



The Diocese of Manchester

PARISH INFORMATION AND PROFILE

St John the Baptist, Hey, Lees



".....Receiving and sharing the love of God, everyday....."

WARDENS: Mr E S Baines Mr B Saxon
ADMINISTRATOR: Mrs B Ballantyne
ASSOCIATE MINISTER: Rev Capt Paul Robinson

website: st-john-hey.org
blogsite: st-john-hey.blogspot.co.uk
facebook: www.facebook.com/stjohnshey



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1. INTRODUCTION

Welcome to this Parish Profile. We hope you will find it informative and interesting, and that it will inspire you with a God given desire that your calling is to serve our lovely, varied and vibrant parish, set on the edge of Lees, between Oldham and Saddleworth. We look forward to hearing from you, and meeting you soon. St John's has been serving Hey since 1744, and we look forward to your life with us in serving its people today, and laying strong foundations for the future.



Warden: Brian Saxon



Warden: Eddie Baines

2. MINISTRY

St John's is committed to being registered as an Inclusive Church. In this sense we support the ministries of any man or woman as licensed by the Church of England. No resolutions have been passed to limit the ministry of our next priest.

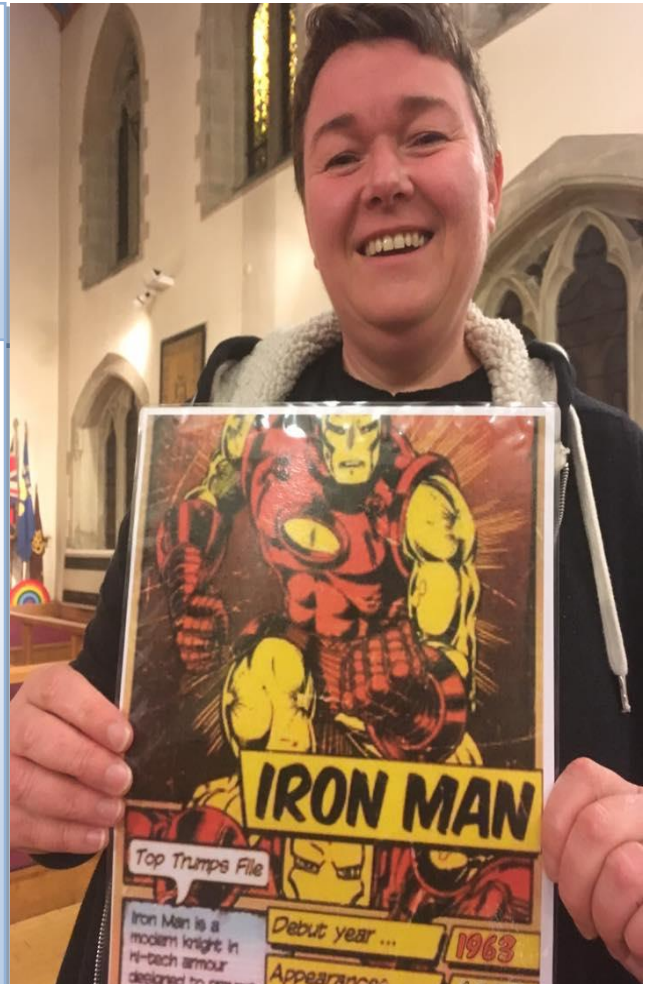
In addition to our future parish priest, we are currently served by a number of other ministries which include:

- **Those taking services:**

- ✓ A self-supporting minister who also is a currently serving army officer and is the Cheshire garrison chaplain.
- ✓ An Emeritus Reader
- ✓ Three Authorised Lay Minister's and one in training. (ALMs)

- **Those supporting the church community:**

- ✓ Servers
- ✓ Crucifers, including children
- ✓ Lay Assistants
- ✓ Readers
- ✓ Interceders
- ✓ Welcomers
- ✓ Sunday School leaders
- ✓ Flower arrangers
- ✓ Cleaners
- ✓ coffee makers
- ✓ Baptism preparation and support
- ✓ Confirmation preparation and support
- ✓ Pastoral visitors
- ✓ Uniform Organisation leaders



Sam, one of our Authorised Lay Ministers, leading a Thursday Service

All members of the congregation are encouraged and nurtured to take part in the life of the Church.

- **Schools**

In addition to Hey with Zion Primary school, a controlled Nursery through to Year 6 local school, formed from the amalgamation of the former St John' and Zion Methodist schools, our ministry is extended to those children and families who have ambitions to attend Bluecoat or Crompton House CofE Secondary Academies within the Oldham Borough. Admission to these schools is largely based on church attendance.



Family worship

3. THE NEXT PARISH PRIEST

There is a process of deep reflection and prayer involved in agreeing our next parish Priest. Our wardens, Brian Saxon and Eddie Baines, will represent our community in the selection process.

Our new priest will be expected to celebrate the usual offices, and display the essential personal and professional qualities which the role demands, i.e. to be;

- leader of the day to day life of the church
- an excellent administrator
- highly organised in worship and life
- a loving and caring pastor, minister to many people within services, and quietly supportive, within their needs at homes and in their own lives
- good with children and families- we have a lot of these, some very new to church
- good with older people-long established who must feel they have not been left behind

Today, St John's worshipping community has evolved from a traditional organisation, into a modern and reflective church involving a wider range of people contributing to many aspects of its life. Over the last three years, widespread delegation of roles and responsibilities has been a positively managed process. In this way we have been encouraged to develop our gifts from God, and serve our community in readiness for the current interregnum and beyond. The challenges for our new priest are;

- to lead but also embrace others who are leading in various offices and roles
- to balance traditional and less traditional services and congregations (see below)
- to improve teaching and preaching in and outside of the services
- to develop a culture embracing Bible studies and House groups
- to nurture our relationship with schools
- to further develop and extend outreach and mission, in line with the MAP (attached), helping us to be influential in tackling social justice issues, supporting homeless people and food banks
- to lead our church in its future development with our neighbouring parish at St Thomas'

4. LOCAL AREA

Lees is in the area East of Oldham, 10 minutes from the town centre, and close to the villages of Saddleworth. It has good access to local shops, pubs, restaurants and parks, and good transport links into the countryside, as well as Oldham town centre with its shops, theatres, cinema and night spots, and central Manchester, with a host of leisure and shopping attractions, vibrant multi cultural, multi faith, and multi-race communities, and national and international transport links.

Hey serves a varied community. Homes are commonly mill terraces, pre and post war semis, modern estates, and old farms and scattered homesteads. 60% of homes are owned, 30% rented, and 10% managed by Housing Associations. Most people within the parish are modern middle class white collar workers, but there is also a mixture of first time buyers and young families, as well as older parishioners, and an increasing numbers of people on low/no wage in private rented accommodation. Population levels have remained similar for a number of years. Lees area has a number of Elderly single and isolated people, and limited facilities for teenagers.



St John's is in a prominent position for passing traffic and therefore the PCC consider the presentation of the Church to be important in addition to the 'Wayside Pulpit' which reinforces the nature of welcoming everybody.

5. WORSHIP AND WORSHIPPERS

Our community and all services are inclusive, and offer a wide variety of styles and participation. We have worshippers of all ages, from young families, through to the elderly all of whom may attend any or all of our services. Communion services tend to be traditional, liturgical and central in terms of Anglican traditions. Word services, especially those on Thursdays, are central evangelical and lively. Worship today is a joyful wonderful variety, with three different type of service being offered:

- **Weekly Wednesday 10 am** Holy Communion and BCP once a month: Up to 25 mostly older people who like the tradition, led by clergy, quieter said service.

- **Weekly Thursday Word Service** written from Common Worship by the Parish, for all: Up to 140 mostly younger parents and children, led by clergy, 3 ALMs, one ALM in training, with a music group. Lively, and reaching out to new to church families.
- **Weekly Sunday 8am Holy Communion:** Up to 15 mostly older people with a standard service, Common Worship, and BCP once a month. Clergy led
- **Weekly Sunday Parish Communion 9.30am:** Up to 100 mixed age, with Sunday school, with a standard service, from Common Worship. Clergy led. Choir.
- **Monthly Sunday Word Service** written from Common Worship by the parish, for all: Up to 120 mixed age, with children, led by clergy, 3 ALMs, one ALM in training, with a music group. Lively
- **Special services** have been held throughout Easter week, these being relatively "Catholic", and at Christmas, with a Nativity and Christingle for families early on Christmas Eve, relatively "low".
- Readings & Intercessions are lay led on a rota
- Confirmation, baptism, (usually after the Service: prep lay led, service by clergy), home visiting, all lay led on a rota.
- There has been a pattern of regular daily morning prayer
- Ordained ministers present in cassock, alb and stole (chasuble at 9.30 Service), whilst ALMs are smart, but don't robe



Music traditions in the parish are strong, and varied. The choir, of about 10 members, has been long established and well supported. Together with a choir mistress and organist, they have led worship through traditional hymns, from a variety of hymn books, within the Anglican tradition, for many years. Over the last ten years, we have also been served by a multi instrumental music group, leading worship at Word Services, and at children's services, such as the Nativity and Christingle. This group is resourced through an excellent sound system, and has four main members playing piano, bass, guitars, bouzouki, ukulele, brass, and drums. Sometimes a screen is used to display words for songs, especially new songs introduced to this less formal worship style. Both choir and music group would benefit from new members and broader support.

5. MISSION “ Our mission is to receive and share the love of God, everyday”

St John's launched its Mission Action Plan for the next three years in January 2016 following an extensive parish survey and consultation process. The completed profile document is available on the church website, www.st-john-hey.org, and sets out survey results and attitudes at that time, together with outlining the priorities for the coming years.

The actions in the plan are recorded separately and change regularly to reflect our progress toward the aims and priorities in the original plan document. Included at the back of this profile is the MAP itself, and the most recent summary report from our Mission Action Plan champion. The report outlines the current actions and challenges. We also include the overview of the plan that was submitted to the dioceses at the outset of the plan.

The priorities in the plan are; (more details in the appendix)

- building and enhancing worship in church; family worship on Thursday nights; the Sunday church; music in all forms
- building spirituality and service outside church times; stewardship
- supporting those in need within our parish whose lives are increasingly lived on the margins of social and economic needs, age, isolation and poor health.
- Maintaining our commitment to giving to charity whilst meeting our own costs in quota, mission and building

7. OUTREACH

a. Within our Community, including

- Parish letter and card drops
- Street prayer cards
- Visits to residential homes
- Hall lettings
- Visits to schools as governor and for assemblies; Hey with Zion School
- Uniformed Organisations; All male and female uniformed organisations (Scouting and Guiding) meeting weekly in the church hall. All groups are at capacity and some have waiting lists, however there is a lack of leaders.
- Church events including fairs, social functions, race nights, discos(Children), Christmas seniors dinner. The hall is also let to a dance / Zumba instructor.



Race Night



Christmas Fair

b. Links with others

- St John's was formally part of the Medlock Head Team. This was very successful and all churches worked well together. Currently we are forging links with St Thomas', Leesfield, with a view towards probable pastoral reorganisation, as we understand this future team is to form a united benefice, probably at a time when their priest retires in about 4 years. In preparation for this St John's and St Thomas' have held joint planning meetings, discussions, joint PCC meetings, and social events. St Thomas' parish includes St Agnes and St Hugh's, whilst St John's have been working with two other churches for many years. Therefore there is a background of understanding of the process, advantages, and challenges, which come from working in a team. At St John's we are happy to build this new relationship and continue to share resources and ideas with our friends at St Thomas'.



Confirmation

- Churches Together – Lees and District churches of many denominations, Anglican parishes, Methodists, Roman Catholics, Moravians, Salvation Army, Congregational Churches, meet and share worship and fellowship, including Good Friday, Whit Walks and Advent and Lent services. Ministers meet every 6 weeks.



Whit Walks

8. THE VICARAGE

Our parish can offer our new priest an excellent Vicarage, with the usual expenses covered by the parish. Built of stone about 18 years ago, it has three large bedrooms, a study, lounge dining room and fully fitted kitchen, utility room, garage and small gardens. The vicarage is located on Owen Fold, opposite the church on Stamford Road. Viewings can be arranged with pleasure. The church office is situated in the church hall, and operated by a part time administrator.

The vicarage makes for an excellent family home, as well as for entertaining. Local Primary schools have good Ofsted ratings, and there is access within the Oldham Borough for denominational Secondary Education in two excellent schools.



The front



The rear garden

APPENDIX 1: Basic information and statistics

THE PARISH

- Full name of benefice or parish **St John the Baptist, Hey (or Lees)**
- Title of the post that is vacant **Incumbent**
- Name and address of patron **Rector of Ashton**
- Archdeaconry **Rochdale Archdeaconry**
- Deanery **Deanery of Oldham East**
- Area Dean **Rev Graham Hollowood**
- Official clergy housing **1 Owen Fold, Lees, Oldham, OL4 3DT**

DEMOGRAPHICS

- Official population **6,500**
- Number on electoral roll **132 (as of May 2016)**
- Average weekly attendance for the last 3 years
 - ✓ **2016** – 150 Adults + 100 Children
 - ✓ **2015** – 101 Adults + 69 Children
 - ✓ **2014** – 88 Adults + 48 Children
 - ✓ **2013** – 88 Adults + 47 Children
- Average Weekly Attendance of children and young people under 16
 - ✓ **2016** – 100
 - ✓ **2015** - 69
- In the last twelve months, numbers of:
 - ✓ those baptized: **2016 to date (Nov 16) – 29, 2015 - 42**
 - ✓ those admitted to holy communion before confirmation : **None**
 - ✓ those confirmed: **2016 - 27**
 - ✓ marriages: **2016 – to date (Nov 16) 7, 2015 – 5**
 - ✓ funerals: **2015 – funeral in church 9, funeral in crematorium or cemetery 12.**
 - ✓ Christmas communicants (all services) **2015 - 402**
 - ✓ Easter communicants (all services) **2015 - 190**

APPENDIX 2

COMMUNICATION

- Names of churchwardens **Mr E S Baines Mr B Saxon**
- Address of website and other social media
 - ✓ **website:** st-john-hey.org
 - ✓ **blogsite:** st-john-hey.blogspot.co.uk
 - ✓ **facebook:** www.facebook.com/stjohnhey

- Details of publicity that the parish produces e.g. newsletter, magazine
- ✓ Grasshopper (monthly newsletter)
- ✓ Facebook page with subscription to blog and emails including a monthly letter from the wardens.
- ✓ Christmas and Easter services drop
- ✓ Street prayer cards – 1 street per week.

APPENDIX 3:

Buildings

- Key dates for the building
- ✓ Built 1742
- ✓ Consecrated 1744
- ✓ 2 major Victorian developments
- ✓ 1984 – Hall built adjoining Church
- ✓ 1987 – Major fire, destroying internal furnishings and balconies
- ✓ 1990 – Re-ordered and re-opened
- ✓ 2016- Parish Office moved into the church hall. Part time administrator appointed
- Capacity: 200 (180 in front of the altar)
- Maintenance: The last Quinquennial inspection was completed in 2015 – no major works required. The parish was commended for their pro-activity.

Finance

- **Annual accounts** for the last three years
- **Christian stewardship** practised, and when was the last campaign or renewal?
- **Giving trends**
- **Parish share**; The parish has met the share every year during the time of the previous incumbent, and it is expected that this position will continue.
- **Parish Priests expenses**: met and fully reimbursed
- **Charity giving**: The aim of the parish has been to give at least 8% of funds (after share) to charities.

Please return your Parish Profile when complete, together with any other requested papers, to:

The Bishop of Manchester:	bishop.david@manchester.anglican.org
The Bishop of Middleton:	bishopmark@manchester.anglican.org
The Archdeacon of Rochdale:	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