# 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. Stephen, Audenshaw**

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 bishopmark@manchester.anglican.org***

***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**

#### INTRODUCTION

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

*We are centrally situated in Audenshaw and have a thriving church school. We are a small but friendly congregation. Numbers have been declining for some years and we need to grow, numerically as well as spiritually.*

*We are looking for an enthusiastic, energetic interpersonal communicator with a capacity to deal with any challenging situations, especially in todays changing climate. They need to have flexibility as they will be dealing with two Parishes that are geographically challenging.*

#### BASIC INFORMATION AND STATISTICS

*Statistical information can be requested from the Mission Planning Officer, Alison Peacock at Church House,* [*alisonpeacock@manchester.anglican.org*](mailto:alisonpeacock@manchester.anglican.org)

* 1. Full name of benefice or parish(es)

**St. Stephen, Audenshaw**

* 1. Title of the post that is vacant

**5 Minister**

* 1. Name and address of patron (if the Bishop of Manchester, write “Bishop)

**Bishop**

* 1. Archdeaconry, Deanery, and name of Area Dean

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

**Archdeaconry of Rochdale and Deanery of Ashton-under-Lyne**

**Archdeacon Cherry Vann:**

[**CherryVann@manchester.anglican.org**](mailto:CherryVann@manchester.anglican.org) **– 01616781454**

**Rev Roger Dixon, Area Dean:**

[**revrogerdixon@outlook.com**](mailto:revrogerdixon@outlook.com) **- 01613701863**

* 1. Official clergy housing: address and brief description

**Photo attached**

**176 Stamford Road, Audenshaw, M34 5WW**

**Detached 4 bedroom two reception rooms, kitchen, study downstairs toilet. Gardens to front and rear, garage and driveway.**

* 1. Official population

**6,500**

* 1. Number on electoral roll

**46**

* 1. Average Weekly Attendance for the last 3 years

**30**

* 1. Average Weekly Attendance of children and young people under 16

**3**

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

a. those baptized **7**

b. those admitted to holy communion before confirmation **N/A**

c. those confirmed **0**

d. marriages **1**

e. funerals **5 in church**

**4 at the Crematorium**

f. Christmas communicants (all services) **34**

g. Easter communicants (all services) **31**

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

1. Name of principal church

**St. Stephen, Audenshaw**

1. Approximate key dates for the building

**1846 Consecration. Chancel added 1900.**

1. Approximate seating capacity

**60**

1. When was the last Quinquennial inspection done? What are the main things 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 April 2017.**

**Please see attached a copy of the main things that the architect highlighted as needing doing.**

**Summary:**

**Section E1**

**Ideally would all be done as one operation. The problem is the sourcing of replacement cast-iron rainwater goods which we understand would have to be made to order and therefore cost prohibitive. There is apparently no approval to use substitute materials.  
  
Section E2**

**Church Care Team to re-visit these matters.  
  
Section E3**

**Improved W.C. facilities - new indoor toilet/baby changing facilities - installed 2018.  
West boundary wall repairs – ongoing**

**The architect has not given estimated costs for any of these works.**

*A copy of the latest Quinquennial inspection of the church should be available to visiting applicants*

1. Name of any attached or nearby hall or other similar facility

**We occasionally have use of the school hall for large functions.**

f. details of other Anglican churches or licensed places of worship in the

benefice or parish(es) profiled here **N/A**

* 1. Details of publicity that the parish produces e.g. newsletter, magazine

**Posters for special services.**

**Weekly service sheets include advance notices and any other important information.**

* 1. Address of website and other social media if applicable

**We use ‘A Church Near You’ website and we also have a church section on the school website.**

**We have a Facebook page which is regularly updated.**

* 1. Names of churchwardens

**At the moment we do not have any churchwardens but we do have a Church Care Team consisting of Allan Arrowsmith, Janet Harrison, Andy Palmer and Marilyn Shone.**

* 1. 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

**To be advised**

*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.*

#### 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.

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

##### 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 local population consists of families and single persons. The population is rising as there is new housing in the area, which is bringing in younger families.**

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

**Single parent families and the pressures of every-day living, and the working environment today, which includes Sunday working.**

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

**The housing stock is a broad spectrum of terraced, semi and detached.**

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

**We have a close relationship with our Church School. Church has an open day on a Wednesday during which people can look around church, have a drink and a ‘natter’, borrow books and cd’s or just sit quietly and pray. We hold regular fund raising concerts not just for church funds but for local charities. We also have close contacts with local Care Homes.**

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

**Brother International and Droylsden Glass are the largest companies in the area. We do have a local health centre and there are some shops on Audenshaw Road. We also have the local Fire Station in our Parish. Rycroft Hall, which is a beautiful Grade II listed civic building, which is used by the local community for various events and activities, is also in our Parish.**

##### SCHOOLS AND VOLUNTARY GROUPS

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

**St. Stephen’s Church of England School**

**Audenshaw County Primary School**

**St. Annes Roman Catholic Primary School**

What links are maintained or desirable?

**During the year our church school hold regular services in our church building. These include Christmas, Easter, Harvest Festival and the Leavers Service. This year this included I Sing Pop and Messy Church. We also run stalls at the schools Summer Fair and Christmas Fair. Three of our church members are School Governors, one is the Chair.**

**We have regular educational visits to church from both our school and other schools in the area.**

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

What else should be recorded?

**We are looking to expand the use of our building.**

##### WORSHIP AND WORSHIPPERS

What is the present pattern of Sunday and weekday worship?

**Usually Sunday morning Communion beginning at 10.30am; Wednesday morning Communion beginning at 10.00am; four Lay Led Services a year, led by the Worship Committee; Fifth Sunday of the month are Joint Services with the Mission Partnership and joint services with the Mission Partnership are held all through August, during which we alternate between churches.**

**We have children’s activities in the children’s corner during the service and they are actively encouraged to take part in the service.**

**At the moment Baptisms are held during a ‘personalised’ Sunday Morning Family Service.**

Which books and service orders are in use?

**We use Common Worship on Sunday, booklet produced in house, and the Common Prayer on Wednesday.**

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

**At the moment robes and surplus and scarf.**

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

**It is an ageing congregation, mostly retired, with a higher percentage of women but we do have now regular loyal younger families.**

How many worshippers live outside the parish boundary? **25**

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

**We feel we are of a central/evangelical tradition.**

What else should be recorded?

##### CHURCH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS AND GROUPS

What church-based organizations and groups exist?

**The Mothers’ Union**

**Messy Church**

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

**The Mothers’ Union meets monthly in the hall at the back of church, in the afternoon, averaging 14 members.**

**We also hold quarterly Messy Church events in and around the church building, which usually involves 40+ children plus supervising adults and numbers have been steadily rising. We wish to build on this and involve the school more in our church life.**

How would you describe the social life of the church?

**In need of improvement.**

What else should be recorded?

##### NEIGHBOURING ANGLICAN CHURCHES AND PARISHES

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

**See attached.**

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

**We have a very successful and thriving Mission Partnership and this needs to be sustained.**

What activities or projects do you undertake or plan jointly?

**Bible Study Groups; Lent Groups; Walking Group; Quiz Night. The Ministers from all the Mission Partnership Churches also have regular ‘lunchtime’ meetings.**

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.*

**Mission Action Plan attached.**

##### ECUMENISM

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

**Local** *Methodist and United Reform.*

What links are maintained or desirable, formal or informal?

**Joint World Day of Prayer service.**

Have ministers met regularly? **Yes**

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

**Not now.**

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

**No.**

What else should be recorded?

##### 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.

Are there licensed or emeritus Readers who minister?

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

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

What else should be recorded?

**We do not, at present, have any other ordained ministers licensed solely to St. Stephen's. St. Stephen's are, however, part of the Audenshaw and Denton Mission Partnership which includes the parishes of St. Anne, Haughton, St. Lawrence, Denton and Christ Church, Denton with St. George's, Dane Bank. Three ordained ministers from these parishes are licensed as curates at St. Stephen's: Jules Mambu, Miles Howarth and Sheila Cant (OLM). All these take services once or twice a year at St. Stephen's. A few years ago we had a Curate of our own (SSM) for 2-3 years.**

**We had a Licensed Reader for over 20 years (until 2010) and appreciate Reader Ministry. One of the other Mission Partnership parishes (Christ Church with St. George's) has a Reader, June Partington, and she will soon be leading her first service at St. Stephen's.**

**We have not yet been involved in courses like Foundations for Ministry. Nor do we have any A.L.M.s An A.L.M. from another parish is, however, on a placement with us, at present, as he explores his future vocation.**

**We see ministry as involving everyone using their gifts for God and for the sake of others (the Body of Christ as in 1 Corinthians 12). Lay members are involved in leading intercessions, as Lay Assistants, and as leaders of Messy Church. We also have a Worship Committee who help plan worship, and lead 3 or 4 lay-led services a year. These, and other, members are not A.L.M.s but they exercise their gifts in special ways.**

##### MISSION

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

What else should be recorded?

**See Mission Action Plan**

##### 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 held in October 1998. We have since met with a Stewardship Officer in 2015 but ended up organising our own initiative.**

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

**Please see attached accounts.**

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?

**In the past we have always paid it in full.**

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

**Please see accounts.**

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

**We support Christian Aid, The Leprosy Mission, CMS and the Children’s Society.**

What else should be recorded?

1. **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?

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

*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*

1. **Forward looking, with empathy and the motivation to help us grow spiritually and in numbers so that we are transformed by God’s love and teaching.**
2. **Continuing Pastoral Care with the local community.**
3. **Expanding our already close relationship with school.**
4. **Continuing and expanding our already close relationship with the Mission Partnership Churches.**

*Revised October 2015*