

# **Bestwood Rise Park, Emmanuel & St Mark**



## **Profile 2017**

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St Mark's: [www.stmarksbestwood.org](http://www.stmarksbestwood.org)  
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## DIOCESAN PAGE



**A statement from  
the Bishop of Southwell & Nottingham, the Rt Revd Paul Williams  
and the Archdeacon of Nottingham, the Venerable Sarah Clark**

The Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham incorporates the City of Nottingham, the whole County of Nottinghamshire and five parishes in South Yorkshire. The population is 1.15 million – 51% live in the greater Nottingham conurbation, 31% in ex-mining areas and 18% in rural. There are 305 churches (252 parishes), served by 142 stipendiary clergy and licensed lay workers.

In 2016 a refreshed diocesan vision was embraced across the diocese, recognising the imperative for **‘Growing Disciples: Wider, Younger, Deeper’**.

- **‘Wider’** in that we will seek to grow disciples in every part of the diocese, with no retreat from any community: urban centre; outer estates; rural villages; or market towns.
- **‘Younger’** in that we will seek fresh ways to harness the boldness and creativity of children, students and young people across the diocese, not least in Nottingham which is the 4<sup>th</sup> youngest city outside London.
- **‘Deeper’** as we grow in knowing Christ, so that as his disciples we can be an increasing blessing to the people among whom we live and serve in the workplace, family and community.

The Bishop’s Senior Staff, Bishop’s Council and Diocesan Synod have demonstrated their clear commitment to sharing in all aspects of this vision and strategy. In autumn 2016 more than 1 000 PCC members attended 5 vision evenings around the diocese. We have discerned a series of emerging priorities that will facilitate growing new disciples in every parish across the diocese. Compelled by the love of Christ by 2023 we will seek to:

- Welcome 7000 new disciples into the fellowship of Christ and his church
- Commission 1000 younger leaders (especially 15-30 year olds) equipped and inspired to serve the purposes of God in the Church and society.
- Plant or graft 75 New Worshipping Communities (NWCs) across the diocese to increase our reach in telling the story of Jesus to all.
- Grow 25 larger Resource Churches with clear commitment to develop leaders, plant New Worshipping Communities, and disciple the young.
- Serve and pray together as 1 Church contending for the gospel in every community and sphere of public life in our city, county and region.

In this new chapter every parish has an opportunity to review its role within the diocesan mission, so that it can play a significant part in the strategic commitment to **‘Growing Disciples wider, younger and deeper.’** It is in the context of this vision that the appointment of a Vicar (designate) to the new benefice of Bestwood Rise Park, Emmanuel and St Mark’s takes place. This is an excellent opportunity for a strategic, collaborative and creative priest to lead the people of Bestwood Rise Park, Emmanuel and St Mark’s as they seek to grow disciples wider, younger and deeper as individual churches and in partnership together. Bestwood is a changing community with many opportunities for the church communities to engage afresh.

Bishop Paul has said: “It is my hope that each worshipping community will develop a compelling picture of its own future in God’s purposes with an expectation of growing numerically and in the scope of its mission. It is my prayer that the new Vicar of Bestwood Rise Park, Emmanuel and St Mark’s will have the creative leadership and imagination to develop discipleship, plan for growth and reach out to the unchurched of all ages in its locality.”

*February 2017*

# DEANERY PAGE

## Called to serve in Nottingham?

It is an exciting and challenging time to be joining in God's mission in Nottingham. *Nottingham North Deanery*, despite its name, actually takes in parishes from the South-West (Stapleford and Wollaton), and also parishes up the M1 corridor to the west of Junction 26 up to Kimberley, as well as the areas of Nottingham to the north and west, before curving around to Sherwood, heading out of the city to the north-east. The Deanery is highly populated and full of the challenges of bringing the gospel to generations who have mostly had little to do with church. As well as Bestwood, there are currently a number of other vacancies, and our desire is to appoint leaders into the Deanery who have a deep compassion for ordinary people coupled with a joy and hope that, under God, he will open the door to new possibilities of growth for all the churches.



## Poor in pocket, rich in spirit

The churches in Nottingham North serve many of the poorer areas of the City of Nottingham, with several large outer estates on the western and northern side of the city. Over 50% of churches are in the bottom 15% of the CUF deprivation figures; and 30% in the bottom 4%. It is a very challenging area for mission and growth, with some of the lowest attendances of any deanery in the country despite the healthy range of good initiatives. Despite this, there is a lovely sense of hope and prayer and generosity springing up from the people and a dependency on God for him to 'do a new thing' across the area. We would love the new incumbent of Emmanuel, Rise Park and St Mark's to share some of this sense of vision and hope for the wider area.

## Growth plans

- Regular monthly prayer times calling on God to breathe his life into our churches and communities
- Larger churches to become resource churches for others
- Curates trained, and then to plant or graft new congregations in smaller, struggling churches, bringing a team with them from their sending church.
- A range of ministry from ordained to lay evangelists working as a team across parishes
- Younger leaders trained to enable the church to grow younger once more.

## Bestwood

You will read in this profile about how God has been at work over the past few years bringing people together in partnership across the churches. This has resulted in a new alignment of the parishes and the creation of a full-time position to grow new disciples in this area. Much creative, missional energy has gone into all sorts of activities over recent years to build links with the wider community. Although the churches are relatively small in number, the congregations have often 'punched above their weight' in what's been achieved in helping newcomers find God, and enabling existing members to fulfil their calling under God and use their gifts within and well beyond the parishes. The new post-holder, coming as a spiritual leader and an enabler in mission, will build on all this, finding people ready to try something new under God, and to pray and work together towards a new chapter of growth in His kingdom and the transformation of many lives.





# BESTWOOD 6



## **Bestwood Park, Emmanuel, The Church on Rise Park, St Mark's, St Matthew's and St Philip's**

The six parishes of the “Bestwood 6” have been linked in some way or another for many years with varying degrees of success. Rise Park, Emmanuel and St Mark's are three of the five churches in this group. Around seven years ago the Bestwood 6 chose to join together in the Partnership for Missional Church process. ([www.churchmissionsociety.org/partnership-missional-church](http://www.churchmissionsociety.org/partnership-missional-church)). We listened to our communities: those outside the church, those on the periphery and our core congregations. We gathered data, experimented with doing mission together and worshipped together. We introduced spiritual disciplines into the lives of our churches which changed the way we operate, co-operate and view mission.

We believe that God is at work in our communities and we need to open ourselves to the Holy Spirit to discern where He is working. This informs all our missional activities and has encouraged us to build partnerships with community groups - being churches that partner with others rather than doing things for and to our communities. We actively work together across parish boundaries and, for example, jointly set up the “Basford, Bestwood and Bulwell Foodbank”, lead outreach in a residential complex and run Messy Churches.

The Anglican and Methodist churches are part of a Covenanted Partnership in an Extended Area (allowing lay and ordained ministers to lead and preach across the churches) and we regularly join together for services. We also have good relationships with the local Pentecostal and Catholic churches in the area. The ministers of the Bestwood 6 meet weekly to pray and support each other. We have a wider leadership team consisting of lay and ordained representatives from each of the six parishes which meets to plan joint events and to look at mission.



# A NEW POST & A NEW OPPORTUNITY

## A New Leader for a New Benefice

Following the departure of the half-time vicar for Emmanuel and St Mark's, a new full-time post has been created, incorporating The Church on Rise Park (LEP/Anglican-Methodist) into a three-parish benefice.

- Emmanuel Church, Warren Hill
- The Church on Rise Park
- St Mark's Church, Bestwood Village

Emmanuel and St Mark's have been linked for many years, but recently the links with Rise Park have grown, as the Bestwood 6 churches have worked together more.

The new benefice of Bestwood Rise Park, Emmanuel and St Mark, which forms the northern half of the Bestwood 6, has been brought into being to enable a full-time, mission-minded leader to look at the area as a whole with fresh eyes, and to harness and bring together the prayers, gifts and experience of the 3 congregations to find new ways of growing church, both in the individual contexts and in new forms of partnership across parishes.

## What's the post about?

**We would love our Vicar Designate to be...**  
a Spiritual Leader  
and an Enabler in Mission  
for the three different worshipping communities  
*to grow disciples of Jesus Christ*  
in number, confidence in God, depth and younger age profile.

## Is this post for you?

- Are you drawn to ministry on the edge of a city?
- Do you relish starting with the small and building up?
- Do you love to see potential in people and draw it out?
- Is your ministry ethos about new people coming to faith in Jesus and growing in discipleship?
- Are you excited by partnering with others both in the church and beyond?
- Will you roll your sleeves up to make new things happen on the ground?
- Could your leadership style adapt to three different contexts?
- Can you cope with some chaos, embracing the unpredictable?
- Have you got the heart and abilities to relate faith to the younger generations?
- Can you laugh a lot with others... and cry too?

**If so, please read on...!**

# GROWING THE 3 CHURCHES

## Variety across the Benefice

There is huge variety in the demography and geography of the parishes: ex-mining, private residential estates, social housing areas of high deprivation, more exclusive housing, and a quite stunning country park. In recent times there has also been an increase in the ethnic diversity of the area which has directly impacted the churches. The emphasis of this new post is all about unearthing the potential for growth across the three churches in these diverse areas

## Over the next 5 years, it would be wonderful if, under your leadership...

- *building on the good will and affection of the community towards Emmanuel Church...*  
the Emmanuel congregation had doubled in size, with a deepening connection between community, schools, wedding families and the church, with a changed pattern of worship centred around the welcoming of new disciples, especially families and children.
- *building on the good connections fostered in the community and the popularity of Messy Church...*  
the Church at Rise Park was energised in purpose and vision, with a unified approach open to the Spirit, with priority given to nurturing the Messy congregation into discipleship, so that this became the growth area of the church.
- *building on the wonderful re-ordering of 2009, the strong lay-leadership and solid connections into Bestwood Village...*  
St Mark's grew in number and influence, as leaders were supported and refreshed, and a vision for being the village church was discerned, articulated and implemented, leading to a growth in number by two-thirds.
- *building on the great relationships built through the Bestwood 6...*  
dreams of new forms of church and discipleship and partnership bore fruit in the venture of establishing a new worshipping community.

## The good news is, you are not alone!

*Your colleagues awaiting you are:*

- Rev. Chrissie Little, half-time Associate Priest based at Emmanuel and St Mark's, and
- Rev. Sue Edwards, the Methodist Minister at the Church at Rise Park, who is also relatively new, taking up her post in September 2017.
- Lay Readers and Local Preachers: Brian Buckley and Ian Pickering at Rise Park, Nigel Webster at Emmanuel and Greg Cowley, Kirsty Cowley and Portia Newling at St Mark's.
- Dedicated churchwardens, stewards, worship leaders and other core lay leaders and volunteers used to working collaboratively and excited by new ideas and the prospect of a new leader in mission.

*You will also work closely with:*

- Chris Easton, the Pioneer Minister at Bestwood Park Church, and
- Rev Andy Morris the full-time vicar at St Philip's, Top Valley

You will take your place within the Bestwood 6 ministers team, and wider leadership team.

## Great facilities

The new vicar will have the benefit of all three sites with buildings in good repair, much flexible space, and with great facilities for community interaction.

# OUR IDEAL LEADER

## We would love our Vicar Designate to be...

a Spiritual Leader  
and Enabler in Mission  
for the three different worshipping communities  
*to grow disciples of Jesus Christ*  
in number, confidence in God, depth and younger age profile.

*"We want someone who involves us"  
(comment from one of our children)*

## Our ideal leader to help us fulfil this aim will be someone who:

- has leadership gifts/experience in the following areas:
  - ⇒ **vision facilitator**, building teams to discern the way forward in each setting and as a whole
  - ⇒ **strategic shaper**, strengthening the links between the churches and being prepared to make changes for the sake of new growth
  - ⇒ **encourager and enabler**, who relishes working with people, supporting and inspiring us to grow disciples from the excellent relationships we have developed throughout our communities
  - ⇒ **mentor** to the Associate Priest, other lay leaders, and potential curates and interns
- has a ministry skill set with the following attributes:
  - ⇒ gifts in **devising and leading worship**, including **all-age worship**
  - ⇒ ability to **preach in an accessible and biblical manner**
  - ⇒ at home in **informal, interactive** ministry and team settings
  - ⇒ is a natural at making contact with the **wider community, including schools**
- in his/her personal spirituality:
  - ⇒ **loves God** deeply
  - ⇒ is keen to encourage the **work of the Holy Spirit** in the churches
  - ⇒ has a heart for **calling people to discipleship in Christ**
- has a passion for:
  - ⇒ working across **diverse communities**
  - ⇒ **unearthing potential** in people
  - ⇒ doing everything in **partnership and collaboration** with others as much as possible
  - ⇒ communicating the faith to the **younger generations**
- has personal qualities of:
  - ⇒ **flexibility**
  - ⇒ being **organised enough**, while still being able to go with the flow

This new appointment will be building on a long-term commitment to appoint Anglican ministers in this area who are faithful to scripture, gospel focussed, and open to the work of the Holy Spirit. We believe the right person in this post will attract further opportunities for ministry such as training curates and working with Younger Leadership College Interns. (<http://youngerleadershipcollege.org/>)

*"We want someone eager and ready to embrace the opportunities to strengthen community relationships"  
(comment from one of our older members)*

*"We want someone who connects with us and understands us"  
(comment from one of our youth)*



# WHO WE ARE ...

We are three very different parishes, with very different buildings and styles of worship - but share a commitment to working together in our communities!

## Emmanuel



A small but busy church, Emmanuel was built in 1869 in woodlands on the Duke of St Alban's estate for the Duchess of St Albans. However, it only became more accessible as a parish church in the 1980s. New thriving communities now exist which have allowed Emmanuel to maintain its vitality and, although now hidden by well established trees and new housing, people are drawn to our beautifully renewed, historic church, particularly for weddings.

A number of styles of worship have been explored over the past decades, including a charismatic dimension and accessible all-age varieties. The congregation loves to worship, but recently has had limited access to live musicians. We are led at the moment by our churchwardens and Rev. Chrissie Little. We are looking to grow again and are open to a new Vicar bringing the changes needed to our patterns and style of worship to enable this to happen.

## Rise Park



Rise Park is an ecumenical partnership, sponsored by the Anglican and Methodist Churches. It is a 1960's building on a large, housing estate from the same era and comprising mainly of privately owned properties.

The congregation is open to various styles of worship with a looser hold to a written liturgy, but we value the richness traditions bring. In recent times we have been opening ourselves afresh to the ministry of the Holy Spirit and would love to continue to grow and develop this.

We look forward to welcoming the new Anglican Vicar, working together with Rev. Sue Edwards, and the fresh spiritual lead they will be able to bring.

## St Mark's



Bestwood Village is an ex-mining village which has doubled in size in the last ten years, and is surrounded by Bestwood Country Park. St Mark's was built in 1887 for the miners and sits at the heart of the village. We have worked hard to build community in a place which has grown and changed character dramatically.

Although small in number, the congregation is very loyal and energetic. There is a buoyant fellowship and a strong sense of belonging to one another. We enjoy a relaxed, informal style of worship, led by a worship group and occasional organ too. We have a strong tradition of lay, collaborative ministry and enjoy working with Rev. Chrissie Little. The leadership group have regularly attended New Wine and the local Transform Weekend. The renewed space (2009 re-ordering) has made a world of difference in shaping what is possible to do in worship and mission.

# GROWING DISCIPLES ...

We are committed to the Diocesan vision to grow disciples, wider, younger and deeper and believe that the first step to this is to build relationships with people in our communities. We try to do this through our various groups and activities and with those who come into our church buildings.

Stories from our churches:

## Rise Park:

"The Holy Spirit weekend was a wonderful time for me seeing many members of our congregation including my husband experiencing the presence of the Holy Spirit, most of these were experiencing the power of The Holy Spirit for the first time and others were refilled with the Spirit.

Soon after I felt God was leading my husband and myself to nurture new Christians and any who had got lost over time. He readily agreed and since then has taken on the leadership of this group, which has led to a baptism and a confirmation, a mother and daughter.

There is also a more positive feel in our Church that we must spend more time listening to God and doing what He says."

"I attended the Holy Spirit weekend at Rise Park church, being someone who had not been to church for long and one of the younger members of the church I didn't know what to expect, I remember being very nervous, but within the first hour of raising the church roof with joyful music and listening to the stories told by members of the Hucknall Methodist Church. I knew it was right, the whole experience was so spiritual and started my journey into how the Holy Spirit can work in my life."

"Since experiencing the teachings of this Holy Spirit Outreach both at the Church weekend and later at a weekend conference I believe that I now experience a daily relationship with Jesus, through the Holy Spirit. I am a newly empowered Christian (though I have been a Christian for 40 odd years) This has empowered me to co-found a nurture group for those who needed to find Jesus or indeed rediscover that relationship with Jesus that the church had been unable to maintain.

The Spirit tasked me at the first meeting some 15 months ago to go to Hospital and engage with other Cancer sufferers who were under treatment. I was able to put aside my personal fears and became open to the Spirit giving me almost daily opportunities to comfort fellow patients. Though only one was a Christian lady, the spirit led me to witness to approximately 25 others who were very grateful to be added to our Church prayer chain. Not one refused the offer.

The Spirit has given our Church a new positive attitude, we now quite often use a recently learnt process which is "Hosting His Presence" basically awaiting the guidance of the Spirit during a worship period. The Spirit guides the prayers, music and Service Style."

## Emmanuel:

"I started attending Emmanuel Church Bestwood around 18 months ago after moving into the area. I have been a Christian all my life and have been to various denominations; what can I say about this place, wow!

From the first moment I entered the church, I was shown a warm, loving, welcome- that I was actually wanted there. I had recently lost my much beloved Grandad and I had become disabled. The leadership team and church supported me both through demonstrating kindness, love and physical help to enter the church in my chair.

I have been able to grow within the church also; from being able to discuss my faith within groups of friends, within the larger group during the 'Home From Home' service or through one-to-one discussions with the leadership team.

I have a great passion to ensure as many people as possible are lead to Christ and again Emmanuel have given me the opportunity to do this through helping to develop the website, Twitter and Facebook pages, a great boost of confidence for a new member.

All in all, this is a great place to meet God."

## St Mark's

"I started coming to St Marks around 3 years ago having moved into the village a year before. It is far and away the most welcoming and friendly church I've attended. It is a true family minus the squabbles.

The leaders work so hard and bend over backwards to accommodate all needs, especially the cafe style church which I can attend with my two children with autism.

I have been invited to and attend home group which I enjoy immensely. I am challenged by the sermons, but not pressured. Since I have started coming to St Marks, I am now praying (badly) most days, and read my bible most days. Little by little, I am moving forwards on my journey of faith towards God, and this is through the gentle examples, challenges and encouragement of the people of St Marks.

In the village, we are very much blessed to have such a loving, active, caring, inclusive, friendly and hard-working church. I love it, and am blessed to be part of it. What a reflection it is of God's love!"

"St Marks Church in Bestwood Village occupies a far greater position within the community than might be envisaged from the location and structure of the building itself. It is a great reminder that 'a Church' is not merely bricks and mortar, but the strength, faith, love and community spirit of its' parishioners. St Marks is truly at the heart of the village of Bestwood, it's a community meeting place as much as it's place of worship and in many ways the focal point for all that makes Bestwood the warm, caring and generous community that it is." *Cllr Chris Barnfather Notts CC*

## ... WIDER

### Emmanuel:

Invitation: Each parish within the Diocese was encouraged to make three commitments to growing disciples wider, younger and deeper. At Emmanuel we are encouraging members of the congregation to “bring a friend” to our special services, such as Harvest and Mothering Sunday. Social events are an important part of our church calendar and we are also trying to be more intentional inviting people who attend to our services.

Social Media: We are also in the process of increasing our social media presence and are re-vamping our website. We are being far more intentional on-line in advertising our events and raising our profile.

Weddings and Baptisms: Emmanuel is very popular for weddings and baptisms and we are looking at ways to make stronger relationships with our wedding and baptism families and to make the most of opportunities to encourage their faith. We currently hold a wedding fair early in the year for those couples due to be married at Emmanuel. We plan to increase this to a twice yearly event plus a follow up tea at the end of the year for those already married.

Mission: We are also looking at the possibility of developing a relationship with a local nursery who have held some events in the church and the church hall. We are hoping to visit the nursery to do crafts with the children. We partner with the Bestwood 6 churches in visiting a local residential complex and are aware of the need to reach isolated elderly within our community. We have recently started a coffee morning for older people to help them build relationships.



*Good Friday at Emmanuel*



*Baptism at Emmanuel*



## Rise Park

There is much to encourage us. We are seeking to build relationships with a firm foundation, building trust and sharing our faith. A number of our Church membership are actively involved in the community and with activities run by the Rise Park Community Centre.

Our Building: We have been keen to develop our Church buildings and have carried out many improvements over the years. We see our Church building as being a community resource which is well used during the week. With Community Coffee mornings once a month, usually organised by church members or groups, with local Councillors in attendance. Beavers, Cubs and Scouts meet every week in the Church, Slimming World, a Pilates group meets every week and an orchestra has just started practising in the building on a monthly basis. The community uses the building for family celebrations too.

Prayer: We have developed prayer chains to respond to prayer requests from the community.

Ladies' Fellowship: is open to all and meets on the last Thursday of the month.

Lunch Club: A Lunch club held on a Friday has been established for ten years, it is well supported by Church members and people from the local area.

A Toddler Group: This meets on a Monday and Thursday morning with an average of twelve children per session and provides a link to the wider community through the parents and carers.

Upcoming Developments: A new independent pre-school with a Christian ethos is planning to use our Church building from next January with links to the Church membership and leadership already established. We are exploring the possibilities of developing our shared site with the Doctors surgery.



*Lunch Club and Community Coffee Morning  
at Rise Park*



## St Mark's

St Marks has been deliberately outward looking over the last twelve or so years, reordering the building to make our space more flexible and accommodating. A recent survey showed us that the outside of the church does not reflect the vibrancy of life on the inside, so we have invested in a new noticeboard and redeveloped the highly visible area at the back of church to make it more attractive. One of our advent commitments to growing disciples 'wider, younger, deeper' was to intentionally invite more individuals to our services and events.

Worship: We aim to make our services accessible for people who are unfamiliar with church. On a monthly basis, our messy /café style Sunday service is an easier introduction to worship for families with younger children. We parade through the village on Remembrance Sunday and on Palm Sunday. Members of our pastoral visiting team also visit the two nursing homes in the village regularly and take an extended communion service monthly.

Service: We serve our older community with a lunch club with between twenty-five and fifty-five (Christmas) guests. This is led by church members with support from the community.

Thirst Quencher is a monthly opportunity for walkers in Bestwood Country Park to have a drink and chat with church members. They appreciate the offer of free refreshment, and some good conversations about faith and community have been enjoyed.

Community Service: Our Members are also heavily involved in the wider community. including serving on the parish council and the governing body of the village school. Growing out of our membership of Citizens UK, we established a working group involving local councillors and the MP to work on issues affecting the community such as lack of health provision, and overcrowding at the school. The new school has been announced, and we successfully brought a health visitor clinic into the village.

Fellowship: We hold regular games nights at the church, welcoming everyone to bring along a board game, and perhaps some food to share. We combine it with our youth club evenings, which helps to keep our different age groups connected.

The Wheelhouse: is a private home offering support and sanctuary to those who need it often as a result of mental health concerns or difficult life circumstances. The welcome offered by Sue and Caroline extends to bringing their many visitors into our church community.

*Palm Sunday Procession of Witness*



*Community Games Evening*

*Thirst Quencher*





Events: We organise three big events a year, in addition to seasonal services.

The Bonfire Night celebration is massive, with the fire and fireworks provided for no charge. We serve three to four hundred burgers and hotdogs, with mushy peas, and drinks as well. We are well supported by the wider community to ensure we can manage this.

“St Marks provides for prayer, family & local events, and are fully active with other local groups in their work ... and they welcome all”

*Sharon Milner, Trustee of Bestwood Miners Welfare*



Our family fun day includes demonstrations from the local dance school, bouncy castle, stalls, BBQ and a prayer station. We try to include as many free activities as possible so that families can have an enjoyable time together without worrying about the cost.

*Family Fun Day*



*Remembrance Service at the Cenotaph*



Remembrance Day is an important event in the community with over a hundred people, including the Bestwood Male Voice Choir, supporting it and being involved. We took over the organising and running of the Parade around eleven years ago. The Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association band lead a parade to the cenotaph for a short act of remembrance before parading to church for a short service. For the last two years we have been joined by Deputy Lord Lieutenant, David Stewart.

Communication and Social Media: We have been more careful about publicising special services, and making personal invitations in the community. We give a Christmas card to each house in the village publicising our Christmas events. This has proved effective – although in the ten years we have done it we have had to increase our number of cards from four hundred and fifty to nine hundred and ninety as the village has been developed and expanded. Our Facebook page is liked by one hundred and sixty-four people. We use it intentionally to advertise events at church and in the community. Over Lent 2017 we shared our congregation's favourite Bible verses and each post reached over one hundred people. Our very visible presence on the busy Bestwood Village Community Facebook page helps us keep the community aware of our events and activities. We have also recently launched a website.

# ... YOUNGER

## Emmanuel

We run several children's groups and youth groups at Emmanuel.

- Playtime: is a well-attended toddler group which meets weekly in the church hall.
- 25<sup>th</sup> Company of the Nottingham Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association: meets weekly during term time and is run by a group mainly from St Mark's assisted by our Recognised Lay Minister who specialises in children's work. This is a smaller company than St Mark's with a maximum of fifteen members. Members are invited to join with St Mark's for parades in the village.



*Nottingham Battalion Junior Centenary Celebrations*

- Schools: We have in the past had a good relationship with local schools, both inside and outside the parish, who have come to church as part of their RS curriculum and for Easter, Christmas and Harvest Experience. We would like to re-engage with them. Oakwood Academy (age 9—18 years) and Warren Primary Academy are located within the parish.
- Club Extra is a long established after school club which meets monthly and is similar to Messy Church. This is run by volunteers from the church, the Bestwood 6 and the wider community. We also run an event on Good Friday for families and this year saw around seventy people attend.

"My experience of life here has been full of support, laughter, love, prayer and a great deal of eating, whether fish finger sandwiches on Good Friday, shared lunches, breakfast at our café style services, lots of cake and many chicken nuggets at club extra children's group!" Rev Chrissie Little



## Rise Park

- Messy Church meets twice a month on a Thursday with around forty people and thirty parents/carers attending regularly. We recognise Messy Church as another expression of Church. We have heard people referring to it as “our church.” Chris Easton is instrumental in planning and organising Messy Church every two weeks. A small group of Church members help.
- The Toddler Group has built links with many families over the years, some asking for baptism, others attending Messy Church as they get older and the uniformed organisations.
- Local schools occasionally visit our church for special occasions and visits linked to curriculum requirements. The Pioneer Missioner also visits local schools regularly. Rise Park Primary and Nursery School, Stanstead Primary and Park Vale Academy are all in our parish.
- Youth Club: Around twenty young people meet on a Sunday evening once a fortnight. The youth club has grown out of Messy Church at Rise Park and Bestwood Park Church and they have recently gone through the Youth Alpha Course. From October 2017 one of the Diocesan youth services, Generate, has been taking place every two months on a Sunday evening at Rise Park. The service is run and attended by churches in the area.



*Rise Park Toddler Group and Messy Church*



## St Mark's

We run a number of children's and youth activities at St Mark's

28th Nottingham Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association meets weekly during term time and has been going for around fourteen years. All the officers are church members and the Brigade is very much seen as part of our worshipping community. There are currently around forty members aged from five to seventeen. The object of the Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association is the advancement of Christ's kingdom among young people and members are encouraged to attend a monthly parade service which includes a communion as we run a course for admission to communion. The Brigade band also leads the Procession of Witness on Palm Sunday and the parade on Remembrance Sunday. As the majority of children in our church are also in the Brigade, they also prepare our Nativity.



Our well equipped, friendly Baby Group has met weekly during term time for sixteen years. It is supported by Sure Start, has a surprise visitor every Christmas and an outing in the summer. Numbers are a little low at the moment, probably for demographic reasons. We offer facilities to weigh babies and the village health clinic takes place at the church during Baby Group.

Sunday school is led by four leaders in rotation, and has twelve regular members varying in age from five to eleven years. We are limited because of space so toddlers generally stay in church during a service and teenagers are encouraged to be involved in our music group or to operate our audio – visual equipment.



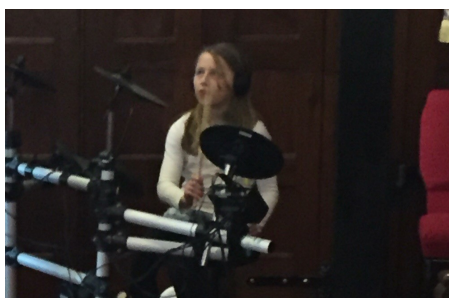


- We have good links with Bestwood Village Hawthorne Primary School with assemblies held in church following an established monthly pattern, though this has been half termly during our vacancy, and several members of the congregation volunteer there as well. In the past we have also run Easter and Christmas Experience. Three church members also sit on the governing body. The school is happy to send flyers about events with the children in their book bags.
- We also have a youth representative on our PCC.

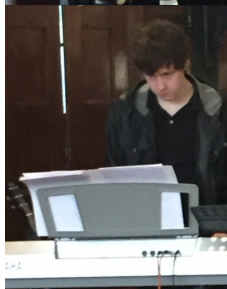


*Youth Representative*

ESMYC is the catchily named Emmanuel and St Marks Youth Club, which meets fortnightly including the regular games nights. In addition to whatever games, crafts, cooking the young people want to do, they are currently following the youth alpha course, having spent some time with 'table talk'.



Youth band has grown out of Boys' Brigade and ESMYC, with the young people now able to lead worship at large youth events and two members are regular members of our music group and lead musical worship every month in Emmanuel.



# ... DEEPER

## Emmanuel

- There is a regular weekly prayer and discussion group that meets on a Wednesday morning.
- A small core group meet as a regular home group with additional meetings held, for example, in Advent or Lent.

## Rise Park

- Links with the Aldersgate Renewal Ministries UK ([www.aldersgaterenewal.org.uk](http://www.aldersgaterenewal.org.uk)) have helped to provide an energy and a deepening understanding of the work of the Holy Spirit. People are recognising where the Spirit is working in the life of the Church and this is helping us to direct the work that is currently taking place. A significant number of people are looking for worship that reflects this.
- We are seeking to encourage ministry to men through links with the Circuit “Band of Brothers” through social gatherings and a fortnightly bible study group, meeting in a pub in Hucknall.
- A nurture group has developed over the last year to support people new in the faith and those who are seeking a firmer foundation in their spiritual journey.



*Rise Park Nurture Group*

Band of Brothers





## St Mark's

- We have two regular home groups, one held in the daytime and mainly serving older members of the congregation, the other held in the evenings. We use various materials, explore our faith more deeply and pray for each other
- Each member of our congregation made an advent commitment as part of the 'wider, younger, deeper' vision, to take responsibility for our own spiritual growth. Some chose to commit to reading the bible in a year, others to pray more regularly for example. We also committed to build stronger relationships among ourselves, by intentionally coming alongside another member of the congregation and getting to know them better.
- We hold a weekly prayer group to pray for any needs we have been made aware of. The Wheelhouse, which is run by a church member, also holds a daily morning prayer service which church members are invited to join in with.
- Members of the congregation also attend conferences such as New Wine and Transform (a local event run by people from across the Diocese featuring worship, teaching and fellowship).



Transform 2017

Thy Kingdom Come Prayer Station



# VICARAGE

The vicarage is a modern house situated adjacent to Emmanuel Church. It is one of a number of similar houses in its cul-de-sac location.

The house has:

- four bedrooms
- a utility room
- a large living room
- a kitchen-diner
- an office/study
- a garage that can be accessed from the house
- a large shed
- gardens to the front and rear

The front door opens into a small entrance hall off which there are two doors. One door leads into the rest of the house and can be kept closed to ensure privacy. The second door opens into the office/study.



### Emmanuel's Leadership Team

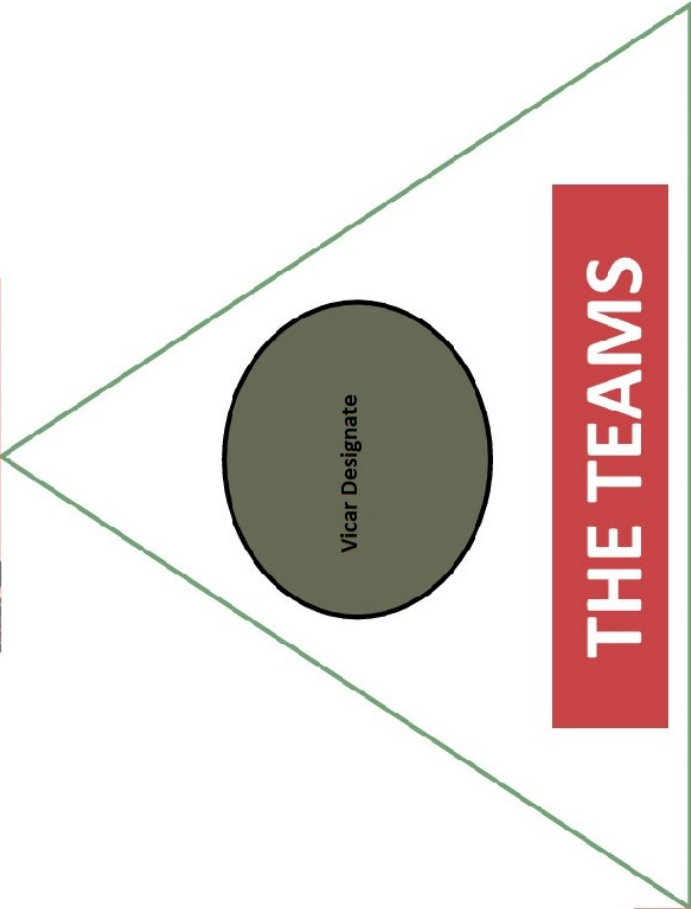
Sheldon Widdowson	Churchwarden
Aretha Donkoh	Churchwarden
Mo Wiggins	Lay Preacher



**Rev Chrissie Little**  
Associate Priest  
Emmanuel & St Mark's

### St Mark's Leadership Team

Greg Cowley	Licensed Lay Minister (Reader)
Kirsty Cowley	Licensed Lay Minister (Reader)
Portia Newling	Licensed Lay Minister (Reader)
Jack Ashworth	Churchwarden
John Oldfield	Churchwarden




**Rev Sue Edwards**  
Methodist Minister  
Rise Park & Hucknall

### Rise Park's Leadership Team

Jan Cullis	Steward
Sue Isbell	Steward
Betty Walker,	Steward & Worship Leader
Ian Pickering	Local Preacher
Brian Buckley	Licensed Lay Minister (Reader)
Eileen Stacey	Worship Leader
Peter Wood	Worship Leader



**Chris Easton**  
Pioneer Minister  
Bestwood Park



## Appendix: Facts and Figures

Occasional Offices					
		Emmanuel	Rise Park	St Mark's	Total
Weddings		13	0	1	14
Baptisms	0-12	11	0	5	16
	13+	5	0	0	5
Funerals	In Church	5	3	4	12
	Crematorium or Cemetery:	5	0	0	5
	Burial in Churchyard	0	0	3	3
Parish Population					
		4,500	4,100	2,200	10,800

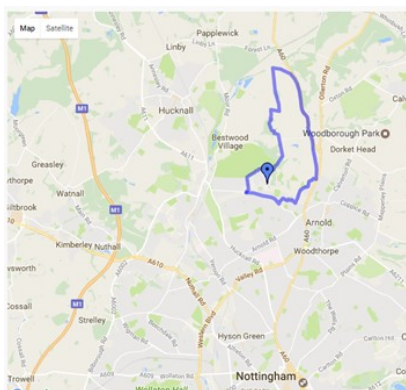
*Emmanuel*



*Rise Park*







## Emmanuel

The parish is located to the north of the city of Nottingham with a population of around 4,500.

It is amongst one of the most deprived parishes in the country (according to Church Urban Fund figures) ranking 2,047 out of 12,599 where 1 is the most deprived.

### Poverty Statistics (Rankings out of 12,599)

Child Poverty	Working Age Poverty	Pensioner Poverty
26%	17%	18%
1,423	1,253	2,461

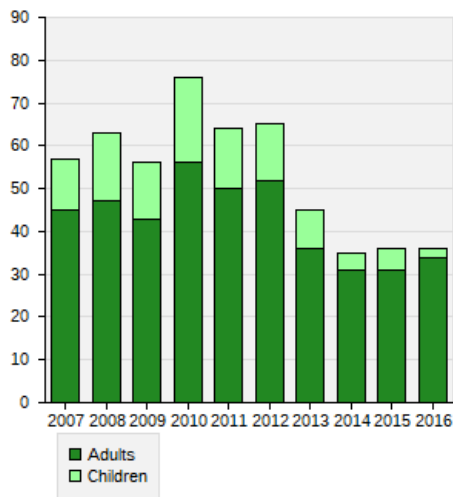
### Service Patterns

Day	Time	Service	Average Attendance 2017
1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	10.30am	Family Communion	Adults: 20 Children: 1
	6.00pm	Joint Bestwood 6 Service	Variable
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	9.00am	Holy Communion	Adults: 12 Children: 0
	10.30am	Morning Worship	Adults: 19 Children: 2
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	10.30am	Morning Worship	Adults: 21 Children: 3
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	9.00am	Holy Communion	Adults: 11 Children: 0
	10.30am	Home from Home (Café Church)	Adults: 13 Children: 2
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	10.30am	Family Communion	Adults: 20 Children: 0
Wednesday	9.00am	Morning Prayer	Adults: 4

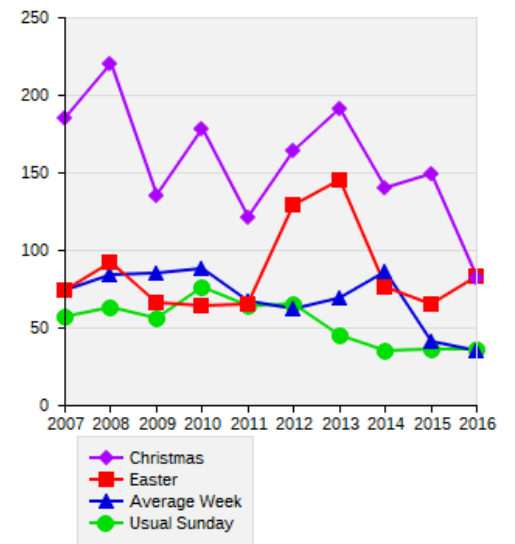
### Parish Statistics

No qualifications	Social Housing	Lone Parenthood	Ethnic Diversity	Older Population	People living on their own	Prevalent Age Demographic (2010 Census)
80%	21%	35%	16%	12%	32%	45 – 59

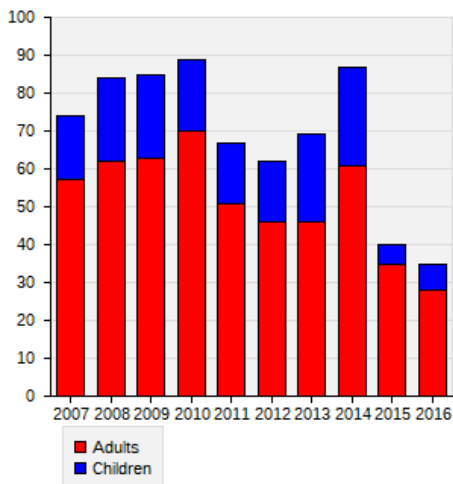
Usual Sunday Attendance



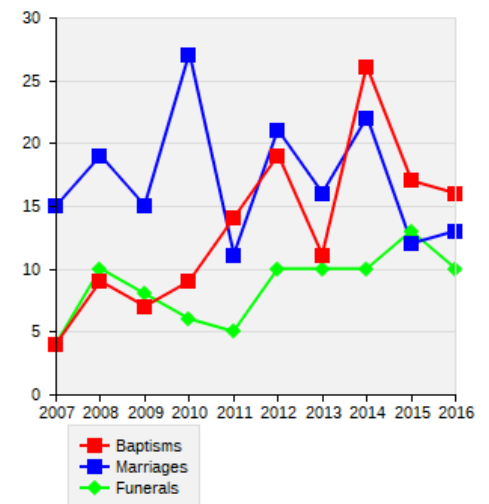
Attendance Summary



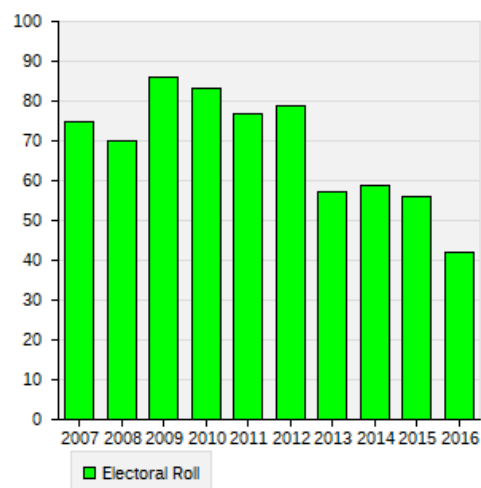
Average Weekly Attendance



Baptisms, marriages and funerals

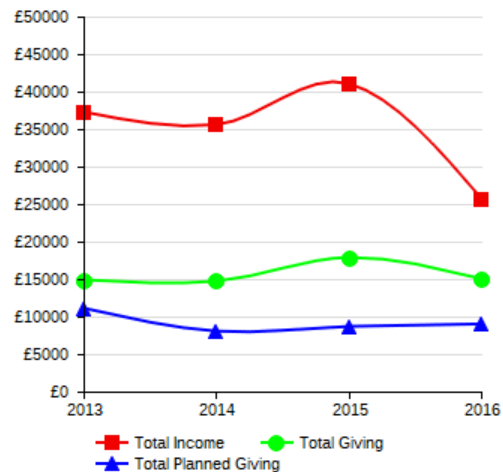


Electoral Roll



## Financial Information

### Income



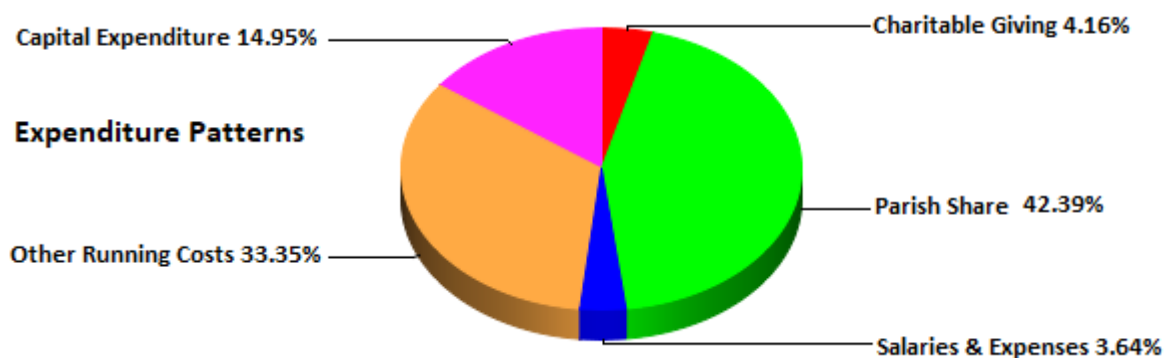
### Restricted and Unrestricted

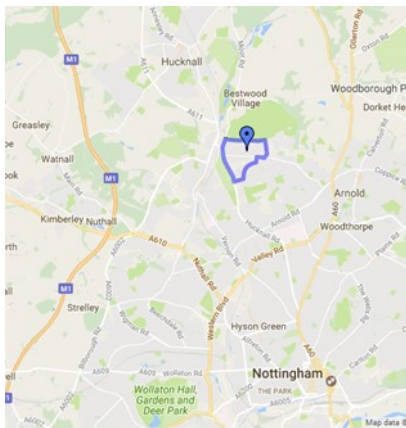
	2013	2014	2015	2016
Unrestricted Income	£37,269	£30,716	£35,471	£25,679
Restricted Income	£0	£4,866	£5,565	£0
% of Income Unrestricted	100%	86%	86%	100%

### Expenditure

In 2016 Emmanuel was allocated £18,000 in parish share and paid £ 11,250.

	Charitable Giving	Parish Share	Salaries & Expenses	Running Costs	Capital Expenditure	Total Expenditure
2014	£125	£21,516	£2,289	£12,137	£7,266	£43,333
2015	£0	£15,344	£2,117	£9,098	£7,853	£34,412
2016	£0	£11,250	£2,070	£7,707	£8,275	£29,302
Average	£42	£16,036	£2,159	£9,647	£7,798	£35,682





## Rise Park

The parish is located to the north of the city of Nottingham. It has a population of around 4,100.

It is relatively deprived (according to Church Urban Fund figures) ranking 4,317 out of 12,599 parishes where 1 is the most deprived.

### Poverty Statistics (Rankings out of 12,599)

Child Poverty	Working Age Poverty	Pensioner Poverty
16%	13%	10%
3,294	2,128	6,414

### Service Patterns

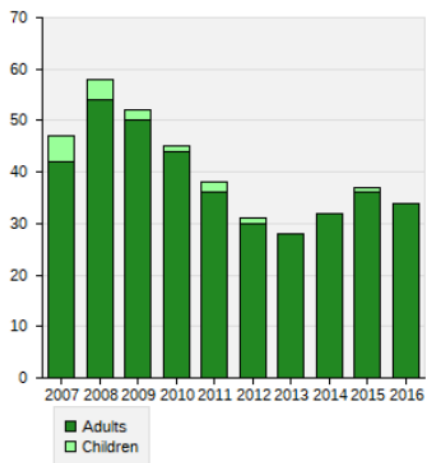
Frequency	Time	Service	Average Attendance 2017
Fortnightly	9.00am	Holy Communion	Adults: 8
Weekly	10.30am	Morning Worship	Adults: 25
Fortnightly	9.30am	Prayer Time	Adults: 3
Monthly	6.00pm	Prayer and Praise	Adults: 7
Monthly	6.00pm	Joint Bestwood 6 Service	Variable
Monthly		Messy Church Extra	40 Adults and Children
Monthly		Messy Church	50 Adults and Children

### Parish Statistics

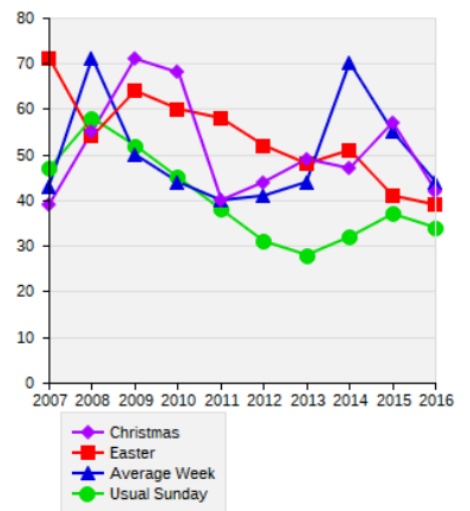
No Qualifications	Social Housing	Lone Parenthood	Ethnic Diversity	Older Population	People living on their own	Prevalent Age Demographic (2010 Census)
30%	3%	20%	21%	24%	21%	50 - 74



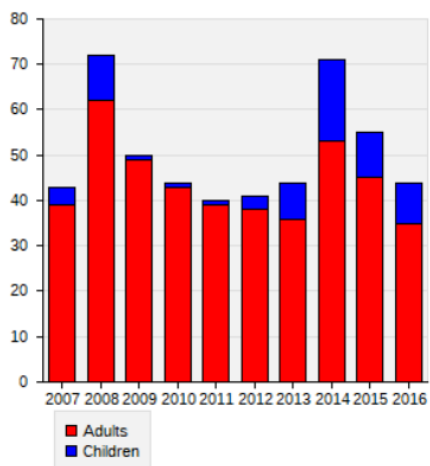
Usual Sunday Attendance



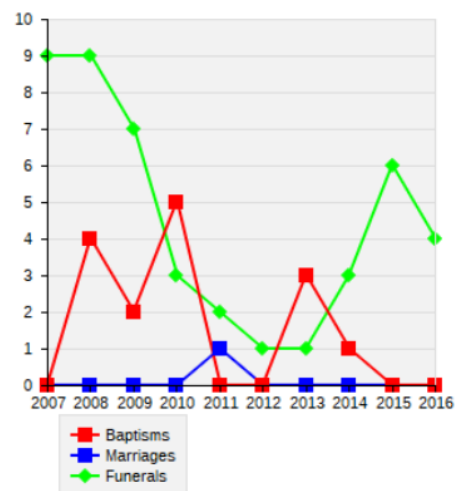
Attendance Summary



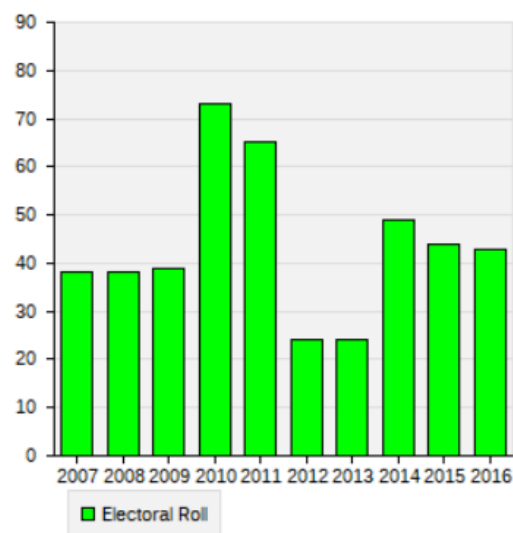
Average Weekly Attendance



Baptisms, marriages and funerals



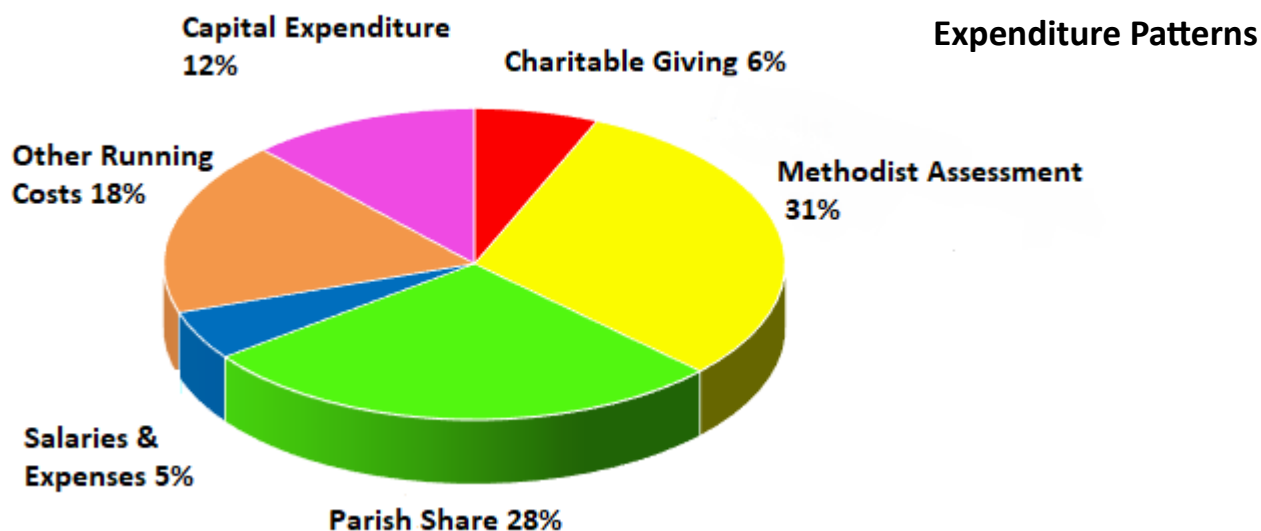
Electoral Roll

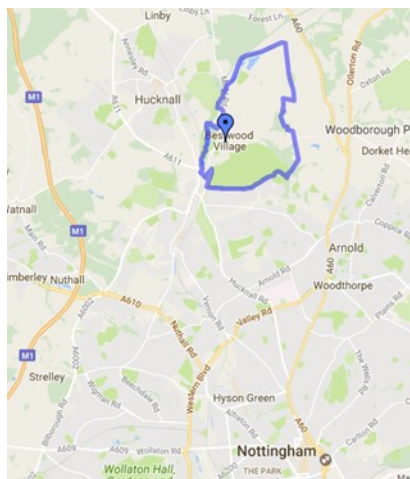


### Statement of Accounts 2015/16

		2015/16		2014/15
GENERAL FUND	£	£		£
<b>RECEIPTS</b>				
Offertories	19,834.21			
Tax Refund	4,658.49	24,492.70		27,629.36
<b>Donations</b>		4,362.39		5,268.27
<b>Property Income</b>		5,431.00		5,219.58
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>		<b>34,286.09</b>		<b>38,117.21</b>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>				
Circuit	11,366.00			
Diocese	10,272.00			
Ministers Exps	166.05	21,804.05		21,131.54
<b>Donations</b>				
Tithings	2,000.00			
Other	109.89	2,109.89		1,824.96
<b>Other Expenditure</b>		4,887.99		6,144.11
<b>Property Payments</b>		8,289.13		6,868.00
Transfer of Cash to CFB Account		878.00		430.00
<b>TOTAL PAYMENTS</b>		<b>37,969.06</b>		<b>36,398.61</b>
Net Receipts for the year		<b>-3,682.97</b>		<b>1,718.60</b>
<b>Cash and Bank Balances at 31 August 2015</b>		10,737.29		9,018.69
CFB Account Balance at 31 August 2016		5780.23		4,869.18
Trustees for Meth.Church Purposes Fund		83.51		82.84
Add net receipts for the year as above		-3682.97		1,718.60
<b>Cash and Bank Balances at 31 August 2016</b>		<b>12918.06</b>		<b>15,689.31</b>

In 2016 Rise Park was allocated £10,402 in parish share and paid in full. It pays an equivalent amount to the Methodist Church.





## Bestwood St Mark's

The parish is located to the north of Nottingham with a population of around 2,200.

It is relatively deprived (according to Church Urban Fund figures) ranking 4,069 out of 12,599 parishes where 1 is the most deprived.

### Poverty Statistics (Rankings out of 12,599)

Child Poverty	Working Age Poverty	Pensioner Poverty
22%	10%	14%
2,021	3,479	4,055

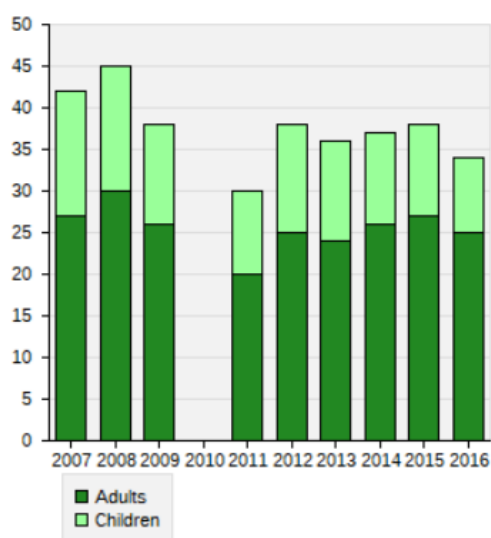
### Service Patterns

Day	Time	Service	Average Attendance 2017
1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	10.30am	Morning Worship	Adults: 21 Children: 9
	6.00pm	Joint Bestwood 6 Service	Variable
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday	9.00am	Parade Service and Family Communion	Adults: 29 Children: 13
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	9.00am	Holy Communion	Adults: 11 Children: 0
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	10.30am	Home from Home (Café Church)	Adults: 14 Children: 13
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	10.30am	Morning Worship	Adults: 25 Children: 8
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday	10.30am	Morning Worship	Adults: 21 Children: 8

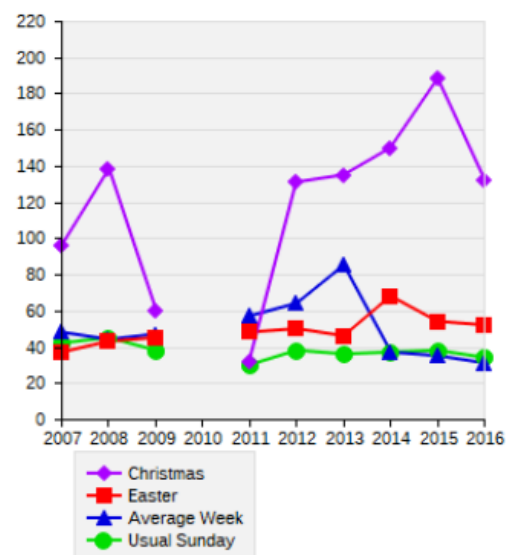
### Parish Statistics

No qualifications	Social Housing	Lone Parenthood	Ethnic Diversity	Older Population	People living on their own	Prevalent Age Demographic (2010 Census)
31%	8%	22%	7%	16%	26%	30-44

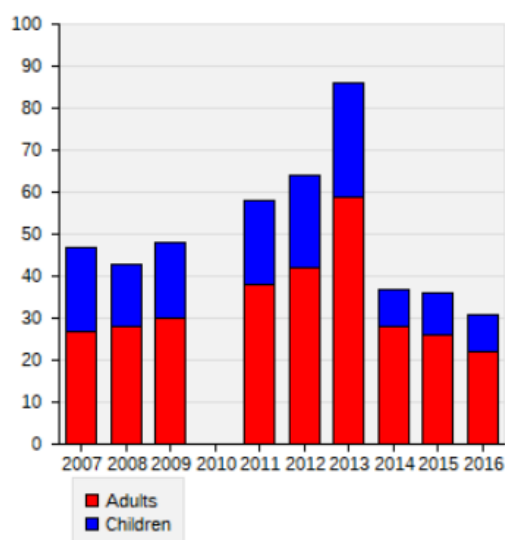
### Usual Sunday Attendance



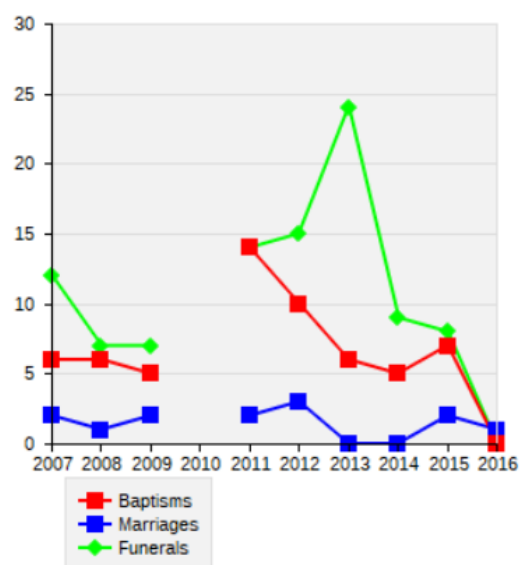
### Attendance Summary



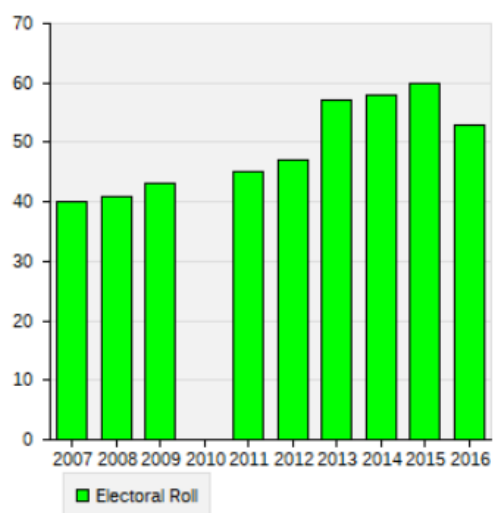
### Average Weekly Attendance



### Baptisms, marriages and funerals



### Electoral Roll





## Financial Information

### Income



### Restricted and Unrestricted

	2013	2014	2015	2016
Unrestricted Income	£18,655	£20,203	£24,525	£23,123
Restricted Income	£6,920	£2,795	£2,403	£2,405
% of Income Unrestricted	73%	88%	91%	91%

### Expenditure

St Mark's was allocated £12,164 in parish share and paid this in full.

	Charitable Giving	Parish Share	Salaries & Expenses	Running Costs	Capital Expenditure	Total Expenditure
2014	£825	£9,900	£1,481	£8,548	£4,359	£25,113
2015	£1,440	£12,012	£368	£9,518	£0	£23,338
2016	£950	£12,012	£963	£7,708	£7,195	£28,828
Average	£1,072	£11,308	£937	£8,591	£3,851	£25,760

