

St Michael & All Angels

Hughenden

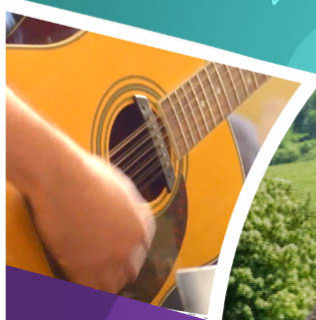
living

and
loving

St. Michael & All Angels
CHURCH IN THE PARK | LIVING, LOVING, SERVING



PARISH
PROFILE



FOREWORD

As you read this profile, we hope you'll see why St Michael & All Angels offers such an exciting opportunity for fruitful ministry. This is a single parish benefice where you will be well supported and well resourced. This means you will have a team around you and the capacity to be creative and effective in mission, ministry and building the Kingdom.

You'll be living in a well maintained and well located home in a beautiful part of the world. There is good support and a clear focus on clergy well-being at Diocesan, Archdeaconry and Deanery levels. The PCC and congregation at Hughenden are committed to supporting their new incumbent and will be good partners as you work alongside them to develop your vision for the parish.

This position offers some excellent opportunities. There are great things happening in ministry with children and families, where your leadership will help form the next generation of disciples. There is a Church School which is intentionally seeking to deepen and strengthen its links to the church. There is growing social outreach and real sense of the impetus to mission that enthusiastic community action brings. The church is beautiful and in good order, but there is clear potential to develop the parish's significant building assets. And the link to the National Trust offers fascinating creative opportunities.

The mix of traditional and contemporary worship is well established and works very well in Hughenden. Worship is of a high standard and creative. You will enjoy leading and developing the worship in this church.

With substantial support from the Diocese and the Deanery, as ever, the new Priest will be committed to the diocesan vision of becoming a more Christ-like Church for the sake of God's World – contemplative, compassionate and courageous – and to model and enable a flourishing ministry, for all, in line with the diocesan work in this area.

This profile accurately reflects the strengths and opportunities of the benefice. If, after reading and praying, you are attracted to the role then please do apply. If you'd like an informal conversation to help your discernment then please do get in touch.

The Right Reverend Dave Bull
Bishop of Buckingham

Deiniol Heywood
Interim Associate Archdeacon
deiniol.heywood@oxford.anglican.org



Welcome



Thank you for taking the time to read our Parish Profile. If you are interested in talking to us further about the contents of this profile or about what we are looking for, we would love to hear from you.

Hughenden is an exciting, dynamic church and presents opportunities for the successful candidate to grow, influence and lead a friendly and positive congregation, to know God's love, and to share that love with everyone.

Hughenden Parochial Church Council



Church from Hughenden Park



Community Day

OUR VISION IS

to know God's love,

and to share that love with everyone.

Our vision at St Michael & All Angels is to build on the mission of the Diocese of Oxford, demonstrating a knowledge of God's love and sharing that love with everyone. Our church is a place where the young and old can be nurtured, grow into mature members of the Church and become lifelong followers of Jesus Christ.

Our church family will actively contribute to the life of our local community and we aim for our church activities and facilities to be accessible to all. St Michael & All Angels welcomes everyone with warm and generous hospitality.



THE PARISH

The parish is a single church benefice, covering an area of some twenty square miles within easy reach of High Wycombe. It can be described as a 'rural/urban' parish. It has a small ethnic mix, and a broad age profile across the generations and this is reflected in church attendance.

The church itself is situated in Hughenden Park^[1], about one and a half miles north of the centre of High Wycombe and main urban conurbations. Dating from the 12th century, it became the church for Hughenden Manor, the home of Benjamin Disraeli whose remains are interred in the churchyard. Within the church there is the unique memorial from Queen Victoria to him, the only memorial to a commoner from a sovereign in the United Kingdom. Hughenden Manor and Park are currently owned and managed by the National Trust.

The parish is spread across ten main residential areas: Hughenden Valley, Naphill, North Dean, Bryants Bottom, Great Kingshill, Cryers Hill, Four Ashes, parts of Walters Ash, Widmer End and an area on the outskirts of High Wycombe. A substantial number of regular churchgoers (about 50%) come from neighbouring parishes. The parish population is about six thousand with an electoral roll of 130. The parish is in the Chilterns^[2] and the beech woods of the southern part of the county, is within easy reach of the Thames at Marlow and has excellent rail links with London and Oxford and is close to the M40.



WHO WE ARE

We are a 'Family Friendly Church' holding the kitemark award from the Diocese. We are fortunate to have an associate minister, in addition to the incumbent, who is active in all areas of church life. One of our strengths is our welcome and hospitality. We are striving to extend this welcome to our whole neighbourhood, particularly to those who, as yet, do not engage with St Michael & All Angels.

Our Children and Families Minister, who joined us in January 2025, has brought new energy to our community, making excellent links with all the schools in our locality as well as our cub and scout groups. He has also begun a monthly children's event called Lighthouse Live on Sunday afternoons giving us another avenue to reach out to families.

The church has a weekly presence in Collective Worship in our church school in Great Kingshill and a good relationship with the other schools in the parish. New initiatives are being employed to involve young families in our activities and we wish to build upon this as the demographic of the church indicates our need to attract this section of our parish population.



*Chris and the children
at Easter Eggventure*



There are lots of activities to be involved with during the week, including House Groups, Men's and Women's Breakfasts and a successful Community Choir.

Our active Social and Outreach committee is a great asset, putting on a variety of events throughout the year. There are a large number of volunteers working in the background.

The church is sensitive to individual needs, and we are willing to walk alongside people through all life's difficulties. We have a monthly Friendship Morning for those who are bereaved or lonely and a busy and vibrant toddler group and Tiny Tots service.



Mothers' Union
Coffee Morning



Tiny Tots' Teddy Bear's Picnic



Barn Dance

There is a lively and thriving Mothers' Union which meets monthly. It is an integral part of the whole church, giving support to families at baptisms and weddings as well as to the sick or housebound. The group have a close connection with our cathedral in Oxford with several people volunteering there. Coffee mornings and the Ploughman's Lunch offer both welcome social occasions for the church and community, whilst also raising funds for many charities, local, national and international.

We have a well maintained church organ and a highly valued organist, choir and worship band, to lead our various acts of worship. We also have a very active bell tower team who are an appreciated part of the church.

We are fortunate to have a talented and dedicated group of flower arrangers, who always make the church look beautiful, with a particular focus on the festival times of Christmas, Easter and Pentecost. We also have a biennial flower festival which is a highly popular community event.

Our church family is passionate about caring for God's beautiful creation. We are a Fairtrade Church and in the last year have achieved a Silver Ecochurch award. We are now working towards the Gold award, whilst being aware of the limitations put upon us by our historic building.



Bellringers



Harvest Festival Flowers



Area of churchyard kept wild

PERSON SPECIFICATION

We are looking for someone who will lead us, guide us, support us and challenge us in our mission and vision.

We ask for:

An openness to and the encouragement of the gifts of the Holy Spirit, with the willingness to offer guidance on major contemporary issues, loving and welcoming all.

A passion for biblically led preaching, delivered well in a variety of styles; an ability to lead and stimulate listeners in our broad variety of traditional and modern services.

The experience and capability to work compassionately with all ages and with individuals on a personal basis and with a sense of humour; to be confident and loving - including in vision setting, team and individual development.

The capability to work well and collaboratively in all aspects of the church and in the community with a positive attitude towards diversity, equality and inclusion.

A commitment to the Church of England's rules and guidance and a willingness to accommodate and celebrate many different views.

Good administrative and communication skills; an understanding of church governance and finances; a willingness to speak to the congregation about the stewardship of money, time and talents.

Both a practical and intellectual ability to challenge constructively and sympathetically in moving the congregation forward, sharing his or her own thoughts on the direction of travel.

Ability and enthusiasm to encourage, support and nurture the considerable talents of members of the congregation and a desire to help discern where God might be calling laity.

An understanding of the importance and application of the process of safeguarding.

What support are we offering?

A healthy work/home life balance, with days off, holidays, retreats, opportunities for learning.

A reasonable expense budget for church activities, engagements and self-development.

A supportive leadership team along with a friendly, welcoming, congregation.

Excellent administrative support in our part-time parish administrator.

Technical, financial, safeguarding and other administrative assistance, the precise details being determined by discussion with and tailored to the needs of the successful candidate.

MINISTRY TEAM



Helen Peters

Associate Minister

Self-supporting, Associate Minister, formerly our Curate. Helen lives locally with her family and is looking forward to continuing to support the new incumbent in day to day ministry.



Chris Coyston

Children & Families Minister

Since being appointed in January 2025 Chris has brought exciting new ideas and energy to our work with the young.

The whole family's passion has always been working with children and youth, especially leading holiday clubs all over the country including Chris's position as Chair of Lighthouse High Wycombe. Chris loves to lead worship, particularly on one of his many guitars.



Dorothy Moore Brooks

In addition, Dorothy Moore Brooks, lead chaplain at Great Ormond Street Hospital and member of our congregation, is kind enough to provide additional cover when required.

Pastoral Care

The ministry team has always provided excellent pastoral care to the elderly, the sick, disabled people, and anyone who is vulnerable and in need of care.

Those in specific need of love, care and healing are listed in our notice sheet and prayers are offered for them weekly.

We aim to arrange lifts for those who cannot make it to the church by themselves.

WORSHIP

Our services reflect the diverse nature of both traditional and modern forms of worship with traditional choir-led services at 9.00 am and 6.00 pm using either the 'New English Hymnal' or 'Mission Praise' and contemporary worship at 11.00 am. Refreshments are offered after every morning service.

We feel it is important that the range of service styles continues and we recognise that growth is important across all groups and styles. Moving forward we are looking at introducing a youth service into our regular schedule.

One morning service every Sunday is livestreamed via the church's YouTube channel, enabling us to reach those not able to attend in person. The livestreams average 5-10 viewers when streamed and 60 views in total.

There is a JC Club for children at the 11.00 am service except for the first Sunday of the month when they join the All Age Service. There is also a developing youth programme. We have a prayer ministry team which is available in the North Chapel during and after the 11.00 am service.



Services

SUNDAYS

Average
Attendance

31

9:00 am

Traditional sung service with robed choir accompanied by the organ. Either Matins (BCP) or Holy Communion (CW), both with a sermon.

Average
Attendance

65

11:00 am

Modern all-age family service with worship band. Either Holy Communion or Service of the Word, both with a sermon.

Average
Attendance

12

6:00 pm

Evensong (BCP), sung by robed choir accompanied by the organ. No sermon.

TUESDAYS

Average
Attendance

18

11:00 am

Simple said service of Holy Communion with homily/thought for the day.

Baptisms, Weddings & Funerals

Preparation sessions for both baptisms and for weddings are held by arrangement with the clergy.

Each year we send personal invitations to families who have had funerals at St Michael & All Angels to attend our annual memorial service.

Baptisms

8
Average per year
over last 5 years

Weddings

7
Average per year
over last 5 years

Funerals

21
Average per year
over last 5 years



Festivals

Total Christmas Eve and Christmas Day attendance in 2024: **652**
(Crib Service, two Family Carol Services and Midnight Communion on Christmas Eve; and two morning services on Christmas Day)

Total Easter Day attendance in 2025: **182**
(Standard three Sunday services)

Additional Services

Service of Nine Lessons and Carols
Carol singing within local pubs
Carols at Naphill Village Hall
Annual Memorial Service
Services each day of Holy Week
Three services on Good Friday

Ash Wednesday Service
Ascension Day Service
Mothers' Union Advent Service
Monthly Tiny Tots Service
Community Services (e.g. Scouts
Carol Service, Civic Service)

COMMUNICATION

Communication is important to every church and we have an efficient committee whose task it is to ensure that we reach all those in our parish and beyond so that people have many channels to use to find out all that is going on at St Michael & All Angels.

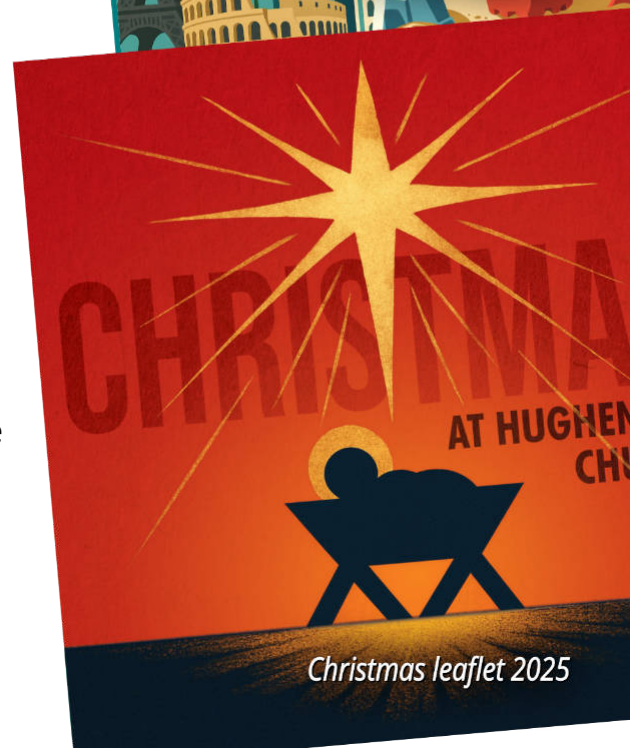
Our parish magazine called 'Outlook' is an important tool in this mission. It is a monthly publication, printed in-house, that has come within the top 20 in national competitions. The whole process is carried out by volunteers who write, collate, design, print and deliver. The magazine is free and we see it as outreach and celebrate that it is an outward looking magazine, very much concerned with the world beyond the parish boundaries. The vicar writes a piece entitled 'From the Vicarage' each month.

We maintain a presence on Facebook with regular posts as well as an up-to-date website with access to the church calendar as well as general information about the church and the latest edition of Outlook.

We use the church management tool ChurchSuite to organise the church calendar, church rotas and the church address book. The majority of the congregation are signed up to this enabling easy communication including a weekly newsletter on Saturday afternoon containing our weekly notice sheet. The weekly paper notice sheet that is given out to everyone at Sunday and Tuesday services contains service information, a prayer list and the calendar for the week ahead as well as important upcoming dates.

Church notice boards in the porch and at the bottom of the church path are kept up-to-date and in good condition.

At Christmas and Easter we design, produce and deliver leaflets that reach the whole parish. They offer a message from the vicar and details of all the services and events over the festival period.



THE CHURCH

St Michael & All Angels is a beautiful, grade II* listed, historic building. It sits within a Church of England enclave in the middle of the estate of Hughenden Manor, owned and managed by the National Trust. Its location, away from the community, can be seen as both a blessing and a challenge.

The church seats 200 people in fixed pews, with provision for additional chairs and standing room.

Inside are many interesting memorials and artefacts, many of which are related to Benjamin Disraeli, owner of the manor in late Victorian times. The chancel is celebrated for its stunning Victorian murals.

The church building is in sound condition, mid-way through a quinquennial report that required little by way of repair.

An impressive traditional organ supports worship and is used during services with a regular, accomplished, organist and choirmaster, and a robed choir. An established worship band leads many services. A full modern AV system and screens are available as well as a four camera system for live-streaming.

The building is largely Victorian, having been substantially rebuilt in the 1870s.



Church from car park



Chancel



Nave



In 1981 the 'North Room' was added to the side of the church which provides additional space and is used for crèche on Sundays and for the weekly Toddler Group as well as a variety of other meetings.

Within church grounds is 'Church House', a set of grade II listed 15th century almshouses converted in the 1920s into a church hall and cottage. It now comprises a fully fitted kitchen, toilet and meeting room equipped with an AV system. The space is used for various church activities including Mothers' Union meetings and coffee mornings, JC Club, youth and PCC meetings.

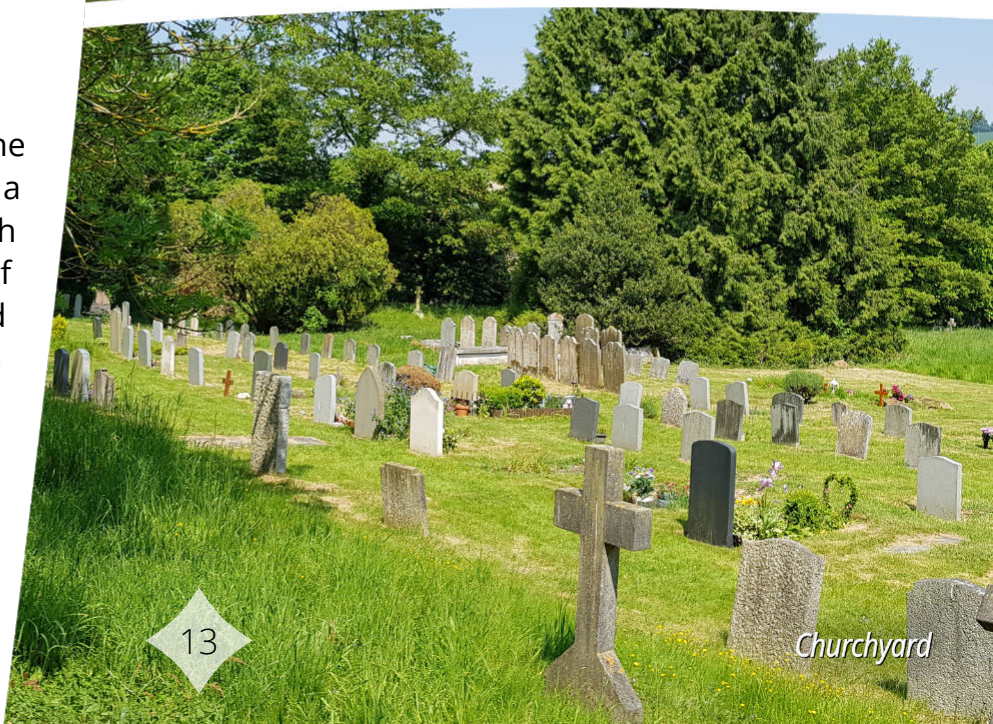
The open graveyard is substantial and surrounds the church itself. It has ancient graves, some Commonwealth War Graves, modern graves and an area for the interment of ashes in individual plots. The church keeps a detailed register of graves dating back to the mid-19th century.

The Church is open every day for prayer and visitors.

The maintenance of the graveyard is undertaken by a professional gardener with help from a group of volunteer lawnmowers and gardeners. Our Eco-group is heavily involved in the management of the graveyard.



Church House



Churchyard



THE VICARAGE

Situated in Valley Road, Hughenden Valley HP14 4PF, the vicarage was built in the 1920s and purchased by the diocese in 1970.

The accommodation consists of a large lounge, dining room, study, kitchen and downstairs cloakroom with toilet and small washbasin.

Upstairs are four good sized bedrooms, a separate shower room, a bathroom and a second toilet. Outside there is a double garage and parking space. There is a large garden both to the front, sides and rear.

The Vicarage is approximately one mile from the Church in the heart of Hughenden village.

LOCAL SCHOOLS

There are four schools within the Parish: Hughenden Primary School, Great Kingshill Church of England Combined School, Naphill & Walters Ash Combined School and Piper's Corner Independent Girls School.

The Vicar is a governor of Great Kingshill Church of England Combined School, with an opportunity to take collective worship on a weekly basis, shared with our Associate Minister and Children & Families Minister. Special church services for the schools are arranged at Christmas and Easter. We hope the successful candidate will be active in encouraging more families at these schools to engage with issues of faith and church.



Great Kingshill C of E Primary School

Secondary education is based upon selection at 11 plus, with grammar schools in High Wycombe and Secondary or Upper Schools in Great Missenden, Holmer Green and Princes Risborough.

Tertiary education is to be found locally in Buckinghamshire New University in High Wycombe.

FINANCE

The parish share payable to the diocese for 2025 is £80,488 and is completely up to date. For 2026 our parish share is £81,839.

Standing orders and church collections are projected to produce £100,000.

The overall cost of the Children & Families Minister is circa £40,000 pa of which the diocese contributes £15,000 pa.

We have recovered £21,554 in gift aid repayments this year from the government.

Our bank balance currently stands at circa £200,000 and full details can be seen in the Annual Financial Report (link in appendix).

The PCC decides the amount of monies paid out each year to other charities and it is currently set at 10% of net-income. This year about £8,000 will be paid out with recommendations received from the Mission Fund Committee to the PCC.

Weddings and funerals produce an income of circa £26,000 pa but after payments out this produces a net £6,500 to the church.

Parochial expenses are paid to both the Incumbent and the Associate Minister Helen Peters and are kept fully up-to-date.

The accounts are verified by an independent paid chartered accountant. We have a treasurer and assistant treasurer who both have access to monitor the ongoing bank accounts and entries.

There is a standing committee who acts for the PCC in recommending financial actions and the incumbent is an automatic member of this team.

Potential Developments and Other Opportunities

The church is considering how best to use Church House. It is basically in the format of a small hall with a cottage attached. The condition of the cottage is poor and some action is required in the near future.

One consideration in the current vision process is an idea to obtain grant money and make the whole facility into a better hall and meeting rooms for the church and the local community.

We currently have very limited accessible toilet and baby changing facilities, which negatively impacts those who need them. The church itself has to use a single toilet in Church House and one in the garden close to it. There is a further project being considered to add additional

space to the side (North) room of the church and with that to have toilets and a better kitchen facility. These would also be made available to our local community.

The breadth of worship offered at St Michael & All Angels is an excellent training ground for a curate, and curates have been successfully trained with us, although we lack accommodation to offer. The successful candidate may wish to consider this in the future.

We are prayerfully waiting
for our new incumbent.

We look forward to meeting you!





The Diocese of Oxford serves the mission of the Church in Buckinghamshire, Berkshire and Oxfordshire. The Diocese comprises more than 600 parishes, with over 800 churches, serving a diverse population of more than 2 million people located in all types of settings.



Rt Revd Dave Bull
Bishop of Buckingham

Due to the size and complexity of the Diocese, we have three Area Bishops who exercise considerable strategic and pastoral oversight for their Areas. The Bishop of Buckingham, the Rt Rev'd Dave Bull, was consecrated Bishop in Lent 2025. The post of Archdeacon of Buckingham is currently vacant as we await the licensing of the Rev'd Cassa Messervy in March 2026. In September 2020 the Rev'd Canon Chris Bull was appointed Associate Archdeacon of Buckingham.



Revd Deiniol Heywood
Interim Associate
Archdeacon

Through prayer, listening and discernment a [common vision](#) has emerged for the Diocese of Oxford. The vision is based on the qualities described in The Beatitudes and addresses what kind of church we are called to be:

*a more Christ-like Church for the sake of God's world:
contemplative, compassionate, courageous.*

Our Common Vision continues to emerge as we identify together areas of our common life where we believe God is calling to focus. The [diocesan focal areas](#) are not a description of everything we do, but these priorities are being supported centrally by resources, training, conferences, workshops, and much more. The diocese is inviting benefices and their clergy to share a vision rather than demanding a response, motivated by hope not driven by anxiety, and thereby to flourish in their ministry. It is hoped that clergy appointed into the Archdeaconry of Buckingham will want to commit to this vision and encourage their benefice to share in becoming a more Christ-like church for the sake of God's world.



Appendix



Wycombe Deanery is a family of Anglican churches and congregations in and around High Wycombe. Like all families, our Deanery is diverse, stretching from the Thames Valley to the Chilterns Escarpment, encompassing urban areas in High Wycombe, some smaller towns, and dozens of rural villages. What unites us as a Deanery is a vision to see all of our churches flourishing in serving their parishes and working together to seek God's Kingdom.



A new Deanery Plan was approved by our Deanery Synod in October 2025. The plan, which was drawn together with contributions from across the Deanery, offers a shared direction of travel for the Deanery over the next five years. While not being a rigid blueprint, it is a framework built upon our vision, values, and priorities.

Our Vision

At the heart of our Deanery is a longing to see the love of Jesus known across our churches and parishes, and to see our churches playing their part in seeing God's Kingdom come. This is summed up in our vision statement:

*To help our churches serve their parishes and work together
to see God's Kingdom come*

Our Values

Our values define who we are and how we foster a culture of mission and ministry in the Deanery. They are:

- To be centred on Jesus, Spirit-led, and rooted in prayer
- To be a catalyst for mission
- To work for the flourishing of our churches and their people
- To celebrate our differences

Appendix

Our Priorities

Through prayer we have identified four priority areas which have emerged from our values. These are areas where, as a Deanery, we will seek to discern how God may be calling us to support our churches. They are also areas we encourage every church in the Deanery to consider for their own context.

These are:

- Strengthening the next generation
- Discerning opportunities for new congregations
- Developing clergy for lifelong mission and ministry
- Supporting churchwardens and lay leaders

Further information about our Deanery, including our Deanery Plan, who's who, and upcoming meeting date, can be found on our website:

www.wycombedeanery.com

We hope that this has given you a flavour of what we are about as a Deanery. If you have further questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Revd James Dwyer
Area Dean

Caroline Sants
Lay Chair

LINKS

Documents

[Annual Accounts 2024](#)

[Annual Report Booklet 2025](#)

[Outlook Magazine](#)

Church Website

www.hughendenparishchurch.org.uk

Facebook Page

www.facebook.com/hughendenchurch

YouTube Channel

www.youtube.com/@hughendenchurch

Great Kingshill C of E School

www.greatkingshill.school

Hughenden Primary School

www.hughendenprimary.co.uk

Naphill and Walters Ash School

www.naphillandwaltersashschool.co.uk

Pipers Corner School

www.piperscorner.co.uk

National Trust Hughenden

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/hughenden

Appendix

PARISH STATISTICS

Parish Census and deprivation summary

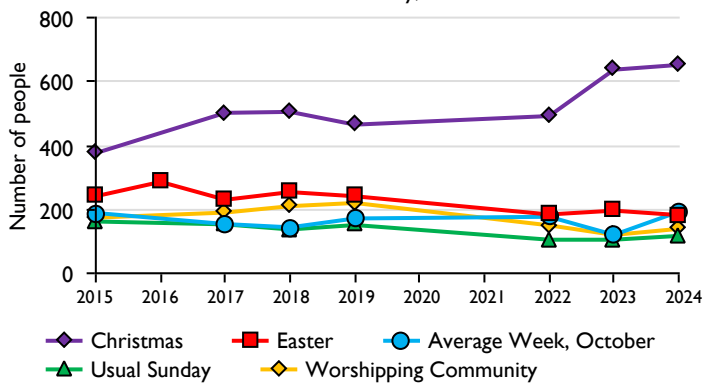
Parish population (2021): 6267

	Parish	Diocese	National
% aged 0-19	21%	24%	23%
% aged 20-44	27%	33%	33%
% aged 45-69	35%	30%	31%
% aged 70 & over	18%	12%	14%
% Christian	49%	45%	46%
% non-Christian religion	10%	13%	11%

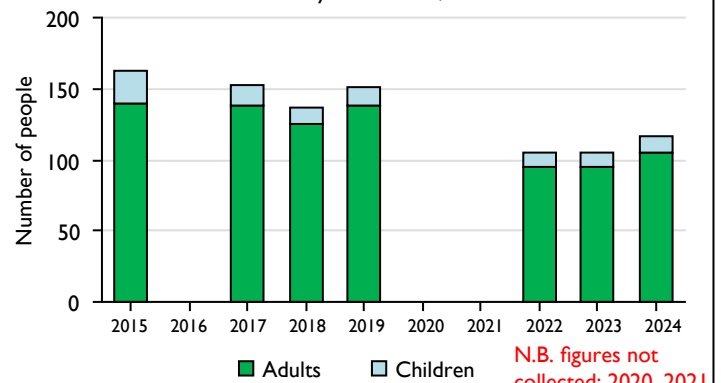
Parish deprivation rank (IMD 2019): 12024

(1=most deprived parish in the Church of England, 12,161=least deprived)

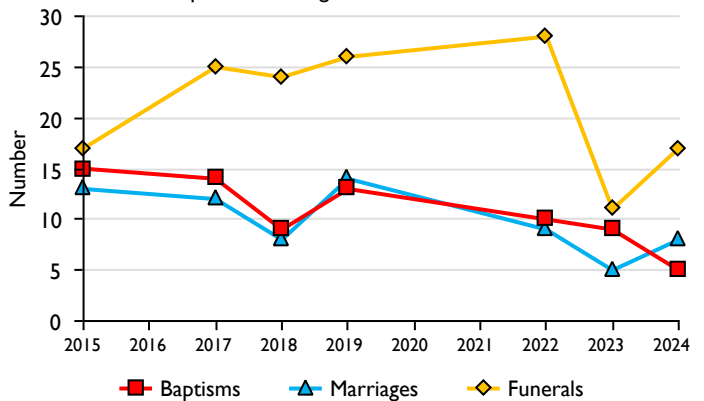
1. Attendance Summary, 2015-24



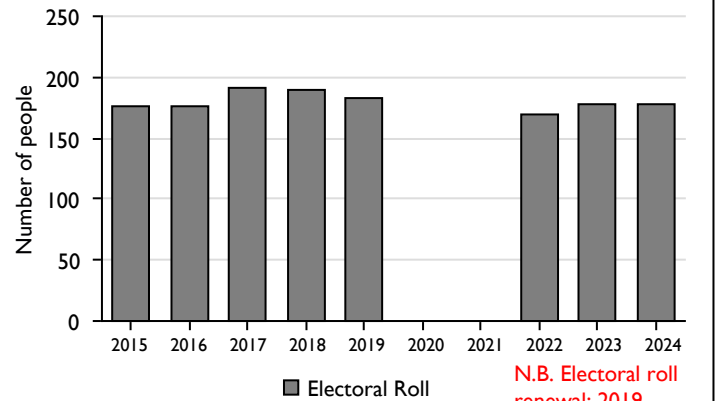
3. Usual Sunday Attendance, 2015-24



6. Baptisms, marriages and funerals, 2015-24



7. Electoral Roll, 2015-24



Appendix

This profile was compiled by a team of 6 using additional feedback from the congregation via a questionnaire.

The questions asked were:

1. Why do you come to worship at Hughenden?
2. What features of Hughenden Church and area make this such a good place to lead worship?
3. What makes the life of the church so good?
4. What would you like the new person to do?
5. What gifts and skills would you like the new person to have?

Over 40 responses were received out of an electoral roll of 130.

The profile team also carried out a strength and weaknesses analysis.

Notes

- [1] *Hughenden Park is on Historic Englands 'Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in England'.*
- [2] *The Chilterns are a National Landscape, formerly an 'Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).*



St. Michael & All Angels
CHURCH IN THE PARK | LIVING, LOVING, SERVING