

The Diocese of Manchester

PARISH INFORMATION AND PROFILE

A completed copy of this form would serve as a Parish Profile for the purposes of an appointment but it is recommended that it is used as the framework for a more attractively written and presented document

The benefice or parish of:

ST LAWRENCE DENTON

Please return your Parish Profile when complete, together with any other requested papers, to:

The Bishop of Manchester: ***bishop.david@manchester.anglican.org***

The Suffragan Bishop or Assistant Bishop who looks after your parish.

The Archdeacon. ***Archrochdale@manchester.anglican.org***

The Registrar ***Diocesan Registry, 5th Floor, Church House***

90 Deansgate, Manchester M3 2QH

The Patron – if applicable

The Area Dean

The Deanery Lay Chair

A hard copy needs to go to the Registrar. Otherwise email copies suffice



1. INTRODUCTION

In two or three summary paragraphs, summarise who you are (as a parish/benefice) and what kind of person you are looking for

The Church of St Lawrence is located within the town of Denton and the Metropolitan Borough of Tameside. It is in the Rochdale Archdeaconry and Ashton Deanery. St Lawrence's is almost 500 years old, originally built in 1531 and is a Grade II* listed building. It is the oldest Church in Denton and is a focal point for the area. The services are a mix of traditional and modern church worship and anybody who walks through the door is welcomed.

We are seeking someone able to preach the Word of God in a clear and helpful way transparently living by Christ. We are looking for someone who can minister services in a traditional way but can also bring in some modern ideas. Someone who can relate to all ages but is able to attract a younger age group and draw them in to the life of the Church.

We asked the congregation what kind of person they are looking for and they said they need to be organised, caring, supportive, inspiring, innovative, encouraging, a good communicator, approachable and treat everyone equally.

We also asked the children in Sunday School what kind of Priest they wanted and this is what they said.

**Angry bird vicar
Backflipping vicar doing communion
Billionaire vicar
Vicar with loads of super powers
Vicar that can turn into the Hulk
Vicar that can take us to America
Tidy
Can sing
Making cakes
Happy
Pretty
Old vicar
Clear voice**

**Funny
Organising vicar
Vicar to take us out
Nice
Superman
Do the washing up
Make fun and play with me
Come to school
Loves colouring
Organising trips
All the super heroes
Tells jokes and is happy**

2. BASIC INFORMATION AND STATISTICS

Statistical information can be requested from the Mission Planning Officer, Alison Peacock at Church House, alisonpeacock@manchester.anglican.org

- 2.1. Full name of benefice or parish(es)
Parish of St Lawrence Church Denton
- 2.2. Title of the post that is vacant
Half time Priest in Charge
- 2.3. Name and address of patron (if the Bishop of Manchester, write "Bishop")
Earl of Wilton, PO Box 466, Mt. Macedon, 3441 Victoria, Australia

2.4. Archdeaconry, Deanery, and name of Area Dean

Please include the contact details (phone and email) of the Archdeacon and Area Dean

Archdeacon: Ven Cherry Vann.
Rochdale Archdeaconry
Tel Office: 0161 678 1454
Email: archrochdale@manchester.anglican.org

Area Dean: Rev Roger Dixon.
Ashton Deanery
Tel Home: 0161 370 1863
Email: revrogerdixon@outlook.com

2.5. Official clergy housing: address and brief description

The Rectory
131 Town Lane
Denton
Manchester
M34 2DJ



The Rectory is a detached 5 bedroom house with a dining room, large well fitted kitchen, utility room and a good sized office. The lounge is a very good size with patio doors leading to a well stocked large garden. Upstairs there are 5 good sized bedrooms and a modern bathroom. There is ample off road parking for at least 3 cars and a single garage. It is situated approximately 750 metres from the church building.

2.6. Official population

**As at 2011 the population of the Parish was 9,500.
As at 2011 the population of Denton was 36,591.**

2.7. Number on electoral roll

April 2016 - 81 people are on the Electoral roll

2.8. Average Weekly Attendance for the last 3 years

49 adults 9 children

2.9. Average Weekly Attendance of children and young people under 16

8 Children

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

a. those baptised

22 baptisms

b. those admitted to holy communion before confirmation

2 Admitted to communion

c. those confirmed

3 Confirmations

d. marriages

6 Weddings

e. funerals

19 Funerals in Church and 11 further services at the crem

f. Christmas communicants (all services)

41

g. Easter communicants (all services)

79

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

a. Name of principal church

St Lawrence Church Denton (Listed Grade II*)

b. Approximate key dates for the building

Originally built in 1531, it was extended in 1872 and the recent considerable re-ordering was completed in 2016 (it is one of only 29 surviving medieval timber framed churches in England).

c. Approximate seating capacity

The Lady Chapel has space to seat approx 30 people. It is open to the main body of Church and provides a comfortable smaller area for worship or meetings whilst providing extra seating for busier times.

The main body of Church has a mix of chairs and traditional pews which can seat approx 150 people.
There is a 3rd area which has glass doors to separate the area from the main room and can seat approx 20 people. There is a servery area with a sink and hot drink facility.
There is also an office area on a mezzanine floor.
The gallery area has some seating but is used generally for storing and also has a belfry.
There are toilet facilities within the Church.

- d. When was the last Quinquennial inspection done? What are the main issues that the architect has highlighted as needing doing? How much did the architect estimate they might cost? What progress has been made thus far by the parish?

The last Quinquennial inspection was done in Sept 2016.
The outside of the building is in need of painting. Quotes have been obtained and the funds are available for this task to be completed.
Paths around the footprint of the church have now been completely replaced and made safe.
The Bell Tower and North Transept are in need of repair and we are following the usual faculty channels.
The architect estimates the cost of repairs at £32,000 + VAT and professional fees where relevant.

A copy of the latest Quinquennial inspection of the church is available to visiting applicants.

- e. Name of any attached or nearby hall or other similar facility
The Parish Hall is a prefab building on the site of the church. This is used by Sunday school and by some outside groups such as a dance class. It is also rented out for children's parties. It has kitchen and toilet facilities.
- f. details of other Anglican churches or licensed places of worship in the benefice or parish(es) profiled here

This is the only licensed place of worship in the Parish.

- 2.12. Details of publicity that the parish produces e.g. newsletter, magazine
There is a weekly news-sheet containing all the details of activities within the parish and financial information.
A news-sheet for special occasions is also produced. For example detailing what will happen with the interregnum.
There is a booklet about the history of the Church, details of Easter and Christmas services and a booklet about Denton Churches Together.
Events are published on our own website and AChurchnearyou website as well as on Facebook.

- 2.13. Address of website and other social media if applicable
Website: <http://www.stlawrencedenton.org.uk>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Stlawrencedenton>
Twitter: Not used

2.14. Names of churchwardens

Janet Robinson, Pam Gladwin

2.15. Names of any representatives (usually two where applicable, but in certain notified cases more) appointed under the Patronage (Benefices) Measure 1986 section 11 (1), or otherwise

Note: please do not enter names here until the relevant Section 11 PCC meeting (if applicable) has been held and the representatives duly appointed. Consult the Archdeacon's office for clarification if necessary.

Gillian Mellish (Treasurer) and John Kenyon (PCC Secretary)

**3. PRIESTS (ORDINATION OF WOMEN) MEASURE 1993
HOUSE OF BISHOPS DECLARATION ON THE MINISTRY OF BISHOPS AND
PRIESTS 2014**

Since 17 November 2014 it has no longer been possible for a PCC to pass resolutions under the Priests (Ordination of Women) Measure 1993 or to petition under the 1993 Act of Synod for Extended Episcopal Oversight. It is no longer a requirement that parishes should consider passing or rescinding resolutions under the Measure at a Section 11 Meeting in a vacancy. Any new resolutions must now be passed under the House of Bishops Declaration on the Ministry of Bishops and Priests. A PCC, on grounds of theological conviction, may resolve to request that arrangements are made for it under the House of Bishops Declaration.

Under transitional arrangements, though, any resolutions passed under the Measure will be treated as if they are resolutions under the House of Bishops Declaration until 17 November 2016.

Please record details below if either,
a) any resolutions under the Priests (Ordination of Women) Measure or the 1993 Act of Synod were passed by the PCC prior to 17 November 2014 and have not subsequently been rescinded, or

b) any resolution under the House of Bishops Declaration on the Ministry of Bishops and Priests 2014 has been passed.

NONE

Your Archdeacon or the Diocesan Registrar can advise further if there are any questions about this section.

4. LOCAL COMMUNITY

What is the social character of the area?

Is the population stationary, rising, or falling, and what is its age profile and ethnic profile?

The age profile for the Parish as at 2011 is as follows:

Age group	Percentage
0-4	6%
5-15	13%
16-64	63%
65+	18%

The ethnic profile for the Parish as at 2011 is as follows:

Ethnicity	Percentage
British	94%
Irish	1%
Gypsy or Irish Traveller	0%
Other White	1%
White & Black Caribbean	1%
White & Black African	1%
White & Asian	<1%
Other Mixed	<1%
Indian	1%
Pakistani	<1%
Bangladeshi	<1%
Chinese	<1%
Other Asian	<1%
African	1%
Caribbean	<1%
Other Black	<1%
Arab	<1%
Other Ethnic Group	<1%

What would you say are the main issues facing your community?

The main issues are Low/No Qualifications, Single parenthood, Crime & Disorder, Unemployment and Ill-health/Disabilities.

What kind of houses make up the bulk of the parish?

The make up of household type for the Parish as at 2011 is as follows:

Household type	Percentage
Owner occupied households	66%
Social rented households	23%
Private rented households	11%

What engagement with the local community does the church already have?

There are considerable links with 4 primary schools and the large secondary school. They attend open days and have been involved with some activities with St Lawrence's

The local History Society is integral to our open days and maintain a good link with the Church, often helping to support on open days and in setting them up.

There are links with 2 elderly Care Homes and a Sheltered Housing Scheme as well as Denton Town Team. Our local MP supports and assists us.

What significant institutions such as factories, shops, offices, and hospitals are there?

There is a large retail park within the vicinity together with many local shops, take-aways and some restaurants and pubs. There is a swimming pool, park and Library.

There are many offices within the area and some industrial areas with small factories.

The local council have plans to build a large leisure complex which will add further interest to the area.

Tameside Hospital is within easy reach and the area has a number of modern Health clinics.

What else should be recorded?

The area is well located for motorway access sitting by the M60.

Manchester Airport is only 20 minutes away and the wonderful Tame Valley surrounding the area.

5. SCHOOLS AND VOLUNTARY GROUPS

What schools are there within the benefice / parish boundary (church schools or other)?

We have links with 2 Primary Schools within the Parish boundary. There is also 1 Roman Catholic Secondary School.

What links are maintained or desirable?

We visit them regularly and they attend open days and events at the Church.

We are the emergency venue for one of the primary schools as part of their business continuity plan.

Which voluntary groups (other than church-based groups) have a presence either on church premises or elsewhere in the benefice / parish?

A local dance school have their classes in the Church Hall each week.

The local History Society have an ongoing interest and involvement in our Building and the Open Weeks which we hold 4 times a year.

The Scouting Group attend the Family Parade service every month and also help with Coffee and cake for the fellowship after this meeting. Members of the congregation attend their fundraising activities and family members are part of the Scouting Group.

What else should be recorded?

A large local senior School (not in this Parish) is open to communication and we have involved the pupils in activities in the recent past.

6. WORSHIP AND WORSHIPPERS

What is the present pattern of Sunday and weekday worship?

1 st Sunday of month	10:45am Holy Communion
2 nd Sunday of month	9:30am Holy Communion 10:45am Family and Parade Service
3 rd Sunday of month	10:45am Holy Communion
4 th Sunday of month	9:30am Holy Communion 10:45am Morning Prayer
5 th Sunday of Month	10:30am Holy Communion – Joint Mission Partnership Service
1 st Thursday of month	9:00am Holy Communion
3 rd and 5 th Thursday of month	9:00am Morning prayer
2 nd Tuesday of the month	12noon Midday Prayer
2 nd Thursday of each month	7:30pm 'Come and See' discussion worship group.

Baptisms after morning service at 12:45pm

Which books and service orders are in use?

Hymn Book – Anglican Old and New

Liturgy – Common Worship, Iona

Bible - NIV

What is the normal vesture for ministers (i.e. what robes are normally worn?)?

Currently traditional vestments (Cassock and Surplice) are worn for Sunday services and formal occasions. White collars for other services.

Our preference is that Cassock and Surplice is worn.

In the congregation(s), what is the mix of age, gender, and social groups?

The congregation is mainly white female above the age of 50, there are approximately 12 males, 4 of whom are above the age of retirement.

Between 4 and 12 children regularly attend Sunday School.

How many worshippers live outside the parish boundary?

35 members of the electoral roll live outside the parish but the majority still live within Denton

In the spectrum of church tradition how would you describe the worship – “evangelical”, “central”, “catholic”, or some variation, or in other terms?

Worship is evangelical

What else should be recorded?

The congregation has a number of Iranian Christians who arrived as asylum seekers. Their energy and enthusiasm has made a difference to us. One of them has now been elected to the PCC and three are serving on the Fabric Committee. Some of the congregation have also given them some very practical help and support.

7. CHURCH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS AND GROUPS

What church-based organizations and groups exist?

Tuesday Group

Mothers Union

Sunday School

Where do they meet and how often?

Tuesday Group – Church - 2nd Tuesday of each month.

Mothers Union – Church – once a month

Sunday School - Parish Hall – every week

What numbers are involved and what links are maintained or desirable?

2nd Tuesday Group - Approx 30 people attend, 20 of who do not regularly, if ever, attend Sunday services. They meet in the Church and a short service is held. Some choose not to join in this but still enjoy the social event, fellowship and the meal.

Mothers Union - This is an active group of 18 women who invite speakers from all areas and encourage links with local hospitals and homeless groups. They send out 1st Anniversary cards for Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals.

Sunday School - Activities which encourage growth and worship.

How would you describe the social life of the church?

The Social life of the church is very active with various members taking part in day trips, luncheons and activities in other churches in the areas.

What else should be recorded?

2nd Tuesday Group is a growing venture which will grow as more links are made e.g. introducing health discussion and internet usage.

8. NEIGHBOURING ANGLICAN CHURCHES AND PARISHES

What does the Deanery Mission and Pastoral plan say about your parish?

Our statement in 2014

We have recently done extensive repairs and reordering of our ancient building in order to enhance our worship and opportunities for community engagement and mission. Our decision-making has been inspired and informed by our 500 year old past, while being loyal to the future. In this process we have grown together as a church family, have collective ownership of our vision, with the congregation being willing and well-motivated to engage in mission.

Until the drainage work is complete our opportunities for using our building are limited (we can't use the toilets!). In the meantime we are using PCC meetings to address the question of exactly what our mission and community engagement will look like, at least in the short-term. Both the PCC and wider church family are growing in their understanding of what it means to be (collectively) a 'royal priesthood', being a bridge that people can use to respond to God's calling 'out of darkness into his wonderful light'. We have one member training for ordination in 2015 with a ministry profile around engagement with young adults.

Open Days are used to invite people in to see our Heritage Display as well as other features of our building. Work with young people includes an increasing integration of the local scout/cub/beaver group as well as close contact with the primary schools in the parish. Part of the vision of the Mission Partnership (Audenshaw and Denton) is to develop links with Denton Community College which, although not in our parish, is fed by primary schools within each of the partnership parishes. We have established fledgling links with the College through our Heritage Lottery Funded Heritage Exhibition, with pupils assisting with video interviews and display preparation.

We have begun to be involved with the launch of the Denton North East 'Our Place' initiative which aims to give communities control over dealing with issues in their area. We have many ideas of engagement in common and are looking to develop stronger links within 'Our Place'.

Deanery Comment 2014

The Deanery is delighted to see the major progress made in refurbishing the Church building of St. Lawrence and is aware just how much effort has gone into this development. It looks forward to see developments in the mission and ministry of St. Lawrence as a result of the work done.

The Deanery would encourage further involvement in local projects and an increasing involvement in the local community.

The Deanery is delighted to see the development of the Mission Partnership in Audenshaw and Denton and looks forward to hearing about mission initiatives as they are developed.

The Deanery notes that St. Lawrence's benefits at present from a full-time stipendiary minister. Within the present climate of reducing stipendiary numbers, the parish will not be able to rely of this level of stipendiary ministry in the future. It also wants to encourage the Mission Partnership to look for ways to increase the sharing of stipendiary roles across its churches.

Update 2017

Toilets installed and operational !!

Second Tuesdays brining in a variety of people for worship, refreshments, social chat, talks from other agencies.

Come and See – a fledgling faith exploration group, using to scripture to inform and expand discussion.

Describe any collaboration you have with neighbouring or other Anglican churches and parishes.

The Mission Partnership with 4 neighbouring Anglican Parishes have an active collaborative relationship. The ministers meet regularly in Prayer and in the Pub to support each other which strengthens the communication in the partnership.

There is a regular Pulpit exchange and joint services every 5th Sunday and during August.

What activities or projects do you undertake or plan jointly?

There will be a joint 'Wedding Fayre' in Summer 2017 and everyone is invited to any social event we hold.

All special services such as Christmas and Easter are advertised at each church to open up opportunities of different times to worship.

Litter pick.

Are there plans for any form of Mission Partnership with neighbouring parishes?

See above

What else should be recorded?

If there is a Mission Partnership Action Plan or equivalent, please attach a copy.

The Plan is in progress and is part of the Fit for Mission Pilot Scheme.

9. ECUMENISM

Are there churches of other Christian traditions in the benefice / parish or significant in the wider area?

The Denton Churches Together are a group of local churches who meet together and participate in events such as the Carnival and days out.

What links are maintained or desirable, formal or informal?

The links are both formal and informal between groups of individuals as relationships grow. The Methodist group are good friends of St Lawrence's and we regularly attend film nights and dances in their large church Hall.

Everyone gets together for Beer and Carols at Christmas and also support each other's fund raising events.

Denton Churches Together have Lent Groups and Carol singing at a retail park.

Have ministers met regularly?

The Ministers support one another and maintain good links of communication at least 3 times a week for prayer and regularly for dinner.

Is there an active Churches Together or similar organisation in the area?

Denton Churches Together – see above

Does another church or denomination use your building for worship or other activities?

No

What else should be recorded?

Deanery Christian Aid project to raise £5000 over 3 years was fulfilled in 1 year and Christmas card donations were put to this.

10. MINISTRY

Apart from the parish priest, what other ordained ministers, if any, are licensed to, or regularly officiating with the bishop's permission in, the benefice / parish? Please name assistant curates, NSMs, OLMs, and retired clergy.

Sheila Cant works 15 hours as OLM with particular investment in the 'missing' age group 18 to 40 range.

Are there licensed or emeritus Readers who minister?

No

How is vocation to various forms of authorized or accredited ministry explored and fostered?

Diocesan Training days and sharing information.

How is the ministry of the whole congregation understood and exercised?

Ministry is person centred with the emphasis on being all inclusive. There is an attempt to use various formats and times of worship to help everyone to grow in their understanding of Ministry and Worship.

What else should be recorded?

11. MISSION

What are the benefice / parish's aims and objectives in mission?

The church is growing slowly in numbers outside of the Sunday Worship whilst maintaining numbers within the regular services.

Is there a Mission Statement? *If so, please show it here, or attach a copy*



We are a warm, welcoming, worshiping community which is culturally diverse, and open to all who come.

We share the light and love of God celebrating and sharing God's love for all as we work to grow the Kingdom of God in this part of our diocese.

We offer a place of safety and support, with a concern for justice for all, seeking at all times to be open to the leading light of the Holy Spirit.

Is there a Mission Action Plan? *If so, please attach a copy.*

In progress

What are the mission priorities for, say, the next two years?

Now that the Church building work is complete and settled the focus can go onto building the people and the links within the community.

In what ways have you seen the church growing over the last few years?

Open Weeks, 2nd Tuesday Group, Come and See event and our connection with Asylum Seekers.

How do you hope to see the church growing in the next few years?

Further development of links with the community and more use of our community room and facilities. Sharing faith through action.

What further engagement with the local community do you hope to see developing?

There are ambitions to extend the Mission work into the community by inviting people to use the facilities to improve their health and skills for instance, internet skills.

What else should be recorded?

12. FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP

Please attach copies of annual accounts for the last three years

Attached

Is Christian stewardship practised, and when was the last campaign or renewal?

The last Stewardship campaign was in 2008.

In what ways have you seen giving (in its broadest sense) increase in the last few years?

The congregation are generous with time and funds and respond to requests for extra in both areas fairly well. The 2nd Tuesday Group was a congregation led initiative. There is a lot of congregation involvement in displays and exhibitions.

The PCC communicate to the congregation with regard to giving and where it is spent and how our income can be improved e.g. Gift Aid.

Work has been done around people ensuring receipts are produced for items bought on behalf of Church and the funds returned to us so that Gift Aid can be claimed and a true reflection of spending can be recorded.

Is the benefice / parish committed to full payment of the Parish Share, and if it has failed to pay it recently what are the reasons?

The Parish share is met each year and it is always made a priority as the PCC believe it is a major step in our Mission as a whole Church.

Were the parish priest's expenses of office met in full last year and what was the total sum reimbursed?

Yes – Total sum of expenses reimbursed in full last year to Parish Priest. £395 plus contribution to telephone of £176.

To what extent does the benefice / parish offer financial support to home and overseas mission work, including projects, appeals, and charities?

We sponsor 2 children through Compassion and support Tear Fund, Embrace the Middle East, Children's Society, Wellspring, Denton Children's Centre, Willow Wood Hospice and Operation Christmas Child.

What else should be recorded?

We have a Situations Vacant board to encourage people to think about how they can give of their time and use skills in various ways.

13.THE NEXT PARISH PRIEST

In the light of and with reference to all of the above, and in particular your mission priorities (see Section 11), what are the key priorities that you would like the next parish priest to address?

MISSION

Need to continue to develop the links with the community and schools that have been established over the past few years.

To carry on the good work that has been achieved by the Mission Partnership and Denton Churches Together.

OUTREACH

Attract local groups to use the community room.

Attract young people to Church.

Develop Open Days/Weeks and 2nd Tuesday café.

PASTORAL

Continue to develop the work we have done with the Iranian Asylum Seekers.

Visit sick and lonely members of our congregation and the community.

Keeping in touch with families who have used Church (Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals).

Giving – sponsored children, Christmas boxes, Wellspring, local and world charities.

What are the gifts and skills you would hope they will bring?

Welcoming, peaceful, thoughtful, innovative, fun, friendly, prayerful, playful, thought provoking, energetic, open to ideas, good people skills, someone you can talk to and someone who listens.

Able to relate to all ages and encourage faith in all ages and walks of life.

A good sense of humour would be most welcome.

As well as being an important statement to prospective applicants, the answers you give to this section will be taken into account by the Archdeacon in drafting the formal Role Description and Person Specification for the post

June 2017