

# All Saints Hesketh with Beconsall



## Parish Profile

**All Saints Church, Hesketh with Beconsall  
Station Road, Hesketh Bank**

**July 2025**

Website: [Hesketh with Beconsall All Saints - A Church Near You](https://www.heskethwithbeconsall.org.uk/)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/AllSaintsChurchHwB/>

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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. Vision 2026 sets before the churches of Lancashire 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 as we look towards our centenary in 2026. 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 2000th 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



*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*

- 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.

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 'England in miniature' 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.

As you will see as you read this profile, St James' is an active church in a rural setting, which combines a valuing of established patterns and community life with an openness to new initiatives – one recent example is a new youth and family service (30@5) to replace the Sunday School. The school is a key partner, and the parish is part of a deanery which is friendly and mutually supportive. We are praying for a priest with a heart for rural ministry who will love the community and will also continue to lead the congregation in its commitment to see new and deeper disciples of Christ."

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. What is the PCC's vision for the future?

All Saints, Hesketh with Becconsall Church is set within the rural village of Hesketh Bank in West Lancashire. All Saints is a 'low' evangelical church and our parishioners are committed to faith, fellowship and caring for those in our community and beyond.

It's Church, Church Hall and Grounds are well maintained, cared for by a paid gardener and church volunteers. Under the guidance of the Church wardens and PCC our finances are in good order and is constantly under review.

We have strong links to our primary school other churches within our community.

We have begun our search for a new Priest through firstly a prayer gathering and we believe that God will help us to find the right person. Someone who can lead us, help us to grow in faith and will be able to help us to build on the foundations that have been laid so far.

### MISSION STATEMENT

***To love God and to love one another***

## MISSION ACTION PLAN

To build a congregation more diverse in age and to make a determined effort to encourage teenagers and young people to remain in or return to our fellowship by;

- The Sunday School leaders attending the annual children's conferences, looking at different material for Sunday School with more variety, such as animated bible stories, "Open the book", and different activities, etc.
- To explore the costing and provision of a screen in the church hall to assist with religious education.
- To keep records and for 3 years to send annual baptism anniversary cards. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> year to send the parents a warm invitation for them and their child to attend Sunday School and the Family service providing full details.
- To be more proactive advertising events using social media, such as the Hesketh bank and Tarleton and the All Saints face books.
- To concentrate on growing our church community and spreading God's word long term by;
- Reinstating the All Soul's service. To keep records and to send invitations to all families who have been bereaved within the last 12 months. At the service to look out for them and make them very welcome, inviting them to other services.
- To ensure that the minister who is carrying out a funeral service, when meeting the family, always gives them a copy of an appropriate booklet such as "The story" or "Journey of life".
- To ensure at baptisms and weddings suitable booklets are always given to the families.
- To purchase a display rack, to be put at the back of the church, for support cards about going through problems in life and to ensure that these are given out appropriately.
- To develop a designated team of people who will be proactive at social occasions, chatting and welcoming visitors and encouraging them and their families to attend church.



### 3. What is our Spiritual life?

The Church buildings consist of the Parish Church, Church Hall and field, Rectory and a burial ground surrounded by Church gardens and a car park. There is a dedicated team of two Churchwardens and seven members of the PCC. We are blessed to also have three ALM's, three PTO's and one ALM in training. We are a 'low' Evangelical Church where cassock & surplice and chasubles are worn.

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 a Foodbank helping local families in our community and 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.

We have approximately 18 young people in our church family who regularly attend our Sunday School. Sunday School meets twice a month during term time and enjoy age appropriate Bible teachings and activities. 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 attendants are chosen to represent our Church and Sunday School, they visit other parishes, attend Garden Parties and Walking Days.

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

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 difference groups and organisations such as the ladies fellowship, U3A, Girlguiding, Scouting and badminton etc. The hall is also a popular venue hire out for birthday parties and other celebrations.



*Sunday School Queen 2025*

## **Our Services - Sunday Service**

- 9am Holy Communion - Book of Common Prayer
- 10.30am Holy Communion – Common Worship and Morning Worship.
- On the third Sunday of the month the 10.30am service is a non Eucharistic morning service worship.

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

Our year of worship has a number of events which take us out into the community. At Pentecost we join with two other local Churches to walk through the village as witness to our Christian faith. Plough Sunday is celebrated at one of our local farms and attracts many of the local farming community, and Old Church Sunday in July sees us processing to our former Church to celebrate a Eucharist service there. Accompanied by our local Silver Band we mark the anniversary of moving from the old Church to the new Church.

We hold an annual Prize Giving service for our young people who attend Sunday School. Our Sunday School children and young people also take an active part in worship at the 10.30am non Eucharistic Service. They read the Readings, collect offerings and act as service helper. We are very blessed that we have the use of a projector and screen so that the Christian message is both visual and verbal.

There are many other services throughout the year, which are well attended and celebrated. 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 is held at 10am.



*Christingle Service*



## 4. What resources do we have?

### 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. A tower was added in 1935 to the west end of the Church and houses a bell.

The main entrance is situated through a porch to the south side between the nave and the tower, there is a second entrance through to the Lady Chapel. The Church paths have recently been upgraded and now provides ramp access to the main entrance, there is also a hearing Loop availability. Health and Safety issues form part of the PCC monthly agenda and any issues identified are dealt with as a matter of priority.

The Quinquennial is due this year, any issues/work highlighted in the previous report has already been carried out, Church cleaning is carried out weekly by volunteers. At present, the Church is only open for worship, the PCC wish to open the Church during some weekday evenings and this is currently under discussion.

A raised Garden of Remembrance for the internment 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 and well maintained burial ground which is still in use. The Church grounds are maintained by a paid gardener and volunteers.

### The Church Hall

Built in 1958 and situated next to the Church this 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 hall is well used by the Church and community groups.



*Church Hall and Field*

## **The Church Finances**

With the good stewardship of our PCC and Churchwardens we are in a good financial position. At the present time we do not hold Stewardship campaigns but do hold Gift Days, the wider community have always been generous with donations for work that needs to be carried out on the Church and Church grounds. There are no large expenditures planned at this time.

In addition to the funds from the offerings during our services money is raised at our annual Garden Party and Christmas Fair. A social committee has recently been formed with the aim of further fund raising, events held so far have included afternoon tea, beetle drive and a silver band concert.

## **Our School**

### **Hesketh with Beconsall All saints C.E. School**

***‘What you are is God’s gift to you, what you become is your gift to God’***

Hesketh with Beconsall All Saints is situated in the village of Hesketh Bank 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. More recently staff and children have helped lead Sunday’s Morning Worship.

## 5. 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 has 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*

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 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. There is also Scouting and Guiding in the village. We also have a nursing home with 30/40 residents.



*Douglas Boatyard*



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 at the bottom of Dib Road.



*RSPB Nature Reserve*

## 6. Vicarage and Education Options



*The Rectory*

The Rectory is a modern detached and desirable family home, situation 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 – [www.allsaintshwb.co.uk](http://www.allsaintshwb.co.uk)
- Tarleton Academy – [www.tarletonacademy.org](http://www.tarletonacademy.org)
- Bishop Rawstrone Church of England Academy – [www.bishopr.co.uk](http://www.bishopr.co.uk)

## 7. Who is God calling

- 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.
- A minister who has a clear and deeply rooted biblically based faith, secure and confident in their spiritual life.
- Someone who will continue with our outreach to the young through involvement with the school and Sunday school.
- 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 is able to delegate and enable others to take an active role in the life of the Church and its activities within the Parish.
- We are looking for someone who is friendly and enthusiastic with a vision to help us further engage with members of our community and take our mission out into the Parish.

## 8. Vision 2026 and Beyond

Vision 2026 is an agenda for growth agreed by the Blackburn Diocesan Synod in 2015. It challenges our parishes to be healthy churches that transform their communities as we look ahead to our diocesan centenary in 2026. It also lays out four ways in which this overarching goal can be achieved: Making Disciples, Being Witnesses, Growing Leaders and Prioritising Children and Young People.

All that we do as diocese is focussed on the delivery of Vision 2026. For example:

- To make disciples we have 'Fruitful', our Diocesan Discipleship app and distribute 10,000 devotionals at Lent and Advent which enable people to study the scriptures. We also encourage greater generosity in the giving of time, talents and treasures.
- To be witnesses, many parishes are setting up new local congregations at different times and in different places to reach out to new groups of people as well as showing God's love in action through projects that meet human need.
- New leaders are emerging as we seek to enable and equip those God is raising up for lay and ordained ministry. Our M:Power course is a nationally innovative resource for forming leaders from working class backgrounds.
- Our focus on children and young people is enabling creative thinking to raise up a new generation for Jesus Christ. This is supported by our family of church schools, teams to support children and youth work and our Youth Forum.

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.

As we look to 2026 and the completion of the current Vision, the Diocese has embarked on a major programme of listening to God and our communities as we discern when he is leading us next. This is being supported in prayer as we observe a Year of Prayer for Growth and Renewal in 2025.

Our Diocesan Vision Prayer is:



***“Heavenly Father, we embrace Your call for us to make disciples, to be witnesses,  
to grow leaders and to inspire children and young people.***

***Give us eyes to see Your vision, ears to hear the prompting of Your Spirit  
and courage to follow in the footsteps of your Son, our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen”***

You can find out more by visiting the Vision 2026 pages on our website:

[www.blackburn.anglican.org](http://www.blackburn.anglican.org)

## **9. 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*