

## **The Diocese of Manchester**

# **PARISH INFORMATION AND PROFILE**

**The benefice or parish of:**

**St John the Evangelist, Failsworth, Manchester.**  
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**Please return your Parish Profile when complete, together with any other  
requested papers, to:**

***The Bishop of Manchester:  
The Suffragan Bishop  
The Archdeacon.  
The Registrar***

***bishop.david@manchester.anglican.org  
bishopmark@manchester.anglican.org  
archrochdale@manchester.anglican.org  
Diocesan Registry, 5th Floor, Church House  
90 Deansgate, Manchester M3 2QH***

***The Patron – if applicable  
The Area Dean  
The Deanery Lay Chair***

***rev.nick@andrewes.org  
bmanilow07@aol.com***

**A hard copy needs to go to the Registrar.**



## **1. INTRODUCTION**

St. John's is an Anglican church and we are looking for a new priest to lead us in worship in the traditional Anglican way.

He or she must be a good communicator with the congregation and the PCC and lead us throughout all the various forms of worship during the church's year and to interact with our school and young families.

## **2. BASIC INFORMATION AND STATISTICS**

2.1. Full name of benefice or parish(es) – St. John the Evangelist, Failsworth.

2.2. Title of the post that is vacant – Parish Priest.

2.3. Name and address of patron – Bishop.

2.4. Archdeaconry, Deanery, and name of Area Dean - Rochdale, Oldham, Rev Nick Andrews.

*Please include the contact details (phone and email) of the Archdeacon and Area Dean*

Archdeacon – Cherry Vann, tel: 0161 678 1454.  
Email: archrochdale@manchester.anglican.org

Area Dean – Nick Andrewes, tel: 0161 624 1068.  
Email: rev.nick@andrewes.org.

2.5. Official clergy housing: address and brief description

The Rectory, Pole Lane, Failsworth, Manchester, M35

*Photo and description – Please see attached sheet headed :-  
"The Rectory, Pole Lane, Failsworth"*

2.6. Official population :- 10,475 (Estimated).

2.7. Number on electoral roll :- 86.

2.8. Average Weekly Attendance for the last 3 years :- 148.

2.9. Average Weekly Attendance of children and young people under 16 :- 35+

2.10. In the last twelve months, numbers (if applicable) of:

- a. those baptized :- 67.
- b. those admitted to holy communion before confirmation :- None.
- c. those confirmed :- 15.
- d. marriages :- 19.
- e. funerals :- 15 in Church, 6 at Crematorium.
- f. Christmas communicants (all services):- 305.
- g. Easter communicants (all services) :- 139.

2.11. Anglican churches and licensed places of worship in the benefice or parish(es) profiled here

- a. Name of principal church :- St. Johns.
- b. Approximate key dates for the building :- Built 1846.
- c. Approximate seating capacity:- 243.
- d. When was the last Quinquennial inspection done? What are the main things that the architect has highlighted as needing doing? How much did the architect estimate they might cost? What progress has been made thus far by the parish? – Jan 2019.

*A copy of the latest Quinquennial inspection of the church is available to visiting applicants*

- e. Name of any attached or nearby hall or other similar facility :- Mission Hall.
- f. details of other Anglican churches or licensed places of worship in the benefice or parish(es) profiled here

None

2.12. Details of publicity that the parish produces e.g. newsletter, magazine  
Parish Bulletin, Failsworth Focus, Website.

2.13. Address of website and other social media if applicable

Failsworth [St.John@aol.com](mailto:St.John@aol.com)

2.14. Names of churchwardens

Mr. Ken Barton.

Mr. Peter Kearey.

2.15. Names of parish representatives

Mrs. M Still.

Mrs K Nealon Marsh.

**3. PRIESTS (ORDINATION OF WOMEN) MEASURE 1993  
HOUSE OF BISHOPS DECLARATION ON THE MINISTRY OF BISHOPS AND  
PRIESTS 2014**

Since 17 November 2014 it has no longer been possible for a PCC to pass resolutions under the Priests (Ordination of Women) Measure 1993 or to petition under the 1993 Act of Synod for Extended Episcopal Oversight. It is no longer a requirement that parishes should consider passing or rescinding resolutions under the Measure at a Section 11 Meeting in a vacancy. Any new resolutions must now be passed under the House of Bishops Declaration on the Ministry of Bishops and Priests. A PCC, on grounds of theological conviction, may resolve to request that arrangements are made for it under the House of Bishops Declaration.

Under transitional arrangements, though, any resolutions passed under the Measure will be treated as if they are resolutions under the House of Bishops Declaration.

Please record details below if either,

a) any resolutions under the Priests (Ordination of Women) Measure or the 1993 Act of Synod were passed by the PCC prior to 17 November 2014 and have not subsequently been rescinded, or

b) any resolution under the House of Bishops Declaration on the Ministry of Bishops and Priests 2014 has been passed.

No Resolution passed.

#### **4. LOCAL COMMUNITY**

Failsworth has a proud history of independence as evidenced in the annals of history, incorporating the birthplace of Ben Brierley (writer of Lancashire dialect and Manchester Councilman), home of several of the Peterloo veterans and the fact that although it is part of the Metropolitan Borough of Oldham, it has a Manchester postcode and most residents refer to their postal location as Failsworth, Manchester. It is situated within the M60 orbital motorway with its' northern boundary as the River Medlock. It is divided into two wards, Failsworth West and Failsworth East.

Up until the early nineteenth century Failsworth was mainly an agricultural community but this changed with the onset of the Industrial Revolution and many cotton mills were built causing an increase in the population and the building of terraced houses.

Although the mills have either been demolished or utilised as warehouses or office space, the housing still remains, mixed with council estates built in the 1950's and 1960's, and later an amalgam of private housing.

The population is rising and estimated at around 10,475 (age range Mid 20's to mid 80's), ethnic residents make up approximately 5% of the population and nearly a quarter of households are made up of pensioners.

The Parish engages with the local community in various social events such as summer fairs, Christmas fairs etc. The Parish also includes a number of shops, offices and commercial premises, including a large Superstore, Post Offices, Driving Test Centre, Private Day Nurseries, sheltered accommodation for the elderly, A Health Centre, Library and Community Hall and sports and leisure centre.

#### **5. SCHOOLS AND VOLUNTARY GROUPS**

The Parish includes an infant and junior school which have now merged to form St. John's Academy although they are still on the old infant and junior sites.

Other schools within the Failsworth boundaries include Failsworth Secondary school, Wood House's Voluntary school, St. Mary's RC primary school, South Failsworth Community primary school, Props Hall primary school and Higher Failsworth primary school.

St. John's Sunday school takes place every Sunday except the third Sunday of the month when it is all age worship. All age worship is a family service which is usually a little bit shorter than the usual service aimed at including the children and encouraging Families to worship together.

St. John's has a thriving Sunday school with 76 child/young people presently on the register. Sunday school starts at 10am and usually lasts for approximately 40 to 45 minutes, when the Sunday school then joins the congregation to continue our Sunday worship. Within Sunday school we say our prayers, share bible stories, sing songs and host an array of activities based on the church calendar. Children and young people of all ages are welcome within Sunday school. All activities are based on the child/young persons stage of development. The children are an active part of the Sunday service and enjoy sharing what they have learnt, experienced and made with the whole congregation as much as the congregation enjoy experiencing this. The children sharing their enthusiasm for Christianity may include show and tell, explaining what they have learnt, sharing gifts they have made with the wider congregation or singing at the front of Church.

We celebrate the children's birthday in Church by bringing the children to the front (if they want to) singing Happy Birthday to them and presenting them with a birthday card and balloon.

The Sunday school will get actively involved with areas of the church calendar such as All Saints day by dressing up and undertaking a procession around church. Partake in the Palm Sunday procession to church. Undertake Christmas activities, including singing, nativity type activities and a Christmas party. Christingle is always a highlight for children and families within the Christmas service calendar. The service is always a very well attended service with a lot of the local community attending. Easter activities including Easter bonnet parade, Easter egg hunts etc.

Sunday school get involved in local event and activities including Failsworth carnival, when we have our very own St. John's Sunday School float. We have won an array of trophies from best over all float to best dressed float.

## **6. WORSHIP AND WORSHIPPERS**

Sunday worship consists of morning prayer at 9am followed by a service of Eucharist at 10am. On the first, third and fourth Sunday of the month a service of Holy Baptism takes place at 12.00 noon and in most cases is followed by a second service of Holy Baptism at 12.45pm. Morning prayer also takes place on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 9am, the Wednesday service being followed by a service of Eucharist at 10am.

We have a very good organist at St. John's and hymns old and new are sung at the Sunday 10am service. Special services take place at Easter and during Advent and Christmas.

Vestments are worn by ministers and the worship is central, based on Common Worship.

## **7. CHURCH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS AND GROUPS**

We have a Parochial Church Council (PCC) who provide the main leadership of the church. There is active association with the Scouts, the 7<sup>th</sup> Manchester Scout Group consists of 8 Scouts, 23 Cubs and 39 Beavers. The Scouts, Cubs and Beavers visit the church on alternate months working alongside with St. Mary's e.g. St. John's month 1,3,5,7,9,11 and St. Mary's month 2,4,6,8,10,12. The children who go to St. Mary's school receive a blessing within the service at St. John's and the same thing happens when St. John's school visit St. Mary's. The church hall is also used for various groups such a local Karate group.

We have an active fund-raising group who meet regularly and organise dances and social evenings. The social life of the church is vibrant.

## **8. NEIGHBOURING ANGLICAN CHURCHES AND PARISHES**

Neighbouring Anglican churches include Holy Family, Failsworth, St. Margaret's Hollinwood, Oldham and All Saints, Newton Heath, Manchester. Although there are close links with Holy Family, there are no joint projects or activities with other parishes, however, we have a Mission Action Plan (MAP) and working on Failsworth Churches working together. A copy of our Mission Action Plan is attached.

## **9. ECUMENISM**

There are other churches within and around the parish (St. Mary's Roman Catholic church, Hope Methodist, Ebenezer, Roman Road Independent church, New Life church, the Salvation Army etc.), and there are links forged with these, especially with regards to the Whit Walks and international prayer days. Whilst there is also a minister's forum, no other church uses St. John's building.

## **10. MINISTRY**

There are no ordained ministers, NSM's, OLM's or emeritus Readers at present in the parish and this aspect would be open to the incoming priest to discuss with the PCC, however, we encourage all ages of the congregation to be involved in all aspects of the church.

## **11. MISSION**

Please see the attached Mission Action Plan (MAP).

## **12. FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP**

Christian stewardship is practised every year, and we do have a planned giving scheme, which for 2016/2017 was £1928.83 and increased to £2546.62 for 2017/2018. Our gift aid for 2016/2017 was £16,015.50 and for 2017/2018 was £15,206.01. Our Parish Share has been paid in full for the last three years. The total sum of the parish priest's expenses has also been paid in full.

We have also supported overseas charities (Heart of the Father and Christian Aid) and local charities (Dr Kershaw's Hospice, MacMillan Nurses, the Children's Society and the Booth Centre for the homeless) as well as giving food aid to parishioners and those at St. Anne's, Rochdale. Our Lent collection boxes were used to support persecuted Christians overseas.

A copy of the annual accounts for the last three years is available.

## **13. THE NEXT PARISH PRIEST**

As a result of a request put to the congregation, the following points have arisen with regards to the appointment of the next Parish Priest. Whilst it is fully understood that the appointee will have his or her opinions and preferences it is desirable that he or she

- (a) Leads us in worship in the traditional Anglican way at St John's, which is central and Eucharistic in its' church tradition. It has been the practice of previous incumbents to implement some practices such as the use of incense and sprinkling of water, which is not appreciated by a number of the congregation, although this is not a universal criticism, and is open to discussion with the PCC. At this time the majority of feeling is towards a traditional liturgy incorporating some modern hymns and practices too.
- (b) Be available for Ministerial and Pastoral duties and attendance at all services wherever practicable, bearing in mind the need for statutory time off and unforeseen circumstances.

- (c) Be good at communicating with all age groups and appreciate the parish has a high percentage of elderly residents who need visiting and pastoral care, as well as encouraging young families (many of whom have children attending St. John's school) to take a more active part in church life. We already have an active team of home communicants and there is opportunity to develop more home and hospital visits and follow up pastoral visits to the bereaved.
- (d) Take an active role in visiting and developing links with St. John's school in consultation with the head teacher.
- (e) To work with the PCC and have good listening and delegation skills and encourage stewardship within the congregation.
- (f) If the new incumbent is married we would welcome an inclusive and active participation in the life of the parish.