

Diocese of Sheffield

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The Right Reverend Dr. Pete Wilcox, Bishop of Sheffield, writes:

Come and join us in the Diocese of Sheffield

"The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few!"

In these early days of my own ministry here in the Diocese of Sheffield, my heart is full of anticipation. There is so much happening across the Diocese to encourage anyone who rejoices in the work of the Spirit and longs for the coming of the kingdom of God.

The existing Diocesan vision has begun to take effect and there are many signs of life and growth, even in unexpected places. In neighbourhood after neighbourhood, in prosperous suburbs and areas of significant deprivation, the good news of salvation in Jesus is being proclaimed, and Christians are making a difference in their localities.



But one of the things which fuels my sense of anticipation at present is the unfulfilled potential.

Again and again, I am encountering situations in which I find myself excited about what could yet be — in this school or that chaplaincy, in this parish church or that pioneer congregation. It goes without saying that we are committed to nurturing the gifts and ministries of existing lay and ordained people across the diocese — we are richly blessed already in the calibre of disciples here!

However, equally, one of the keys to unlocking future potential is plainly for us to recruit well too. We need more workers, more faithful Christian believers who discern that God is calling them to labour in this part of his vineyard.

If you think that might be you, please don't hesitate! We'd love to talk to you about possible ways in which your talents could be put to use in this Diocese.

We hope to hear from you. Meanwhile, with every blessing

+Pete



THE DIOCESE
OF SHEFFIELD

Attercliffe

Eccleshall

Ecclesfield

Hallam

Laughton

Rotherham

Adwick-le-Street

Doncaster

Snaith & Hatfield

Tankersley

Wath

West Doncaster

is called to grow
a sustainable network
of Christ-like,
lively
and diverse...

Christian communities
in every place
which are effective in
making disciples

and in
seeking to transform
our society
and God's world.



Our strategy

Over the past five years the direction of Sheffield Diocese has been set by four strategies for growth:

Growing the body of Christ

Forming & Equipping the People of God

Salt and Light

A Little Letter on Giving

At their heart is a desire to see the Body of Christ grow in depth and in numbers, growing disciples of Jesus who seek to transform our society and God's world.

In 2016 **Forming and Equipping the People of God** was launched to update Re-imagining Ministry for Mission with greater importance given to growing a discipleship culture and training and equipping lay and ordained people, with the launch of St Peter's College.

Embedding the growth agenda with its focus on good mission action planning, mission partnerships, and growing disciples is the key priority for the diocese as a whole for the next five years.



Download the strategy booklets at

www.sheffield.anglican.org/diocesan-strategy

Mission & ministry in the Diocese

The Diocese of Sheffield's vision is to see vibrant and life transforming sustainable Christian communities in every place. We long to see the Body of Christ grow in depth and in numbers. We long to see every disciple and the whole Church serving our wider society as salt and light.

We believe we are called to grow a culture of discipleship across the Diocese in every kind of Church.

Every local church is called to be a place where new Christians are coming to faith and prepared for a lifetime of discipleship and service.

As a Diocese, we aim to support every local church to fulfil this vision:

- ✚ By helping to form lay and ordained ministers who are equipped to grow the church in this way
- ✚ By offering frameworks of support and patterns of life which help every church grow its own culture of discipleship (such as our annual cycle and Mission Action Planning)
- ✚ By offering training and support in discipleship to complement what the local church is offering
- ✚ By identifying obstacles to growth in discipleship in our life and culture and developing strategies to address them



The Diocese has invested in formation and training with St Peter's College.

This is the learning community for mission and ministry in the Diocese of Sheffield.

It is a virtual college and was launched in October 2016 to support the diocesan vision of growing and strengthening a culture of discipleship in churches across the diocese. It does this by equipping lay and ordained ministers to grow the church, and by offering training and support in discipleship to all in the diocese.

www.stpeterscollege.org.uk

Mission Development Worker Project

In 2015, the diocese received funding from the Church Commissioners and Archbishop's Council to recruit up to 15 Mission Partnership Development Workers to provide administrative and missional support to around four parishes each (working together as a Mission Partnership).

The funding is for six years. The aim is to free up clergy time to enable them to focus more on mission.

Engaging our young people



Church Schools

Church of England Schools and Academies are a vital part of the work and ministry of the diocese. They provide education for the children and young people of South Yorkshire and East Riding. There are currently 39 primary schools and 1 secondary school in the Diocese of Sheffield educating about 8,300 students.

The Diocese of Sheffield Board of Education (DBE) is committed to the celebration of the excellent work that has been, and will be, carried out in our Church Schools; and to supporting and enrichment of Church Schools' distinctive offering of teaching and learning within a Christian context.



The Centenary Project seeks to equip the local church to effectively engage, grow and disciple a new generation of young people, children and families.

In 2014, Bishop's Council agreed to commit £1 million from its historical reserves to fund and support an increase in the work with children, families and young people in order to serve the common good, nurture faith and grow disciples. The funding is primarily aimed at the most deprived parishes within the diocese.

The funding is for either Children & Family Workers or Youth Workers, referred collectively as Centenary Project Workers (CPWs) – these are rooted in the local parish church and managed locally with central support. The CPWs form a network connecting CPWs and other youth, children and families workers in the Diocese together for training, envisioning, support and prayer.

Early indications are good with the first projects generating over 1500 new regular contacts with children and young people.

Find out more at www.sheffield.anglican.org/centenary-project

Vibrant purposeful churches

The Diocese of Sheffield has a wide breadth of vibrant churches with parishes becoming increasingly intentional in their approaches to mission.

We have small rural churches with small congregations; at the other end of the scale only 4% of our churches have more than 150 people. Three, all in Hallam Deanery in West Sheffield, account for over 2,000 attenders. These larger churches have gained considerable experience and expertise in church planting and missional communities and discussions have been taking place about how this can be shared more with the rest of the diocese, especially in those areas which need extra resources to stimulate growth.

We are committed to delivering a mixed economy of church combining Fresh Expressions and church planting with traditional models of church working in partnership. The flourishing of both fundamental approaches to church offers us a way to reach out creatively to the full breadth of our society.

All our parishes are being challenged to look beyond their immediate boundaries and work together in mission through the formation of 'Mission Partnerships'. Within these groupings parishes seek to support each other, work together and share ministerial resources.



SHEFFIELD CATHEDRAL
A PLACE FOR ALL PEOPLE

Sheffield Cathedral clearly has a pre-eminent role in serving the whole

of the diocese as a centre for worship and mission. It marked its centenary with a major award-winning refurbishment, opening up new opportunities for worship and hospitality and being 'a place of sanctuary and meeting, of exploration and excellence' in keeping with its strapline of 'a Place for All People'.

A distinctive element of the Cathedral's mission is the Cathedral Archer Project, which works with the homeless and vulnerable of our region, offering food, medical care, training and support to help clients back into employment.

www.sheffieldcathedral.org



The Diocese

The Diocese of Sheffield was formed in 1914 and is in the Northern Province of York.

It has a population of approximately 1.2 million people, 140 stipendiary clergy, 175 parishes and 216 churches. It spreads over Sheffield, Rotherham and Doncaster and the subsidiary towns and villages of those areas, covering most of South Yorkshire (approximately half of Barnsley) and small parts of North Yorkshire, the East Riding and North Lincolnshire.

The Diocese is led by the Bishop of Sheffield (Diocesan Bishop) and the Bishop of Doncaster (Suffragan Bishop). It is separated into two Archdeaconries: Sheffield and Rotherham; and Doncaster. Within these archdeaconries are the 12 Deaneries of: Attercliffe, Ecclesall, Ecclesfield, Hallam, Laughton, Rotherham; and Adwick-le-Street, Doncaster, Snaith & Hatfield, Tankersley, Wath and West Doncaster.

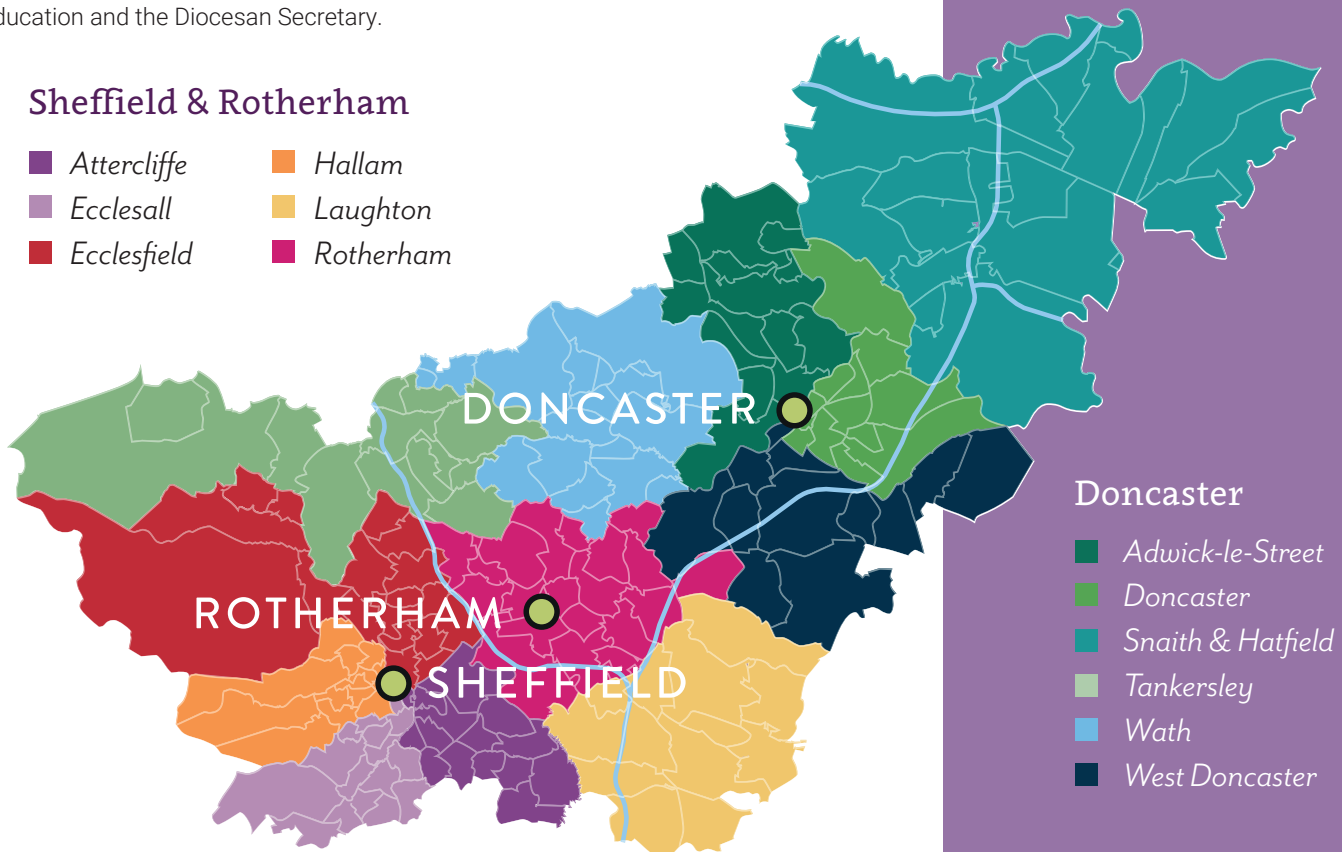
Church House

Diocesan Church House in Rotherham is the administrative hub of the diocese.

The two archdeacons have offices here and it is the base for the following departments: Communications, Finance, Property, Church Buildings, Safeguarding, Parish Support Team, St Peter's College and the training functions, Education and the Diocesan Secretary.

Sheffield & Rotherham

- | | |
|---------------|-------------|
| ■ Attercliffe | ■ Hallam |
| ■ Ecclesall | ■ Laughton |
| ■ Ecclesfield | ■ Rotherham |



1.2M

population

140

stipendiary clergy

175

parishes

216

churches

Doncaster

- | |
|---------------------|
| ■ Adwick-le-Street |
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| ■ Tankersley |
| ■ Wath |
| ■ West Doncaster |





THE DIOCESE
OF SHEFFIELD

Northern Lights Mission Partnership Profile

Ellesmere St Peter (LEP)

Pitsmoor Christ Church

Sheffield St Cuthbert, Fir Vale

Ecclesfield Deanery

Sheffield & Rotherham Archdeaconry

Northern Lights Mission Partnership

The Northern Lights Mission Partnership is a group of churches working together in mission in Ecclesfield Deanery.

The Mission Partnership was formally launched in September 2015 in an open-air joint service. There are a number of similarities between the three parishes. At the same time the churches themselves are different and distinct in character, theology and style. The Mission Partnership is at an early stage, but our aim is to support each other, to help each other develop in mission and ministry and to collaborate on some projects.

Our church growth administrator for the partnership, Susan Vinall, started work in November 2015 (fully funded for the first two years by Sheffield Diocese, then partly funded for a further four years). She provides administrative help and support to each church as well as developing joint projects with the partnership churches.

Joint Partnership projects currently include planning



a number of joint services (including outdoor worship), carrying out DBS checks (although safeguarding is still managed on a parish level), and offering practical training (such as first aid). We are developing a joint communication team to help each other develop and maintain websites. Our children's workers meet regularly to offer each other informal support and we

run joint children's events once or twice a year. The partnership has just appointed a family and children's worker, jointly funded through Forge Youth and the Centenary Project. Our new worker is due to start work in September with the aim of setting up a new project in each of the churches to reach children and families who do not currently have a link with the church. The project will grow and develop organically as it responds to needs in the area and of those using it. Each church will be responsible for working alongside the family and community worker and the leadership from Forge Youth to support and develop work in its location.



The Area – Sheffield



Sheffield is located in South Yorkshire and is the fourth largest city in England by population (550,000). The city, which is famous for producing the iconic Sheffield Steel and for inventing stainless steel, has seven hills, five rivers, two and a half million trees and more parks and woodland per head of population than any other UK city. The city is surrounded by spectacular countryside and boasts the Peak District National Park within its boundaries. Due to this dramatic landscape, Sheffield was chosen as a host city for the 2014 Tour de France, which came through the parishes.

Our vibrant city centre features art galleries, museums and theatres, most notably – the Crucible and the Lyceum. There are also two concert venues, the City Hall and Sheffield Arena. Sport is an important part of Sheffield life with the impressive UK Institute of Sport

close to the city centre and thriving football, cricket, rugby, basketball and ice-hockey clubs. Despite being an inner city partnership, you can find yourself in beautiful countryside within 10 minutes, with the opportunity to take part in walking, running, cycling, climbing or pot holing.

Meadowhall matches the best retail shopping centres in the UK. The city boasts two universities – the University of Sheffield and Sheffield Hallam University and is home to 60,000 students. More students decide to stay and live in Sheffield after they graduate than in any other UK city. Sheffield is an easy city to get to; it is situated close to the heart of the UK. The city has four major airports within one hour's travelling time, has close links to the M1 motorway and has regular rail services to London, taking just over two hours.

The Area – Northern Lights Mission

The partnership contains a vibrant mix of cultures, religions and people groups, making it an exciting place to serve God's people. It is one of the financially poorest neighbourhoods in Sheffield and the UK with all the problems and issues you would normally associate with this, but is culturally very rich, with creative and challenging opportunities for sharing in the life of the local community.

The partnership is located in the electoral wards of Burngreave and Firth Park, with a population of approx. 31,000. These areas are some of the most deprived in the country. Using the Church Urban Fund's ranking of 12,559 parishes in the country, where one is the most deprived parish, St Cuthbert's ranks 186, Christ Church ranks 204 and St Peter's ranks 214.

Child, pensioner and working age poverty in this partnership are among the highest in the country (all are at least double the national average). Almost 42% of

children in the area are at risk of living in poverty compared with 24% citywide (this figure has fallen by 3.6% since 2006). Life expectancy is significantly lower than in other areas of the city. Lone parenthood in the partnership is higher than average compared with other parishes in the country. There is a wide variety



of housing in the partnership. House prices in the area are below average for Sheffield and there are higher than average levels of private and social rented accommodation.

Educational attainment is lower than the national average and unemployment is higher. At the same time a significant proportion of those in employment work in creative industries and the area is home to poets, artists, musicians and actors. There are numerous community groups and organisations for different sectors of the community, and a community-owned and run local newspaper, the Burngreave Messenger. Community cohesion is good, and the area has a strong and proud sense of identity.

The partnership has been home to immigrant populations for many years. In the last census, over half the population of the partnership classed themselves as non-white British. St Peter's, where approximately 70% of the population is from non-white British backgrounds, has the most ethnically diverse parish in the Diocese. Significant ethnic groups at the moment are Pakistani,



Yemeni, Somali, Slovakian and Roma. Over three quarters of children are from non-white British backgrounds. According to a study by Public Health Sheffield, the partnership also has a young population compared to the rest of the city (over 10% of the population of the area is aged under five).

Sheffield has a low crime rate compared to other cities of a similar size. Crime in most of the partnership is a little higher than the Sheffield average. Recent media coverage of the area highlighted anti-social behaviour and drug-related crime but this does not reflect our everyday experience of living here.

The area is well served by local amenities. There is a large Tesco superstore, two small commercial centres (Firth Park and Ellesmere Green) as well as numerous small shops of all kinds, many cafes, two food banks (including one in one of the partnership churches) and two libraries. There is one cemetery. It has a number of parks as well as allotments and wooded areas. Two locally established and volunteer-run projects, Green City Action and Green Fingers, offer opportunities for both children and adults to grow food on local allotments, and a group of local volunteers helps with park upkeep. A staffed adventure playground provides a

range of activities for young people.

There are 10 homes for the elderly in the partnership and 10 schools (including seven primary, one secondary and one sixth form college).

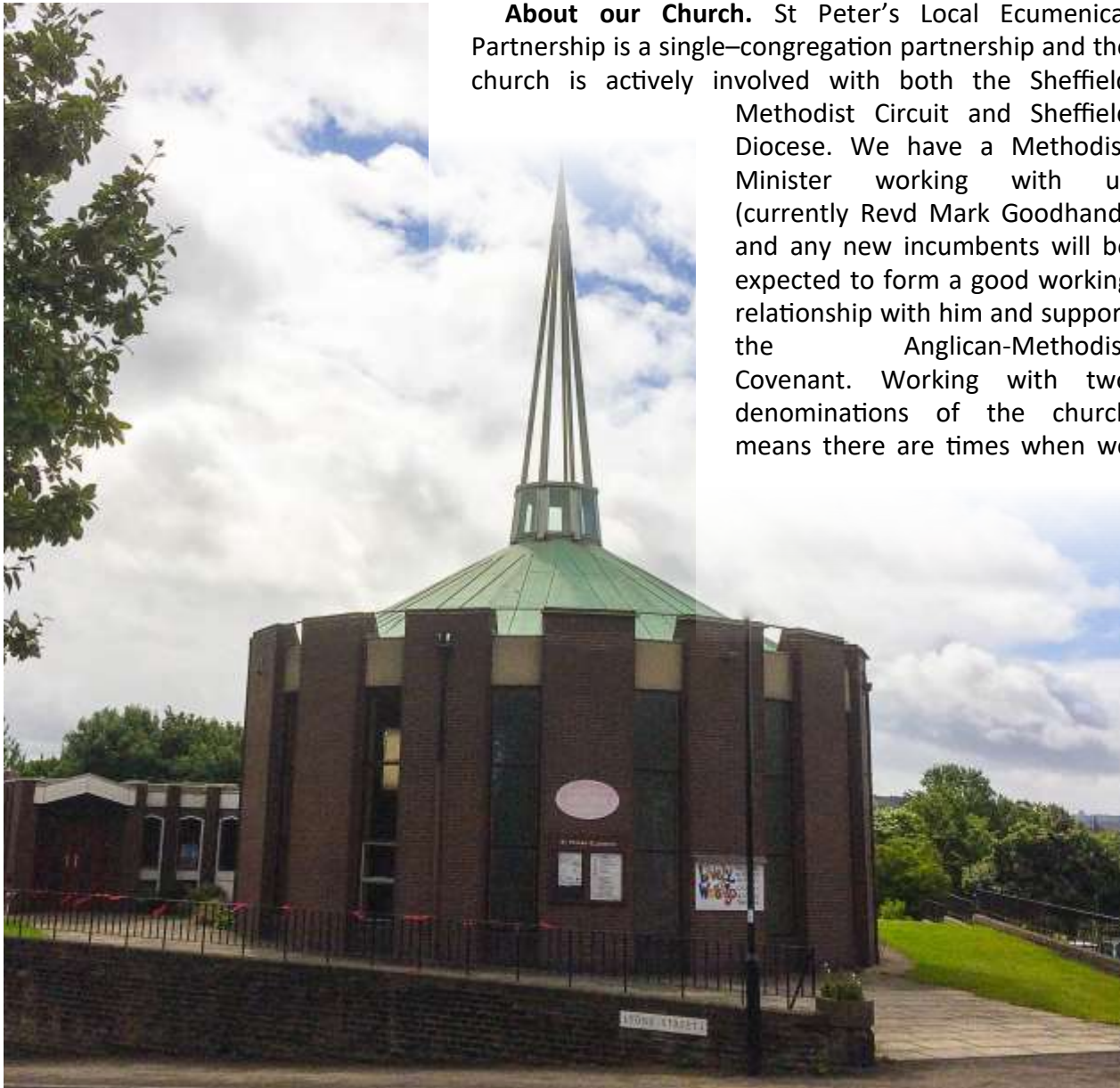
The partnership is the home of the Northern General Hospital (the largest teaching hospital in the country), which is the largest employer within the area and situated opposite St Cuthbert's. There are good bus links.

Other places of worship within the partnership include: Firth Park Methodist Church • Grimesthorpe Wesleyan Reform Chapel • Hatfield House Lane Methodist Church • The Hospital Chaplaincy Service • Pitsmoor Methodist Church • Pitsmoor Road Seventh Day Adventist • St James United Reformed • Church Christ Embassy - Destiny Church • New Testament Church of God • Shiloh Pentecostal • Burngreave Seventh Day Adventist • St Catherine's Roman Catholic Church • The Rock Christian Centre • Various citywide churches, including St Thomas's Philadelphia also operate in Burngreave.

There are also a number of mosques, a Hindu temple and a Jehovah's Witness Kingdom Hall.



St Peter's Church, Ellesmere



About our Church. St Peter's Local Ecumenical Partnership is a single-congregation partnership and the church is actively involved with both the Sheffield Methodist Circuit and Sheffield Diocese. We have a Methodist Minister working with us (currently Revd Mark Goodhand) and any new incumbents will be expected to form a good working relationship with him and support the Anglican-Methodist Covenant. Working with two denominations of the church means there are times when we

do things a little differently and this can lead to some extra administration for church members, but the congregation and wider partnership benefit from the diversity this can bring.

The church opened in 1980 and is a modern design with a circular worship area. It stands on the site of All Saints parish church and compensation, paid to Petre Street Methodist Chapel, financed the building. The Methodist and Anglican churches came together at this point to form one congregation. About a quarter of a mile from the church is the 'Cornerstone', which is part of and used by St Peter's.

At first St Peter's was a shared building and a daughter church of Christ Church Pitsmoor, but in 1984 the LEP was set up and parish status was regained in 1986. Until 2000 ministry was provided by the Anglican Church, since then there has been Methodist oversight and in 2013 the Vicar of Christ Church was recognised as Priest in Charge at St Peter's. This has meant a commitment to leading Morning Worship on one Sunday each month and providing some pastoral care and involvement in the life of the parish.

Our Services. We enjoy a variety of services and styles. We have a Communion Service once a month which follows either the Anglican or Methodist tradition dependant on the clergy taking the service. Other Sundays we invite a variety of worship leaders (including Lay Readers, Local Preachers and retired clergy) to lead our service.

The congregation particularly enjoys informal and interactive services – we like to challenge and learn.

Sunday school is available every week for children who come to our church, many of whom are from non-

church families. We have a rota of leaders, helpers and activities and are currently using Scripture Union resources to base our teaching on.

Over Christmas and Easter a number of special services (such as Christingle, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday or Good Friday) are usually offered either at St Peter's, or within the partnership.

Our usual Sunday attendance is 20-30 people. Half of our usual congregation are 18-69, one quarter are over 70 and a further quarter are under 18. Most of our congregation live in the parish. Many members of our congregation help out with running worship on Sunday mornings (helping in Sunday school, as Vestry Steward or with refreshments etc.). Most roles in church work on a rota with a team of people helping out.

Music. There is a small worship group that lead us on a Sunday morning with live music of a very high standard (piano or organ and sometimes guitars). This group often choose hymns and music for our services.

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals. Partly due to the area we serve we do not have many baptisms, weddings or funerals. In the past year we have had two baptisms, no weddings and three funerals, all of which were for people and families connected with church.

Children and Young People. St Peter's provides funding for a youth group, run by Forge Youth. This is a group aimed at Y6-Y10 and offers a combination of Bible teaching and



recreational activities. This group has been running for a year and we are excited to see it working with a number of young people who do not have any other contact with the church. Cornerstone is also the base for St Peter's Scout Group.

Schools – pupils from local schools have been on educational visits to St Peter's in the past and we have two further visits booked for later this year. We are keen to develop the relationships with local schools.

Church Groups. Bible Study – we have a small group that meets regularly on Tuesday afternoons to share lunch and study the Bible.

Home groups – many members of the congregation are part of home groups, set up by the Methodist Church. People often go to a home group near where they live, so we have members of a few different groups in North Sheffield.

Fellowship Group – following on from our Lent Study group we have started a monthly fellowship and study group. We will be sharing a meal and fellowship together as well as studying. This group is currently





being led by our Methodist Minister.

Pastoral visiting – there is a strong tradition of pastoral visiting at St Peter's. A small team from the congregation regularly visit sick or housebound members and a retired Minister, who lives in the parish and worships with us, takes Home Communion.

Church activities. We may be a small congregation but we enjoy many social events together. Over the past year we have held quiz nights, curry nights and a Macmillan Coffee morning. We are a generous church and many of these events have been fundraisers for outside charities.

Church holiday – we try to arrange a weekend away for the whole church each

year (usually to Sleights in North Yorkshire). This weekend is enjoyed by a number of our church members.

Summer fair – our summer fair is our major yearly outreach and very well supported by our church and community. Local individuals and groups have stalls and a free barbeque (with vegetarian and halal options) is offered to the community. Other local groups (such as a local choir) have provided entertainment in recent years.

Community Activities. Coffee Morning – runs weekly

and is supported by church members and other people in the local community. This is a chance for anyone to come and join us for a friendly chat. Lifts are often arranged for older members of the congregation.

Chairobics – as part of our coffee morning we also provide a free chairobics session for the community.

Nursing Homes – members of the congregation go into one of our local nursing homes to offer occasional services at Easter, Christmas, Harvest and Remembrance.

Parish meals – Occasionally we hold a parish meal and invite the community to join with us.

Church Council. Our Church council meets every 6-8 weeks. We have a church officer (Methodist churches do not have church wardens but our church officer fulfils a similar role). Many of the responsibilities within our church (Sunday School, refreshments, Vestry Steward) are shared between a number of people working on a rota.



Church newsletter. At the moment we produce a quarterly magazine, containing details of weekly services and news. We are currently in the process of reviewing this.

Church use. Our buildings are used frequently by other groups. Four guest churches meet regularly, members of the community hire rooms for events and meetings and the Cornerstone is the local polling station.

Vicarage. Our vicarage is a four bedroom semi-detached property which has been extended and has a large garden. It was built in the post war building boom and is located just up the road from the church.

Finances. The church has no debts. We pay our parish share on time and in full and also pay our share to

the Methodist Church. A Benevolent Fund has recently been set up to give out small grants to members of the community who are in need.

Church renovations. Our building is nearly 40 years old and in need of some renovation. A small group is in the process of being formed to oversee this project. It is anticipated that we will need to do a small amount of fundraising to complete the project.

And finally... St Peter's has for many years been a self-sufficient church but is now looking forward to having an Anglican Vicar and Methodist Minister walking with them in their continuing journey.



Christ Church Pitsmoor

We are a diverse and engaged community

Christ Church Pitsmoor's congregation is made up of people from many different age groups, backgrounds and nationalities. We meet together to worship God, learn about following Jesus and seek His kingdom together.

Our congregation is a rich mixture of people from a range of cultures, including refugees, asylum seekers and others who have moved into the area, alongside long-established residents. In many ways we reflect our parish, although we have very few teens and twenties in the congregation. We have a wide range of life experience. We are cash-poor, but ideas rich: creative, engaged and committed to each other and to our community. We aim to celebrate and support the ministry of all, laity and clergy, women and men, and to develop our team of lay leaders. We work with and learn from others in our community.

We are a theologically diverse church that values inclusivity and draws on the richness of a broad spectrum of traditions, including the evangelicalism that traditionally underpinned the church and shaped it, although the congregation and lay leadership is by no means uniformly or conventionally evangelical. We are committed to working together in love; to biblical preaching in a range of styles and from different perspectives; to prayer, both formal and informal, evangelism in its various forms, social action and discipleship. The church and the Welcome Centre initiate or host local events, both

regular – such as the monthly international meal and weekly Sitting Room for asylum seekers – and occasional, such as hustings at election time, community concerts and film festivals, local TEDx talks and Churches Together in Yorkshire prayer meetings.

Recognising the diversity in our community, we focus on teaching the Bible in creative ways. We enjoy a variety of worship styles across our different services. There is a strong core of committed people who sustain the church's life, including lay ministers, preachers, and leaders of small discipleship and community outreach groups. We are committed to ensuring that each person in the church is able to contribute their gifts to our communal life, worship and ministry. We have a range of small groups for Bible study, prayer, and fellowship,

Church statistics

Number on Electoral Roll (Feb 2016)	132
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Average Sunday Communicants (Average for 2016):

Sunday Service 9.30am (weekly)	40
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Sunday Service 11am (weekly)	45
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Sunday Service 5.00 pm (monthly)	10
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Thursday Service 9.15am	15
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In 2016 we had 6 baptisms, no confirmation candidates, 2 weddings, 4 funerals in the church and 4 funerals at the crematorium or cemetery.

changing over the years with the needs and capacities of the congregation. We are looking to develop sustainable, meaningful and radical patterns for discipleship and growth in spirituality and practical Christian living.

Although we have over the years been involved in much youth work both in the church and the community, at the moment we have only two or three teenagers and a small but a growing number of under 11s. As a Mission Partnership we have recently employed a youth worker to help us develop work with young people in the area and in our churches. We

actively support our thriving, multi-ethnic church school, **Pye Bank**, and members of the congregation regularly visit to conduct assemblies, as well as serving as school governors and classroom volunteers.

- A number of people in the congregation continue to volunteer with Chocolate Box, a project working with women involved in prostitution in the area.
- Members of the congregation are involved in the Anglican Ethnic Minority Group in Sheffield.
- We look forward to the autumn arrival of our Centenary Project supported youth worker.



Services of worship

Day	Time	Frequency	Description	Liturgy	Worship Style/Music	Dress	Numbers
Sunday	9.30am	Weekly	Traditional communion	Common worship	Hymns – organ	Clergy robed	40
Sunday	11am	Weekly – first Sunday All Age. Last Sunday Communion	Lively and contemporary family worship service with children's church	Various sources	Variety of styles led by church worship group(s) or musicians	None	45
Thursday	9.45am	Weekly	Communion service before Lunch Club	Various sources	Hymns, with piano	Clergy robed	15

Christ Church Ministries

Area	Name	What	When	Where	Members
Children's Church	Crèche	Crèche for children aged 0-3 years	11am Sunday Service	Welcome Centre Lounge	Team of volunteer leaders, plus parents of children using crèche.
	Children of God (COG)	4-11 Years	11am Sunday	Welcome Centre	Team of volunteers lead it.
					No work on Sundays for 11+ youth.
Small Groups	After 8	Women only	Weds, weekly	Church Tower	Facilitated by group
	Men's Group	Men only	Weds, fortnightly	Mike Dennett's home	Facilitated by group
	Home group	Bible study and prayer	Tues, weekly	Chris and Pat Limb's home	Facilitated by group, led by Chris
	Bible study group	Bible study	Weds, weekly	Welcome Centre	Led by Brian Vivian
Community	Conversation Club	English language practice and friendship	Thursday, 2--5. Many stay on for Sitting Room.	Welcome Centre	Volunteers from church and the community (35 members, 6 volunteers)
	International Meal	Communal cooked meal with asylum seekers	First Thursday of the month	Welcome Centre	Volunteers from churches and ASSIST (up to 60 people involved)
	Night Shelter	Mon-Friday emergency overnight accommodation destitute asylum seekers	All year, with breaks at Christmas and summer	Welcome Centre	Volunteers from church, Assist and the community. 3-6 guests plus volunteers sleep over each night.
	Sitting Room	Every Thursday evening, except first of the month	All year	Church and Welcome Centre	Volunteers from church. 10--15 asylum seekers and others each week, including 3-4 volunteers.
Elderly people	Lunch Club	Lunch Club providing a hot meal and social time	Thursdays, term time only	Welcome Centre, lounge and kitchen	Volunteers from church, local and wider community; up to 40 people involved in total.
	Services in homes for the elderly		Various	Pexton Grange Rosebank	Volunteers from the church
Young people	Toddler Group	For local parents and children	Wednesdays, term time only	Welcome Centre	Volunteers from church and community

**We are
collaborative and
community
oriented**

Our large leadership team of licensed lay ministers, church officers, and gifted church members contributes to enabling and supporting the life of the church and welcomes effective management and pastoral support. The PCC is currently made up of 12 elected members from the electoral roll, plus ex-officio members, and meets monthly. Other lay leadership teams meet regularly to organise Sunday services and share ideas. We have six readers and one in training as well as a curate, Huw Thomas, working in the church under the supervision of the Diocesan Director of Ordinands. The PCC is fully supportive of the ordination of women to the priesthood.

Church Buildings. The church buildings are in regular and frequent use, not only by our congregations but also by our partner congregation, the Ghanaian-led African Pentecostal Church, which meets on Sunday afternoons.

The church was internally reordered in 2004. The space is welcoming and flexible with built in audio/visual technology, although the technology needs updating to work effectively. A project to secure the tower was completed in 2010.

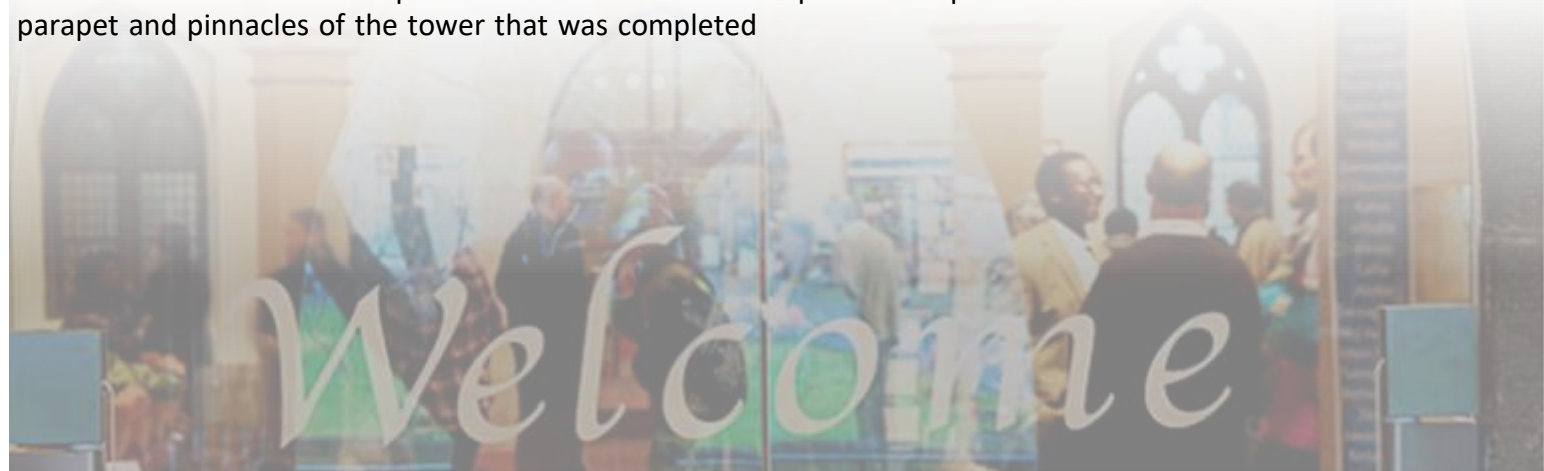
The Church building is a grade 2 listed building opened in 1850. The last quinquennial inspection was in 2012. The main work completed was to secure the parapet and pinnacles of the tower that was completed

in September 2009. In 2016 we renewed the rainwater goods. Ongoing work is required to keep the building in order: at the moment we are dealing with repairs in the towers and to the some of the church windows. The churchyard has long been closed by 'Order of Council'. It is still available for the burial of cremated remains.

The Welcome Centre, our community building, was opened in 1985 and is well used. The kitchen was refurbished in 2015 with external funding. Further work is required to make the toilets fit for current use and upgrade the building's disability access.

The Welcome Centre currently provides facilities for Christ Church Pitsmoor regular activities: toddler group, lunch club, Sitting Room (a hangout for asylum seekers, hosted weekly in both the Welcome Centre and in the church sanctuary itself), a monthly international meal (for asylum seekers, jointly with local asylum-seeker support organization Assist), Night Shelter (for asylum seekers, jointly with Assist). Local community groups and organisations rent the space on a one-off basis.

The Vicarage: is a grade 2 listed Georgian period mansion house with: a study; two reception rooms; kitchen; six bedrooms; bathroom; cellars. It has a steady stream of callers asking for food and other practical or pastoral help.



We are generous and creative

Over the years the congregation has given enough to cover our contribution to the Common Fund, staff expenses and building and ministry running costs. All major projects have been funded externally. We overpaid to the Common Fund in 2014, paid in full in 2015 and our pledge for 2016 was for the increased amount of £42,000, but we fell short of this, and our finances are currently not quite as secure or tightly managed as they were. We are committed to paying our pledged amount in full in future, and are working together to ensure our finances are in good order. Below are brief accounts for 2016.



PCC's main sources of income and expenditure in 2016:

Incoming Source	Amount
Direct Giving	£51,335.00
Grants/Donations	£6,000.00
Welcome Centre Rent	£13,035.00
Fundraising	£389.00
Fees	£2,791.00
Total	£73,551.00

Expenditure	Amount
Mission giving and donations	£2,869.00
Parish Share	£28,500.00
Salaries and wages (Admin, cleaners, caretaker, treasurer)	£9,249.00
Church expenses	£23,090.00
Major repairs	£480.00
Governance costs	£200.00
Total	£67,053.00

End of year account balances 2016:

Description	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds (Mission Partnership)	Salaries Account	Fabric Account
Opening Balance	£3, 515.00	£ --	£8, 447.80	£26,326.46
Income	£67,552.00	£6,000.00	£7,013.30	£33,941.41
Expenditure	£64,378.00	£2,664.00	£11,411.47	£56,139.67
Closing Balance	£6, 689.00	£3,336.00	£4,049.63	£4,128.20

Total unrestricted funds: £14, 867

St Cuthbert's Church

Our church dates back to 1902 and is grade II listed.

The church building was reordered in 2012/13 which saw the modernisation of the existing premises, to include an enclosed entrance area, office space (used by the Church Growth Administrator), community room, new toilets (including an accessible toilet and baby changing facilities), storage facilities and a commercial grade kitchen. We also have a fenced and gated garden space to the front of the church. The Church Burgesses are our patrons and have always been very supportive,

Three churches currently use our building on a regular basis for their worship. Sheffield Christian Fellowship meets weekly. The Overseas Fellowship of

Nigerian Christians and Friends meet monthly (from midnight to 6am) and the Four Square Gospel Church also meets monthly (from 10pm to 3am).

Church Services. We have a weekly Sunday Eucharist at 10am based mainly on Common Worship. Robes are worn by the minister.

At least monthly we hold all age worship services, planned by a team. These services are often more relaxed and a chance to try new things. We try to ensure that all members of the congregation will enjoy these services. A Healing Eucharist with anointing of oil is held monthly.

Other Services – Special Services include Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday (with the stripping of the altar and night vigil), Good Friday, Easter Day Sunrise Service, Annual Memorial Service, Remembrance Sunday, La Posada (in Advent) Christingle and a Carol Service.

Musical Tradition – we have an electric piano but most of our music is played digitally. We enjoy singing both traditional and modern music using PowerPoint presentations on a screen. This is run by a group of volunteers.

Our Congregation. We currently have 55 members





on the electoral roll. Our congregation is small, diverse and lively. Many members travel in from outside of the parish. There is active lay participation. Newcomers see us as a welcoming, warm and friendly church.

Average Sunday attendance is 40 adults and 10 children. Christmas and Easter attendance is usually a little higher than this.

Church Groups. Sunday School – meets weekly except for all age services and summer and Christmas break. We have about 10 children and young people who regularly

attend our Sunday School, aged between 3 and 13. Our programme is varied. Although we all meet in the same room there will often be a variety of activities going on, catering for different age groups.

Girls Brigade – a national, uniformed Christian Organisation, who recently made St Cuthbert's their home, after the church they were based closed down. We have approx. 25 girls (and boys) in our group as well as a dedicated team of leaders, and young leaders.

Parent and toddler group – was relaunched in September to try to meet some of the needs of young families in our parish. We are keen to include some opportunities for mission with this group.

Mothers Union – meets monthly. We welcome new members and have advertised our group within our mission partnership, as neither of the other churches has its own branch.

Women's fellowship – meets weekly over a meal and is an opportunity for friendship and fellowship.

Chatterbox – a child-friendly group that is open to anyone who wants to drop in for a chat or a bit of company.

Open church – members of our congregation facilitate a monthly open morning. The church is open for anyone to come and look round, ask questions or just enjoy the peace and stillness. Refreshments are also served. We have a few regular visitors from a nearby nursing home.

Food bank – Firvale food bank is held in the church weekly. It is run by a small team of volunteers and overseen by the PCC. The food bank has an open policy (no referral is needed) and provides a community meal each week. There are also English lessons on offer, clothing available and access to information and advice (run by CAB). They have on average 60 users per week.

Over the past 18 months the church has become increasingly involved with the food bank and developed good links with the volunteers who run it. We offer prayer and spiritual guidance and a quiet space for personal reflection and prayer. Over the past year a number of foodbank users and volunteers have been to regular church services.

Lifelong Learning – we believe in offering our congregation and others the chance to explore and learn more about the Christian faith and Christian living. We run regular courses during Lent and Advent. These are often organised and led by different members of our congregation with support from the clergy. We have also run Start!, youth Alpha Courses and are currently running an Alpha Course.



PCC – meets monthly (except December and August).

Church Newsletter – we have a weekly news sheet giving information about current and future events. We also have a weekly prayer sheet which suggests Bible readings and prayer topics for the week.

Baptism, Marriage, Confirmation and Funerals. Last year we had nine baptisms, five of which were by immersion. Preparation for baptisms is done by our baptism team and the service takes place during a normal All Age Sunday Service. We see these services as an opportunity for mission and evangelism as many are for unchurched families. We have an open policy for baptism. We try to keep in touch with our baptism families and invite them along to suitable services and events throughout the year.



At the moment we don't have many weddings, on average maybe one per year, although hopefully with the reordering this number will rise.

We had seven candidates for confirmation this year. Usually we have had a mix of both adult and child candidates. All candidates attend classes before confirmation and these are usually run by the clergy supported by members of the congregation.

Last year we had two funerals in church. We do not have our own graveyard but we do have a Memorial Garden at the rear of the church which is much valued by our members.

Vicarage. The vicarage is a three storey house with integral garage, cloakroom and study on the bottom level. The middle floor contains a kitchen, utility room, dining and lounge areas and opens onto the rear garden, which despite being well tended is an inner city haven for bird life. The top floor has four bedrooms and a bathroom. There is room for one car to be parked on the driveway. The house was built in 1993.

Finances. We had a stewardship campaign in September 2016. Working parish receipted expenses are paid in full by the PCC. We are a generous church giving regularly to other areas of mission (Christian Aid, Leprosy Mission, the Children's Society, Water Aid). Our parish share has always been paid in full and on time.

Our reordering project is now completed with some minor snagging which needs completing to enable release of the final retention. The addition of the community space and the provision of accessible facilities have been well received by the community, this is being hired out and is steadily generating income for the ongoing work of the church.

Links with other churches and Christian Groups. We are part of Churches Together in Firth Park and have links with the Eden Project, a youth and community project linked to St Thomas' Church in Crookes.

The church's involvement in the community. We already have a number of community groups that use our fantastic premises on a regular basis. SOAR (a local community regeneration charity) and Foodcycle run a weekly cook and speak group (mainly for Muslim women), SOAR also runs a women only support group twice a month and a chronic pain clinic once a month. Our church warden and church growth administrator both have regular contact with these groups and are building relationships there. For the past couple of years St Cuthbert's has taken part in the national heritage open day in September. We are used as a polling station for local and national elections.

Older people – there are 2 care homes within the parish. We hold regular services at Abbey Grange and Westbourne, which are organised and led by members of our congregation.

Schools – we are continuing to build relationships with Oasis Academy Firvale. One of our members is a school governor and our priest in charge, along with other members of the congregation, have been involved in RE classes.

And finally... St Cuthbert's likes to celebrate and party! Birthdays with live bands and dancing, multicultural parties, Valentine's Day, Christmas lunches... We have wonderful facilities which we are using to extend our church social life as well as being an excellent venue to hire out.



As a congregation we are open to change and trying new things, but like to be involved in the process and to be given the opportunity to give our opinions. We are not standing still, we are evolving: new members are joining us, new ministries are being offered by members of the congregation. It's an exciting place to be part of.

St Cuthbert's faces many challenges due to its location, but we believe that God has great things in store for us, under the leadership of a Vicar who shares and can help us to shape our vision.

The Revd Monica Sutton is currently self-supporting Priest-in-Charge at St Cuthbert's and will be retiring in January 2018. She has been in discussion with the Bishop about a possible ongoing ministry in the mission partnership under a Permission to Officiate, and the two newly appointed post holders will be consulted about this before any final decision is made.



THE DIOCESE
OF SHEFFIELD

Shared Role Description for two full-time 'incumbent status' posts

Details of both Posts

Role Title: **Priest in Charge/Associate Priest in the benefices of the Northern Lights Mission Partnership**

Names of Benefices: **Ellesmere St Peter (LEP)**
Pitsmoor Christ Church
Sheffield St Cuthbert, Fir Vale

Deanery: **Ecclesfield**

Archdeaconry: **Sheffield & Rotherham**

Role Purpose

1. To exercise the cure of souls in collaboration with the bishop
2. To grow Christ-like, lively and diverse Christian communities across this mission partnership, which are effective in making disciples and in seeking to transform our society and God's world
3. To represent the Church of England in the wider community
4. To support, encourage and resource colleagues in the deanery and diocese, as together we seek to realise our diocesan vision

General Responsibilities

1. To fulfill the responsibilities of clergy as described in the Canons, the Ordinal, the Guidelines for the Professional Conduct for the Clergy and other relevant legislation.
2. To watch over yourself.
3. To ensure that a high standard of worship, preaching and pastoral care is offered.
4. To develop the ministry of the laity such that all are using their gifts for the common good and to develop ministry teams.
5. To offer the gospel in a lively and engaging way to those who are outside the church
6. To offer a way for people to explore the Christian gospel for the first time leading to baptism and confirmation.
7. To offer clear pathways for young Christians to grow to maturity as Christian disciples.
8. To lead the church in responding to human need by loving service.
9. To participate in diocesan, national and international initiatives to transform unjust structures of society.
10. To seek at all times to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.
11. To encourage Christian stewardship of people's time, money and abilities.
12. To collaborate with Churchwardens to ensure the church building(s) serve the church's wider mission in the community.
13. To seek ecumenical cooperation wherever appropriate and possible.
14. To collaborate with the deanery in mission and ministry and cooperate in the implementation of the deanery plan.
15. To ensure full compliance at all times with the Diocesan Safeguarding Policy.
16. To explore opportunities for pioneer expressions of mission and ministry wherever appropriate and possible.
17. To fulfil the bishops' requirement of full engagement with continuing professional development through Leading Well, Continuing Ministerial Development and diocesan events that aim to inspire and equip lay and ordained leaders.

Specific Responsibilities

1. To work closely with ordained and lay colleagues across the mission partnership, to develop a shared vision for mission across the combined area, re-imagining shapes of ministry and exploring opportunities for new initiatives to effectively engage and evangelize previously unreached people.
2. To identify, build and nurture effective church-based teams for the leadership and delivery of mission and ministry in each local context.
3. To build up the existing congregations in the mission partnership, encouraging growth in whole-life Christian discipleship and active lay involvement in mission and ministry.

4. To enable the various congregations in the mission partnership to confidently grow in their distinctive style of worship and ministry, whilst valuing and promoting the rich diversity of approaches across the partnership.
5. To minister with integrity and pastoral sensitivity to people of all ages and backgrounds, whilst maintaining a strategic priority to “grow the Church younger” by developing appropriate ministries for children, young people and their families.
6. To engender a culture of service within the churches, so that they may become salt and light in their local communities; serving needs, challenging injustice and proclaiming good news in word and action.

Key colleagues within the church (local, deanery, diocese and ecumenical)

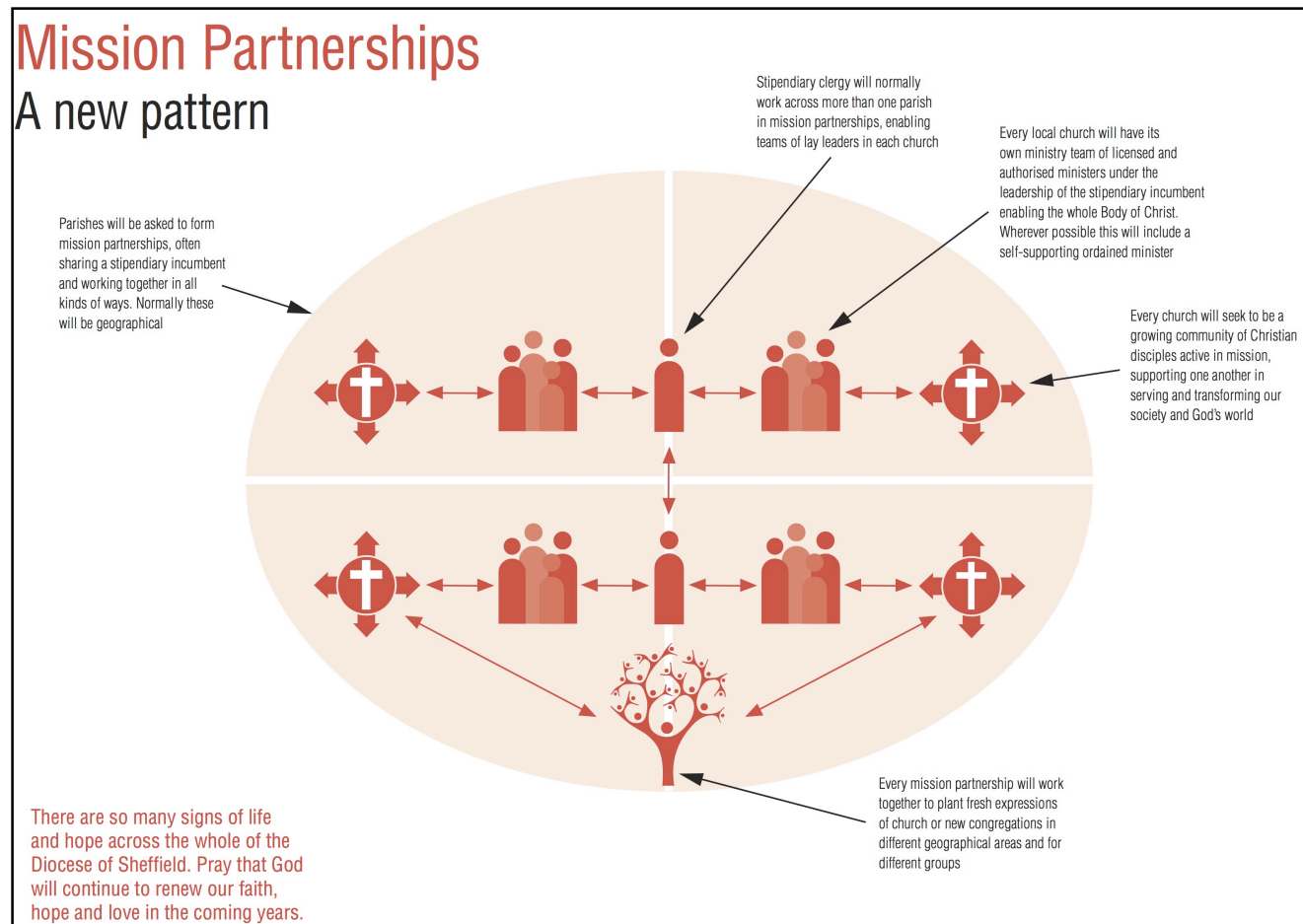
- The Bishop of Sheffield and the Bishop of Doncaster
- The Archdeacon of Sheffield and Rotherham
- The Area Dean and Lay Chair of the Deanery
- Chapter, Deanery Synod and Diocesan Synod together with church related groups
- Ordained colleagues in the mission partnership
- Churchwardens, especially those of the parish(es) where appointed Priest in Charge
- Lay officers and leaders, especially those of the parish(es) where appointed Priest in Charge
- Leaders and members of Guest Congregations meeting in partnership church premises.

Key partners in the wider community (individuals and organisations)

- Schools and colleges in the combined area of the mission partnership
- Residential homes in the combined area of the mission partnership
- Community associations and projects in the combined area of the mission partnership
- Local MPs and Councillors

Statement by the Archdeacon on behalf of the Diocese:

The Sheffield Diocesan strategy for developing Mission Partnerships is a response to the Church's need to re-imagine ministry for effective mission in the 21st Century, recognising the reality of changing resources and contexts whilst remaining committed to local presence mission and ministry. In short, it is a strategy for growing the church. The below diagram is taken from the strategy booklet *Re-Imagining Ministry for Mission*, published in 2012^{*}. It depicts the model as one where a group of churches will partner together in mission and ministry to a larger combined mission area (represented by the ellipse), sharing resources and vision. The below example has four churches, each with its own ministry team of licensed and authorised ministers, as well as a fresh expression of church (the tree!) resourced by two of the churches working in partnership.



The mission partnership is served by two stipendiary clergy working together across the whole area, resourcing the mission and ministry of all the churches and enabling the teams to lead and minister effectively in their local contexts.

With the coinciding of two vacancies, we have a unique opportunity in the Northern Lights Mission Partnership to embody this strategy further in the joint appointment of two stipendiary clergy.

There are several potential advantages to this creative approach to joint appointments, with the principal one being that it enables a far more strategic deployment of the particular skills and experiences held by the appointees across a wider mission area. Rather than each having to exhibit all the same strengths to do all the same things independently in the churches, we are able to appoint two people with particular specialisms to be offered more widely alongside their general ministry gifts.

* see http://www.sheffield.anglican.org/UserFiles/File/Strategy_documents/BOOKLETS_Re_imagining.pdf

As such, the two posts are being advertised as equivalents without pre-determining which post holder will be licensed as Priest in Charge to which church. Our intention is that both post holders will be licensed to all three benefices, and that the nature of those licenses will be determined in conversation with the two successful appointees. In the same way, the person specification for the two posts is identical with a three-column approach outlining our hopes for the shared skills and experiences that the two post holders will together bring to the mission partnership.

There are many opportunities for mission and growth in the parishes of the Northern Lights Mission Partnership, with numerous community links as described in the profile. As such, we are looking for two priests with energy and vision to provide strategic leadership and pastoral ministry to the three parishes, and to develop new opportunities for mission and service in this vibrant and challenging part of Sheffield. Together they will lead the churches of the Partnership in discerning a shared vision for mission and ministry, especially in relation to the three diocesan strategies of growing the Body of Christ, re-imagining ministry for a changing context and engaging in the wider community as salt and light, expressing the love of Christ in word and action.

This is an exciting and unique opportunity to be involved in shaping the future mission and ministry of the Church of England in this important part of Sheffield.

Review Date:

Signature of Office Holder:

Date:

Signature of Archdeacon:

Date:

DIOCESE OF SHEFFIELD

THE BENEFICES OF THE NORTHERN LIGHTS MISSION PARTNERSHIP

SHARED PERSON SPECIFICATION (2 POSTS)

CRITERIA	ESSENTIAL for both candidates	ESSENTIAL in at least one candidate	DESIRABLE
Qualifications/Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Theological training to an appropriate level. Ordained Priest in the Church of England. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience of secular employment Some academic and/or practical study of urban mission
Spirituality and Prayer Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A person of prayer, spiritual maturity, confidence in Scripture as the Word of God and sensitivity the work of the Holy Spirit. A good understanding of other faiths & cultures. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A willingness to lead regular bible study and encourage biblical learning. A willingness to help in the development of personal prayer. 	
Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A good awareness of theology and the practice of mission. Passionate and committed to mission action planning and the continuing growth of the 'Northern Lights' Mission Partnership. An understanding of the need for the churches to think beyond themselves in relation to issues affecting our society, nation and world. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proven ability to welcome, nurture and integrate newcomers into the life of the church. Proven ability to build good social connections with the wider community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some understanding of the needs of the parish and the diversity of its people.

Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proven ability to communicate effectively with children and young people, and work with families. • Experience of leading people to faith in Jesus Christ. • Track record of leading a church community into growth. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practical experience of pastoral ministry and mission in an urban context of multiple deprivation. • Commitment to working positively with different denominations, faiths and cultures. • Experience of working in church contexts undergoing change in culture and/or structure, and proven ability of leading processes of change. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A willingness to work with other groups working with vulnerable people
Skills and Abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A good listener able to support and encourage. • The ability to work collaboratively and to encourage leadership in others. • Ability to design, prepare and lead worship, which is accessible and inspiring to all ages. • Have sensitivity in relating to people and managing change. • Ability to teach & disciple a church family at different stages in their faith journey. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to grow leaders from within the church congregation, and nurture them in ministry. • Cultivate pastoral care in our church community. • Strong gifts in all-age worship and preaching. • Proven ability to encourage the development of effective youth ministry, working with and overseeing youth workers, voluntary and/or paid. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Able to assess and grow the financial life of the parishes and lead them into good practice and sound management. • Ability to use I.T. effectively in communication and presentation. • Good time management skills with the ability to prioritise and delegate work. • Ability to establish a high profile as an active partner in the local community. • Musical ability

Personal Attributes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A willingness to learn about our church families and wider communities. • A dynamic person who is willing to try new things. • Kind, sensitive and approachable. • A sense of humour. • A willingness to embrace a broad churchmanship, and support theologically diverse congregations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fully supportive of women's ministry, both lay and ordained. • Supportive of diversity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Someone who is fun, lively, enthusiastic and willing to try new things. • Someone who is interested in the needs of all ages. • Our children have requested a 'funky' vicar.
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