



parish profile

Trinity Cheltenham
2025/26

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Introduction

As churchwardens of Trinity Cheltenham, we are delighted to introduce this Parish Profile and to share something of the life, character and calling of our church at this significant moment. It is a moment marked both by gratitude for all that God has done among us and by anticipation for the new chapter that lies ahead.

As part of the Diocese of Gloucester, Trinity Cheltenham is committed to sharing fully in the Diocese's mission to know Jesus Christ and to make Him known. We long to see our communities grow and flourish as people encounter Jesus and find new life in Him.

Over recent decades, Trinity (and St Paul's) have journeyed through seasons of growth, renewal, healing and change. We have seen God's faithfulness in every season—gathering a vibrant and diverse church family, shaping ministries that reach across Cheltenham and beyond, and deepening our shared commitment to encounter Jesus, make disciples and join in His mission. Today, we are two distinct churches with a shared DNA: evangelical, charismatic, missional and wholeheartedly dependent on the leading of the Holy Spirit.

We recognise that this profile is extensive. It reflects not only the breadth of ministry and responsibility across the two churches, but also the passion, prayer and dedication of hundreds of members, volunteers and staff, who serve week by week. We believe that God has placed us here—right in the heart of Cheltenham and in the heart of its communities—for such a time as this.

Following Andrew Blyth's move to serve in the Diocese of Oxford, we have been prayerfully discerning the kind of leader God is calling to join us next.

We are seeking not simply a successor, but an apostolic Team Rector/Lead Pastor who will lead us with fresh vision, spiritual maturity and courageous faith into a new season of mission, growth and planting. We long for a leader who loves God's presence, lives with integrity, generosity and holiness, and can wisely steward the opportunities and complexities of a large, multi-ministry church. This person will shape culture, empower leaders, and release our whole community to follow Jesus more deeply and advance His Kingdom—here in Cheltenham and beyond—through Spirit-led, transformative ministry.

As you read this profile, our prayer is that you will sense not only who we are, but what God is doing among us—and perhaps even hear the stirrings of His call. If He is leading you toward this role, we trust that He will make that clear to you with peace and conviction.

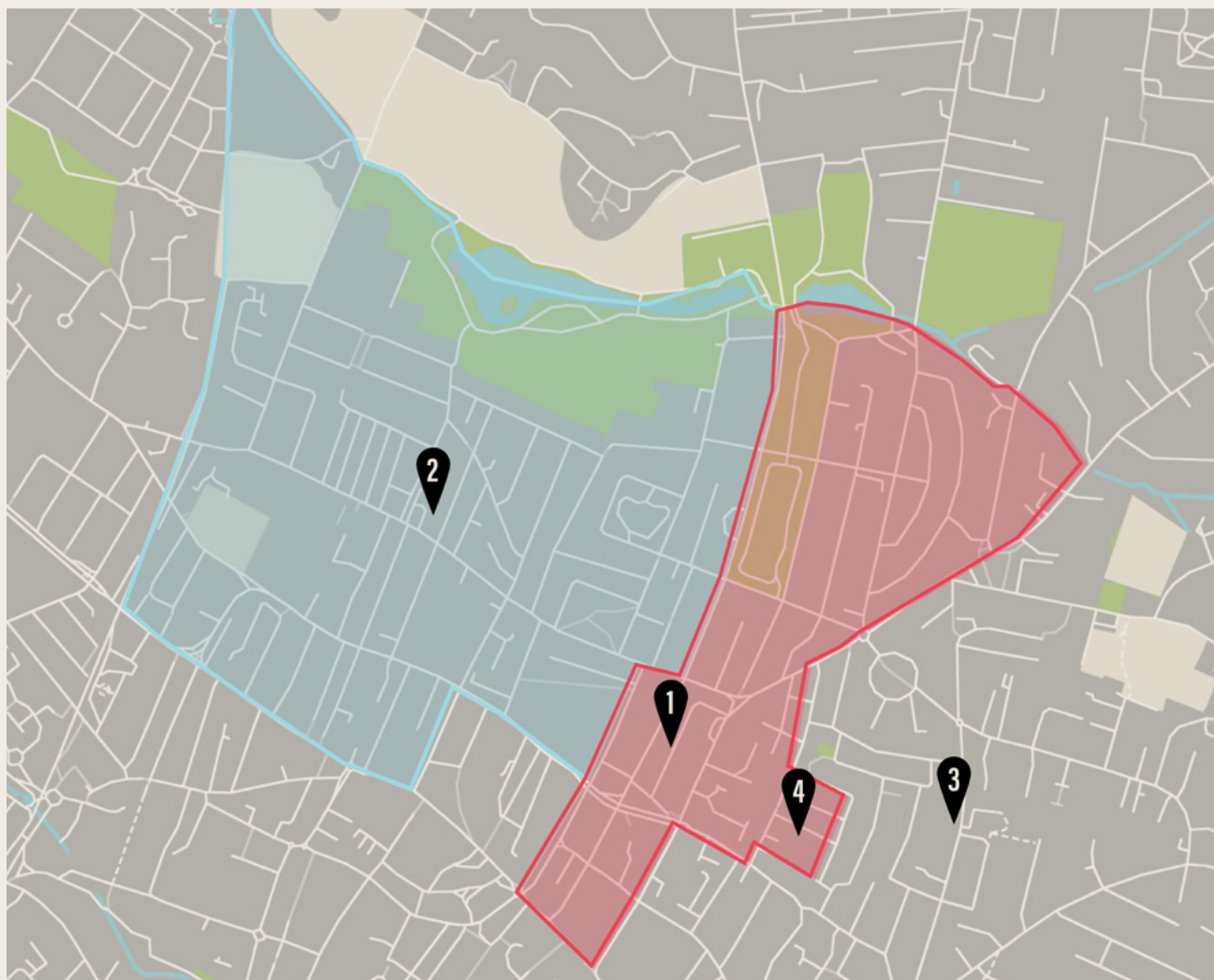
Thank you for taking the time to explore this profile. Our team has prepared a video, linked below, which we would suggest you watch by way of a further introduction to help you understand more about our church family. We hold you in our prayers as you discern, and we ask that you would also pray for us—for unity, for wisdom, and for a deep openness to all that God has prepared for the season ahead.

**With every blessing, Barry and Liz
Churchwardens, Trinity Cheltenham**



Scan/Click the QR code
to watch the video:

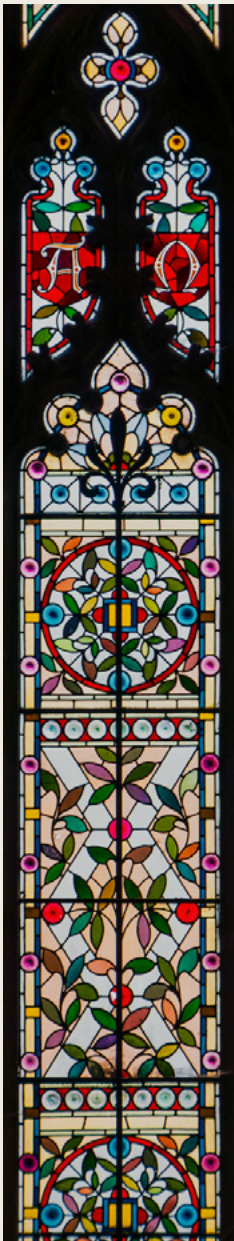
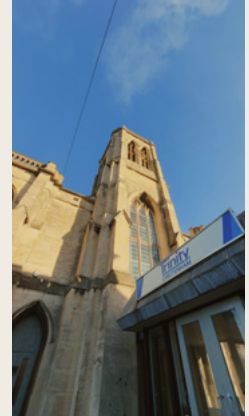




- 1. Trinity Church
Trinity Parish
- 2. St. Paul's Church
St. Paul's Parish
- 3. The Vicarage
- 4. Holy Trinity School

The Parishes

History of Trinity Church



Trinity Church Cheltenham was originally formed as a chapel of ease to accommodate the overflow from St Mary's Parish Church. It was designed by George Allen Underwood and consecrated in 1822. Its first incumbent, Francis Close, played a pivotal role in establishing the church's evangelical character. Throughout the 20th century, the church faced declining attendance, culminating in a threat of closure in 1976. However, Trinity experienced a revival and a growing congregation, particularly among young families.

The church continued to grow, bringing spiritual renewal, modern worship, and the introduction of new ministries. The church invested in major renovations, replacing pews with chairs, updating facilities, and acquiring additional buildings such as Trinity House and the Fusion building to support its expanding activities. Trinity built strong links with New Wine and the Evangelical Alliance,

sent out mission partners, and continued to adapt its facilities to meet the needs of a growing and diverse congregation.

In 2017, Andrew Blyth was appointed as Team Rector/Lead Pastor. His leadership helped the church through a period of healing. The congregation has become more diverse and has welcomed increasing numbers of young adults. In addition, he developed stronger links with other Cheltenham churches. In 2022, Trinity celebrated its 200th anniversary. Despite challenges and changes of leadership, Trinity has remained a vibrant charismatic evangelical church, a centre for worship, outreach, and community support in Cheltenham. Towards the end of his tenure, Andrew felt a strong calling for mission particularly with younger generations and church planting. He was invited to take a strategic role as the Director of Mission and Ministry for the Diocese of Oxford.

Trinity Parish Area

The parish area in the centre of Cheltenham is small and comprises a few large houses and flats, shops and commercial premises, a school, part of a beautiful park and a large car park. The map **on p5** shows the parish area. Holy Trinity C of E School is in Jersey Street in the SE corner of the Parish. We estimate that only a few hundred people actually live in the parish area and it represents less than one percent of the population of Cheltenham.

There are relatively few residents and as the church does not have a graveyard or any photogenic grounds, there is almost no demand for christenings, weddings or funerals from nominal CofE residents in the parish. The congregation is drawn from the whole of Cheltenham and beyond, from all walks of life on the basis of connection and relationship. However, Holy Trinity Church of England Primary School is within the parish and draws children from a wider area (see relevant section for more).



Trinity Parish Assets

Trinity Church was built in the early 1800s on a very small site. The crypt and a number of coffin shafts were filled to capacity well before 1900. There is no graveyard or grounds to speak of. Trinity does not hold any assets other than the church inventory.

There are extensive facilities in Trinity House and Trinity Fusion, and extra office space at 45 Portland Street, all belonging to Trinity Cheltenham Trust, which the church has use of.



Trinity Vision & values

Our vision is to make committed followers of Jesus who change communities and nations for Him.

Our calling is to be a spiritual well, prioritising the presence of God and to be water carriers wherever He takes us.

Our values that we seek to express
across the life of the church are:

1.

Living in response to God:

Consistently pursuing Jesus and
His Kingdom.

Being attentive to the Holy Spirit and
rooted in the Bible.

Positioning ourselves and everything
in prayer and worship.

2.

Modelling authentic community:

Choosing love and truth in
all circumstances

Being real and dealing with
mess honestly

Partnering and serving generously

3.

Embracing God's adventure:

Innovating to engage with popular culture

Taking risks to share and serve the Gospel

Giving away our best in serving God's mission

St Paul's Parish Area

The St Paul's area is situated between Pittville Park on one side, and Lower High Street on the other. It contains one of the University of Gloucestershire campuses, a large medical centre, a primary school, one of Cheltenham's mosques and Cheltenham's municipal leisure centre and swimming pool. The population is around 6,000, rising to over 9,000 during university term time. The permanent residents are mainly white British, with a number of Eastern Europeans, Black Africans and a very small Bangladeshi Muslim community.

There is a small social housing estate which ranks amongst the lowest 5% in the country for poverty affecting children and joblessness amongst 16-25 year olds. In the main, the rest of the housing is Victorian terracing of two and three bedroom homes. There are a small number of slightly larger homes, but these have generally been converted into student lets. There are two regency squares at the east end of the parish but the residents would be unlikely to identify with the area of St Paul's.

St Paul's Parish Assets

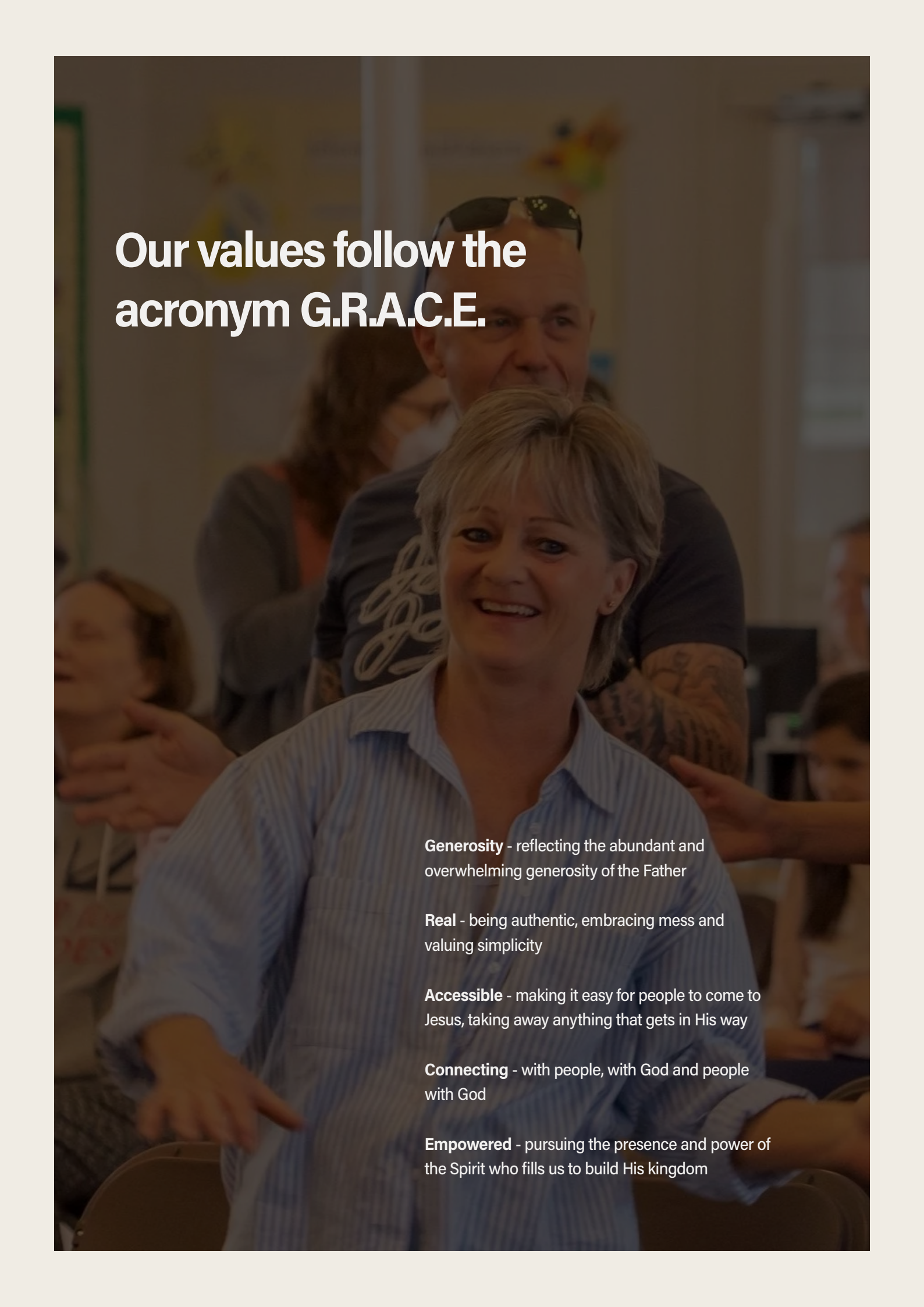
The church building is Grade ii* listed and generally is in good condition. There are extensions to either side and rear at the North end of the church, which contain kitchen, toilets, rooms for children's ministry and the foodbank. These extensions are soon to be demolished and rebuilt as they have come to the end of their workable life. The essential repairs to the church fabric identified by the last quinquennial have been completed. The church also owns a three bedroom house close to the church left in a legacy; this was used to house a youth pastor, but is currently let.

The vicar and churchwardens are trustees of the St. Paul's Old School Trust; the school closed in 1980 and is on an adjacent site. Currently a community cafe is run on the ground floor by a charity called Fresh Hope with whom we have close ties and lots of community activities take place in the building. Upstairs are the church offices and rooms for youth ministry. The vicarage for the church is in an adjoining street. Built in 1990, it meets most of the 'Green Guide' fundamentals, but few of the desirables.



St. Paul's Vision & Values

**Our vision is to see
our communities
transformed through
encountering Jesus
and making disciples.**



Our values follow the acronym G.R.A.C.E.

Generosity - reflecting the abundant and overwhelming generosity of the Father

Real - being authentic, embracing mess and valuing simplicity

Accessible - making it easy for people to come to Jesus, taking away anything that gets in His way

Connecting - with people, with God and people with God

Empowered - pursuing the presence and power of the Spirit who fills us to build His kingdom

Role Profile



Role Profile

Trinity Cheltenham and St Paul's are seeking an apostolic leader of leaders to serve our large, diverse, multi-ministry church as we enter a new season of mission, growth and planting. You will discern and lead with fresh vision and courage, drawing upon considerable experience in releasing followers of Jesus to fulfil the Great Commission and advance the Kingdom of God, including through the ministry of the Holy Spirit in the supernatural.

You will have ultimate responsibility for matters of casting vision, shaping culture and governance. You will set the bar for servant-heartedness, generous leadership and personal holiness. You will lead a large, capable staff team (currently around 30) and line manage the Senior Leadership Team.

For details of Trinity's leadership team, staff and PCC

please refer to: www.trinitycheltenham.com/meet-the-team

"With the whole team, I am looking forward to working with whoever God calls into this new season of growth."

Tim Grew (Team Vicar at Trinity)

You will provide oversight for St Paul's Church.

For details of the St Paul's team please refer to:

www.stpaulscheltenham.com/whos-who

"Being family with Trinity is a huge blessing to St Paul's and we're super excited for how Jesus is going to use our partnership over the coming season."

Roger Widdecombe (Team Vicar at St Paul's)

About You

The descriptions that follow have been arrived at carefully and prayerfully. It is unlikely that you fulfil them all, but with God's help you are on a journey towards them. Above all, we seek the person whom the Lord is calling to join us.

Your Personal Faith

You have a deep understanding and experience of God's love for you. Your public ministry is an overflow of your personal relationship with the Lord and your relationships with your loved ones. You love Jesus, His church, and all people.

You love God's presence and seek encounters with the Holy Spirit. You love God's word and you love prayer in all its variety, including in the Spirit – and devote time both for personal prayer and intercession and invest regularly in your own personal relationship with the Lord. You are self-reflective and seek to improve and grow. You understand the vital importance of sabbath and retreat, practising these regularly. You are positive, thankful and fun, believing that although life is hard, God is good.

You uphold an orthodox, Biblical perspective on Christian beliefs, including in matters of sexuality, and are aligned to the Evangelical Alliance Statement of Faith. You welcome and engage securely, humbly and graciously with those whose perspectives differ from yours. You will have a sense of Trinity's story and share our spiritual DNA.





Your Leadership and Ministry

You are a mature, respected leader of leaders, experienced in building a culture of identifying, growing and releasing leaders. You trust and empower your team, harnessing their strengths. You hear from God and you learn from those you lead, asking regularly for spiritual insight, challenge and feedback. You value healthy confrontation and handle disagreements skilfully and graciously. You are an excellent communicator, unafraid of leading from the front, and recognise the autonomy and unique pressures that a 'number one' position affords.

You understand the challenges, dynamics and opportunities that a larger church presents, with its distinctive calling beyond being a local parish church. You are mission-focused across all ages and the socio-economic spectrum. You understand culture, how to shape it and how to discern and tackle unhealthy culture. You will foster multiple healthy relationships with key leaders within Trinity, other churches, Diocesan staff and community.



You have considerable experience of leading transformative ministry in the power of the Holy Spirit, resulting in personal transformation and salvation. You fear God more than you fear man or failure and have Kingdom passions that drive you to overcome obstacles and take new ground. You lead with courage, collaboration and innovation.

You understand this is an apostolic role bringing the 'now Kingdom of God' to the church. You recognise the courage that you will need to fulfil your calling through leading this group of people at this time.





Sunday Gatherings & Worship



Sunday Gatherings & Worship

Our highest priority is to encounter the Lord as we worship together, hear His Word preached, open ourselves to the ministry of the Holy Spirit and share in fellowship. We call our Sunday morning and evening gatherings 'celebrations' because within the complexity of life, God is always good and always inviting us into a deeper relationship with Him. Our aim is to pursue and experience His presence in whatever way He chooses.

Our celebrations are simple in structure and accessible to all, as we seek an authentic encounter with Jesus. We trust the Holy Spirit to meet the needs of mature believers as well as those of first-time seekers. Every Sunday brings visitors and newcomers into our midst. Recently, we have welcomed an increasing number of young people from unchurched backgrounds.

Our church is charismatic in both theology and practice, encouraging exercise of the gifts of the Spirit in every sphere of church life. We are open to words of knowledge, prophetic revelation and prayer for healing. Sharing public testimonies is routinely encouraged. Prayer ministry is integral to our celebrations.

Celebrations are usually led by members of the Senior Leadership Team, sometimes in partnership with a younger adult. Preaching is primarily undertaken by the Teaching Team, composed of staff and lay members, with occasional invited guest speakers. Use of formal liturgy is low, but the liturgical flow of 'worship, teaching, prayer ministry' is well-established. Hospitality is a core value so much attention is given to Sunday 'hosting' as part of our goal to welcome newcomers effectively, and to help build connections across the church family. On many Sundays throughout the year, we also offer a licensed bar and food, such as hog roasts and pizza.

The Sunday morning celebration is attended by people of all ages and stages, including many younger families, averaging 276 adults, a full children's and youth programme of around 90 children (under 11) and 45 youth (11-16). We begin our time all together, before children and youth leave for their own groups after an 'all-age moment' or Communion. The Sunday evening celebration is typically a younger group, with many students, young adults and some older youth - currently averaging around 160. The church building seats 250 downstairs and 350 in the balcony.





Christmas and Easter

These celebrations are more evangelistic in nature and well-resourced. At Christmas, we sing traditional carols and deliver short gospel messages, but in an authentically “Trinity” contemporary style. Creative approaches to Holy Week, varying each year, seek to maximise opportunities to reach those outside our church. Alpha is regularly promoted at such occasions.



Sung Worship and Production Ministries

Trinity is a wonderful place to worship Jesus. The church has a recent history of significant investment in modern charismatic worship and a growing sense that the Lord is doing something new. We have a vision for our church to become a ‘spiritual well’ where people experience and encounter the living God and worship Him in spirit and in truth.

We have a team of around 70 musicians and production volunteers. We place a strong emphasis on character in team members. The team regularly gathers to pray and worship together, overseen by our full-time Senior Worship Pastor, Assistant Worship Pastor and Head of Production.

Our Sunday morning celebrations are live streamed each week on YouTube and these broadcasts are typically watched by 300-400 devices. We have a purpose-built studio which houses a dedicated broadcast sound engineer, in addition to the ‘front of house’ sound engineer in the church building. We also release our Sunday talks as podcasts.

One of our biggest challenges at present is that some of the AV systems would benefit from costly upgrades in order to maintain our high standards. Recently, we also had to stop live streaming most of our evening celebrations due to not having enough volunteers.

See more: www.youtube.com/trinitycheltenham

Trinity Music

A key part of our vision to be a “spiritual well” is to write songs that tell the new story of God at work in our church and community. Our group of around 10 songwriters regularly gather to worship, pray and listen to God in order to write in response to all He is doing and saying to us as a church.

In 2024, we recorded a live EP of our own songs, and we’ve been establishing a framework to release more music on a regular basis. We are blessed to have anointed and skilled professionals in our church working on our music production. Our prayer is that God continues to be glorified through our songwriting and that our songs reach the right contexts at the right times to further His Kingdom and draw people to Him.

See more: www.youtube.com/@trinitycheltenhammusic



Scan/Click the QR code
to watch the video:



Discipleship



**Children. Element
Discipleship Group.
External Conferences
and Events. Life
Groups. Men.
Pastoral Care.
Prayer Room.
Prime Time and
The Living Room.
Students. Women.
Young Adults.
Youth.**



Children

We have a thriving children's ministry for children aged 1-11 which is incredibly important in the life of Trinity. On average we have around 90 children attending each week and around 14 volunteers supporting our Senior Kids' Pastor and Assistant Kids' Pastor.

In Kids' Church, we aim to raise children who are faith-filled, Spirit-led and word-shaped. As well as gathering together on Sunday, we have groups and activities throughout the week, including drama, football, small groups and parties. On Sunday mornings, the children stay in the main celebration for around 30 minutes, either for Communion or for an all-age slot, which aims to be a fun and accessible time where the whole family worship together.

We are exploring ways for our children to be more a part of main celebrations, whether through serving, praying, or being a part of the all-age slot. Currently, we have around five all-age celebrations a year. Our hope is for more, and we would love inspiration on how to truly engage all ages together.

Element Discipleship Group

Our Element group runs three times annually, coinciding with, and mirroring the format, of Alpha. The groups build community whilst tackling key foundational discipleship principles. It also serves as a good 'introduction' for newcomers to our church.



External Conferences and Events

The quality of our church facilities affords us the privilege to host events run by various partner organisations, including New Wine, Gloucester Diocese, University Christian Union, Fusion, The Filling Station and Love Cheltenham (a partnership of local churches).

Other training courses include leadership, prayer, prophecy and spiritual gifts.

Life Groups

Trinity has approximately 30 adult Life Groups that typically meet weekly throughout Cheltenham and beyond. The size of these groups varies from 6-25 people, with a total of 279 adults involved. Life Groups are the primary place of fellowship for members of Trinity and play a crucial role in our large church.

Life Groups are integral to our strategy for growth. We aim to grow committed followers of Jesus and Life Groups are the main place where this occurs. Members are encouraged, equipped and stretched in their love and commitment to Jesus and to others.

This area of church life has its challenges, as it does in many churches. The balance between our core values of discipleship, worship, fellowship, ministry and mission is inconsistent and largely depends on the preferences of the leaders of each group. However, our Life Groups produce great fruit. Alongside personal growth and belonging, some groups reach out in the local community in a counter-cultural and life-giving way.

Investing in Life Group leaders, and particularly raising new leaders, is a core priority, but not one that has received all the attention it might have recently.



Men

Men's ministry at Trinity runs on an ad hoc basis, and is usually social in nature. Activities frequently involve physical challenge or food. A team of Trinity men recently completed the Three Peaks Challenge, raising over £30,000 for our Kericho, Kenya partnership, enabling the purchase of new vehicles. The ministry is usually overseen by a volunteer, though this role is vacant at present. We believe there is scope for enhancing the scope of Men's ministry, and particularly to build connections between men of different ages and life stages.



Pastoral Care

Pastoral care is a responsibility shared amongst all members of the church and is a value held by all ministry leaders. However, some areas of pastoral ministry require particular training and skill, such as the Restored Lives Course for those dealing with divorce and separation, Marriage Preparation, Prayer Ministry, Focused Prayer Ministry, Bereavement Support and The Freedom in Christ Course.

We also serve those outside our church family, as we partner with external agencies. Bereavement is a particular example of this. One individual who attended a bereavement course, following the death of their spouse, is now part of the team running the course.



Prayer Room

The prayer room started just over a year ago in response to a sense of calling from the Holy Spirit. Rooted in James 5:16, the vision is to:

- Cultivate a culture that fuels prayer, which shapes who we are and what we do
- Provide a dedicated space of encounter, worship, listening, creativity and intercession
- Help align our church with God's plans and purposes
- Strengthen the spiritual life of the church

The Prayer Room currently opens from 6am-8am, three days a week, with around 20 frequent attendees. We've seen healings, prophetic words later echoed in Sunday celebrations and answers to prayer. Our hope is to enable 24/7 access to the Prayer Room and to host regular extended sessions of worship and intercession.

Prime Time and The Living Room

Prime Time is a monthly meeting for older people, together with their friends and carers. Guests are offered a cooked lunch and a time of fun and fellowship. We also share communion, do crafts, exercise to music and share our favourite poetry. We have recently celebrated 90th and 100th birthdays within the group. We also arrange outings, most recently a barge trip and a visit to an arboretum.

The Living Room runs weekly between Prime Time meetings and is a get-together for people of all ages from inside and outside the church. It offers a time of community with relaxed conversation around a simple lunch. Afternoon activities include craft, puzzles and gentle exercise classes.



Students

Cheltenham is home to two large campuses of the University of Gloucestershire and hosts approximately 8,000 students. Our vision is to reach students with the hope of Jesus and to help them find their spiritual 'home' at Trinity. The strong creative disposition of the university means the students often show spiritual curiosity.

The community of 20-30 students in our church forms part of the wider Young Adults' community, with its extensive programme of meetings and social events. We also seek to form connections between students and families within the church. We participate in the annual Freshers' Fayre at the University, support the Christian Union and work with eight local churches to promote the Try Church initiative, encouraging students who are spiritually curious to visit a church.

Women

Our Women's ministry provides opportunities for women to gather together to be encouraged and strengthened in their faith. This is accomplished through a variety of smaller, regular gatherings, in addition to larger events, including the following:

Advent Create is an annual evening event that sees the church full of women of all ages, many unchurched, making wreaths and other Christmas delights and having a lot of fun in the process!

Fuelled is a weekly Bible study of around 10 members who currently gather for friendship and fellowship during the day.

Greenhouse is a group of 15-20 mums with babies and toddlers, who meet weekly to develop their faith alongside friendship, in a challenging season of life.

New Wine Women's Day is hosted annually, attracting hundreds of women from across the region and beyond.

Worship Nights are currently held twice a year, gathering over 100 women of all ages to seek and encounter the presence of God in extended worship and prayer. A growing number of women from other churches also attend this event.



Young Adults

Our large and active young adults' community meet monthly as a group for worship, teaching and prayer ministry, with an average attendance of 60. There is an active calendar of social events, including outreach, DJ nights, book clubs and Bible study groups. Pastoral support and life coaching are routinely offered. An active WhatsApp group has 180 members and is regularly used for discussion, testimony, prayer requests and encouragements.

We have seen dozens of young adults come and return to faith within this past year. One young adult recently reported hearing a voice in her head speaking a phrase she later found to be from the Bible. She came to one of our gatherings having found it online, and was subsequently baptised in our church. We would like to raise more leaders, particularly men, and encourage more young adults to be part of Life Groups.



Youth

The Youth ministry of Trinity currently involves approximately 80 young people regularly attending groups and events, both on Sundays and throughout the week. The annual Youth Weekend Away is attended by around 60 young people. We also run a thriving Youth Worship Workshop, helping young people develop their musical gifts.

The team is made up of around 16 volunteers, alongside the full-time Youth Pastor. As the ministry continues to expand, we would like to see more young people taking ownership of their faith, stepping out in boldness to share their faith with others and for them to have their hearts devoted to Jesus. We sense the Holy Spirit working powerfully in this generation. To realise this vision, it will be necessary to recruit additional volunteers to the team.



'Transform', Vulnerable Adults', Ministries

Transform is the umbrella term for our ministries serving vulnerable adults in our local community. A team of over 60 volunteers serve alongside a number of employed staff. Our mission is expressed in Isaiah 61: 'to proclaim good news to the poor, bind up the broken-hearted, and set the captives free.' We seek to transform people's lives through the demonstration of the love, mercy and justice of God - in word and deed.



**King's Table
Community Hub.
Money Matters
Debt Advice. Spear
Employability
Programme. Street
Team Town Centre
Outreach.**



King's Table Community Hub

King's Table is a community hub for adults in need. Guests include rough sleepers, addicts, ex-offenders, those with mental health issues or loneliness, and those struggling financially. We provide a safe and peaceful environment that is filled with the presence of God. Our friendly and compassionate team members offer guests their time and attention. Operating through the day on Mondays and Fridays, King's Table offers:

- Hot meals, food and clothing banks, showering and laundry services
- Social activities including an annual Christmas party
- Weekly informal worship meetings with prayer ministry
- Dedicated Bible study, Alpha courses and access to Christian books
- Signposting and support in engaging with external agencies

We are constantly encouraged by the stories of guests moving forward in life, as well as those coming to faith and going deeper.

Money Matters Debt Advice

Money Matters provides free, confidential advice to people with personal money worries. We work in association with Community Money Advice (CMA), a national charity who support churches and community groups to deliver money and debt advice.

In the last eight years, we have advised over 60 people and dealt with over £1m of debt. We work with clients to review and agree a realistic budget for living costs, help maximise their income and manage debts responsibly. We help them to negotiate with creditors and arrange Debt Relief Orders. Working with clients both in and outside the church, demand has never been greater.

Money Matters is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

"[Money Matters] has really helped me to feel more empowered where I've felt so disempowered for so long. It has been kind, helpful and extremely non-judgemental."

See more: www.communitymoneyadvice.com/centre/money-matters-trinity-cheltenham

Spear Employability Programme

The national Spear programme, created by Christian charity Resurgo, aims to empower people aged 16-24 who are not in employment, education or training. The programme supports young people to turn their lives around by equipping them with employability skills, such as interview technique, and helping them overcome unhelpful mindsets.

Spear Cheltenham was established at Trinity, in partnership with Resurgo, in 2022. The ministry has engaged with over 180 young people. The programme runs multiple times each year and consists of a training course over four weeks, followed by six months of ongoing support. The team of three employed staff, supported by volunteers, work in partnership with referrers, local businesses and grant providers.

See more: www.resurgo.org.uk/programmes/cheltenham



Street Team Town Centre Outreach

Our Street Team demonstrates God's love to people on the fringes of society, feeding them both physically and spiritually. The group served is similar to that of King's Table.

Twice weekly, we gather donations of food from local outlets, along with hot drinks and Christian books. In the evenings, a group of around 40 guests gather on the High Street, waiting for the team to arrive. Guests are welcomed and offered food and drink. We listen to their stories, share our faith, offer to pray, and signpost to sources of further help, including King's Table. The team is prepared to deal with emergency situations, should the need arise.

Local Outreach



**Alpha. The Armoury
Fitness Club.
Holy Trinity
Primary School.
Love Cheltenham.
Coopers Edge
Community Church.
Whistlestop
Toddler Group.**

Alpha

Alpha has been run at Trinity for over 25 years. At the time of writing, the current course has six groups, with a total of 56 guests, supported by over 20 volunteers and a prayer group of about 30, in addition to a paid Alpha Coordinator on the church staff team.

Alpha takes place in the church building on a weekday evening, using the Alpha-provided videos. We hold Alpha away days locally - the most recent was attended by over 20 guests. A recent guest was healed from a longstanding back injury during the day. Another, who grew up in a Christian family, returned to faith in their thirties. Another came to faith, led their young family to church, and later married their partner.

Currently, an evening Alpha runs twice a year, in Autumn and Spring. We would like to run a third Summer course in the future, and increase the participation and 'ownership' of Alpha among the wider church family.

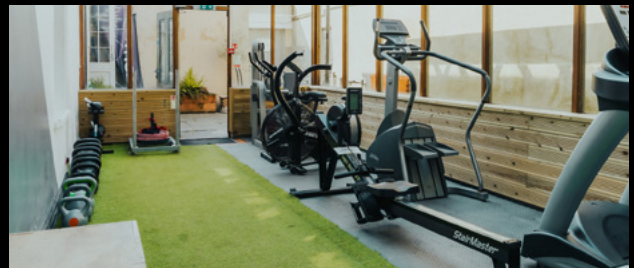


The Armoury Fitness Club

The Armoury is a social enterprise based in Fusion, one of our buildings, operating under the Fresh Hope charity. More than a gym, The Armoury is a place that nurtures physical, mental, emotional and spiritual health. While our outward identity is a fitness business, we are missional at heart. This is expressed through our team culture, welcoming environment, ties to the wider church, promotion of Alpha and evangelistic events. For example, we host an annual Christmas party in the church. Currently, we have around 150 members (around half of whom are church members), with a team of 10 staff, one of whom is a full-time employee. Our vision is to grow further into a financially sustainable, Kingdom-expanding enterprise. Our dream is to franchise the model, empowering more churches to launch similar gyms across towns and cities nationwide - bringing faith, fitness and community together in powerful, practical ways.

"I met the Armoury team at the Freshers' Fayre. I was anxious about uni and hadn't been to a gym before. I found community and found myself. I even went along to Alpha where I gave my life to Jesus and got baptised. Due to my disabilities, I couldn't graduate uni, but I ended up finding employment at the gym, firstly as a volunteer cleaner and now as a member of staff. I love welcoming people to the gym because I know what that welcome did for me."

See more: www.freshhope.co



Love Cheltenham

In 2020, a group of leaders established a partnership of local churches from different denominations with the aim of bringing the love of Jesus to Cheltenham. Regular events including outreach and prayer meetings are run under this umbrella.

See more: www.lovecheltenham.org

Coopers Edge Community Church

Coopers Edge Community Church was established following a Diocese directive under a Bishop's Mission Order (BMO), appointing Trinity to oversee a church plant into the new housing estate of Coopers Edge, Gloucester. The vision was to establish a contextual, accessible, and missional Church of England presence within a rapidly growing community with limited existing church engagement. In the summer of 2022, Simon Fellows, who was a curate at Trinity, moved with his family to Coopers Edge to live within the community and begin the slow work of relationship-building, prayer, and local presence. This laid the foundations for what would become a worshipping community rooted in the life of the estate.

Hiring the entire Community Centre weekly, the church has grown steadily and now has approximately 65 members, half of whom are under 16. The youth group has seven young people and there is regular children's provision, plus a popular weekly toddler group welcoming around 35 children. A highly accessible Sunday gathering regularly attracts 40 or more people from the wider community. There is a strong emphasis on community engagement through seasonal events. These ministries have enabled Coopers Edge Community Church to build trust, visibility, and meaningful relationships across the estate. While still in its infancy, the church is flourishing, moving towards greater independence and is increasingly overseen by its own scrutiny group. Trinity's role has evolved to be a prayer partner.

See more: cecommunitychurch.com

Whistlestop Toddler Group

Whistlestop is a weekly group for toddlers and their parents/carers which is attended by around 30 families, many of whom are not members of the church. We have times of singing, stories, snacks and play, with refreshments for adults. We provide a space where parents and carers are welcomed, loved and included. The team of eight volunteers offer prayer and support, and invite attendees to church events. A nominal fee is charged, consistent with other similar groups.

"It's the most welcoming and friendly baby group I've been to. The staff and other mums were so helpful and couldn't do enough for us today. We can't wait to come again."

Holy Trinity Primary School

Holy Trinity Church of England Primary School is a voluntary controlled primary school with around 200 pupils. Our church provides two foundation governors, who meet regularly with the Deputy Head Teacher and our Senior Kids' Pastor. The relationship with the school has developed positively in recent years. The previous Team Rector/Lead Pastor led an act of worship at the school each term, and our Senior Kids' Pastor does so regularly.

The church recently sourced a diocesan grant to provide Children's Bibles for all pupils, to be used in school, and then to be kept by children upon leaving. The church has contributed significantly to new school IT and to playground refurbishment.

The school community visits our church for its Easter, Harvest and Christmas services. Children are invited to attend church events such as our Light Party, Christmas Party and Drama Club. There is considerable potential for expanding our partnership with the school.

See more: www.holytrinity.gloucs.sch.uk



Global Mission

Global Mission is one of the ways we seek to fulfil the vision of Trinity, both at home and abroad. We do this primarily by supporting seven long-term Global Mission Partners, short-term mission trips to developing nations and our partnership with Kericho Diocese, Kenya.

We have one voluntary staff member who coordinates all communication with our Global Mission Partners through regular emails and WhatsApp chat. Our church is regularly encouraged to support our mission partners in prayer and information is available through various communication channels.



ACK Kericho Diocese Partnership

Since 2008, Trinity has been in partnership with the Anglican Church of Kenya's Kericho Diocese. Over 200 members of Trinity have participated in mission trips to Kenya, planting churches, working on local projects and receiving a deeply impactful discipleship experience.

This partnership has led to over 10,000 people being lifted out of poverty through the Farmers' Field Schools programme which teaches essential skills to farmers. Over 300 children in the diocese have been sponsored by members of our church. Many of the senior leadership team from Kericho have visited Trinity, ministering to us and often joining us at New Wine.

In the future, we hope to work more with students and young adults, share skills in education and healthcare, roll out sewing workshops linked to improving access for girls' education and participate in ministry in the power of the Holy Spirit.

See more: www.trinitycheltenham.com/global-mission



Link Organisations

In addition to our core Global Mission Partners, we have strong and long-established links with some UK-based mission organisations:

Compassion - around 350 children are currently sponsored by Trinity members, the large majority in our partner Diocese of Kericho, Kenya. This arrangement fosters a special connection for all involved. Some church members have been able to meet their sponsored children in Compassion centres. We invite Compassion every three to four years to visit on a Sunday and make an appeal for further sponsorships.

IJM - through longstanding personal connections, we support IJM and occasionally host events to promote their activities and to raise funds.

Open Doors - over many years, we have welcomed speakers from countries where Christians are persecuted, including North Korea and Bangladesh. We have welcomed Open Doors representatives to come and preach, hosted Secret Church events for students, prayed regularly and given generously to support their work.



Mission Macedonia

Mission Macedonia is a Global Mission Partner organisation chaired by a member of Trinity, with significant involvement from a number of church members. The organisation exists to help poor communities in North Macedonia in partnership with local churches. Groups from the UK, including many from our church, visit North Macedonia regularly and participate in evangelism and church planting alongside local church leaders. The organisation also provides food parcels and assistance with winter fuel to those in need.

See more: www.missionmacedonia.com



Operations, Finance & Governance

Operations and Finance Teams

The Trinity Operations and Finance teams are missional at their core. Their purpose is to equip and strengthen church ministries by providing resources, support and guidance in all aspects of church life, including:

- Day-to-day operations, including catering, building maintenance and facilities management
- General parish administration, including weddings, funerals and baptisms
- Safeguarding
- Health and safety
- HR and management of paid staff, self-supported staff and over 200 volunteers
- Events, conferences and external hire
- Financial reporting, financial controls and audit readiness
- Site development and the NetZero 2030 initiative
- Fundraising, including grant applications
- Finance, including accounting, budgeting and payroll
- Organisation of the team of 45 volunteers who steward the Sunday celebrations, welcoming over 700 people to our buildings each week

Finances

The church has an annual budget of circa £1.1m and 20,000 transactions are processed each year. So far in 2025, over £50,000 has been raised from external grant applications and donations.

Expenditure in 2024 was £1.174m, with 50% of that being spent on staffing. Income was £1.148m, which was slightly lower than in 2023, and resulted in an annual deficit of £28k. Most of Trinity's income comes in the form of regular and one-off donations and Gift Aid; in 2025, we have also received some grant income for specific capital projects.

Whilst the 2025 budget was set in prayerful expectation of a rise in giving to offset a projected deficit of £54k, this has not materialised over the course of the year. Consequently, we have increased the regularity of messaging around giving as an act of worship, whilst at the same time reducing our expenditure (by not filling some staff vacancies and temporarily suspending paying parish share

contributions) to ensure that we can balance the budget at the end of the year and that we have sufficient cash reserves.

We are currently compiling the 2026 budget for approval by the PCC. We expect that this will show a projected deficit for 2026 of around £100k. Whilst this is a significant amount, in the past we have found ourselves in a similar situation at the beginning of the year but the generosity of the Trinity family has resulted in us ending the year in a much better financial position than projected. In 2026, we will also have to start some significant capital works projects, involving repairs to the church tower, restoration of the stained glass windows and replacement of the church AV system. We are in the early stages of scoping out these works but estimate that the total cost will be in excess of £500k over the next 2 years, which we expect to fund through a combination of an appeal to the Trinity family and grants from third parties.

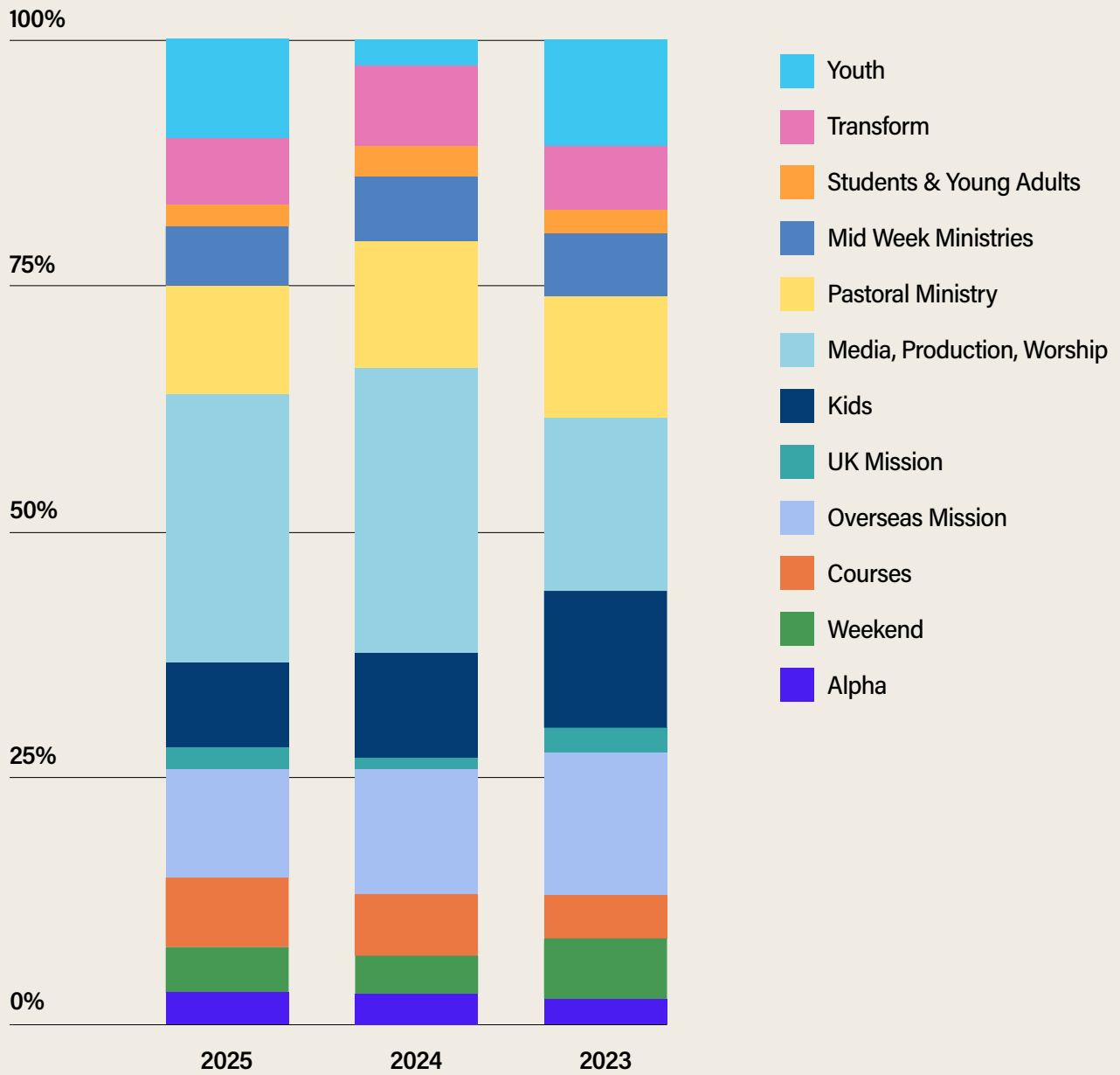
Summary Income Statement

£ thousands	2025 (Jan to Sep)	2024	2023
Income			
General donations	602	766	811
Specific donations	59	63	93
Income tax recoverable	115	145	144
Church activities	81	174	115
Total income	856	1,148	1,163
Expenditure			
Staff salaries	429	587	553
Other staff costs	17	19	15
Parish share	123	113	168
Donations	16	80	89
Ministry costs (see below)	77	121	98
Travel	9	47	44
Church & office running costs	135	152	149
Finance & professional costs	32	45	34
Depreciation	7	9	9
Total expenditure	846	1,174	1,161

Note: due to rounding, totals may appear not to match the sum of their component items exactly



Distribution of Ministry Spend by Year



Safeguarding

Our PCC have adopted and implemented the House of Bishops' Safeguarding Policy "Promoting a Safe Church" and the "Parish Safeguarding Handbook". The church has a Parish Safeguarding Officer and all leaders, staff and volunteers are required to complete Church of England safeguarding training.

Trinity Cheltenham Trust

Trinity Cheltenham Trust (TCT) is a registered charity and company limited by guarantee, founded by the congregation to own and manage the additional buildings and assets that support the life of Trinity Cheltenham which are not owned by the PCC or Diocese. The purpose of TCT is to resource the church and its ministries. Key assets include Trinity House, Trinity Fusion and 45 Portland Street.

TCT has a board of directors but it does not employ any staff. The churchwardens are permanent directors. It is intended that the new Team Rector/Lead Pastor will be appointed as a permanent director. There are four lay directors, and the Board is always chaired by a lay director and is only quorate when the lay directors hold the majority. Income is mostly derived from venue hire fees (both 'internally' from the PCC and external bookings) and donations from church members. On average, the annual turnover for TCT is approximately £175k.



St Paul's Church

St Paul's has grown over the last 18 years as a result of coming into partnership with Trinity and receiving a graft/plant of some 30 people in 2007; today the church numbers around 260 people. Despite being so close to Trinity it has grown through serving its local community in one of Gloucestershire's most deprived areas. The analogy used to describe the relationship of the team is that of family, where we share the same DNA and occasionally meet together or share resources, but create separate, independent family units that one day will produce additional separate, independent family units... or grandchildren!



History of St Paul's Church

St Paul's was built as a church for the poor way back in 1831 at a time when most churches charged 'pew rent'. Like many smaller churches in deprived areas, congregations dwindled in the latter half of the last century and closure was imminent. In 2007 Trinity sent a team of 30 people to help revitalise the church. Focused on building the Kingdom in the local community and growing a vibrant worshipping community, those 30 are now about 260 (100 under 18).



Ministries:

**Sunday Worship.
Children & Youth.
Small Groups & Alpha.
Prayer. Mission
Partners. Food Bank.**



Sunday Worship

There is currently a Sunday morning gathering with a modern, informal style of worship led by a band and with time for personal testimony and prayer ministry available at the end. Average attendance is c.140 adults and c.60 children.

Children and Youth

There are four Sunday children's and youth groups with some 60 children led by about 11 DBS checked volunteer ministers each week. There are two midweek youth small groups and our children and young people often join with Trinity for weekends away, summer conferences and ad hoc events eg bonfire & fireworks. Over the years, many different outreach events have been run including summer holiday clubs, Light Party, Experience Easter/Christmas and varying Christmas events. In early 2025 we ran Alpha for our young people and their friends with 29 coming regularly throughout the course. We are currently recruiting for both youth and children's pastors and thus less events have been possible over the last year.

Every Wednesday morning in term time, the popular toddler group meets in church with typically about 20 adults and 30 children from the church community and the local area. This provides one of the best connection points with the local community.

Small Groups and Alpha

All church members are encouraged to be in a small group of some kind. For some, this is simply a regular prayer triplet, for many others it is one of the nine home groups that operate throughout the town during the week. There is no set pattern for these groups and leaders exercise freedom in deciding study and focus. Currently about two-thirds of church members are in a small group. We love to run Alpha and average at least one course a year with anything from 2-10 guests..



Prayer

Prayer ministry is a central part of Sunday gatherings and is encouraged in every part of church life. There are weekly corporate prayer meetings before the Sunday morning gathering, early on a mid-week morning and a group that meets on Friday afternoons. We hold a prayer week each term, which often involves more creative prayer methods and we meet several times a year on a Sunday Evening for informal praise and corporate prayer.



Food Bank and Mission Partners

The Food Bank is part of the Cheltenham-wide Trussell Trust bank and operates every Friday with a fantastic team of volunteers, mainly from St Paul's Church. As well as providing emergency food and supplies, the team takes every opportunity to minister to the clients at every level.

The church partners with and supports missions in India, Nepal and Nigeria. All partners have close links with former or existing church members.



Finance

Each year the PCC estimates income based on current giving and members' pledges and sets the expenditure budget accordingly. Consequently finances are healthy although we will need to dig deep in 2026 in order to complete the extensions project. We were paying our full parish share, due to a discount called 'bias to the poor'. Since this was removed we have been increasing parish share at above inflation rates in order to restore our full contribution.

The church is growing and we have invested in increased leadership with an Assistant Pastor and Assistant Church Leader. We are hoping to recruit a Youth and Children's Pastor soon.

Relationship with Trinity

St Paul's places a high value on its relationship with Trinity, believing it to be an important sign of unity. The language of family was used around the time of the revitalisation and that has served us well. St Paul's and Trinity are independent family units. However, staff from both churches gather weekly for Staff Prayers which is highly valued by the St. Paul's staff team. We are actively pursuing increased opportunities for working together.



Vicarage

The vicarage is located at 66 All Saints Road, Cheltenham, GL52 2HA. The property is a four-bedroom detached house located on the border of Pittville and Fairview, with easy access to local parks and amenities.

The property offers a wealth of charm and character and comprises a living room, dining room, sitting room, study, kitchen and cloakroom. On the middle floor there are four bedrooms and a

family bathroom. There is storage on the top floor of the house. There is a large enclosed rear garden with established shrubs and a lawn. To the front of the property there is ample off-street parking and a garage. The house has gas central heating.

This property meets the full specification of the Green Guide. It will be available to view for shortlisted candidates.





Cheltenham

Cheltenham is a wonderful place to live. It is a Regency spa town with a population of around 120,000. It serves as the centre for the Cotswolds so has developed facilities of a much larger town that serve the surrounding area. It has become a centre for education with some of the best schools in South-West England, a growing University and language schools. It is also now a festival town and offers an amazing combination of culture,

sport and other facilities, set in the beauty of the Cotswolds. The major employers in the area are cybersecurity, insurance, banks, aerospace, education, power generation, sport and leisure. Despite this, Cheltenham has some highly deprived areas. Our Transform ministries reach out to the homeless, vulnerable and those suffering from addictions, of which there are many in Cheltenham.





Further Information

**We would strongly encourage you to explore
the websites for Trinity and St Paul's.**

www.trinitycheltenham.com/

www.stpaulscheltenham.com/

Accounts links

[Trinity PCC accounts - 2024](#)

[TCT accounts - 2024](#)

[St Paul's PCC accounts - 2024](#)





Trinity Cheltenham

Parish Profile

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