

The Diocese of Manchester

PARISH INFORMATION & PROFILE

ST. PAUL'S, ROYTON

A Forward in Faith Parish

Under the care of the Bishop of Beverley



BASIC INFORMATION AND STATISTICS

Full name of benefice or parish(es)

St. Paul's Parish Church, Royton, Oldham

Name and address of patron (if the Bishop of Manchester, write "Bishop")

Rector of Prestwich, St. Mary's

Archdeaconry, Deanery and name of Area Dean

Rochdale Archdeaconry
Oldham West Deanery
Rev. Nick Andrewes

Anglican churches and licensed places of worship in the benefice or parish(es) profiled here

- a) Name of principal church
St. Paul's
- b) Approximate key dates for the building
Dedicated 1754
Consecrated 1757
Enlarged and modifications made in 1854, 1883, 1889, 1919, 1925
- c) Approximate seating capacity
250
- d) Name of any detached or nearby hall or other comparable facility
St. Paul's Parish Centre
- e) Details of other Anglican churches or licensed places of worship in the benefice or parish(es) profiled here
None

Official clergy housing: address and brief description

Heyside Vicarage

Official population

Not applicable

Number on electoral roll

169

At the present time 58 live outside the parish.

Average number of Sunday communicants

110

In the last twelve months, numbers (if applicable) of

- a) those baptised
25
- b) those admitted to holy communion before confirmation
None
- c) those confirmed
11
- d) marriages
2
- e) funerals
6
- f) Christmas communicants (all services)
101
- g) Easter communicants (all services)
116

Circulation of parish magazine (if applicable)

120 per issue, 10 issues per year

Name, address and telephone number of churchwardens

Christopher Barnes
31 Park Lane
Royton
Oldham
OL2 6RE
Tel: 07940 557830

Christopher Grindrod
17 Denbydale Way
Royton
Oldham
OL2 5TN
Tel: 07914 525553

Name, address and telephone number of any representatives (usually two where applicable, but in certain notified cases more) appointed under the Patronage (Benefices) Measure 1986 section 11 (1)

As above

PRIESTS (ORDINATION OF WOMEN) MEASURE 1993

At the PCC Meeting held on the 30th December 2009 it was confirmed that the PCC would not accept the appointment of a woman as incumbent, priest-in-charge, or team vicar.

PETITION FOR EXTENDED EPISCOPAL OVERSIGHT

In March 2016, the PCC voted for the Single Resolution, affiliating to the Society and remained a Forward in Faith parish. This ensures that this parish remains committed to promoting and maintaining the apostolic succession, providing catholic teaching and practice and is placed under the episcopal oversight of the Bishop of Beverley. Under the guidance of the Society we are committed to sharing in Christ's mission within our diocese, to remaining within the Church of England and to work towards Christian Unity.

LOCAL COMMUNITY

The Borough of Oldham nestles in the south Pennine Moors. It is an industrial town and at its height it was the most productive cotton spinning town in the world. However, the demise of the cotton industry meant that Oldham had to look elsewhere for its wealth, and the two biggest workforces belong to the hospital and Oldham Council. The Borough is made up of the surrounding smaller settlements, one of which is Royton.

Royton is situated to the North of Oldham where the dense suburbs give way to rural land. There is good road access to the rest of the North West region, and Mills Hill Station is within easy reach of the parish making the cities of Manchester and Leeds easily accessible. In addition the recent opening of the Oldham and Rochdale Metrolink line has improved Royton's connectivity to Manchester City Centre and the wider Greater Manchester conurbation; with nearby stops at Shaw, Derker and Westwood providing convenient access to the Metrolink network.



The Parish Church of St. Paul's is situated in the centre of Royton. The population ranges from young families to the senior age group, many of whom have lived in the local area all their lives. The population of Royton has increased slowly over the last ten years, but seems to be fairly static at the present time. There is a mix of social and private housing that includes all types of housing from terraced to detached properties. There is a mix of older properties along with newer housing built by private builders. There are two warden controlled purpose built accommodation for the elderly in the parish, and a number of its residents form part of the congregation. There are few ethnic or national residents although this number appears to be increasing slowly.

SCHOOLS, INSTITUTIONS, VOLUNTARY GROUPS

St. Paul's is very proud of its links with our own voluntary aided primary school. The close links between church and school have been built up by previous Heads and incumbents. A new Head took up post on the 1st January 2017 and we are confident that the links will continue to flourish. Within the parish there are two other county primary schools, Thorp and Royton Hall. There are no links with either of these schools.

Within the parish there is a library, a Health Centre, recently built swimming baths and leisure centre, two supermarkets, a small shopping precinct, Post Office, private nursery, two public parks, the War Memorial is in one of them, a care home, local Scout Headquarters, Air Training Corps and several public houses.

The ground floor of the Parish Centre is rented out during the week to various organisations and private groups. Among these tenants are Rainbows, Brownies and Guides, Age UK provide lunches to the public on Monday lunchtime, weekly meetings are held by Henshaw's School for the Blind, Springboard which provides support for Alzheimer sufferers and their carers, Making Space which is a group for sufferers of Dementia, the Royton History Society meet monthly. The Centre is also used as a Polling Station. Also using the centre are three art classes, three slimming groups, two dancing schools, an exercise class and two Yoga groups. The first floor is rented out to a local business on a formal five year lease with bi-annual break clauses.

All P.C.C. and sub committee meetings are held in the Parish Centre and the Sunday School meet there on Sunday mornings, before joining the congregation part way through the service.

The Parish Centre is self-financing and all surplus proceeds are utilised for the upkeep and improvement of the Centre.

WORSHIP AND WORSHIPPERS

Sunday	9.15 a.m.	Parish Mass
Tuesday	7.00 p.m.	Said Mass
Wednesday	10.00 a.m.	Said Mass
Thursday	12.00 noon	Said Mass with Angelus
Holy Days	7.30 p.m.	
Rosary	1 st Sunday of the month	
Laying on of Hands and Benediction as announced		
Confession by arrangement with the priest		
Holy Week	Stations of the Cross	
Maundy Thursday	Washing of the Feet	
Good Friday	Veneration of the Cross	

St. Paul's has a catholic tradition and the liturgy used is the Roman liturgy.

The Sunday morning congregation covers a cross section of young families, middle aged and elderly people. The Sunday School meets in the Parish Centre and then the children and their leaders join the congregation at the offertory.

Pilgrimages

Some members of the Cell of our Lady of Walsingham have been enjoying a mini pilgrimage to Walsingham in March for the past few years.

CHURCH-BASED ORGANISATIONS AND GROUPS

St. Paul's Servers

There are 14 young people listed as servers at St. Paul's at present. They are drawn from both Junior and Secondary age groups and it is intended that they become skilled in each part of the role of server, whether as Cross bearer, acolyte, book bearer or thurifer. The group is run in accordance with Diocesan and parish policies relating to young people.

St. Paul's Choir

A small dedicated choir led by our Director of Music and his deputies. They organise the Carol Service and Easter meditation for choir and congregation. They sing anthems and pieces on special occasions and Holy Days.

Christian Giving Committee

Meet on a regular basis to review the giving of the congregation and more regularly during a campaign.

Cell of Our Lady of Walsingham

Meet on the 4th Wednesday of the month.

Sunday School

Meet weekly and undertake a range of additional activities throughout the year; including activity days, music and drama performances and trips to the Pantomime.

Rose Queen

The Rose Queen and her retinue are chosen by the Sunday School and ratified by the P.C.C. They represent St. Paul's when they visit other churches during the year and also organise some fund raising events.

Ladies Society

Meets twice a month in the Parish Centre. They have speakers, evenings out and an annual day trip.

Parish Centre Support Group

A sub committee of the P.C.C. The Group meets bi-monthly and are responsible for the day to day running of the Parish Centre.

St. Paul's Restoration and Development Committee

A sub committee of the P.C.C.

Mission Statement

The Restoration & Development Committee will work to secure funds for the restoration and development of Saint Paul's Church Royton, whilst ensuring all our work is done through the CELEBRATION of our FAITH, in love and FELLOWSHIP.

The events planned form the basis of the social life at St. Paul's.

Some of the events organised over the past 12 months were:-

Quiz Nights

Four Quiz Nights a year and always good fun

Plant Sale

An annual sale of bedding plants. The whole parish is provided with an Order Form and this provides an opportunity to inform the parish of other events.

Christmas Fair

Annual event providing stalls and a very popular café. We even have a visit from Father Christmas!.

Card Stall

The Stall is permanently in church and in the Parish Centre after the Parish Mass one Sunday a month

Youth Concert by Oldham Lyceum

This has become an annual event where members of the various Bands and Choirs from the Oldham Lyceum entertain us in church followed by a hot supper in the Parish Centre

Oldham Symphony Orchestra

Through the contacts of our previous incumbent, the Orchestra gave three concerts throughout the year with refreshments provided before the concert and during the interval

Organ Recital by Jonathan Scott Silent Movie

A highly regarded professional organist gave a recital followed by a hot supper in the Parish Centre

The world renowned and resident organist at Leicester Square Cinema, Donald MacKenzie has paid us an annual visit for the past four years. He replaces the soundtrack of films from the silent era.

Brighouse & Rastrick Brass Band

An honour to play host to this world famous Brass Band, brought about by our connections with Oldham Lyceum and, in turn, their partnership with the Brighouse & Rastrick Brass Band.

The majority of the events organised by the Restoration & Development Fund in 2016 were very much with a musical influence. This was due to the fact that following long and dedicated fund raising, the fine Harrison & Harrison organ was stripped down and fully refurbished at a cost of just over £100,000. This was a massive achievement and the Re-dedication Service was held on the 9th April 2016.

NEIGHBOURING ANGLICAN CHURCHES AND PARISHES

Following the dissolution of the Benefice with Holy Trinity, Shaw and the retirement of our previous priest, we have been fortunate to have been supported by priests, many retired, to conduct our Masses. However, contact with other churches is very limited.

ECUMENISM

The churches within the parish are:-

Trinity Methodist Do participate in the Whit Walks in Royton

SS Aidan & Oswald

R C

Moravian Church Do participate in the annual Whit Walks in Royton

Bethesda Church

Good Friday Open-air act of worship in the Royton Precinct. This is attended by people of all faiths.

Whit Walks An annual procession of witness on Pentecost Sunday. A joint procession with two of the local churches in the centre of Royton

Remembrance Sunday The Service of Remembrance held at the War Memorial in Royton Park is led by the priest of St. Paul's

MINISTRY

We have one licensed Reader, Mr. Barry Barnes.

There are 19 Eucharistic Ministers at the present time (11 men and 8 women) who assist at communion. Home communion is taken to the sick and organised by one of the Deputy Church Wardens.

The two Church Wardens are supported by a Senior Honorary Warden and three Deputy Church Wardens.

The lay ministry is very active. People are committed to giving their time and skills for God's work.

The P.C.C. would consider any application from a member of the congregation if a situation arose whereby they wished to follow the path of accredited ministry.

MISSION

The parish does not have a Mission Statement at this time. It would be the wish of the PCC to work with the new Incumbent to develop an appropriate Mission Statement following their appointment.

We consider our mission to the community when planning events through our existing organisations and, with the leadership and guidance of a new priest, we plan to develop the following areas of Mission over the coming years.

- ⊕ To uphold the Catholic faith
- ⊕ To continue and encourage spiritual growth
- ⊕ To be aware of the differing needs of the congregation and treat them sensitively
- ⊕ To promote and extend our children's/youth work
- ⊕ To continue to exercise stewardship through our existing channels
- ⊕ To support and encourage the development of the church choir and music
- ⊕ To look for areas of unmet need in the parish where we can be of service

FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP

The stewardship at St. Paul's is led by the Christian Giving Sub Committee. They meet regularly to monitor the giving, to give presentations as reminders when needed and organise a full blown campaign at least every two years. Financial giving reports are published in the Parish Magazine.

Despite much heart searching, giving campaigns and hard work it has been a great disappointment that we have been unable to pay the Parish Share in full since 2008. However, because of a new system in place, the Diocese have recently agreed much more realistic figures for 2017, 2018 and 2019 and we are hopeful that these will be met in full.

The previous incumbent's expenses and utility bills were divided equally between ourselves and Holy Trinity, Shaw, and paid in full.

We hold a Lenten Appeal each year and a different charity is chosen by the PCC. Alongside this, we collect weekly donations for Oldham Foodbank. The donations of food we receive at the Harvest Festival are divided between the local Drop-In Centre and the local hospice.

THE NEXT PARISH PRIEST

The criteria agreed by St Paul's PCC for their net Parish Priest are as follows:

- ⊕ Is a Forward in Faith priest of the Catholic tradition;
- ⊕ Faithful in prayer and keen to develop the prayer life and spiritual growth of our church whilst being responsive to a wide range of needs with the ability to preserve the unity of the congregation;
- ⊕ Must possess the energy and commitment needed by this busy and vibrant parish to fulfil our long-term vision;
- ⊕ Has excellent interpersonal skills and can communicate with people of all ages;
- ⊕ Willingness to work with the younger people and children of our parish and to continue the work with our school and to encourage and promote links with other schools;
- ⊕ Willingness to promote the life and work of the church to the wider parish community;
- ⊕ Willingness to partake fully in the life of the church from a spiritual, operational, social and fundraising sense;
- ⊕ Ability to delegate and to enable others, working initially with and through our existing teams;
- ⊕ Is a prayerful and spiritual person, showing in his own life the outworking of faith;
- ⊕ Is able, with imagination and enthusiasm, to help us to attract new people, especially children and younger people, including further developing our important school links;
- ⊕ Is a skilled and practical leader and communicator who has the confidence to listen and respond to the views and ideas of others, to delegate, and to identify and develop latent potential;
- ⊕ Will be able to engage with people from all backgrounds in our community, irrespective of their faith, to build the place of the Church in the community;
- ⊕ Will explore how we might interface more effectively with businesses and other organisations in our parish.;
- ⊕ Is alive to the potential of new means of communication such as social media;