

St Jude & St Paul's Church

Parish Profile 2017



Mildmay Grove,
Islington,
London, N1 4PL



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OUR WORSHIPPING COMMUNITY

The Church

The local area is renowned for its long history of diversity and our congregation broadly reflects the varied population with members who have grown up in the area and those whose origins come from across the world and country with many different ways of life. There is a wide age span too with several generations from within families often attending church together. Some members have worshipped with St Jude & St Paul's for many years, while others have just arrived and may stay only a year or two until their jobs or housing needs take them elsewhere.

By tradition the church is evangelical with an emphasis on biblical preaching and evangelism. The patrons are the Church Pastoral Aid Society. The church electoral roll currently stands at 73 however it has not been revised for some time.

An emerging ministry team has come together during the vacancy consisting of two retired Readers and volunteers from the congregation.



The Services

We have a 10.30 am Sunday service, with Communion on the 1st and 3rd Sundays. Robes are worn on for communion services. On average, we have 22 communicants on a typical Eucharist Sunday.

The average weekly attendance of 30 adults and 10 children. An All-Age Worship Service has recently been launched on 2nd Sundays. Although in the past there has been a Sunday school it is not currently operating but we hope to re-instate it when we have the resources.

After the service refreshments are served by members of the congregation on a rota basis which provides a valuable opportunity for fellowship and welcoming new members and visitors to the congregation.



A rota system is also in place for readers and prayers during services, church flowers and the cleaning of the church. Another church uses (rent) the adjoining church hall on Sunday afternoon.

There are very few baptisms, confirmations, weddings or funerals, but there is a steady stream of requests for banns to be read for residents who plan to be married at their parental homes.

The journey we've been on over the past few years has not always been smooth and there have been some bumps in the road.

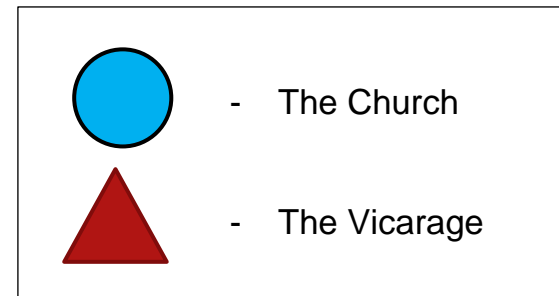
However, we are now wanting to move forward in love, forging new partnerships and building new relationships. We are aware that there are significant challenges ahead but we are confident that God is with us.

“But those who trust in the Lord for help will find their strength renewed. They will rise on wings like eagles; they will run and not get weary; they will walk and not grow weak.” Isaiah 40:31



THE PARISH

St Jude & St Paul's is an inner-city parish. It is located near the City of London, within the Islington Deanery. The east border of the parish is close to the boundary of Hackney. The parish was formed from the amalgamation of 2 parishes (St Jude's and St Paul's) in 1982.



About the area

The Church is on a principle pedestrian route to Dalston and with its landmark spire is in a prime position to beckon people in. The location is a few minutes' walk from both Newington Green and Dalston, a vibrant area with busy Ridley Road market, shops, cafés, small cinema and night life. A short bus ride away is Angel Central and Upper Street, a hive of activity with independent & high street retailers, a variety of restaurants, Vue cinema and the o2 Academy music venue. Sadler's Wells, the Almeida theatre and King's Head pub/theatre are also nearby. If you like football, we are close to Arsenal (we are within the match day parking area) and Tottenham football grounds. There are also many parks, swimming pools and sports centres in the area and walks along the canal. We have a library within the parish, various play spaces and a number of care homes.



Our local community

The parish is almost wholly residential with a mixture of owner-occupied housing and some large council and housing association estates. The population of the parish has increased by a quarter to fifteen thousand. The index shows it as one of the areas of highest deprivation in the country, yet much of the housing is owner occupied or private rental giving the appearance of affluence.

There have been instances of youth knife crime recently in Islington but we generally feel safe within our community. This is dynamic, exciting, changing, yet “village like” place to live. Residents living here work all over London and secondary children commute across the borough and across the city daily. A new development is “invisible” home working and café working.

There are a number of new residential apartment buildings springing up around Dalston, appealing to City workers. However, the population is ever-changing and the diversity is reflected by the number of language spoken in school.

Main transport links

Key to Islington’s popularity now, and historically, is its transport network and excellent connections to the City of London. Angel underground station connects via the Northern Line (Bank branch) whilst King’s Cross is only a short distance away. In addition, during the decade since the last Parish Profile was written, investment in public transport for the Olympic Games in 2012 established transport hubs at Canonbury and Dalston on the London Overground (a few minutes’ walk from the vicarage and church). This reconstruction of the railway, with new stations and more frequent trains serving more destinations has dramatically increased the desirability of the area as a place for young professionals to live. There is an excellent bus service (day and night) directly into the West End, City and over the borough.



What kind of vicar (man or woman) we are looking for

- ❖ A teacher of God's word - someone who encourages and develops leadership in others
- ❖ A good communicator with a gift of communicating with people of all ages and backgrounds
- ❖ Able to relate to people in a diverse inner-city parish in order to help develop our multi-cultural congregation into an inter-cultural church community
- ❖ A heart for pastoral care
- ❖ Innovative e.g. how to attract and mobilise new members from the young professionals moving into the parish
- ❖ Has a passion to work with children - engaging with the schools (governors, teachers, parents and children) to encourage children into a life of Christian faith and to reach out to their families
- ❖ Is interested in forging new ways of being an urban community in the digital age

Welcomes a challenge

Wants to bring the word of God to an exciting part of London

Wants to live in a vibrant community

Approachable

Team player

Sociable

Willing to build links with external groups

Likes visiting

Finds where the community comes together

IT literate

Collaborative

Outward looking

Is at home in the local pub as well as the cafe

ABOUT US

Open & welcoming



Open to change, but we know that everyone doesn't find it easy

Diverse, ethnically, age, economically, education



Not good time keepers but we'd rather you came late than not at all

Music is an important part of our worship but we are not very good at singing

Willing to help & support the vicar



Some of us are IT dinosaurs

Arsenal supporters !



Future Challenges

The key challenges we see ahead of us now are:

- ❖ We are a small congregation with a large parish and there are corners of the parish where we would like to reach with the word of God.
- ❖ How to make the best use of our refurbished building to serve and reach out to the local community; to seek and encourage community groups to use our buildings and to hold more church sponsored community events.
- ❖ To re-establish youth work within the church including the Sunday school. Although there has been a Sunday school (in the past) it is not currently operating; an all-age worship service is currently being relaunched on second Sundays.
- ❖ To develop stronger partnership with the 4 schools in the parish. One of the areas to improve in the SIAMS Report on St Jude & St Paul's School in February 2015 was to "Strengthen the relationship with the parish church so that it is of mutual benefit to the school and parish".
- ❖ To grow the congregation and work together to (reunite) the parish and to bring the word of God to all parts of the parish.
- ❖ To encourage and empower more people within the congregation to offer their gifts and skills in God's service.



Our Big church day out event

The Finances

Looking towards the next incumbency, the table presents an encouraging picture at the half-year:

- Church members are more involved in helping to run the church - which has lowered admin costs
- Fresh experienced members have joined the ministry team bringing additional gifts and resources
- A medium-term lease on St Paul's Hall has increased rental income

These changes are expected to result in a £9k surplus in 2017 with reserves of just under £100k.

Members Giving

Members joining have exceeded the number leaving in the first six months of the year and committed giving has increased. The Gift-aid due for the last *three* years will be claimed before the year end.

Property Income

Contributions from schools and other churches using the buildings has increased principally as a result of granting a ten-year lease of the St Paul's Hall.

Diocesan Common Fund

The parish commitment of £38k represents 48% of the diocesan guide-line for a church with a vicar and parsonage house. The PCC has agreed to increase the contribution for 2017 by £2k as an expression of thanks, giving to God. An offer of £48k (60%) has been made towards the 2018 costs, with an agreement to review this when a new incumbent is in post.

Property Development

The cost in 2016 of the new Audio-Visual system (£35k) and the new chairs (£15k) were funded by grants from The Richard Cloudesley Charity

Property Operating Costs

Work was completed in 2016 on the repairs scheduled after the 2013 report. The next inspection is due in 2018. £10k has been provided in 2017 to cover running costs such as roof repairs.

Missions

The tradition of setting aside a tenth of prior year undesignated donations has been included in the forecast. In addition, members are expected to donate to special appeals at Easter, Harvest and Christmas.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY		
	2016	2017
	Actual	Expect
	£	£
Income		
Members Giving	22,693	26,003
Property Operating	50,922	59,730
Fees	824	328
Property Development Grants	67,500	0
Total income	141,939	86,060
Expenditure		
Diocesan Common Fund	36,750	38,056
Ministry Costs	7,718	5,510
Property Operating costs	29,109	30,965
Property Development	61,669	0
Missions	620	2,000
Administration	4,303	101
Total Costs	140,170	76,632
Surplus for the year	1,769	9,428
Funds brought forward	86,949	88,719
Funds carried forward	88,719	98,147
Reserves		
Bank Current	22,996	44,916
Bank Deposit	53,231	53,231
Due HMRC – Gift-aid	12,492	-
Net Assets	88,719	98,147

History + The Church Buildings



St Jude's church was built in 1855 and is Grade II Listed. St Jude's parish merged in 1982 with St Paul's, and then that building became redundant; the parish retained the Church Hall on the St Paul's site.

The Church has seen a number of changes, with the partitioning of halls and the lounge in the mid-20th Century, and the refurbishment of the worship area in 1986, when the pews were removed and the choir stalls restored.

The worship area has recently been re carpeted and equipped with comfortable chairs and a new audio/visual system has been installed. Now with a refurbished church, opportunities for use by the community should now be explored. Assistance with these projects has been received from the Richard Cloudesley Charity that gives grants towards the upkeep of Islington Anglican places of worship.

Richard Cloudesley (who died in 1518) left in his will a provision for the "sick and poor" of Islington and for Churches in Islington and the charity has been a great benefactor to our church, including the repair, restoration and redecoration of the Church tower, tower bell, ladder to the upper chamber and improved lighting to the tower. The last Quinquennial inspection was held in 2013. The findings were no serious problems with the church building which was structurally sound.

The Vicarage

The Vicarage was built for St Paul's in 1970; it is a five-bedroom detached house, in the centre of the parish about half a mile from the Church (behind St Paul's Church), and alongside a small park, with playground and fitness equipment. It is currently in a good state of repair with some minor works that need attention.

On the ground floor is a pleasant interconnected lounge and dining room. Also, a study, kitchen, utility room and toilet. Upstairs are five bedrooms and a bathroom. The house is surrounded by a garden and to the front is a hard standing, big enough for two cars and a garage.



Vicarage Address

71 Marquess Road, London N1 2PT

Outreach and mission involvement

The church building has had a considerable amount of money spent on its interior in recent years; the worship area has been re-carpeted and equipped with new chairs, a new audio/visual system installed, the kitchen updated and the toilets refurbished. We believe we now need to be outward looking and the building fully utilised by church members and the local community. The church has been used recently as a night shelter for the homeless.

We need an inspiring leader to encourage, equip and guide us as we continue on the path our Lord has marked out for us, to help us grow spiritually and numerically and to work with us to develop a vision for the next part of our journey.

The Mildmay Mission Hospital was founded by Rev William Pennefather who was a previous vicar of the church in 1864. Over the intervening years, it was used in different capacities and is now a charitable hospital specialising in HIV, delivering quality care and treatment, prevention work, rehabilitation, training, education and health strengthening in the UK and East Africa. In 2016 Mildmay marked 150 years of the provision of service, compassion and medical care.



Over the last few years the link with the Mildmay has been strengthened with the CEO of the hospital visiting and preaching several times. To mark their 150th anniversary there was a special service held in the church with Archbishop John Sentamu (a former Bishop of Stepney) attending; the service opened with words of welcome from Mildmay's president Margaret Sentamu. A Mildmay rose was also planted in the church garden.

The Archbishop of York planting the Mildmay rose



King Henry's Walk Garden

Within the parish there are the Metropolitan Benefit Societies' Almshouses (MBSA) situated on Balls Pond Road. The scheme has a mixture of 28 flats and cottages around three sides of a quadrangle with a central meeting hall and provides accommodation for older people who are in need. The vicar of St Jude & St Paul's Church is appointed as a trustee of the MBSA charity.

The church has a plot in the local community garden (King Henry's Walk Garden). Church members are encouraged to go along to plant and weed the church plot and whilst there be a witness to the church. They also participate and help at events e.g. the pensioner's strawberry tea, the various fairs – summer, autumn, winter and also be on duty when the garden is open to the public.

MBSA Almshouses



Other missions that we've supported financially and had various members come to preach are:

- ❖ CPAS who are our patrons
- ❖ The Bible Society
- ❖ CARIS (Bereavement project)
- ❖ Tear Fund
- ❖ The Children's Society – celebrating and making Christingle
- ❖ CMS, specifically the Yanez family who are based in Malaga, Spain. Felipe Yanez supports the work of a food bank in Malaga City, and is involved in Bible studies & English courses and his wife Sarah runs a clothes bank.



Yanez Family

Schools in the Parish and our current engagement with them

A notable feature of the parish is its four schools; they are all keen to develop closer relationships with the church.

1. The church has its own off-site Church of England Primary VA School
2. The Children's House is a private pre-prep school on St Jude's church site
3. A Steiner school is using the St Paul's site
4. Newington Green is a local authority primary school



St Jude & St Paul's C of E VA Primary School – St Jude & St Paul's School was rebuilt and opened in 2005 and is situated close to the church.



It is a single form entry primary school serving the immediate area around the church and has ~200 pupils from very diverse backgrounds.

St Jude & St Paul's School has a vision to be an inspirational school delivering excellence in learning by being creative, rigorous, and inclusive, grounded in Christian faith and preparing children for life. 'Therefore encourage one another and build one another up.' 1 Thessalonians 5:11



They aim to provide a happy and secure environment in which children can develop to their full potential, spiritually, morally, physically and intellectually.

They value and want to keep the ethos of friendliness, gentleness and care that they have worked so hard to achieve. They strongly believe that drama, dance, music, public speaking and personal presentation opportunities develop confidence and poise and that these qualities are essential in developing successful, well rounded individuals.

For the last 4 years the Head Teacher has been an ordained priest however he has decided to leave to pursue full time ministry. A new Head Teacher has been recruited and she starts in the role in September 2017.

It is expected that the new vicar will actively participate in the life of the school, leading collective worship, participating in the governing body and encouraging the school to use the church building.

The Children's House

A fee paying school, was set up in 1973. In September 2005 they took on the lease of the old school buildings next to the church, previously St Jude & St Paul's Infant School. The buildings were refurbished and hold Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 classes. The current Head teacher is Kate Orange. They have use of the enclosed playground, direct access and sole use during school hours of the two church halls, occasional use of the Vestry and hold some services in Church.



The school's lease runs to 2020 and is therefore a financial benefit to the church and the church school. Although the use of shared space could cause points of tension there is a desire on both sides to make the relationship with the PCC work.



St. Paul's Steiner School is an

independent, non-selective and non-denominational school for children aged 3-14 years old and has occupied St Paul's Church building since 1995. The School currently provides services to around 160

families through inclusive school, kindergarten and parent & child group schemes and Stephanie Jansen is the current head. The school also have the tenancy of St Paul's Hall and the PCC feel there are potential relationships to be developed with them.



St Paul's STEINER SCHOOL



Newington Green School.

There has been a school on this site since 1784, when Mary Wollstonecraft, the famous writer and feminist, set up the school for girls. Currently, the school is a two-form entry school (2 classes per year group), with a 52 place Nursery.

Abi Misselbrook-Lovejoy is the Executive Head teacher.





