

# All Saints Hesketh with Becconsall



**Parish Profile**  
**All Saints Hesketh with Becconsall**  
**Station Road, Hesketh Bank, Preston**

**March 2026**

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# 1. Letter from the Bishop

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 2000<sup>th</sup> 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*

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.

## **2. Introduction.**

Welcome to All Saints Hesketh with Becconsall, situated in the lovely semi-rural village of Hesketh Bank, West Lancashire.

Here at All Saints, in this our centenary year, we value our history of being a centre of Christian faith within our Parish, a community that has grown and continues to do so and thrive in this wonderful village.

Our church family are united and focussed on sharing the Gospel and we are seeking a leader who will join us in living and growing in faith, someone to smile with us in celebrating our vision for the future, which is to grow our church in faith and number, sharing God's love with the intention of making our church and building a true community hub. Where faith and fellowship extends and welcomes, where spiritual life grows and expands, where we believe "all are welcome in this place".

## **3. What is the PCC's vision for the future?**

Our vision is to grow our church in number and in depth of faith. As part of this we want to grow our presence in our wonderful community. We are looking for a leader who can help faith to grow and support us in building upon the foundations that we have built so far. We look to someone who is open to new ways of shaping and forming our church congregation. Our mission is to build a congregation more diverse in age and in that we seek to make a determined effort to encourage young people to remain in our fellowship. Our village is growing through new housing estates and we are looking for creative ways to reach out to the families who live there.

We are looking for a leader who is energetic, passionate and inspiring in seeking to grow the church whilst maintaining pastoral care and ministering to our current congregation. A leader who will encourage more collaborative cohesion amongst our church groups, uniting us in our mission. We are seeking a leader who is prayerful, biblically rooted and who is open to the Holy Spirit in leading and guiding us. We are looking

for a gifted communicator who will teach the Gospel clearly, expand our biblical knowledge and is open to do this in fun and creative ways.

We have a good number of occasional offices and we are looking for someone who will maximise these opportunities to preach the Gospel, build relationships and God willing, grow the church.

## **4. What is our Spiritual life?**

We are seeking to deepen people's discipleship through our Sunday teaching and also broaden our offerings of this by having small group bible studies in the future. We believe the power of prayer underpins everything we do and we are looking at ways to grow this as a communal activity.

We are blessed to have a team of Lay Ministers and a strong group of volunteers.

We have approximately eighteen young people in our church family who regularly attend our Sunday School. Sunday School meets twice a month during term time and enjoy Bible teachings and activities making faith fun and relevant to their lives. We have four volunteers who are all DBS checked and help in this teaching on a rota basis. Our young people play an active part in our family services with reading, prayers and acting as service helper. Each year our Sunday School Queen and retinue are chosen to represent our church and Sunday School, they visit other parishes, attend Garden Parties and Walking Days. We hold an annual Prize Giving service for our young people who attend Sunday School.

Our services – Sunday Service

9am Holy Communion -Book of Common Prayer

10.30am Holy Communion – Common Worship

On the third Sunday of the month the 10.30am service is a non-Eucharist morning service worship. We have several services that take us out into the community, including Plough Sunday where our service is held at a local farm, we also hold a Sunday service at All Saints Primary School and once a year we join with other local churches for our annual 'walk of witness'

We have three organists who work on a rota basis and we have a Bible study group who meet during Lent.

A Ladies Fellowship meeting is held each month and has 20-30 active members, they meet for prayers, worship and fellowship.

The Harvest Festival provides an opportunity to help others and provides an abundance of food for distribution to those in need of support. In November we hold our Remembrance Day Service to honour our war dead and we have a memorial monument in the church grounds. During Advent we hold a Christingle Service, Blessing of the Crib, Toy Service, Carol Service and a midnight Eucharist service on Christmas Eve and on Christmas Day our Eucharist service is held at 10am. All of these services are really well attended by people from our community and provide great opportunities for preaching the Gospel. We want to build on these opportunities to grow the church and introduce and share faith, openly, freely and be spirit led.

Recently, a social committee has been formed with the aim of fundraising and hosting events to engage with our community.

The church and hall are used by many different groups and organisations such as the Ladies Fellowship,

U3A, Girlguiding, Scouting, badminton etc. The hall is also a popular venue hire for birthday parties and other celebrations.



## 5. What resources do we have?

We have a dedicated team of two Church Wardens, seven members of the PCC, a Verger and Deputy Verger. We are blessed to also have four ALMs and two PTOs. We have a pastoral team who visit those who are sick or in need in our community. We are an outward facing Parish who actively support those in need with donations to a Foodbank helping local families in our community. We have links to the Friendship Foundation, supporting victims of trafficking and modern slavery. Our parishioners support other churches by volunteering with Holiday Bible Clubs and Breakfast Clubs.

The church buildings consist of the Parish Church, Church Hall and field, Rectory and a burial ground which is surrounded by the church garden and a car park.

The church building – The church is constructed from sandstone with a natural slate roof and was built in 1926, it seats 250 and is well maintained. There are new upholstered chairs, a small piped organ on the west gallery and six dedicated stained glass windows. The tower was added in 1935 to the west end of the church which houses a bell. The main entrance is situated through a porch and there is a second entrance through to the Lady Chapel. The church paths have recently been upgraded and now provide ramp access to the main entrance.



A raised Garden of Remembrance for the interment of ashes is located to the north side of the church. At the end of a short gravel track from the church is a large well maintained burial ground which is still in use. The church grounds are maintained by a paid grass cutter and volunteers.

The Church Hall – Built in 1958 and situated next to the church it has a pitched slate roof with a main hall which has a sprung dance floor, entrance foyer, toilets, a large purpose built stage with changing rooms on either side and a modern large kitchen. The hall has undergone extensive renovation in the last few years and is in excellent condition with upgrades to the kitchen, toilets and windows. A car park surrounds the hall and to one side there is a field. The church and hall are used by many different groups and organisations such as the Ladies Fellowship, U3A, Girlguiding, Scouting, Badminton etc. The hall is also a popular venue for birthday parties and other celebrations.



Our school – Hesketh with Beconsall All Saints Church of England school. ‘What you are is God’s gift to you, what you become is your gift to God’. The school is situated in the village of Hesketh Bank and is a short distance from the church. It is a Christian school committed to giving each and every child the best possible education, through which they can all achieve their potential as unique individuals. All Saints has a strong, caring and inclusive Christian ethos where every child really does matter. The school takes part in worship at the church during Christmas, Easter etc and children also perform at the church Christmas Fair and Garden Party.



Weekly giving is from the offertory plate and also payments direct into the parish bank account, increased planned giving and having a contactless payment facility is something we are currently exploring. We are also in the process of organising a stewardship campaign. Our parish share has previously been based on house for duty and payments to the diocese are up to date.

## 6 . What is the community we serve?

Hesketh Bank lies between Preston and Southport on the Irish Sea estuary of the River Ribble. Because of our position on the West Lancashire coastal plain the reclaimed marsh land is a very rich soil suitable for the farming of vegetables, which is the main economic activity in the area. Our population is just over 8000 as several modern housing estates and infill housing have been built, leading to our village being popular with commuters who work in nearby towns and cities.

The churches in Hesketh Bank consist of All Saints, Church of England on Station Road, the Methodist Church on Chapel Road and The Christian Fellowship Centre on Moss Lane, the local Catholic community is served by the nearby church in Tarleton.

Beconsall old church is now run by the Churches Conservation Trust and is opened for 'Old Church Sunday' each year on the anniversary of the congregation moving to the new church. At the bottom of Beconsall Lane is the Douglas Boatyard located on the tidal River Douglas where a full range of boat repair services and boat moorings have been provided for over 100 years.

We have a variety of local shops including a Post Office, Chemist and a Booths supermarket. Sports facilities include excellent sports fields with cricket and football teams, all weather football pitches and crown green bowling greens and a gym. The village has active Scouting and Guiding groups and also a nursing home caring for approximately 30-40 residents.

There are numerous public footpaths around the marshes with the newly created Henry Alty Way, a local walking path along the river. A RSPB nature reserve site is also situated on Hesketh Out Marsh.



## 7. Vicarage and Education Options

The Rectory is a modern detached and desirable family home, situated adjacent to the church hall and field. It is accessed via Silverdale, a small cul-de-sac. It has gas central heating with a combi boiler, there are four bedrooms and three reception rooms. At the side of the Rectory is a garage and gardens, there is ample off street parking.

There is one primary school in the village with a further two primary schools and a secondary school in the neighbouring village. Our nearest Church of England secondary school is in the nearby village of Croston.

All Saints C of E Primary School – [allsaintshwb.co.uk](http://allsaintshwb.co.uk)

Tarleton Academy – enquiries@tarletonacademy.org

Bishop Rawstrone Church of England Academy – bishopr.co.uk



## 8. Who is God calling

- We are looking for someone who has a deeply prayerful life which underpins all that they do and is willing to help the church grow in the life of prayer
- A minister who has a clear and deeply rooted biblically based faith, and shares the bible clearly and relevantly in everything they do.
- We are looking for someone who is open to the Holy Spirit and is led by the Holy Spirit in their daily life.
- We are looking for someone who is pastorally sensitive, with a heart for evangelism who enjoys meeting people and has the ability to nurture a diverse congregation.
- Someone who will grow and develop our outreach to the new housing developments, families and young people through involvement with the school and community.
- Someone who is completely at home with the church's evangelical outlook, who has a love and commitment for a variety of worship – modern and traditional, formal and informal, sacramental and non-sacramental.
- We need a good and organised leader who will work alongside our incredible team of volunteers but is also able to delegate and enable others to take an active role.
- We are looking for someone who is fun, energetic, enthusiastic and willing to smile with us and have fun with us. Someone to help us further engage with members of our community and build upon our mission within the Parish.

## 9. 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 over-arching 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](#)

## 10. 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.
- 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*