

Bierton & Hulcott Parish Profile



Our Mission Statement

Enriching Lives through Sharing Christ

Engaging with our local community to expand the Kingdom of God
here in Bierton and Hulcott

Reaching out into the heart of our Parish, welcoming people into
our church family at a time when many of our village activities
are ceasing

Growing in faith and fellowship together

Taking our church to the people

How we see our future

- † Our Parish is committed to growth and offers huge potential. We are really excited about the next steps of our spiritual journey
- † We want to continue to be outward looking and to constantly seek new ways in which we can serve God by better serving our communities
- † We would like to grow, not just in numbers, but also in our spiritual maturity bringing us all into a closer relationship with God

Therefore encourage one another and build up each other,
as indeed you are doing

1 Thessalonians 5:11

The person we seek

- † A minister who has a clear and deeply rooted faith, secure and confident in their spiritual and personal life
- † A person who will encompass and enjoy a variety of worship - traditional and modern, formal and informal
- † A vibrant person who can inspire our active church family and encourage new involvement in the life of the church and its activities in the parish, utilising all the various gifts our church members have to offer
- † Someone who can help us take our church to the people
- † A person who is pastorally sensitive who enjoys meeting people and has the ability and concern to nurture a diverse congregation
- † Someone who will help us build upon our existing links with the two schools and nursing homes within parish and who will reach out to local youth groups such as Scouts, Cubs and Beavers to encourage and welcome participation in church activities
- † We are seeking someone with a good sense of humour who has skill and passion for engagement in the local community, both by meeting those from the community and by taking our mission out into the parish
- † We need a team player with leadership, organisational & IT skills who can prioritise

Priest in Charge

(Interim Appointment
3 years, 0.5 stipend)

What we can offer

- † A willingness to help, be guided and encouraged to participate
- † A church family committed to honouring God through our worship, witness, service and fellowship
- † An understanding that our Vicar will come with his/her own strengths and gifts, which may be different from our former Vicar
- † An openness to engage in new things that will help us to expand our ministry and grow as a church for the glory of God
- † A prayerful, supportive and friendly church fellowship within a happy and thriving rural community on the edge of Aylesbury
- † A comfortable 4-bedroom vicarage, well sited and with ample space inside and out situated next to the church in a rural setting
- † Accessible links to local transport including a direct train line to London
- † A very warm and open welcome to whomever God sends us to be our next Parish Priest

Our Church

St James the Great, Bierton, HP22 5BT

St James is a welcoming and friendly family orientated congregation using modern central catholic style of liturgy, accompanied by our Organist. We seek to serve the communities of Bierton, Hulcott, The Coppice, Oldhams Meadow, Elmhurst (north side of the Aylesbury ring road), Watermead and Buckingham Park.

Activities within the church aside from our regular services are many and varied, including Cream Teas, Crafty Cuppa, Film Nights, Teddies from the Tower, Summer Fetes and Christmas Fairs.

Many of our congregation live outside the parish in the neighbouring residential areas and some travel from further afield.

St James the Great Church is alongside the A418 on its north side, the main entrance is the North doorway. The church is thought to date back to 14th century. In the 15th/16th centuries, the walls of the north and south aisles were raised and extra windows added. The present roof and the stained glass windows are 19th century.

The church has 7 bells, the oldest dating back to 1678. The bells and bell frame were refurbished in 1972. The bells are rung regularly each Sunday and for special services. We are very fortunate to have an active Bell Ringing Team.





All Saints, Hulcott, HP22 5AX

Sadly after much prayer, the last service at All Saints Church took place on Easter Sunday, 21st April 2019. The process of closure of All Saints Church is due to the aged population, a severely dwindling congregation and a failing building.

While this is heart-breaking for the Churchwardens and regular parishioners, we are looking positively at the situation and seeing it as an opportunity to encompass this small community into the St James family.

Hulcott is situated on a loop road from the A418 from Aylesbury to Leighton Buzzard. The centre of the village is a Green, surrounded by 14 dwellings including a Nursing Home.

Our surroundings and outreach old and new

Bierton lies in the Vale of Aylesbury, to the north-east of Aylesbury town. It is primarily residential with a wide social mix. Housing is mixed, with older traditional properties, former council houses, flats, and new developments. The latest estimate of the population is 2,178 (based on the 2011 census).

Most people commute to work in Aylesbury, the surrounding towns or London. There is a bus service to Aylesbury and to Milton Keynes. There is a mainline railway station in Aylesbury from which people commute easily to London.

We regularly visit the three Nursing Homes in our Parish, one in Hulcott and two in Aylesbury, offering Holy Communion to the residents.

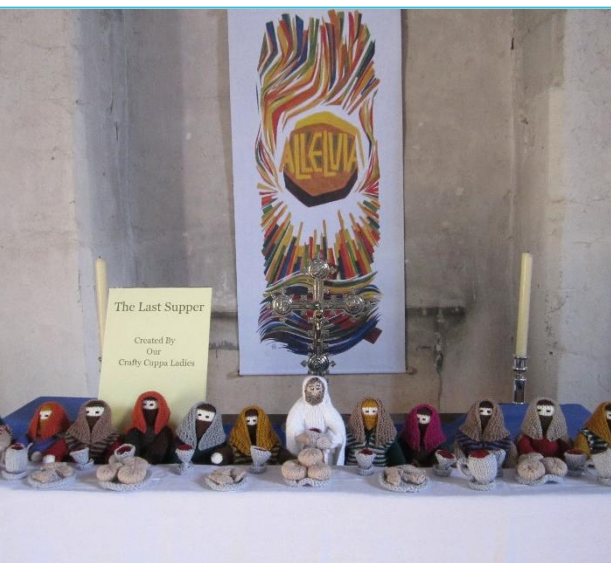
We have an Ofsted rated 'Good' C of E school close to the church attended by children between the ages of 4 – 11 and an independent school in Buckingham Park. In nearby Aylesbury there are three grammar schools and a secondary school.

The village boasts 2 pubs, a community hall, a sports pavilion (pre school is held here), a playground and allotments. We also have active Beaver, Cub and Scout groups. In Hulcott there is a Golf Driving Range and Restaurant.

Two new Crematoriums have opened in our Parish in 2019, both approximately 2 miles from the church.

Aylesbury has an abundance of places to eat and shop. Larger shopping areas are located in Milton Keynes and Watford. There are many museums in the locality. There are other amenities in the surrounding area including a cinema, theatre, leisure centres with swimming pools, tennis courts and golf courses.

The nearest NHS hospital is in Stoke Mandeville.



Life at St James

In the Past Year, We Have.....

Knitted the Last Supper

Parachuted Teddies from the Tower

Eaten Pancakes while doing a Quiz
(yes, we can do more than one thing at a time)

And sometimes we're a bit Messy Church





Life at St James

We're a lively lot.....

We Barn Dance

We're Dramatic

We Sing

And we Doris Dance!

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the
Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him
Colossians 3:17



We support many charities

- † Macmillan Cancer – Biggest Coffee Morning
- † Carol Singing – Florence Nightingale Hospice at Stoke Mandeville Hospital
- † Aylesbury Food Bank
- † Christmas Services and card collections – given in entirety to nominated charities
- † Christingle Services and Home Collection boxes for The Children's Society
- † Used Postage Stamps for RNIB
- † "There But Not There" Installation to commemorate WW1 sacrifices
- † Twinned Toilet – with Nepal

OUR OUTREACH

Uyoba Community Library project

In August 2017, one of our church family members had the privilege of visiting Uyoba Community Library in South Luangwa, Zambia. The project was set up by a retired teacher, Jenny, who started a reading scheme and more recently a Nursery School giving the opportunity for youngsters who have never handled a book before to enjoy stories of the world they have yet to see.

After hearing of this visit we wanted to help and adopted this project by launching it at our 2018 Lent Giving Appeal. Our Church Family wholeheartedly embrace this wonderful project.

From a wish list provided by Jenny we collected reading books, toys, colouring books etc and used donated money to buy specific items such as rechargeable batteries, paper and paints.

In July 2018 we packed 52 boxes which were shipped to Uyoba. The contents were excitedly unpacked and shared with the library, the nursery school, homebased carers and disabled children.

At the beginning of April 2019, we packed a further 56 boxes of books and toys to send to Uyoba. These were collected during Christmas 2018 and Lent 2019, and included a stroller to help children with cerebral palsy.



Worship at St James

9:00 am

Sung Eucharist (CW)
Every Sunday

10:30 am

Family Service
1st Sunday in the month

6:00 pm

Evensong (BCP)
1st Sunday in the month

Regular Activities at St James

Tuesdays Crafty Cuppa

Wednesdays Bible Study
(Once a Month)

Thursdays Bierton Allsorts

Fridays Bell Ringing Practice

Saturdays Coffee, Tea & Cakes
Morning
(Once a month)

Messy Church held on various dates
throughout the year

Benefice Summary

† Electoral Roll - 41

† Average Sunday Attendance - 38

† Parish Share 2019 - £27,578

† Supporting Structures

† Area Bishop: The Rt Revd Dr Alan Wilson, Bishop of Buckingham

† Archdeacon: The Ven Guy Elsmore, Archdeacon of Buckingham

† Area Dean: Revd David Williams, Aylesbury Deanery



The Vicarage

There is a modern four bedroomed vicarage with garage, adjacent to the church and at the end of a small cul-de-sac.

Ground Floor: dining room; lounge with open fireplace; study; kitchen; toilet and utility room.

First floor: four bedrooms; a separate toilet and bathroom and a walk-in loft space.

There is a mature garden with direct access to the churchyard and church and looking out onto countryside.

