

## Parish Profile

This form is designed to give an overview of a parish to be used in a vacancy for the appointment of a new parish priest. It will be accepted as the "statement describing the conditions, needs and traditions of the parish" required by the Patronage (Benefices) Measure 1986. Please check all pre-populated data carefully and provide any corrections if needed. Additional information may also be appended.

### 1. Parish Information

1.a	Name(s) of parish(es):	Garforth									
1.b	Name(s) of parish church(es):	Garforth: St Mary the Virgin									
2.	Name(s) of other C of E church(es)/centres for public worship in the parish(es):	None									
3.a	Are you linked formally or informally with any other parishes in the benefice (Y/N):	No									
3.b	If Y, please give the name(s) of linked parish(es):										
4.	Deanery:	East Leeds									
5.	<b>Population:</b>  <i>[Information as of 2021 census. Please indicate if and how this might have changed]</i>	<div> Parish Population </div> <table> <tr> <td>Under 20</td> <td>3197</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20 to 64</td> <td>8318</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over 65</td> <td>3901</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>15416</td> </tr> </table> Occupied Households 6631 The population continues to grow due to increased housebuilding in the area.		Under 20	3197	20 to 64	8318	Over 65	3901	Total	15416
Under 20	3197										
20 to 64	8318										
Over 65	3901										
Total	15416										
6.a	Electoral Roll Number:	Garforth	94								
6.b	Date of Declaration:	28.4.24									

## 7. Worship Attendance

Please provide details of average attendance at Sunday and weekday services. Add any additional rows as required or if hand-written continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

### Average for the October Count 2024

Church	Service	Time	Number of communicants	Adult attendance	Under 16 attendance
Garforth	Sunday	8 & 10.30	44	67	9
Garforth	Weekday	9.30 HC etc	8	20	0

## 8. Occasional Offices

Please provide figures for the last 12 months. Add any additional rows as required or if hand-written continue on a separate sheet if necessary. **Taken from SFM 2024**

Church	Baptisms	Confirmees	Weddings	Funerals in church	Funerals taken by clergy not in church
Garforth	14		1	38	10

## 9. Communications

Please only include names and contact details that can be shared when this document becomes public. Add any additional rows as required or if hand-written continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

Church	Clergy	Licenced Lay Ministers	Lay staff eg Youth worker, Administrator etc	Churchwardens
0113 2877553	0113 2863737	Adrienne Doney	Jo Mitchelmore (Admin)	Avis Ball
		Hazel Booth		
		Carole Ross		
		Geoff Hale		

## 2. Parish/Community Information

1.a	<p><b>Briefly describe the demographic composition of the parish(es) (eg employment status, population ages, ethnic groups, home ownership, cultural diversity).</b></p> <p><b>2021 Census</b></p>	<p>Parish Population</p> <table><tr><td>Under 20</td><td>3197</td></tr><tr><td>20 to 64</td><td>8318</td></tr><tr><td>Over 65</td><td>3901</td></tr><tr><td>Total</td><td>15416</td></tr></table> <p>Occupied Households 6631</p> <p>Parish Ethnic Heritage Profile</p> <table><tr><td>Asian</td><td>182</td></tr><tr><td>Black</td><td>110</td></tr><tr><td>Mixed</td><td>227</td></tr><tr><td>White</td><td>14868</td></tr><tr><td>Other</td><td>30</td></tr></table> <p>Parish Religious Profile</p> <table><tr><td>Christian</td><td>8441</td></tr><tr><td>Buddhist</td><td>34</td></tr><tr><td>Hindu</td><td>45</td></tr><tr><td>Jewish</td><td>27</td></tr><tr><td>Muslim</td><td>65</td></tr><tr><td>Sikh</td><td>19</td></tr><tr><td>Other</td><td>55</td></tr><tr><td>None</td><td>5934</td></tr></table>	Under 20	3197	20 to 64	8318	Over 65	3901	Total	15416	Asian	182	Black	110	Mixed	227	White	14868	Other	30	Christian	8441	Buddhist	34	Hindu	45	Jewish	27	Muslim	65	Sikh	19	Other	55	None	5934
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Sikh	19																																			
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1. b	<p><b>Are there any specific issues you wish to highlight in relation to the above description (eg high unemployment)?</b></p>	<p>In the 2011 census, the population is described as mainly white and British. It has become slightly more diverse in the past few years. It is a high employment area with average unemployment lower than Leeds city averages. Housing is mainly owner occupied, private rentals, plus some local authority and housing association properties.</p>																																		

### 2. Other local institutions

*Please provide information and details (if known) of other important local institutions. Add any additional rows as required or if hand-written continue on a separate sheet if necessary.*

Institution	Quantity	Details
Schools (Primary and Secondary)	7	Garforth Academy – Secondary School Green Lane Primary Academy East Garforth Primary Academy Ninelands Primary School Strawberry Fields Primary School St Benedict's Roman Catholic Primary School SLP College of Dance and Theatre.

Youth Centres	0	
Hospitals	0	
Nursing/elderly care homes	7	St Armands Court The Hollies The Coach House Twelvetrees Meadowbrook Manor Springfield Augustus Court Daniel Yorath Head Injuries Rehabilitation Centre
Local Businesses		There are numerous small businesses as well as Well-known high street retailers. In addition, there is a small light industrial park
Neighbourhood initiatives (eg NWA)	3	Neighbourhood Elders Team (NET) Neighbourhood Watch Neighbourhood Planning Team
Local Associations (eg tourist groups, historic societies)	Numerous	Garforth Community Association Garforth U3A Garforth in Bloom Eco Friendly Garforth Garforth and District Lions In addition, there are numerous other associations, societies and clubs covering sport, music, drama, hobbies etc.
Other Christian Churches	4	Dayspring Garforth Methodist Church Garforth Evangelical Church St Benedict’s Roman Catholic Church
Other Places of Worship	0	
2.b	Do the clergy hold any civic responsibilities in relation to the above institutions or within the wider community? If so, please provide details. <i>Add any additional rows as required or if hand-written continue on a separate sheet if necessary.</i>	
The incumbent at St Mary’s normally organises the Community Act Of Remembrance which takes place at the war memorial sited within Garforth Municipal Cemetery		

### 3. Local religious partnerships

Please provide information on the parish(es) relationship with local religious groups. Expand the rows as required or if hand-written continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

3.a	Please state any involvement in local Churches Together	There is an active Churches Together in Garforth. The ministers meet to plan and pray together. There are ecumenical monthly faith lunches, Lent study groups, special services, Good Friday Walk of Witness, ecumenical stand at Garforth Gala and Carol singing in the main shopping area.
3.b	Please state any formal covenants held with other denominations	Leeds District Methodist Covenant.
3.c	Please state any informal ecumenical contacts held by the parish(es)	

### 3. Church Information

Please give details for each church individually by copy/pasting the table below or by repeating the information on a separate sheet.

Church name:		
A. Congregation		
i	What percentage of the congregation lives outside the parish?	13.83%
ii	Briefly describe the demographic composition of the congregation (eg employment status, population ages, ethnic groups, home ownership, cultural diversity, gender).	Mainly older white British retirees although there are also younger people and more families joining a fresh expression of church. Most of the congregation are homeowners and there are more women than men.
iii	How would you describe the worship tradition at the church?	It is neither high nor low.

B. Finance			
i	<p><b>What is the average regular weekly giving by persons in the parish(es) 16 years &amp; over?</b></p> <p><b>What (if any) proportion of this giving is gift aided?</b></p>	£17.89	25.57%
ii	<b>What is the date of the church's last stewardship campaign?</b>	September/October 2024	
iii	<b>How does the church supplement direct giving in order to meets its financial needs?</b>	Parish Centre Lettings, Weddings and Funerals plus social events and fundraising.	
iv	<p><b>What was the amount of working expenses paid to the clergy in the last financial year?</b></p> <p><b>Were these needs met in full? (Y/N)</b> <i>If N what was the estimated shortfall</i></p>	£1476	Yes
v	<p><b>Please provide details of the amount of share requested and paid:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>in last financial year (2023)</b></li> <li><b>in the current year (2024)</b></li> <li><b>in the next financial year (2025)</b></li> </ul>	<p>Requested</p> <p>£78,688.00</p> <p>£70,222.00</p> <p>£70,830.00</p>	<p>Paid</p> <p>£60,000.00</p> <p>£50,000.00</p> <p>£10,000.00 paid as at 18.3.25</p>
	<i>Please provide explanation for any discrepancy between requested and actual payments</i>	In 2024, we reordered the Parish Centre having received a legacy and grants. The largest grant was awarded subject to a set completion date. We had to cover the shortfall in grants received to ensure the work was completed on time.	
	<p><b>Do you anticipate meeting this year's requested payment in full? (Y/N)</b> <i>If N provide explanation</i></p>	At this stage in the year, it is difficult to predict the final outcome but we always try to pay as much parish share as our as cashflow permits.	
vi	<p><b>Are there any ongoing capital projects? (Y/N)</b> <i>If Y please give brief details of estimated costs and how these will be met</i></p>	No	

vii	<b>Please append a copy of the last PCC accounts.</b>	2023 accounts appended. The 2024 accounts are with our external auditor for examination.
viii	<b>Please provide details of the any overseas work supported by the Church including the value of any annual donations</b>	Hamlin Fistula £200.00 Christian Aid £283.32 Smile Train £200.00 Sightsavers £200.00 Christian Aid £200.00
ix	<b>Please provide details of the any mission agencies and charities supported by the Church including the value of any annual donations</b>	Seacroft Food Bank £200.00 Leeds Church Extension Society £200 Young Minds £397.60 Children's Society £397.60

## C. Buildings

i	<b>Please provide a general overview of the general state of repair of the church building and environs.</b> <i>This can usually be found in the 'Executive Summary' of the most recent Quinquennial Inspection report</i>	The general condition of St. Mary's is considered good. The PCC have an ongoing programme of repairs and are proactive in working through the advice of the previous quinquennial inspection. (Per the Executive Summary at the 2021 Quinquennial Inspection)
ii	<b>Please highlight any major maintenance requirements identified during the most recent Quinquennial Inspection</b>	The "urgent" work identified was the removal of the Japanese Knotweed and repair to the hole in the vestry steps. The knotweed was immediately dealt with by Leeds City Council. The Vestry step has yet to be repaired but has been protected from the elements. We need to repaint the gutters and downpipes and are currently seeking quotes. All identified repointing works - e.g. to the spire - have been completed.

## 4. Church Education and Social Provision

1.a	Name(s) of Church School(s) if applicable:	None
2.	How is the school governance structure organised? <i>eg aided, controlled, foundation</i>	N/A
3.	Approximately how many pupils are currently enrolled?	N/A
4.	What is the level of engagement between the church(es) and the school(s)?	N/A

## 5. Outreach and Mission

*Expand the rows as required or if hand-written continue on a separate sheet if necessary.*

1.a	Please provide details of any regular mission and outreach activities	<p>Services in Care Homes</p> <p>Home Communion for the sick and housebound</p> <p>Specific "Churches Together in Garforth" Events</p> <p>Mothers' Union – there is both an afternoon and evening group</p> <p>Café Connect – Part of the Places of Welcome and Warm Space initiatives.</p> <p>Experience Easter and Experience Christmas</p> <p>Special services for primary school children</p> <p>Pastoral Home Visiting team</p> <p>Assemblies in primary schools</p> <p>Support for other community groups such as Neighbourhood Elders Team.</p> <p>Food bank collection for East Leeds</p>
1.b	How are you helping people find out about Jesus?	<p>FunTots – pre-nursery age children</p> <p>Upper Room – group for ages 8 to 14 yrs.</p> <p>Bubble Church – Fresh expression of church aimed at young families.</p>
1.c	How are you helping people to grow in discipleship?	<p>Recommended Reading - Lent and Advent</p> <p>St Mary's Study Groups – Lent and Advent</p> <p>CTIG Study Groups - Lent</p> <p>2 people are members of Cursillo</p> <p>Growing Leaders Course</p> <p>Upper Room group – ages 8 to 14</p> <p>Sermons in church</p> <p>Confirmation preparation</p>



1.d	How are you helping people to grow in leadership?	3 people have attended the Leading Your Church into Growth (Local) Course 6 people are currently attending the CPAS Growing Leaders course Other specific diocesan training events
2.a	Are there any overseas link(s) with the parish(es)? (Y/N)	No
2.b	If Y, please give details:	N/A
3.a	Do you have an organised system to provide outreach and welcome to new members of the community? (Y/N)	Not as such but see 3b below
3.b	If Y, please give details:	We have a Facebook page advertising our services and events Evening prayer is live on Facebook Entry in "A Church Near You" St Mary's Website and people can sign up to receive our weekly newsletter
4.	What role do you play in meeting the needs of the local community?	The Parish Centre is well used by groups such as DramaKids, BabyBallet, Phonics Class, Zumba and PACT meetings. It is also used by an addiction self-help group. It is hired for funeral teas, baptism and children's birthday parties. A large number of funerals are held at the church.
5.	How do you engage with young people outside of church-based organisations? <i>eg open youth work</i>	Involvement with uniformed organisations. School assemblies School visits to church – e.g. Experience Easter and Christmas

## 6. Lay Discipleship and Participation

*Expand the rows as required or if hand-written continue on a separate sheet if necessary.*

1.	What are your education and training provisions for:	Details	Approximate numbers
		FunTots and Bubble Church	?
		Upper Room	Up to 8
		Church Services Growing Leaders Course. Study Groups Diocesan training Courses.	6  Varies
2.a	Please give details of any house/prayer groups	Lent and Advent Groups	
2.b	Are these groups led by lay or clergy?	Lay led	
3.a	How would you rate the strength of lay leadership?	Very good – knowledgeable and experienced Licensed Lay Ministers and Churchwardens.	
3.b	What is the source of lay leadership strength or weakness?	We have a strong ministerial team with 4 Licensed Lay Ministers who complement each other. Good delegation and support by previous incumbent to develop the team.	

## 7. Mission

*In this section you are encouraged to consider your future priorities and aspirations. You are invited to contemplate areas you feel need addressing, evaluate any limitations which may prevent you from addressing them, and envision what your new priest's role could be to help you achieve your ambitions. Expand the rows as required or if hand-written continue on a separate sheet if necessary.*

1.	Which areas of church life do you feel would benefit from further development in future?	Youth work Pastoral work Lay Training and Development Continued development of those attending Growing Leaders course
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2.	<b>What are the main areas of mission that you would like your new priest to prioritise?</b>	Community Outreach Youth work Pastoral Work Growing the church both numerically and spiritually
3.	<b>What are the biggest potential challenges which you and the new priest will need to address? Name and elaborate on no more than three</b>	Increasing income to meet Parish Share request. Church growth - age demographic of the church is such that there could be a significant reduction in the worshipping community over the next five years.

## 8. Additional Information

A large number of funerals are held at St Mary's each year which greatly impacts the workload of the incumbent. Only one LLM is involved in funeral ministry.

Age profile of the congregation is such that worshipping community could be noticeably reduced over the next five years which would impact income.

The church does not have large financial reserves.

A huge amount of work has been done over many years to ensure all the congregation is aware of the importance of safeguarding and that it is everyone's responsibility. We have had sermons about domestic violence and the need to eliminate gender-based violence within society. Approximately 33% of our congregation is DBS checked – for work with vulnerable adults, children's work and PCC membership.

Garforth population has continued to grow due to several new housing developments with more families moving into the area. There is great potential for church growth.

We have a regular service pattern that includes Holy Communion, Family Communion and Morning Praise. We also have Bubble Church which is a fresh expression of church and on-line services of the word and telephone services.

We have a well-developed and well-used audio-visual system in church and the Parish Centre. It is used in at all services and occasional offices.

We have an excellent, well-maintained website.

The Worship Attendance figures include those who attend our on-line and telephone services.

## 9. The New Priest

*Use this space to identify and list the qualities and skills you would like to see in the new priest. Continue on a separate sheet if necessary.*

Collaborative and inspiring leadership skills

Effective delegation skills - to continue the development of lay members of the church

Good verbal and written communication skills


Knowledge and ability to make good use of the technology in church and to continue to develop on-line/streamed services when appropriate.

Good Pastoral skills – important both for the existing congregation and the local community given the large number of funerals that are held at the church.

Change is inevitable and therefore effective change management skills are very important to engage the support of the congregation and wider community.

**Agreed by the PCC of St Mary's Garforth**

**On the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 2025 (subject to agreed amendments; now completed)**

**Signed:** 

**Print Name: Graham Williams**

**Office Held: PCC Secretary**

**Once completed and signed as agreed by the PCC, this form should be sent directly to the Archdeacon's office and to Gemma Shearwood:**

Gemma Shearwood  
Diocese of Leeds, Church House  
17-19 York Place, Leeds, LS1 2EX  
[gemma.shearwood@leeds.anglican.org](mailto:gemma.shearwood@leeds.anglican.org)

**Copies will be circulated by the office to the Patron and Bishop**

**Please make sure copies all PCC members retain a signed copy of this form for their records.**