

The Parish of Christ Church, Patricroft

Setting

The Parish of Christ Church is situated with excellent transport links to Manchester, Liverpool, and Bolton by way of bus, tram, train and motorway and is part of the City of Salford. The population is approximately 4,000 people, although there are a number of new homes being built on brownfield sites near the Bridgewater canal. It is a working class area which has been supplemented by a lively immigrant population. At the 2011 census 12% were from ethnic backgrounds. The deprivation rank is 322/12500. There are two schools, one a voluntary aided Church of England Primary and the other a Local Authority Primary and they share an executive headteacher.



The Chancel

Building

The building is 150 years old and has a beautiful compact interior. It is clearly visible from Liverpool Road. There are some interesting murals in the chancel which were painted in 1895 by Gustave Hiller. Part of the chancel has been modified to create a storage area behind. Recently the pews were replaced by chairs and a welcome area has been created along with an accessible toilet and a kitchen in order to use the church more for community outreach. There is a church hall built in the 1920s which is linked to the church by a brick extension built in 1988 with toilets, a kitchen and a meeting room. The hall and church are much used by the community and we have our own Guide and Brownie groups. The buildings are used Monday to Friday by before and after school clubs and a nursery called Kiddiewinkles. The maintenance of the building is a challenge and the Lady chapel needs attention.



The open area at the back of church is used by the after school club and nursery during the daytime

Tradition and Vision

Christ Church is an open evangelical fellowship which has developed from a more traditional background. As a community based church it has a ladies group and a community choir (Barton Belles) but our main opportunity for outreach is through the local schools. As well as leading assemblies the clergy and two members of the congregation are involved in the JAM clubs at both local primary schools. We involve children from the schools through leavers services, Christingle and Pop UK.

Worship

We use Common Worship as our main liturgy and are open to more varied worship styles. We have a small Sunday School.

Team and Ecumenical Participation

Christ Church is an active member of the Eccles Team. Until recently we hosted the Book of Common Prayer evensong which brought together people from across the team. We have also been involved in Team Alpha, Growing Leaders and since the arrival of the Team Rector, E100 bible groups and Jesus Shaped People groups. Our team clergy are committed to working together and we hope to be able to develop Youth ministry across the team. We are part of Churches Together in Eccles and hope to develop closer working with the former Eden Team who are based at the Castle in Lewis Street.

What we are looking for in our new Vicar

We particularly want a person who will help to grow our worshipping community by continuing to foster relationships with the schools in our parish, and by engaging with the wider community. We need someone who has a heart for mission to an urban multicultural population which includes high levels of deprivation.

Vicarage

Christ Church has been sharing a vicar with St Andrews for a number of years. The vicarage is a modern 4 bedroom detached house in Abbey Grove which is only a mile from Christ Church (about 15 minutes walk).



A typical street in Patricroft



The church building viewed from Liverpool Road

