

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):	St Francis Fixby and St Hilda Cowcliffe												
1.b	Name(s) of parish church(es):	St Hilda Cowcliffe												
2.	Name(s) of other C of E church(es)/centres for public worship in the parish(es):	Not applicable												
3.a	Are you linked formally or informally with any other parishes in the benefice (Y/N):	Yes												
3.b	If Y, please give the name(s) of linked parish(es):	St Thomas Bradley												
4.	Deanery:	Huddersfield												
5.	Population: <i>[Information as of 2021 census. Please indicate if and how this might have changed]</i> <i>There is a new estate of up to 200 homes being built in Fixby.</i>	<table> <tr> <td>Parish Population</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Under 20</td> <td>823</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20 to 64</td> <td>2086</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Over 65</td> <td>1064</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>3973</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Occupied Households</td> <td>1619</td> </tr> </table>	Parish Population		Under 20	823	20 to 64	2086	Over 65	1064	Total	3973	Occupied Households	1619
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Total	3973													
Occupied Households	1619													
6.a	Electoral Roll Number:	27												

6.b	Date of Declaration:	24 March 2025
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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.

Church	Service (2025) to end July	Time	Number of communicants	Adult attendance	Under 16 attendance
St Hilda Cowcliffe	Holy Communion 2 nd , 3 rd , 4 th Sunday	9.45 am	11	11	1 occasional
St Hilda Cowcliffe	Evensong 1 st Sunday	5.00 pm	Not applicable	10	0
St Hilda Cowcliffe	'Time for God' 2 nd Wednesday	7.00 pm	Not applicable	8	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.

Church	Baptisms	Confirmees	Weddings	Funerals in church	Funerals taken by clergy
St Hilda Cowcliffe	2	0	0	0	2

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 <i>eg Youth worker, Administrator etc</i>	Churchwardens
St Hilda Cowcliffe				Rita Jones 14 Sunningdale Croft, HD2 2NX 01484 431391 jonesrita.uk@yahoo.co.uk
St Hilda Cowcliffe				Joyce Wild 10 Gleneagles Way HD2 2NH 01484 535204 joyceianwild@outlook.com

2. Parish/Community Information

1.a	Briefly describe the demographic composition of the parish(es) (eg employment status, population ages, ethnic groups, home ownership, cultural diversity).	Parish Ethnic Heritage Profile <table><tr><td>Asian</td><td>984</td></tr><tr><td>Black</td><td>113</td></tr><tr><td>Mixed</td><td>122</td></tr><tr><td>White</td><td>2614</td></tr><tr><td>Other</td><td>140</td></tr></table> Parish Religious Profile <table><tr><td>Christian</td><td>1683</td></tr><tr><td>Buddhist</td><td>4</td></tr><tr><td>Hindu</td><td>48</td></tr><tr><td>Jewish</td><td>5</td></tr><tr><td>Muslim</td><td>748</td></tr><tr><td>Sikh</td><td>255</td></tr><tr><td>Other</td><td>12</td></tr><tr><td>None</td><td>1019</td></tr></table>	Asian	984	Black	113	Mixed	122	White	2614	Other	140	Christian	1683	Buddhist	4	Hindu	48	Jewish	5	Muslim	748	Sikh	255	Other	12	None	1019
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1. b	Are there any specific issues you wish to highlight in relation to the above description (eg high unemployment)?	High proportion of elderly people in Cowcliffe (19.6% aged over70 and over). Less than half population are Christian (42.4%), 18.8% are Muslim and 25.7% have no religion.																										

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)	1	Fixby Junior and Infant School, Lightridge Road, Fixby, Huddersfield HD2 2HB
Youth Centres	2	Beavers, Cubs, Scouts meet at the Scout Hall, 112 Netheroyd Hill Road, HD2 2LX 101 st Huddersfield Rainbows, Brownies, Guides meet at St Hilda, Cowcliffe, HD2 2LZ
Hospitals	2	Huddersfield Royal Infirmary, Hospital & Clinics HD3 3EA Huddersfield Royal Infirmary A&E Dept HD1 5HH Calderdale Royal Hospital Hospital & Clinics HX3 0PW Children's Ward HX3 7LF
Nursing/elderly care homes	1	Jasna Gora, 52 Fixby Road, Fixby, Huddersfield HD2 2JQ

Local Businesses	34	Huddersfield Crematorium, Fixby Road Shepherds Arms Public House, Cowcliffe Hill Rd The Four Sons Restaurant, Clough Lane, Fixby Zaiqa – fully licensed Indian Restaurant, 467 Bradford Road HD2 2LL Cowcliffe Sports & Social Club, Netheroyd Hill Road, HD2 Fixby Stores, 57 Fixby Road HD2 2JB JJ Collins & Co. Ltd, Roofing Barland Shop Fitters Cowcliffe Pre School, Lightridge Road Stagecoach Huddersfield & Holmfirth – Drama Schools 1 Ark Group Ltd – Home Care Services Dantom Systems Ltd – Computer Support National Stop Smoking Centres –Therapy Fixby House Nursery, 66A Netheroyd Hill Rd Fixbees Daycare, 85 Fixby Road Le Ski – Tour Operators in Huddersfield, 139 Netheroyd Hill Road Go Shred Ltd – Recycling Brighthouse Driveways TWIG Outdoor Play, Outdoor activity organizer, 108 Netheroyd Hill Road Full Circle Ceilings, 103 Netheroyd Hill Rd Holistic Mediane Practitioner, Natasha Aspin, 101 Netheroyd Hill Road Dogo’s (dog walker) 11 Gleneagles Way Woodland Retreat, 276 Cowcliffe Hill Road ‘Swept’ (Chimney Sweep – Tony Mason) 74 Broomfield Road HD2 2HG ‘Luxe an Lush Lashes’, 4 Oakdean, HD2 2FA Yorkshire School of Martial Science, Lightridge Road, HD2 2HB Nurturing Children’s Services, Child Care Agency, 45 Kennedy Avenue, HD2 2HH PEAK Career Consulting, Career Guidance Service, 7 Sunningdale Croft, HD2 2NX Road Roamers Leisure, Vehicle Repair Shop, South Cross Road, HD2 2PH MT Cars, Knaresborough Drive, HD2 2PP Aim & Achieve Driving School, 90 York Avenue, HD2 2PP Arwa Boutique, 19 Knaresborough Drive, HD2 2PP New Phase Heating (Gas Engineer), 47 Knaresborough Drive, HD2 2PP Auto Fix (Motor Centre), 3 York Ave, HD2 2QR
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Neighbourhood initiatives (eg NWA)		Cowcliffe Community Park Scheme
Local Associations (eg tourist groups, historic societies)	8	Heritage Open Days – Kirklees Huddersfield Local History Society Huddersfield & District family History Society Huddersfield & District Archaeological Society Huddersfield Local Studies Library Heritage Quay Colne Valley Museum Tolson Museum
Other Christian Churches	1	His Way Christian Ministries
Other Places of Worship		There are 5 Mosques, just outside the parish boundary, in Hillhouse and Birkby
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>	
Not known		

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	Not recently
3.b	Please state any formal covenants held with other denominations	No formal covenant.
3.c	Please state any informal ecumenical contacts held by the parish(es)	Informal ecumenical links with the Methodists who worshipped in Cowcliffe before their church closed. We still welcome them to coffee mornings, luncheon club, special services and events.

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: St Hilda Cowcliffe		
A. Congregation		
i	What percentage of the congregation lives outside the parish?	24 %
ii	Briefly describe the demographic composition of the congregation (eg employment status, population ages, ethnic groups, home ownership, cultural diversity, gender).	85% White, 10% Black, 5% East Asian 29% Male, 71% Female 70+ 76%, 50-69 12%, 30-49 6%, <10 6% 88% Retired or semi-retired 88% Home owners
iii	How would you describe the worship tradition at the church?	Traditional/Modern
B. Finance		
i	What is the average regular weekly giving by persons in the parish(es) 16 years & over?	£9.08
	What (if any) proportion of this giving is gift aided?	93%
ii	What is the date of the church's last stewardship campaign?	
iii	How does the church supplement direct giving in order to meet its financial needs?	Rentals, fundraising through concerts, coffee mornings, card-making, preserve-making, alterations (dressmaking), Easyfundraising, and one-off donations additional to regular giving, providing refreshment stalls at community events.
iv	What was the amount of working expenses paid to the clergy in the last financial year?	In 2024, £354.30 paid for 2 clergy
	Were these needs met in full? (Y/N) If N what was the estimated shortfall	Yes

v	Please provide details of the amount of share requested and paid: - in last financial year (2023) - in the current year (2024) - in the next financial year (2025)	Requested £33,506.00 £14,964.00 £16,460.00	Paid £19,108.00 £14,964.00 £8,232.00 to end of June
	<i>Please provide explanation for any discrepancy between requested and actual payments</i>	St Francis, Fixby closed on 16 th July 2023. The deficit in 2023 was £14,398.00. However, the Diocese has written off £6,980.00 + £4,873.00, so the outstanding deficit is £2,545.00, providing the 2025 & 2026 Share is paid in full (which is the Parish's intention).	
	Do you anticipate meeting this year's requested payment in full? (Y/N) <i>If N provide explanation</i>	Yes	
vi	Are there any ongoing capital projects? (Y/N) <i>If Y please give brief details of estimated costs and how these will be met</i>	No	
vii	Please append a copy of the last PCC accounts.		
viii	Please provide details of the any overseas work supported by the Church including the value of any annual donations	2020: Tearfund £250 2021: Tearfund £108.75 2022: Toilet Twinning (Zambia & Uganda) £120 Christian Aid (Malawi) £180.00 (Separate fundraiser for medical equipment for the Ukraine) £423.50) 2023: Tearfund £100.00 Bible Society £100.00 Christian Aid £100.00 2024: Open Doors Charity £250.00 Mission Church in Nepal visited by former incumbent £350.00	
	Please provide details of the any mission agencies and charities supported by the Church including the value of any annual donations	2021: Kirkwood Hospice £91.25 Forget Me Not Children's Hospice £91.25 Platform 1 (Huddersfield) £108.75 2022: Andysmanclub £100.00 2023: Hand to Mouth Puppets £10.00 Salvation Army £100.00 Huddersfield Welcome Centre £100.00 Church of England Children's Society £90 2024: Christians Against Poverty £250.00	

C. Buildings

i	Please provide a general overview of the general state of repair of the church building and environs <i>This can usually be found in the 'Executive Summary' of the most recent Quinquennial Inspection report</i> Quinquennial 29 November 2024	1.01 Since the last quinquennial inspection, the church has been maintained in a good condition with a concerted approach to addressing maintenance and repair items. 1.02 Most of the works suggested in the previous quinquennial report have been addressed and this has put the church and surroundings into a good state of repair. 1.03 There is concerted effort by the Churchwardens and committees to repair, maintain and improve the church overall and a positive and planned approach has been adopted to achieve this end, together with an admirable fund-raising programme to finance these works. 1.04 This has all been achieved even though we have gone through the period of the world coronavirus epidemic. There were periods when funds could not be raised and works could not be undertaken. 1.05 In general, the building is in a reasonable condition to the external fabric other than strategic areas of repointing works required. There will in future years be the need to undertake some items of potentially high cost which will need to be planned. These are hopefully quite a way off but now is the time to start this planning and addressing how it will be funded. This will be a significant challenge if not planned for in the preceding years. Although this work will be beyond the next quinquennium, it is vital to start planning now and ring-fencing funding for maintenance and repairs. 1.06 The log book is currently up to date and needs to be used regularly. It is currently maintained in a good order to keep a record of works and to act as an aide memoir for regular works such as servicing dates and periods. 1.07 There are some repairs and items of maintenance that require undertaking, which have been identified in the main body of the report.
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ii	Please highlight any major maintenance requirements identified during the most recent Quinquennial Inspection Quinquennial 29 November 2024	None
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4. Church Education and Social Provision

1.a	Name(s) of Church School(s) if applicable:	N/a
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	Before Covid, we used to do regular prayer-card visiting in the summer months. We are hoping to restart that this summer on the new housing development. We just have a shortage of able-bodied people to do this. We run a variety of social groups to try and attract people into the church (See section 5.4) We have a church website, providing information about church services and activities. https://theparishofsthildafixbyandcowcliffe.com/
1.b	How are you helping people find out about Jesus?	
1.c	How are you helping people to grow in discipleship?	
1.d	How are you helping people to grow in leadership?	
2.a	Are there any overseas link(s) with the parish(es)? (Y/N)	No, but we support Eastern Europe through the Rotary Shoebox scheme

2.b	If Y, please give details:	
3.a	Do you have an organised system to provide outreach and welcome to new members of the community? (Y/N)	Y
3.b	If Y, please give details:	Where we know a home has changed hands, a welcome card is delivered. It details times of services and lists other organizations in the area, e.g. uniformed groups, etc.
4.	What role do you play in meeting the needs of the local community?	We provide a weekly luncheon club for (usually single) over people over the age of 65. We run a Book Club that has 12 members. We started a group called Cowcliffe Community Singers, which attends our Carols by Candlelight Service, and performs at fundraising concerts. The Singers also perform in local care homes. We also run a 'Stitch & Chat' group, which has both church and non-church members. Our monthly Coffee Mornings provide a meeting point for members of the local community, not all of them church-goers. We provide refreshments at community events, such as 'Party in the Park' or Cowcliffe Sports and Social Club Christmas Fair.
5.	How do you engage with young people outside of church-based organisations? <i>eg open youth work</i>	We invite Rainbows, Brownies and Guides to special services such as Harvest, Christingle, etc.

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
	Children (<i>eg Sunday School</i>)	Worksheets, child-friendly bible readings usually related to the readings for that week.	1 occasional

	• Young People (<i>eg Youth Projects</i>) • Adults (<i>eg Alpha</i>)	If any adults are interested, they can join groups at St Thomas Bradley. The majority of our adults are over 80.	None
2.a	Please give details of any house/prayer groups	None	
2.b	Are these groups led by lay or clergy?	N/a	
3.a	How would you rate the strength of lay leadership?	N/a	
3.b	What is the source of lay leadership strength or weakness?	N/a	

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?	We need to grow the congregation, particularly concentrating on attracting younger members and families. Younger people are needed to take on some of the administrative tasks currently carried out by a handful of people, half of whom are over 80.
2.	What are the main areas of mission that you would like your new priest to prioritise?	Prayer Card visiting. A visible presence at community events, such as Party in the Park and church functions, such as concerts. Pastoral care – visits and/or telephone calls Maintaining links with Fixby School

.	What are the biggest potential challenges which you and the new priest will need to address? Name and elaborate on no more than three	Growing the congregation Attracting younger members Pastoral Care
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8. Additional Information

Use this space to record any other information which you would like the Patron and the Bishop to be aware of regarding the conditions, needs, or traditions of the parish(es). Continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

We have a traditional Communion Service at 9.45 am on the second, third and fourth Sundays of the month with sung Gloria (when appropriate) and sung Lord's Prayer. A wide variety of hymns, both traditional and modern are chosen from a seasonal list of hymns. Clergy usually wear an Alb for this service.

On the first Sunday of the month, the 5.00 pm service is usually Evensong, sometimes substituted by a special service, for example Lammas Songs of Praise, Advent service, Harvest Festival, etc.

The 'Carols by Candlelight' service in December is usually decided in conjunction with the Musical Director of Cowcliffe Community Singers. This year it will be on the 3rd Sunday, 21st December at 5.00 pm.

The Christingle Service is our best attended service and is always held at 4.00 pm on Christmas Eve. Many people, who do not normally come to church, attend this service, regarding it as the 'start' of their Christmas.

'Time for God' is held at 7.00 pm on the second Wednesday of most months. It is led by a lay member of the congregation, who has been leading this service since 2006.

The hymns for all services, except 'Time for God' are on PowerPoint, usually prepared by the one of the churchwardens. We use a variety of service booklets appropriate to the season.

A weekly newsletter, containing the lectionary readings, is prepared by one of the churchwardens. Printed copies are available in church. The newsletter is also emailed to those on the mailing list and hand delivered to those not on email and unable to attend church every week.

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.

To be approachable, a good communicator across all ages, developing a good rapport with both church members and the community.

To be willing to attend both church and community events.

To bring new ideas on how to grow the congregation.

To respect the traditions and practices of St Hilda's Church.

To encourage and accompany lay members of the congregation with prayer card visiting.

To be administratively and managerially adept.

Ideally, someone who enjoys singing and is willing to lead the singing in the absence of a church choir.

Agreed by the PCC of St Francis Fixby and St Hilda Cowcliffe

On the 12th August 2025

Signed: _____



Print Name: Rita A Jones.

Office Held: Churchwarden and 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

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.