to enable us to further serve our community.
- Our journey to transform the existing church building into a vibrant and inclusive worship space. Architects and other professionals have developed plans and an application for a faculty has been submitted. There is a great opportunity to help shape the delivery of this project whilst holding together our congregation through the building work disruption.
- A secure financial future.

We commit to providing support to give you the time, space and resources to enable you to do this whilst ensuring your personal boundaries are respected.



- We have a part-time office administrator and are in the process of appointing a part-time Verger.
- Money has been set aside to employ an outreach worker as well as to fund other vision areas.

# Where we are now:

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## **Ageing Congregation:**

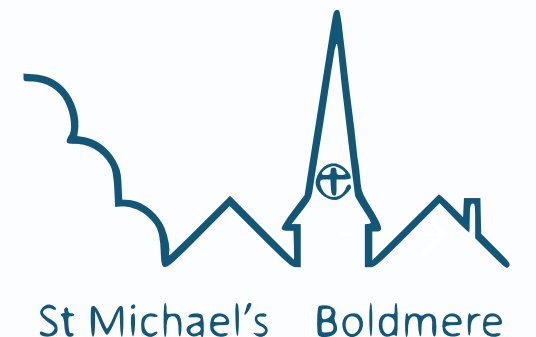
We are blessed with a prayerful, dedicated and serving congregation whose years of commitment and faith have shaped our community. We are now unable to rely on the same level of volunteers as in the past leaving some key gaps in our serving teams. This is coupled with declining voluntary giving year by year with its financial consequences.

## **Church Building:**

St Michael's Church offers an opportunity for an amazing space for Worship, activities and community events. Its flexible potential is not being realised due to the limitations that the old under pew water heating system creates. At the current time the building relies on conventional energy sources.

## **Discipleship and Community Involvement:**

There is a real opportunity to develop greater relationships within our community and beyond to spread the gospel, serve and be a beacon of light and hope. Growth in all aspects of Church life will be a major influence in achieving this.



# Our **Vision**, born out of some of the challenges we face:

St Michael's PCC are excited by the huge potential to **grow** God's Kingdom in Boldmere. To **partner** with the wider community, **connect** and bring **people** together in the name of Christ.

We have a wonderful opportunity to transform the Church **building** into a joy filled space for diverse forms of **Worship** and a vibrant Community hub. A space where relationships are built, faith is deepened, and lives are changed.

God has blessed us with an abundance of **gifts**, skills and talents that we are being called to use as we step forward in faith into a new era for St Michael's and Boldmere.



St Michael's Boldmere



# People

Bring people to Jesus, nurturing faith, and offering fellowship study groups and courses for all to grow in faith and discipleship together.







# Growth

Grow a younger church investing in resources to support outreach into the community from birth through to adulthood, creating a strong foundation for future generations.





# Worship

Offering diverse forms of worship, music and church services to inspire and welcome both the churched and unchurched, fostering connection and spiritual growth.





# Church Building

Create an eco-friendly space that adapts for worship, church activities, community engagement and versatile use, fostering connection and sustainability.





# Partnership

Develop a missional vision with St Columba's, build new community connections and deepen existing relationships to share faith and purpose.







# Gifts

Inspiring generosity through the sharing of time, talent, and financial resources to strengthen and enrich the life and mission of the church.





# Connect

Fostering connection and unity through clear communication channels that keep our church family and wider community informed, engaged, and inspired.



## Celebrate Café Church

St Michael's Church, Church Road, Boldmere  
**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> July**  
 All Age Worship at 10:00 am  
 Crafts, Reflections, Singing  
 Refreshments during the Service

### Zacchaeus



Bring your lunch  
 and join in all age  
 'Teddy Bears'  
 Picnic after the service



**A QUICK REMINDER**  
 What is coming up over the next  
 few weeks.

## Church News



St. Michael's Boldmere



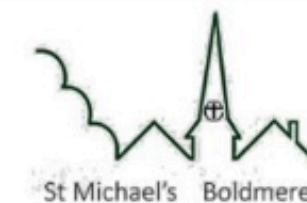
## Worship at St Michael's Sundays

10:00 am Morning Service - With Children's Groups  
 6:00 pm Evening Service - Reflective Worship

## Fridays

11:00 am Holy Communion at Place of Welcome

(see website for more information)



Parish Administrator: Danielle Woollaston

Telephone: 0121 373 0207  
[stmichaelschurchboldmere@gmail.com](mailto:stmichaelschurchboldmere@gmail.com)  
[www.stmichaels.org.uk](http://www.stmichaels.org.uk)

Office Hours:  
 Monday 9.00am - 1.00pm  
 Wednesday 9.00am - 1.00pm  
 Friday 9.00am - 1.00pm

**All of us are welcome**

# More about St Michael's





# SERVICES

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The Church has a weekly average attendance of around 100 across all services.

- Sunday 10am communion services include children and young people's groups with a once a month Celebrate all age service led by our Children's and Youth Leaders.
- Sunday 6pm evening service includes communion every second Sunday of the month.
- A communion service offered each Friday at the Place of Welcome.
- Regular worship at the Village Community Sheltered Housing and Sutton Rose Care Home.
- In 2024 we held 3 weddings, 13 funerals, 14 internment of ashes and 12 baptisms. We are delighted to have welcomed several Kurdish Iranian Refugees over the past few years who have come to faith resulting in baptism and confirmation.
- Numerous volunteers actively support all these services in all capacities. We're blessed with 4 lay readers, wise retired Clergy.



# CHILDREN AND YOUTH

St Michael's has a thriving team of people passionate about sharing the gospel with children. Over the last 25 years, the church has employed youth workers and family missionaries who have all been successful in bringing children, families and youngsters to God.

However successful, there is always a dip when youngsters go off to University or discover Sunday sports activities. We are financially committed to employing another missionary in the next 3 years; and, together with the New Priest in Charge, we need to think carefully about what we want this resource to be.

Currently:

- There are 3 age groups of children's activities every Sunday.
- Once a month, the children's team lead a Celebrate Café Church style service which has been well attended. This followed 18 months of Sunday afternoon children's sessions.
- The children's team is 15 strong with a further 4 people who help out with the arrangements.
- Congregation members lead local Rainbow, Brownies, Guides and Rangers providing a strong connection. The relationship with Beavers, Cubs and Scouts still needs to be built.
- The local Primary school ask Clergy to input regularly and attend special services put on for them in the church building.
- Safeguarding is central to our approach and the church has achieved the Gold standard on the Parish Dashboard.
- We need to answer the question of how we can grow our church younger, in partnership with others.







# COMMUNITY CONNECTION <sup>17</sup>

- There is a welcome for everyone at St Michael's.
- Friday 'Place of Welcome' – a warm space for company and chat.
- Our dedicated Pastoral Team extends care through visits across the community.
- We actively partner with local churches, Boldmere Primary School, care homes, and community organisations to share God's love in practical ways.
- Newly developed partnership with St Columba's Parish Church (oversight ministry).
- Churches Together partnership (local Sutton Churches).
- Further afield we support Boldmere Counselling Centre, Aston and Nechells Foodbank, our CMS Partner in Guatemala, Malawi, Refugee Support in Sutton Coldfield and a partnership with Hands at Work in Africa.
- The PCC recognise that our outreach into the community is paramount to its overall mission and we look forward to releasing and realising the full potential of our resources within the community, where empowered by the Holy Spirit, we can enthusiastically share God's love with all!



# REORDERING OF CHURCH BUILDING

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St. Michael's is embarking on an exciting journey to reimagine our church space, ensuring it serves both our congregation and the wider Boldmere community for generations to come. Our vision is for a welcoming, flexible space filled with life—for worship and a thriving community hub, radiating warmth and God's presence throughout the week.

Working with Architects, we are creating a sustainable and financially sound building suitable for the future. The PCC have approved funding up to £1.2m for phase 1 work. Future fundraising efforts will be needed to fully realise the project and vision.

The main changes will include:

- Air source heat pumps together with PV solar panels and a battery storage system. Removal of pews to enable under-floor heating and new seating.
- A car park with new access, increased toilet facilities and new kitchen facilities.
- Electrical and lighting upgrades.
- New glazed screens are planned between south aisle and nave and nave storage.
- Two new entrances to make the building welcome to all.

The Interim Priest in Charge will guide us through this transformation, the reordering itself will be managed by professionals and overseen by the PCC. We are excited for what lies ahead and look forward to bringing this element of vision to life!







# ECO CHURCH

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We are currently, an A ROCHA bronze award holder and working towards silver in all aspects of church life.

The re-ordering work will reduce our carbon footprint considerably whilst increasing our efficiency and reducing our utility costs.

We promote good stewardship of creation which includes purchasing fairtrade goods and recycling used items.

A four-acre bio-diverse Churchyard is habitat to some of the oldest species of trees in England and a wide variety of wildlife. Accessed by the public we strive to maintain this green space.







# BOLDMERE PARISH 20

St Michael's Boldmere Parish Church is within the Aston and Sutton Coldfield Deanery of the Diocese of Birmingham. Situated on the corner of Church Road and Boldmere Road at the south end of the busy High Street.

Boldmere is served by a Baptist Church, Methodist Church, URC and Roman Catholic Church, a Railway Station on the cross rail line between Lichfield and Redditch. Boldmere is within easy reach of an extensive motorway network and located 7 miles north of Birmingham City Centre.

The parish has a population of 14,284 and is made up from a varied mix of demographics including young families living side by side with retired people. A small amount of social housing exists to the west of the high street with the remaining housing mainly consisting of homeowners and rental properties.

Boldmere has a suburban village feel about it due to its busy high street with independent shops and a vibrant restaurants and bar culture, serving a largely residential area which includes primary schools and several care homes and retirement living complexes.

# VICARAGE

The Vicarage is an Edwardian 4 bedroomed detached house on Station Road Boldmere. It has three ground floor rooms, a large conservatory and fitted kitchen. There is a manageable garden, a garage and off-street parking for 3 cars.

It is a 5-minute walk from the church and a 5-minute walk to Wylde Green Railway station where the cross-city line runs from Lichfield through to Redditch via Birmingham City Grand Central.

The property is close to Boldmere Road shops, cafes, bars and restaurants and Boldmere primary school. Church families often send their children to the Deanery Primary School in Walmley. Sutton Coldfield has a range of well-regarded secondary schools.

The Vicarage is approximately 20-minute walk to the 2400 acre Sutton Park with recreational facilities.



# FINANCES



Income has fallen by £47k over five years, with voluntary giving dropping by c£5k p.a. placing reliance on investment income. From 2025/26 we will utilise reserves to fund our Vision and Common Fund.



Expenditure has been controlled over 5 years, mainly by not replacing staff and maintaining a static common fund. Key costs include the common fund, maintenance, utilities, and salaries.



To counter financial decline, the PCC have streamlined the property portfolio to upgrade the church, and strengthen congregation growth and community partnerships. Initially, reserves will fund this effort, with a 5-year deficit contingency in place.

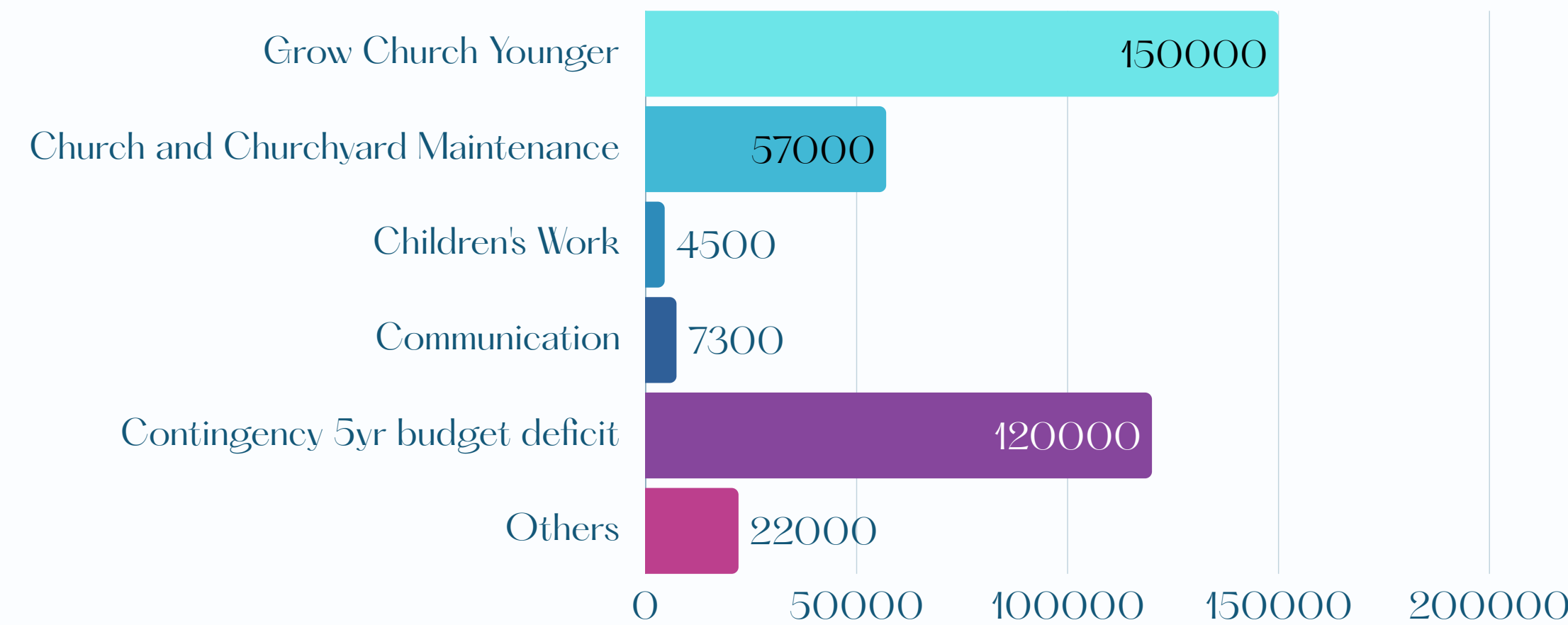
The PCC have stepped out in faith by increasing the 2025 Common Fund contribution to £65,000 approving a deficit budget.

There are 100 people on the 2025 electoral role with 61 regular givers

# DESIGNATED CASH FUNDS

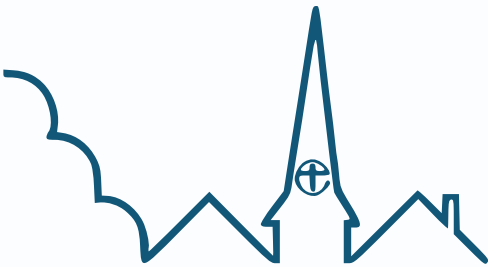
c£1.56m generated from sale of Church Hall, vicarage land, investment property and legacies.

Allocated as follows:  
Building Project: £1.2 Million



## RESTRICTED CASH FUNDS:

**Youth Work:** £11,000  
**Evangelical and Pastoral:** £6000  
**Others:** £3000



St Michael's Boldmere



# IS GOD CALLING YOU TO ST MICHAEL'S ?

We are so excited about the future God has in store for St. Michael's as a beacon of hope, faith and love right here in the heart of our community.

For further information about our church life visit our web site: [www.stmichaels.org.uk](http://www.stmichaels.org.uk)

