DIOCESE OF BRISTOL

TRANSFORMING CHURCH. TOGETHER.

VICAR

WROUGHTON AND WICHELSTOWE



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Thank you for your interest in this position. We hope this profile will help you with your ongoing discernment.

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Cover photo: Jason Spickett (Swindon from the Air)

FROM THE ACTING BISHOP OF BRISTOL

DIOCESE OF BRISTOL
TRANSFORMING CHURCH. TOGETHER.

Thank you for exploring this Parish Profile and for prayerfully considering whether God is calling you to Wroughton and Wichelstowe.

This is a single parish benefice with deep roots, faithful people and an exciting future. At its heart is a church community committed to placing Jesus at the centre of its life, welcoming all who come through its doors and serving its parish with generosity and joy. Throughout this profile, you will discover a congregation that values worship, discipleship, pastoral care, partnership with schools and active engagement with the wider community.

Alongside the established village of Wroughton lies the rapidly growing development of Wichelstowe, presenting a significant opportunity for mission, church growth and the formation of new Christian communities. The parish is already building strong relationships with schools, families and local organisations, and is seeking a priest who can help discern and lead the next chapter of this shared adventure.

The Diocese of Bristol is supportive, collaborative and committed to our vision of Transforming Church. Together which prioritises clergy wellbeing and coaching, The next Vicar of Wroughton and Wichelstowe will be leading a parish blessed with capable lay leadership, dedicated volunteers and a genuine desire to grow in faith and witness.

Be assured of my prayers in your discernment. May God guide you with wisdom, courage and peace as you seek to follow where Christ is calling.



With every blessing,

+Neil Swindon

THE RT REVD NEIL WARWICK
ACTING BISHOP OF BRISTOL,
AND SUFFRAGAN BISHOP OF SWINDON

AREA DEANS' MESSAGE

Thank you for taking the time to investigate the role of Vicar of Wroughton and Wichelstowe in Swindon Deanery.

Wroughton is on the outskirts of Swindon, an ever- expanding town, set in beautiful countryside and only a short distance from the delights of the Cotswolds and rural Wiltshire. There are plenty of good schools and many great job opportunities within Swindon, plus convenient transport links to London, Bristol, Reading and South Wales.

Swindon Deanery comprises 19 parishes and is one of seven deaneries in the Bristol Diocese. Our monthly chapter meetings are welcoming and supportive and our synod is keen to engage with issues which are relevant in the parishes, offering ideas and inspiration.

As the Diocesan strategy is taking root and flourishing across the diocese, the Swindon Deanery is seeking to find ways parishes can work together locally to implement Transforming Church. Together. Our local priorities include engaging with marginalised communities, schools, new housing estates (like Wichelstowe) and creation care. The parish of Wroughton and Wichelstowe have been instrumental in leading the deanery's eco-initiatives. We aim to work together across parish boundaries, where appropriate, for the good of Swindon. The unity we seek is not just within the Anglican church as in recent years there has been a greater desire for unity between many of the numerous congregations of different denominations within the town. This unity is particularly fruitful in the many Christian charities which seek to spread Christ's love to the disadvantaged in our community.

Wroughton is a distinct community within the deanery and borough of Swindon and the church retains the feel of an important building, community and catalyst at the heart of the village. This is a great gift for mission and community engagement, to young and old, and opens doors for the church. For the vicar, this more pastoral role is paired with the missional challenge of shaping a new congregation in the new and growing area of Wichelstowe, where links to the Church of England schools are emerging strongly and may be developed as a spring board for engagement with the local residents. The parish has a strong team to support their new leader in both established and pioneering ministry.

We will continue to pray for you and the parish as we seek the right candidate for this role and you seek the right parish for your ministry. As you seek God's calling, we hope that you will be inspired by all that He is doing in Swindon Deanery.

Yours in Christ
SALLY AND ELVEEN

REVD SALLY ROBERTSON AND **REVD ELVEEN MEAD**
CO-AREA DEANS OF SWINDON

THE DIOCESAN STRATEGY

TRANSFORMING CHURCH. TOGETHER began in 2021 with listening to God and to one another.

From these conversations, four guiding values were discerned. Creativity, Openness, Bravery and Generosity inspire a vision and strategy which seeks transformation across the whole Diocese by the grace of God. Each Deanery and Benefice is encouraged to work out what TC.T means in their particular context – the same principles can inspire and develop mission in very different ways.

With major financial support from the national church, the Diocese is offering support and resources in key priority areas of ministry.

These include:

- Enabling parishes to discern and implement vision
- Help for benefices with evangelism and discipleship
- Support for teams running New Christian Communities
- Volunteer training
- Supporting parishes with the care and improvement of church buildings
- Investing to become a Net Zero Diocese by 2030
- Addressing the church's history on racial justice and diversity
- Developing partnerships between the church and local communities
- Investment in under 18s work
- Investment in priority community parishes, church plants/grafts and Mission Areas
- Clergy coaching and wellbeing

This is a huge and exciting vision, which we can only attempt in the strength Jesus supplies through his Spirit.

DIOCESAN SUPPORT SERVICES

The Diocesan Support Services exist to support the mission of the church. Based at the Diocesan Office to the north of Bristol and made up of 90 employees and volunteers, the DSS serve ministers, parishes and schools by expressing vision, strengthening relationships, empowering people, maximizing resources and developing structures. We offer training, consultancy and advice. We manage many structural elements of the life of the Diocese.



BEING CLERGY IN THE DIOCESE OF BRISTOL

The Diocese of Bristol is presided over by the Acting Bishop of Bristol and Bishop of Swindon, the Right Reverend Neil Warwick. The Venerable Christopher Bryan is the Archdeacon of Malmesbury and the Venerable Becky Waring is the Archdeacon of Bristol. The Reverend Adam Beaumont is the Associate Archdeacon.









Pastoral care of clergy is primarily the responsibility of the Bishops, assisted by the Archdeacons, Area Deans and the Clergy Wellbeing Officer. Alongside one-to-one matters as they arise, an annual clergy wellbeing survey helps to identify themes affecting clergy and their families, which are then addressed appropriately.

There are many ways in which clergy are accompanied in their ministry. Every incumbent is invited to work with a coach as part of the Transforming Church. Together strategy. The Parish Development Officer works alongside clergy where support is needed to shape vision or mission. For those in positions of first responsibility, additional tailored input and development are provided. The Mission and Ministry team offers regular opportunities for ministerial growth for clergy and laity, and the Archdeacons, together with the TC.T team, host a Church Teams Day each year, resourcing parish officers in their roles.

The Property team is progressing a programme to move every parsonage house closer to carbon net zero, which, as well as reducing emissions, should also lower utility costs. They are also available to advise clergy on any housing concerns.

Occasionally, unexpected financial pressures may arise. In such circumstances, the Archdeacons can direct clergy to appropriate avenues of assistance and, where necessary, draw upon a discretionary fund to ease financial strain. These matters are handled confidentially, and clergy are encouraged to contact the relevant Archdeacon should such needs occur.

WELCOME

We are so pleased you are reading our profile. Over the last few months, we have been prayerfully discerning together what God may be calling us to become and to do to serve him in the coming months and years. We are praying for you too as you seek to discern God's calling on your life. Our vacancy has been a really positive time and we are really looking forwarding to serving alongside a new incumbent as we serve the people of Wroughton and Wichelstowe.







CHRIST'S CALL TO US

'A WELCOMING CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY'

OUR MISSION:

We seek to welcome people of all ages and stages of faith into God's family, proclaiming Jesus Christ, and raising up the next generation of disciples across both Wroughton and the new growing housing development of Wichelstowe.



OUR VALUES:

- Jesus at the Centre: through worship, prayer, music, Scripture and the Eucharist, we want to know Jesus and follow him.
- Welcome & Belonging: we welcome everyone with warmth and make space for different journeys and expressions of faith so all can belong.
- Love in Action: we serve our parish, working with schools, care homes, community groups and others to meet spiritual, practical and pastoral needs in our community.
- Grow Together: we grow as disciples through belonging to small groups, which offer deep relationships, spiritual encouragement and pastoral care for one another.
- Everyone Plays Their Part: we share leadership and ministry using the gifts God gives; together, we pursue justice, peace and reconciliation, and care for God's world as faithful stewards.

OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE:

- A thriving, all-age church family in Wroughton & Wichelstowe: centred on Jesus; welcoming everyone; growing in faith; and making Christ's love visible across the parish.

This ambition will require us to become more confident in speaking to people about Jesus, to prioritise our work to reach children, young people and families, to building a church community they want to belong to and invite others into, building on existing, and developing new links with schools in the village.

- A visible witness for Christ to the whole parish: With the expanding Wichelstowe development, we are excited by the imperative to serve that new community and to make Jesus known there too. We are already developing positive partnerships with the two Church of England schools as well as the community primary school, and opportunities are opening to serve the needs of that community. We are praying that a new worshipping community might form at the heart of Wichelstowe in the coming years.

THE PARISH



WROUGHTON

The ancient village of Wroughton is situated on the northern edge of the Marlborough downs in North Wiltshire. The village includes a mixture of older housing around the historic village centre and more modern housing further out including the former RAF sites to the south. Wroughton's demographic is broadly in line with the national average.

The village is a vibrant community with many clubs and societies. Local facilities include two small supermarkets, and convenience stores, a doctor's surgery, two pharmacies, pubs and both primary and secondary schools. The community centre is also the home of the parish council and the community library. There is a large supermarket in nearby Wichelstowe.





There are two other village churches; St Joseph's Roman Catholic Church which serves a wider area and Discovery Church, an independent evangelical church.

The housing on the former RAF sites comprise the older, former military quarters known as Langton Park and Thorney Park, in addition to the later redevelopment of the hospital site undertaken around the Millenium. Langton Park and Thorney Park have high proportions of social rented housing and all are challenged by limited facilities and bus service.

The remaining 545 acres of the former RAF maintenance base was purchased by the Science Museum and has been developed as the Science and Innovation Park, housing 96% of the Science Museum Group Collection. The development has become a significant cultural attraction within the Parish.





WICHELSTOWE

The new settlement of Wichelstowe in the northern part of the parish is still under construction and is separated from Wroughton itself by the M4 and a belt of farmland.

Wichelstowe has grown in three phases: East Wichel, completed in the early 2010s, is built round a new alignment of the Wilts and Berks Canal and includes mixed housing, a primary school, local shops, a dentist, and a pub. Middle Wichel, begun in the early 2020s and continuing, is also centred on the former Wilts and Berks Canal, has church primary and secondary schools, a supermarket and a large pub/restaurant with accommodation. West Wichel was only begun three years ago. Approximately 1600 houses of an eventual 4000 have been completed so far.

AROUND THE PARISH

The countryside is easily accessible; you can walk directly into the North Wessex Downs National Landscape Area with undulating farmland.

The large town of Swindon is close by with all its facilities including the designer outlet, railway heritage, theatres, and the football club alongside much more.

The traditional market town of Marlborough as well as Oxford, Bath, Bristol, and Reading are all within easy reach. Swindon train station is about 1 hour from London Paddington and 45 minutes from Bristol.







THE COMMUNITY

The wider community recognises the church as a key part of the village, the church building appears on the parish council logo, a steady stream of people visit the churchyard and church regularly and lots of folk from the community sponsor floodlighting in remembrance and celebration.



Being present within our local community is a very important part of our calling as God's people, we seek to join in with village life. Church members help lead and volunteer at many community activities including the carnival, the duck race, Willow-brook community gardens, and we contribute a scarecrow to the annual village trail.

We also offer events that are welcoming, joyful, and open to the whole community. The Pancake Races in Willow-brook Garden (which includes eating them!), a Pumpkin Party, and Easter and Christmas activity mornings.

We partner with Discovery Church in supporting Little Lambs, a weekly group for parents, carers, and toddlers, offering friendship, welcome and support.



Sharing what God has provided for us with others is an important expression of our faith and mission. We support the Swindon Food Collective, an independent food bank, and members of our congregation help both in Swindon and at its Wroughton hub hosted at Discovery Church. Volunteers from our church also support the Filling Station, a charity which provides food and essential items for people on the streets of Swindon. The Filling Station van and provisions will in future be stored in a shed behind the Church garage.

We have long-established links with the four care homes in Wroughton and are getting to know the new provision in Wichelstowe, offering companionship and prayer to our older generations. LLMs regularly visit and lead communion services. We are also launching a 'Cuppa and Chat' in the church hall to create space for the older members of our community to meet, talk, and enjoy a cuppa and cake together.

SCHOOLS

Schools are an important part of our shared life and ministry. There are four primary schools, one pre-school, a nursery, and two secondary schools:

WROUGHTON
Wroughton Pre-school
Tick Tock Playgroup
Wroughton Infant School
Wroughton Junior School
The Ridgeway Secondary School
WICHELSTOWE
East Wichel Primary School and Nursery*
Kingfisher CE Primary Academy*
The Deanery CE Secondary Academy
* Also has nursery

Our Open the Book teams regularly visit the primary schools, and the ministry team has a variety of interaction with them too. This includes inviting schools into church at festivals, leading collective worship in schools, and supporting RE lessons. We visit Wroughton Pre-school monthly to share stories too.



We are yet to build links with the Ridgeway School, but are very open to doing so. The relationships with the two new academies in Wichelstowe are newer and beginning to blossom. The Headteacher at Kingfisher Academy says:

'We look forward to continuing to strengthen the links between church, school and the wider community. These relationships are integral to how we live out our vision and values as a Church of England school, and we are excited to build on the connections we have already begun, deepening opportunities for collaboration and shared purpose in the future.'



Equally the new Headteacher at the Deanery Academy is keen to build a relationship in ways which enable us to support the school and enable wider community engagement for both the academy and the church. The headteacher says:

'The Deanery Church of England Academy looks forward to working closely with the Parish of Wroughton and Wichelstowe in a spirit of prayer, partnership, and shared vision. We are particularly keen to support ministry in schools, encouraging collaboration that enables young people to flourish and strengthens community life. We value the parish's unique contribution and active engagement in Deanery life.'

Both The Deanery and Kingfisher schools are part of The Park Academies Trust, and have a chaplain from the local Baptist church. The previous incumbent served as a governor at the Deanery and the school would be very open to this continuing.

CHURCH LIFE





PRAYER AND WORSHIP

The Eucharist and music are at the heart of the way we worship on Sundays, and we take pride in offering a spiritual home for everyone; those of different Christian traditions as well as those who are newer to church, and a such we have a variety of services, typically:

8am	BCP **Holy Communion** (Ist Sunday with ministry of healing) Except: 4th Sunday Morning Prayer
10am	**Parish Communion**, with organ, choir, and twice monthly Sunday Club for children. 10am services are live-streamed on You Tube. (Ist Sunday with ministry of healing) Except: 2nd Sunday, **Morning Worship**, all-age and informal, with contemporary music, and often lay-led.
6pm	Ist Sunday only: **BCP Evensong**

Twice a week we hold a quiet, reflective service of Morning Prayer in church, and the festival services are well attended, not least Christmas and Easter. We are blessed to welcome hundreds of people to our two annual Christingle services. On Good Friday we take part in an ecumenical walk of witness and service in the village centre. This allows us to show our community how important Jesus is to us.

The village Remembrance service begins with a procession from the church to the war memorial.

We meet monthly with members of Discovery Church for our Pray and Bless group to lift up the people of Wroughton and Wichelstowe in ecumenical prayer.



"WE ALWAYS ATTEND THE CHRISTINGLE SERVICE, IT'S PART OF OUR CHRISTMAS."

CHILDREN AND YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Our twice monthly Sunday club (Ist and 3rd Sunday) brings faith to life for children through story and play. We have pairs of volunteers to help the children engage with the Bible and learn about God and the world they live in. The club is currently held in the church and there are usually 4-7 children attending.

GROWING DISCIPLES

Our well established small groups offer opportunities for us to grow our faith, deepen relationships and support each other. There are three lay-led home groups, a group that meets on alternate weeks for Bible study in the church hall, and fellowship groups for men and women.

We are keen to explore Christian basics courses in the future having run youth Alpha in the past, and supported Alpha groups in partnership with Discovery church.

We place a high priority on encouraging and empowering people to use their gifts and, where called, to become leaders. We have raised up LLMs and sent out three people to ordained ministry in recent years.

> "WHEN I FIRST CAME TO THE CHURCH IT WAS THE WELCOME THAT MADE ME STAY."

We encourage people to use their God-given gifts to serve the church community. Our talented flower guild and enthusiastic bellringers play an important part in providing a warm welcome to our church building. A large number of people are involved in our Sunday services as intercessors, readers, servers and choristers. Many volunteers serve the church in other ways during the week.

Our dedicated Eco group champions environmental care for God's world and climate justice. They organise events and encourage church members to live more sustainably.
We have been awarded a silver Eco church award and are working on a plan to reach the more challenging gold award.

As a Fairtrade church, we prioritise ethical choices and encourage church members to do the same.

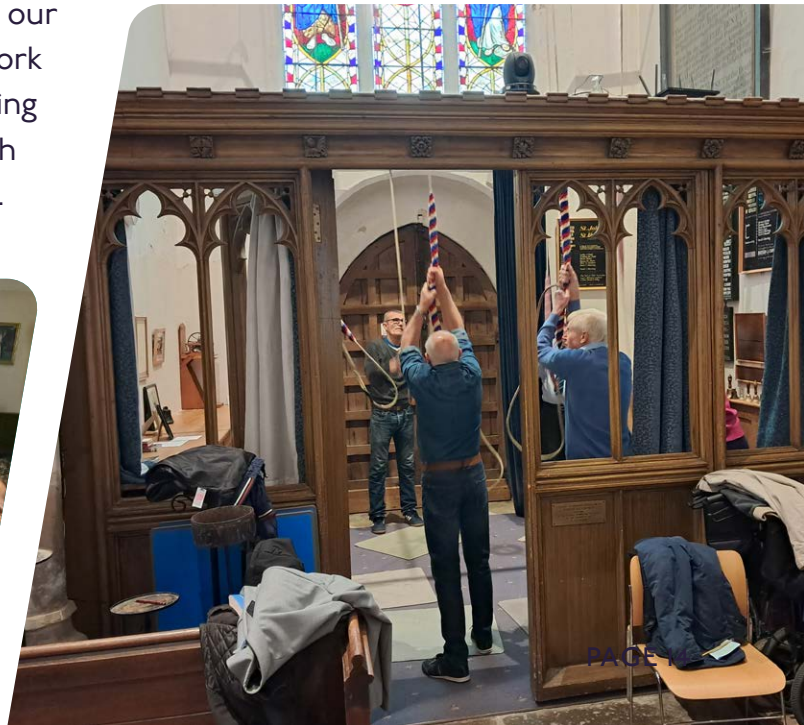


EVANGELISM AND MISSION

We seek to spread the Good News of Jesus through building friendships, reaching out through our involvement in the community and through our welcome at our services so that people may come to believe through belonging. However, we acknowledge that many of us don't find it easy to speak about our faith and would like to become more confident in taking the opportunities that arise to do so.

OUR SUPPORT FOR MISSION PARTNERS:

We offer financial and prayer support to several mission partners – Tearfund, The Church Mission Society, The Children's Society, Swindon Youth for Christ, and Bible Society (which is also based in Swindon). We enjoy hosting events that combine community socialising with vital fundraising. Many of our congregation also work out their faith by being actively involved with other local charities.



THE CHURCH BUILDING, CHURCHYARD, AND HALL



THE CHURCH BUILDING

The ancient church of St John the Baptist and St Helen is situated on the western edge of Wroughton village, but in the geographical centre of the parish. The grade I listed stone building, which stands on the site of an earlier Saxon building, dates from between the 12th and 15th centuries. The building was tastefully restored in the 19th century, opening up the space to provide a light and airy feel.

The church has a modern heating system and some low energy lighting. The organ is one of the finest pipe organs in the area. Seating is in the form of both fixed pews supplemented with stackable chairs.

We care for our building, prioritising repairs and maintenance with the help of our architect. We are currently liaising with the diocesan fundraising advisor to facilitate the replacement of an ageing south aisle lead roof covering as the first phase of a roof recovering project.

THE CHURCHYARD

There is a reasonably large churchyard which reached its capacity limit a few years ago. The churchyard was closed in 2022 and now the basic maintenance is the responsibility of Swindon Borough Council. This is supplemented by two local volunteer working groups, who tend the churchyard regularly and with a sensitivity to local ecology, with some parts left to promote biodiversity. The churchyard includes a small open Garden of Remembrance for the burial of ashes and there is still the occasional burial in existing family plots.



CHURCH HALL

The church hall, which is in the centre of the village, was built in 1874 as a school and purchased by the PCC in 1964. For over fifty years, Wroughton Pre-school has been based here, and the hall is used in the evenings by the church and other community groups.

The building comprises a large hall which is used most of the time and two smaller rooms which are not used to their full potential. The main part of the building had a new roof covering fitted in 2021, incorporating solar power generating slates. This means the building can generate most of the electricity it uses during the warmer seasons. We have also secured a planning permission to extend and further refurbish the building to accommodate larger preschool numbers and allow better use of the building by other community groups as well. This project will be subject to future fundraising from grant awarding bodies and other means. The hall also contains a fully equipped Parish Office.

OUR TEAMS

THE MINISTRY TEAM

Revd. Barbara Abrey (Associate Minister) is an OLM who presides at Holy Communion, preaches, takes christenings, funerals and weddings. She leads Community Engagement and Open the Book, is our contact with Wroughton Infants School, is a member of the Parish Leadership Team, Healing Team and Pastoral Team.

John Godfree is an experienced LLM and bellringer who regularly preaches and still takes funerals.

Tracy Mason is an LLM and retired special needs teacher. She leads the Sunday Club team and is the current link to both Wroughton Junior school and Kingfisher CE Academy School. She takes funerals and is also the Deanery sub-warden of lay ministers.

Mark Tubey is an LLM who started his career as a secondary school teacher before moving to become a multi-faith worker, going on to manage a number of church residential centres for children and post-graduate students. Now retired, he takes funerals, is our Parish Safeguarding Officer and leads the pastoral team.

Revd Dr Andrew Francis is a retired URC minister who lives in the Parish and regularly attends worship with us. During the previous vicar's tenure and during the vacancy, he has been granted Bishop's Permission to preach and lead non-Eucharistic worship (permission will fall when the new vicar is installed).





LEADERSHIP TEAM

Revd. Barbara Abrey (see The Ministry Team).

Peter Ferguson our Vice Chair who's focus on prayer and pastoral care is reflected in his church and community involvement

Lynn Hezlett (Churchwarden) is part of the Open the Book team and visits Wroughton preschool to read stories. She also helps with Little Lambs and is part of the choir.

Mike Mason (Churchwarden) is a Chartered Surveyor and chairs our buildings committee. He also leads our men's fellowship group that meets monthly.

Nick Orman (Treasurer) - as well as being our treasurer, Nick is also Deanery Lay Chair, a member of the Diocesan Finance Committee and an Honorary lay Canon. He also manages our AV and IT infrastructure and as a Chartered Civil Engineer assists in our buildings work. He is also a small group leader and part of the choir.

Lorna Robinson (PCC Secretary) - Lorna is a retired chartered accountant who also worked in education administration for a local authority. She is also a small group leader, part of the Open the Book team and the choir. She enjoys getting to know people and volunteers for the National Trust in visitor facing roles.

Other members of the PCC lead in areas including the Churchyard, and our Health and Safety officer is a retired H&S professional.

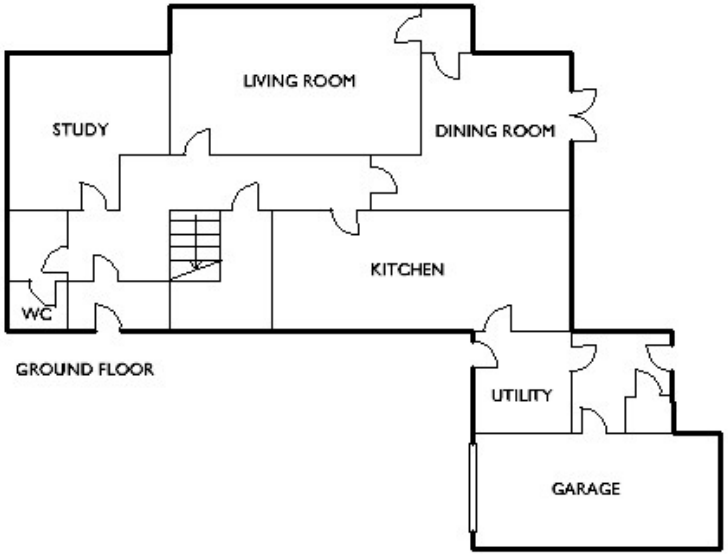
Janet Burchell is our part- time Parish Administrator. As well as assisting the vicar in general administration, Janet is the first point of contact for funerals, baptisms, weddings, hall bookings and other enquiries, manages payroll, does book-keeping and produces service sheets.

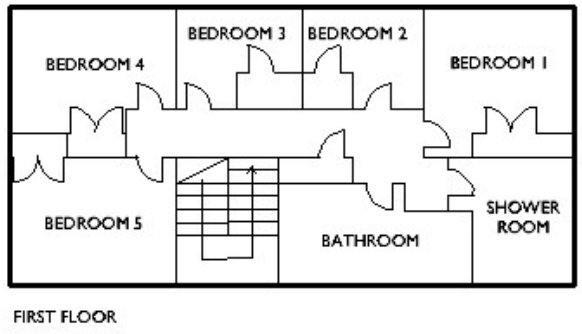
PARISH SUPPORT

We have a part-time parish administrator and a Director of Music who, alongside the ministry, leadership teams, and PCC, lead in many areas of parish life including buildings, the churchyard, finance, IT and governance. We very much believe in a culture of doing things together and in supporting the work of our Vicar. This includes taking the well-being of our incumbent and their family seriously. We pay full expenses and encourage the incumbent to take their days off, as well as their full leave entitlement, and to have a retreat once a year.

THE VICARAGE

Purpose built in 1968 and refurbished in 2018, the vicarage is a large 5 bedroom detached house close to the church. Solar panels have recently been fitted and there is a large rear garden.









PERSON SPECIFICATION

This specification is intended to be complementary to the Profile, the Ordinal, the Canons of the Church of England, the Guidelines for the Professional Conduct of Clergy, the Bishops Licence, and the Statement of Particulars issued to the successful applicant.

However, the following are the criteria that will be used to shortlist candidates. Should you chose to apply please consider in particular what relevant evidence you have of your experience in these areas and the impact this has made.

We are seeking a vicar who will lead the Parish of Wroughton & Wichelstowe in responding to Christ's call: welcoming people of all ages and stages of faith into God's family, proclaiming Jesus Christ, and raising up the next generation of disciples in both our established village community and the new and growing Wichelstowe development.







EXPERIENCE AND QUALIFICATIONS

Essential

- Ordained priest within the Church of England, or a Church in communion with it, or a Church whose orders it recognises.
- Satisfactory completion of Initial Ministerial Education.
- Proven experience of leading worship and preaching/teaching for a wide range of ages and backgrounds.
- Demonstrable commitment to growing discipleship, including developing or supporting small groups.
- Experience of enabling volunteers and lay leaders, with an empowering approach to leadership and ministry.
- Experience of community engagement and partnership working (ideally including schools, families' work, and/or chaplaincy links).
- Fully committed to excellence in safeguarding and leading a safe culture.

Desirable

- Experience of church growth in a changing context, fresh expressions, new worshipping communities, or mission in new housing developments.
- Leading a church in the continued discernment of its vision, developing strategy which looks to the future and builds on the past.
- The management of all aspects of church life, including the effective implementation of strategy and policy alongside the day-to-day governance and administration of parish life.
- Effective engagement with all ages, young and old, in order to help them to follow Jesus and serve others.
- Forming, growing and leading teams of people (e.g. ministry teams, PCCs, or other groups) in collaborative and developmental ways to encourage the best out of people, to share ministry, and to see everyone fulfil their own vocation.
- The oversight, coordination and management of employees and volunteers across a range of roles.
- Working creatively with schools to deepen school-church relationships, to add value to children's spiritual development, and to further embed community engagement.
- The formal line management and training of staff / ministers / parish officers.
- Experience of school governance.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES

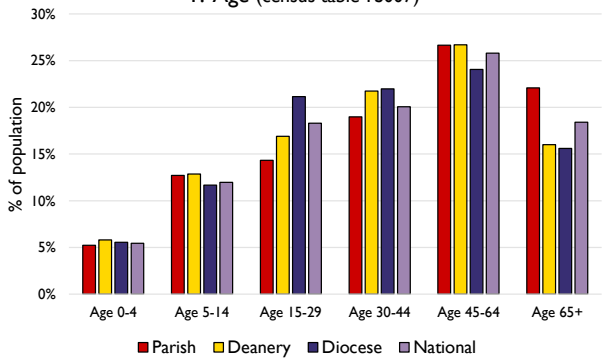
Essential

- Spiritual leadership: confident leading prayer and worship, teaching the Bible, and helping people respond to Jesus in everyday life.
- Mission and evangelism: able to speak naturally about faith, and to encourage others to do the same in a way that is warm, respectful and invitational.
- All-age discipleship: ability to shape ministry for children, young people and families, and to integrate generations in church life.
- Pastoral care: emotionally and spiritually mature, able to listen well, offer wise support, and oversee others in pastoral visiting and care.
- Collaborative leadership: able to build teams, share leadership, develop lay ministry, and create a culture where gifts are noticed and nurtured.
- Community partnership: confident engaging with schools, local organisations and civic partners to serve the community and build trust.
- Change leadership: able to lead through growth and transition, particularly as Wichelstowe develops, bringing people with you through clear communication and prayerful discernment.

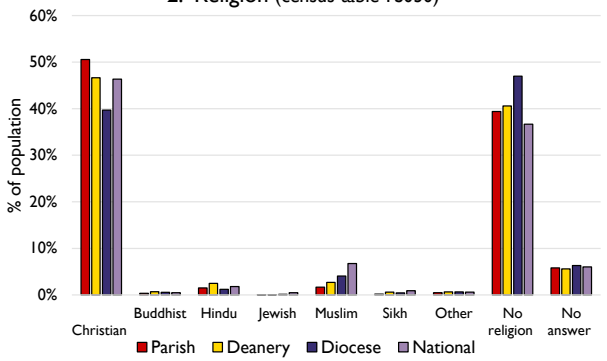
PERSONAL QUALITIES	**Essential** • Someone who has discerned a deep and rational sense of call to this benefice, and has a vision to build on our vision for the opportunities for mission and ministry here. • Warm and welcoming: approachable, hospitable and able to help others feel they belong. • Christ-centred and prayerful: rooted in Jesus, dependent on God in decision-making, and able to lead others into prayer. • Relational: enjoys being present in the community, building friendships across generations, and working well with colleagues and volunteers. • Humble and empowering: confident without being controlling, willing to share leadership, and quick to celebrate others' gifts. • Missional and outward-looking: eager to see faith shared beyond church walls and to make Christ's love visible in practical ways. • Resilient and hopeful: able to lead through complexity and change, persevering with joy and steadiness. • Collaborative: listens well, communicates clearly, and can hold unity while making space for different journeys and expressions of faith. • Someone who takes care of themselves, spiritually and physically, ensuring that they give appropriate time to personal relationships, family life, friendship, recreation, retreat, personal health, days off, and their full holiday entitlement. **Desirable** • A good sense of humour!
OTHER ESSENTIAL	• Able to travel independently around the benefice.

Census & deprivation dashboard for the Parish of Wroughton & Wichelstowe in the deanery of SWINDON

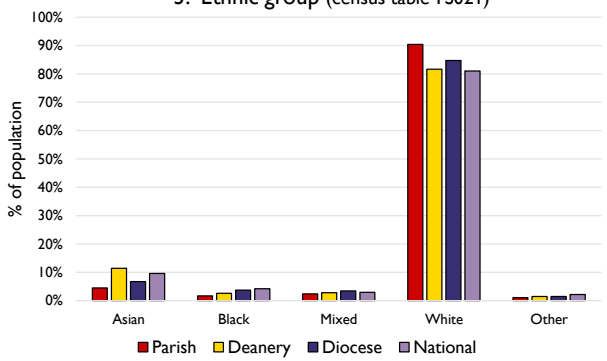
1. Age (census table TS007)



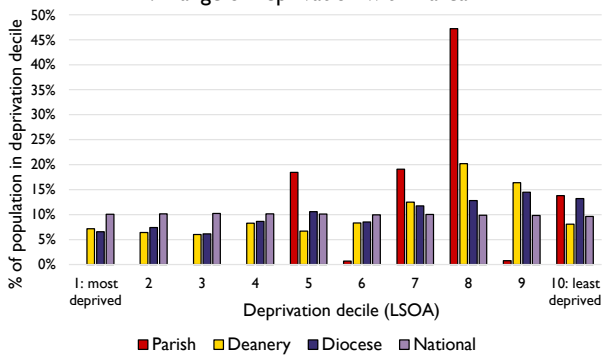
2. Religion (census table TS030)



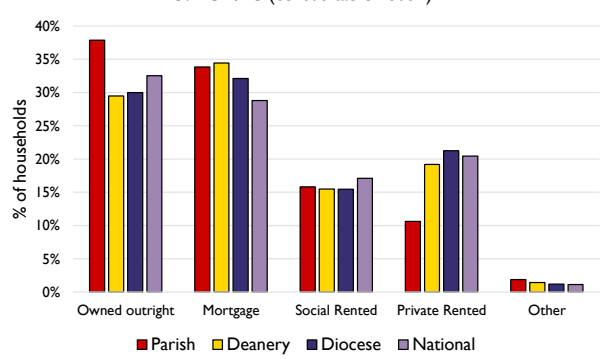
3. Ethnic group (census table TS021)



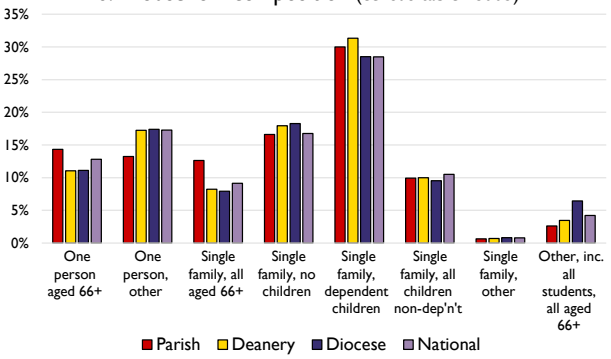
4. Range of deprivation within area



5. Tenure (census table TS054)



6. Household composition (census table TS003)



7. 2025 Deprivation Statistics

Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD), domains, and subdomains

IMD - overall deprivation	**76%**

Employment	**43%**	**Crime**	**49%**	**Health**	**40%**

Income	**42%**	**Education**	**49%**
Income: Children	**47%**	**Children & Youth**	**51%**
Income: Old people	**44%**	**Adult Skills**	**42%**

Housing & services	**75%**	**Living Environ't**	**93%**
Local services	**65%**	**Indoors**	**94%**
Affordability	**52%**	**Outdoors**	**62%**

Shading shows severity of deprivation compared to other parishes, colour-coded by decile.
E.g., a figure of 25% means that 25% of parishes are more deprived than this parish.

	Parish	Deanery	Diocese	National
Population	10,363	237,440	1,064,844	56,506,784
Occupied households	4,373	97,520	435,054	23,444,438
Living in households	10,277	236,200	1,043,877	55,542,946
Average household size	2.35	2.42	2.40	2.37
Living in communal estab'ts	86	1,240	20,967	963,838

Parish, Deanery and Diocese codes

Parish	550188	Wroughton and Wichelstowe
Deanery	55204	SWINDON
Diocese	5	Bristol

Parish size (square miles): 12.4
% parish land area urban: 1%

Notes & definitions

Census and deprivation statistics have been mapped onto parish boundaries (as of July 2026), and are therefore approximations.
Census data as shown in figures 1-3, 5, & 6 are derived from the **2021 National Census** produced by the Office of National Statistics (ONS).
For details from ONS see: https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/census_2021 .
Deprivation statistics are derived from the **2025 English Indices of Deprivation**, published by the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government.
More details can be found at: https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/english-indices-of-deprivation-2025 .
Deprivation statistics are published at LSOA level. Figure 4 shows how the population of each area is split across LSOAs, categorised by LSOA deprivation decile.
For more detailed parish census and deprivation information, see: https://www.churchofengland.org/about/data-services/resources-publications-and-data .
For an interactive map showing parish deprivation and census statistics, see: https://arcg.is/1WzGbO .

Parish deprivation statistics in figure 7 are colour-coded by parish deprivation decile:

< --Most deprived ---------- Medium ---------- Least deprived -->

Coding	5%	15%	25%	35%	45%	55%	65%	75%	85%	95%

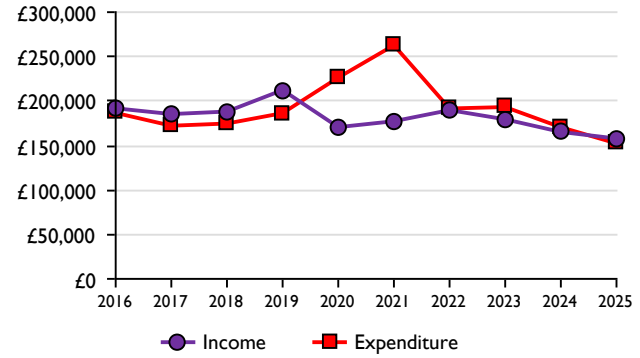
Produced by the Data Services Team, Church House, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3AZ. Date of production: 22/07/26. v02.03; index: 10943

Every effort has been made to ensure that data are reliable. We would be grateful to be notified of errors and to receive comments/suggestions: please email statistics.unit@churchofengland.org

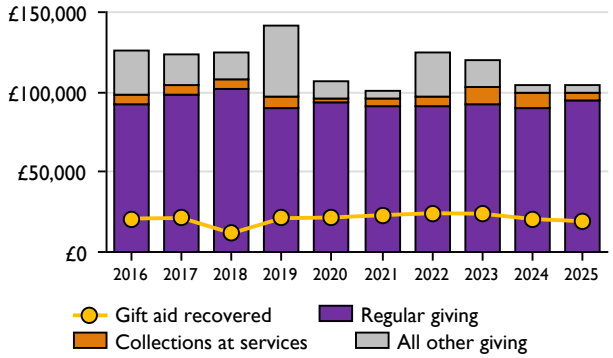
THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Finance Dashboard for the Parish of Wroughton & Wichelstowe in the Deanery of SWINDON

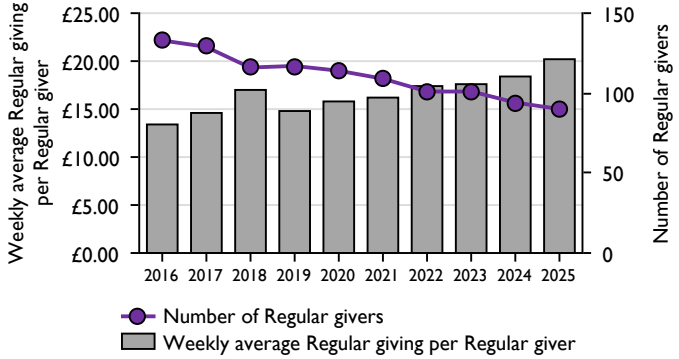
1. Total Income & Total Expenditure, 2016-25



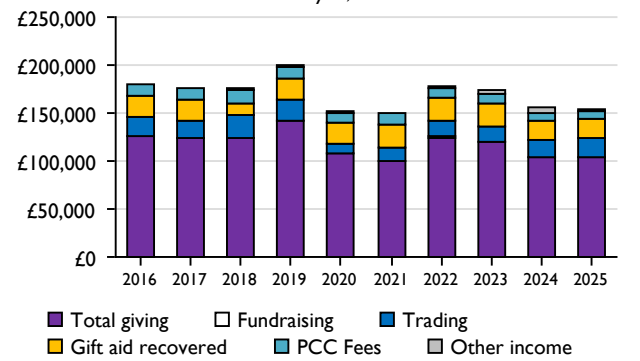
2. Giving & Gift aid recovered, 2016-25



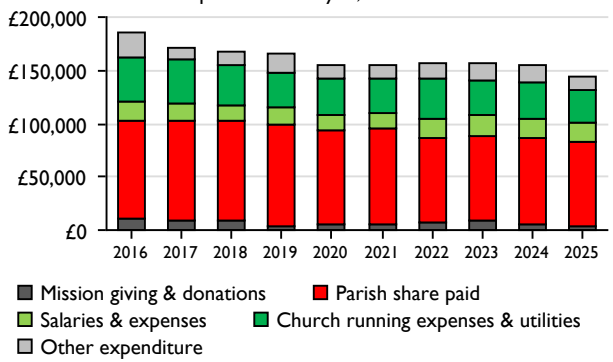
3. Regular giving & Regular givers, 2016-25



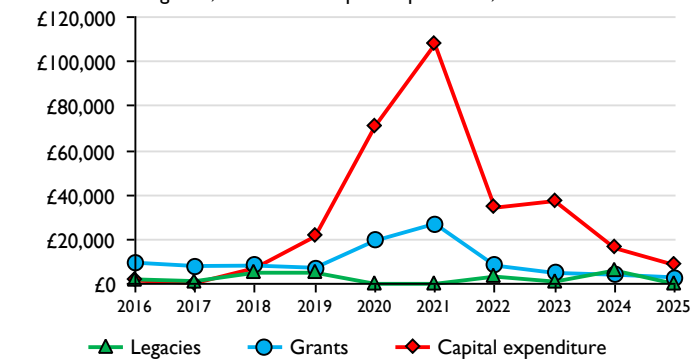
4. Income Analysis, 2016-25



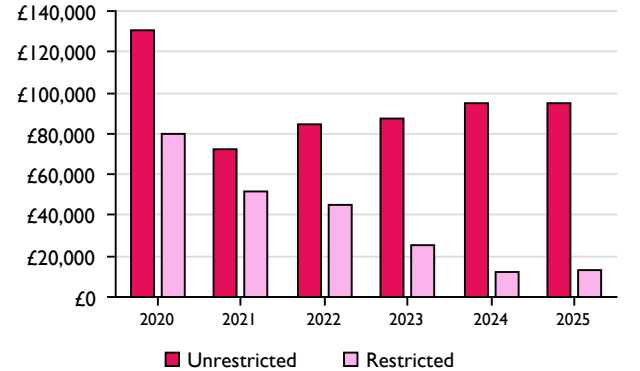
5. Expenditure Analysis, 2016-25



6. Legacies, Grants and Capital expenditure, 2016-25



7. Net Current Assets and Investment Balances, 2020-25



Weekly average Regular giving per Regular giver (2025)
Parish: 20.14
Diocese: 22.07

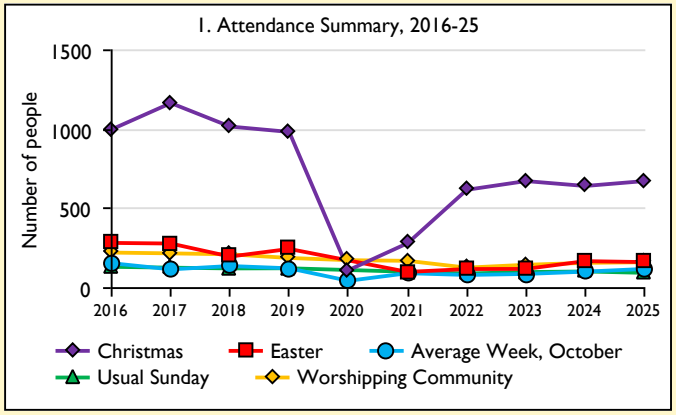
Number of churches in parish (2025): 1
Parish code: 550188

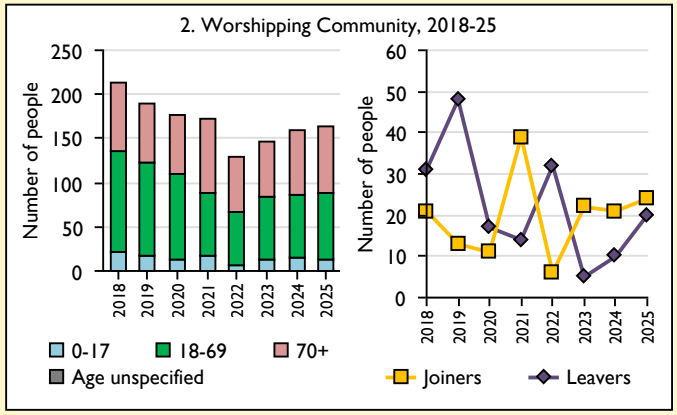
Notes & definitions
This dashboard contains figures as submitted by churches currently in the Parish; gaps may be the result of missing returns.
Graph 2 shows a detailed breakdown of the **Total giving** figure in graph 4.
Graph 4 shows income other than grants and legacies.
Graph 4: **Total giving** = Regular giving + Collections at services + All other giving, including special appeals
Graph 4: **Other income** = Dividends, interest, income from property + Any other income.
Graph 5 shows expenditure other than capital expenditure.
Graph 5: **Other expenditure** = Fund-raising activities + Mission and evangelism costs + Cost of trading + Other expenses.
Graph 5: **Running expenses & utilities** also includes governance costs.
Graphs 1-6: Unrestricted and Restricted amounts have been combined.
For further definitions please see the guidance notes attached to the Return of Parish Finance:

Variations from year to year may be the result of changes in the number of churches that submitted returns, or changes in parish/benefice structure.
Number of churches included in returns: 2016 1;2017 1;2018 1;2019 1;2020 1;2021 1;2022 1;2023 1;2024 1;2025 1.
Produced by Data Services, Church House, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3AZ. Date of production: 02/09/2026.
Every effort has been made to ensure that data are reliable. We would be pleased to be notified of any significant errors or omissions by email to statistics.unit@churchofengland.org

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

SfM Dashboard for the Parish of Wroughton & Wichelstowe in the Deanery of SWINDON





Parish Census and deprivation summary

Parish population (2021): 10363

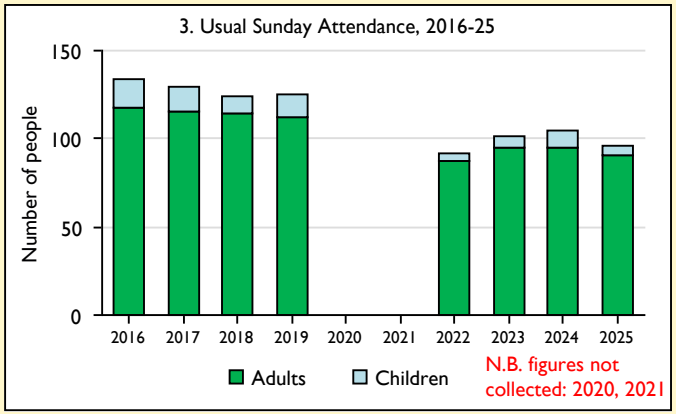
	Parish	Diocese	National
% aged 0-19	23%	23%	23%
% aged 20-44	28%	37%	33%
% aged 45-69	32%	28%	31%
% aged 70 & over	17%	11%	14%
% Christian	51%	40%	46%
% non-Christian religion	4%	7%	11%

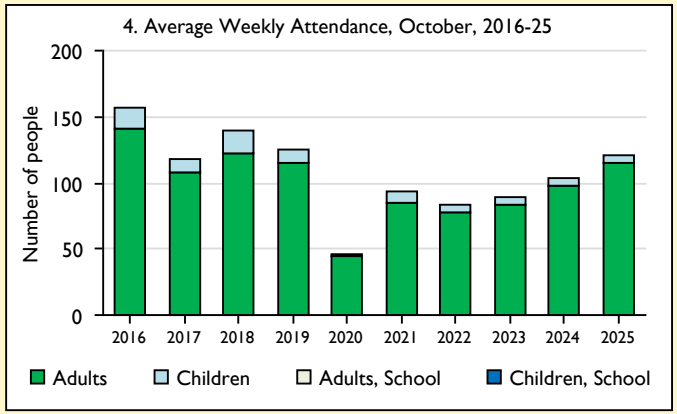
Parish deprivation rank (IMD 2025): 7059

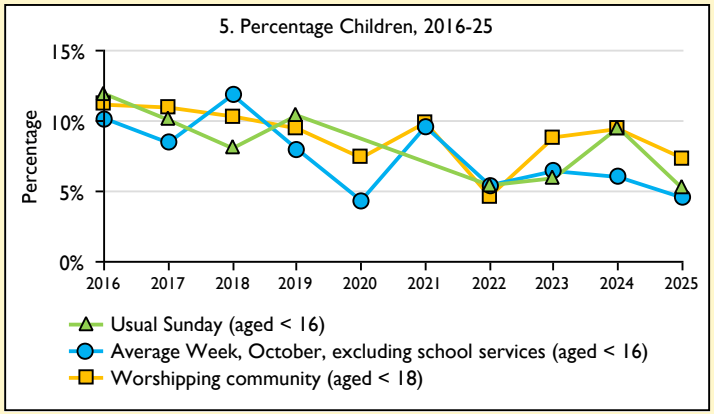
(1=most deprived parish in the Church of England, 12,134=least deprived)

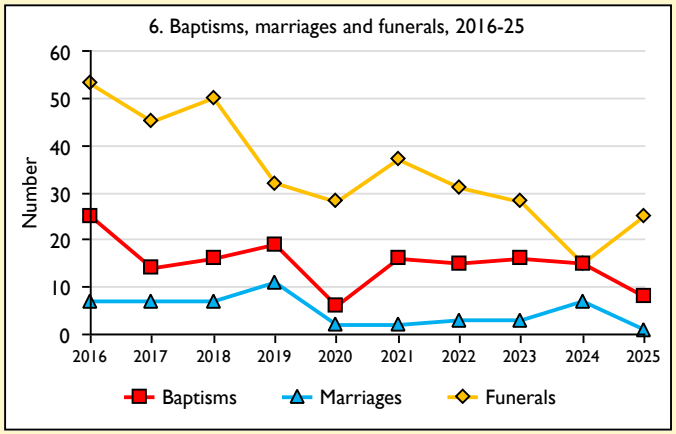
For more detailed census & deprivation info: see https://arcg.is/1WzGbO https://www.churchofengland.org/about/data-services/ and http://www.cuf.org.uk/shinealight/

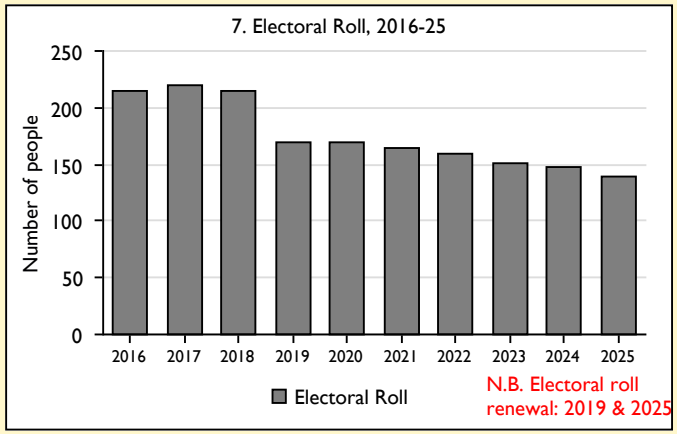
Number of churches in parish (2025): 1 **Parish Code: 550188**











This dashboard contains figures as submitted by churches currently in the Parish

Attendance statistics: taken from annual Statistics for Mission returns.

Average weekly attendance: attendance at Sunday and midweek church services & fresh expressions in October; Figs 1 & 5 do not include attendance at services for schools.

Easter: Easter Eve & Easter Day; Christmas: Christmas Eve & Christmas Day.

Baptisms: all baptisms & thanksgivings.

Marriages: marriages and services of prayer & dedication after civil marriages.

Funerals: those held in church & at crematoria/cemeteries.

Because of pandemic-related church closures, Easter figures were not collected in 2020.

Census data: taken from the 2021 national Census.

Deprivation statistics: IMD taken from the English Indices of Deprivation, published by the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, Oct 2025.

The above statistics have been mapped onto parish boundaries so are approximations.

For more information, see: https://www.churchofengland.org/about/data-services/

Variations in attendance from year to year may be the result of changes in the number of churches that submitted returns, or changes in parish/benefice structure.

Number of churches included in returns: 2016 1;2017 1;2018 1;2019 1;2020 1;2021 1;2022 1;2023 1;2024 1;2025 1.

Produced by Data Services, Church House, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3AZ. Date of production: 02/09/2026.

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THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

NEXT STEPS

Thank you for reading this far, we are praying that our profile has helped in your discernment about this role. We pray too that God is putting a deep sense of call into the heart of the person who will be our next Vicar.

If you would like an informal conversation about the role then please contact The Ven Christopher Bryan, Archdeacon of Malmesbury, **christopher.bryan@bristoldiocese.org**

To apply for the role, please visit **https://pathways.churchofengland.org/en/jobs**

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