



# WHITFIELD PARISH PROFILE

[www.whitfieldparish.org](http://www.whitfieldparish.org)





## WHITFIELD PARISH

### **St James' Church**

Hollincross Lane  
Glossop SK13 8JQ

### **St Luke's Church**

Fauvel Road  
Glossop SK13 7AR

### **The Vineyard**

18-20 Charlestown Road  
Glossop SK13 8JN

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[www.whitfieldparish.org](http://www.whitfieldparish.org)



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# WHITFIELD PARISH SEEKS A NEW INCUMBENT

Whitfield Parish, home to 9,500 people, is in the heart of the town of Glossop. We are two church communities each set back approximately 400 metres on either side of the High Street. St James' Church is the parish church and St Luke's Church a well-established 1905 plant. United in vision and leadership, each church enjoys its own identity and has a clear geographical area to serve.

## PATTERN OF SERVICES

### Sunday

St Luke's 10.00 am

A rotation of Morning Praise, Holy Communion, All Age Service

St James' 10.30 am

A rotation of Morning Praise, Holy Communion, All Age Service

St James' 7.00 pm

1st Sunday Encounter

3rd Sunday Deeper

### Monday

St Luke's 9.15am Morning Prayer

### Wednesday

St James' 10.30am Holy Communion or Morning Prayer

We are the fourth largest parish in Derby Diocese with an Electoral Roll membership of 242 and a larger worshipping community. In addition to the Vicar, we have a very able Curate in his final year of training and one Reader. We employ a Parish Operations Manager, a Children and Young Families Outreach Pastor, and a Youth Co-ordinator. The presence of two retired Clergy who have permission to officiate is a great blessing to us.

Over the last five years we have begun to transition from a 'Come to us' to a 'Go to them' model of church. We are enthusiastic about sharing our faith and want to develop our gifts in order to be equipped to share the Gospel, each in our own way.

A new and exciting development is the establishment of Glossopdale Mission Community. This initiative has come from Derby Diocese, with the aim of developing collaboration in mission. As a church we are fully committed to this and our new Incumbent will have a key role to play. In previous years there has been fruitful collaboration between the churches in Glossop so we have experience of the potential growth this kind of development can bring. You will read more about this vision on pages 13-15.

We are looking for the person of God's choosing to lead us into the next period of growth in this beautiful area of the Peak District. As you read on, please prayerfully consider if that person is you.

*"My church family  
have had a huge  
impact on my life"*

*Church member*



*"I want to be outward-  
looking but need  
support, discipleship  
and mentoring"*

*Church member*



*“I’d like our new Vicar to be kind, helpful and a bit funny”*

*One of our Kingdom Kids*

# OUR NEXT INCUMBENT

We are prayerfully seeking a new leader who has the passion, vision and skills to continue to build on the solid foundation that has been laid by previous leaders.

We would like to receive applications from candidates who have a sense of personal calling from God to this parish and who display many of the key qualities, characteristics and kingdom values we aspire to.

## WE WOULD LIKE A CANDIDATE TO BE:

- A teacher who believes the Bible is God’s true and living word and endeavours to live this out daily
- A gifted and passionate communicator of the Gospel
- An authentic guide to help us follow Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit, modelling what it means to be a disciple
- An investor in every member ministry
- A pastorally sensitive listener and communicator
- A builder of relationships with all kinds of people
- A facilitator who is able to develop, manage and enthuse teams of volunteers
- Someone who has passion and vision for creative mission
- A spiritually mature individual who waits on God, is prayerful, wise and discerning, and who aspires to be Christ-like
- A person of integrity with the energy and drive to help us understand and bring into being God’s vision for this parish

We do not expect our Vicar to have all of these qualities but s/he will be someone who can raise up a team who together display the full range of spiritual gifts. Mission is a priority for us and we would like to appoint someone who will help us to develop our missional focus without neglecting pastoral care. We need to find ways to invest in our work with young people, building on the work currently done with children younger than secondary school age.

above qualities in yourself, you share our passions and you are committed to working alongside others to see God’s kingdom grow.

The parish is on a journey of change and some are further on in the journey than others. One challenge is to find ways to maintain our essential unity, blending into one community people who have different attitudes to change. A further challenge is to develop the right mix in the Staff Team to serve the Parish: there are different ideas about this across the parish. The diverse demographic of the Parish, something we value and celebrate, brings its own challenges.

Whitfield Parish has a long evangelical tradition and provides for people from many different backgrounds, represented by organisations such as New Wine, Spring Harvest and Keswick. A broad mix of people from varying denominations find their home here. We support and value the ministry of men and women equally.

Whitfield Parish is orthodox in its approach to matters of human sexuality and endorses the House of Bishops’ discussion document *Some Issues in Human Sexuality (CHP2003)*. Whitfield Parish expects clergy to live, teach and preach in a way that is consistent with this report.

We very much look forward to hearing from you if you feel called by God to this incumbency because you recognise some of the

The current stipend in Derby Diocese is £26,320, which is above the national minimum stipend and the national stipend benchmark.

*Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.*

*Matthew 28:19-20*



# OUR PARISH NOW

Our vision, formulated over the last five years, is 'to reach and transform our town with the love of Jesus'. We are convinced that it is only through a life-giving relationship with the living God that we can know forgiveness, eternal security and change in our own lives and the lives of others. We know that to pursue our vision we need to be rooted in God's love and love for each other which is why our strapline is:

**Loving Jesus • Loving each other • Loving our town**

How do we aim to put our values and beliefs into practice in order to achieve our vision?

## Commitment

We want to help people to come and join in to explore this story and how it impacts our lives together. We hope that as people explore and join in the life of the story of God they will become disciples of Jesus and part of the life and worship of the church.

## Discipleship

We want to disciple everyone who joins us in an atmosphere of love, prayer and Bible teaching to help them to follow and become like Jesus, whether they have just started looking at the story of God or have been following Jesus for years.

## Service

We want to release every member into ministry and mission in the power of the Holy Spirit, with opportunities to discover and use each one's gifts.

## Unity

We want to build together in unity and in partnership with others to reach the whole town and beyond into the nations with the good news of Jesus.

The next section gives a number of examples of how we put these things into practice in the life of the church.

We are transitioning from a 'Come to Us' to a 'Go to the People' model of church, in order to share God's love with the 33,000 people of our town. We want to invest in finding ways to increase the confidence of the congregation in sharing our faith.

Our leadership team, PCC and ministry leaders meet regularly and learn together as one to ensure that, as a parish, we are equipped and united to meet this call from God.

# WE ASPIRE TO BE... A CHURCH COMMUNITY WHICH DESIRES TO BE TRANSFORMED BY GOD'S WORD AND SPIRIT

Across the week there are opportunities to worship in a variety of settings, underpinned by the same values and mission. We expect to encounter God as we worship and it is our desire that all who come will have a profound and life-changing experience of Him. Our services provide a space to meet God in worship, prayer and ministry, be encouraged in his word and grow as a Christian community. Our thriving ministry for children includes Crèche for pre-schoolers, and Kingdom Kids for 4-11 year olds. All ages worship together at the start of each service before the children move to their own groups.

Our young people of secondary school age meet together on Sunday mornings. Our dedicated team aim to empower our young people to encounter God, to have hope in Him and put their trust in the living Lord Jesus.

Several times a year the two churches are invited to come together to worship in one of our buildings. On Sundays there is a mix of Holy Communion and Morning Praise across the Parish and we frequently welcome baptism parties to our monthly services where all ages worship together. A growing team of gifted and competent church members shares responsibility for various aspects of the services. Prayer ministry is offered at every service.

The regular attendance at the 10.30 am service at St James' is about 150 people of all ages and different backgrounds. Our gatherings are informal and contemporary and a Worship Team lead us every week. We constantly review the way in which we welcome and integrate the newcomers who join us most weeks.

The congregation of around 80 people at St Luke's is welcoming and friendly and includes people of all ages with a good number of families. We are committed to enabling all-ages to worship and several of our young people play instruments or sing in the Worship Team who lead us every week.

On Wednesday mornings at St James' a Book of Common Prayer Communion service is attended by an average of 30 people. This gentle congregation is mainly made up of retired people who love to support and encourage one another and who are open to the word of God and the work of the Spirit. An open prayer time is a key feature of the service. Lunches and outings are a regular opportunity for both fellowship and outreach by members of this lively group.

On different Sunday evenings, each once a month, are 'Deeper', our opportunity for extended Bible teaching, and 'Encounter', an opportunity to engage with God and exercise the gifts of the Spirit in a relaxed setting with a more extended time of worship and prayer.

On Monday mornings at St Luke's there is an informal service of Morning Prayer.

'Messy Church' happens at St Luke's on several occasions during the year and there will be regular themed events once the refurbishment is complete. (See page 10 for more detail about our plans.)



**Prayer is a fundamental part of our life as a church and there are many opportunities to pray together. Some prayer times happen every week; more extended times, such as 24-7 Week of Prayer, happen annually. Intercessory prayer is part of the pattern of every LIFE group and MAT. Read more about these on the next page.**

# A CHURCH COMMUNITY WHICH ACTIVELY SEEKS TO GROW IN FAITH AND DISCIPLESHIP

*“I’ve found this church to be a really good place to grow in discipleship, to learn more about Jesus and what faith means to me”*

*Church member*

Growth in faith and discipleship is a really important aspect of the life of our church community. For a number of years, LIFE groups have been some of the key environments for discipleship in Whitfield Parish. With the recent addition of Mission Area Teams (MATs) these, together with one-to-one Bible study, provide the main base in which this spiritual growth is encouraged. Currently there are 8 LIFE groups meeting weekly in homes for learning, intercession, fellowship, and evangelism. Group leaders meet regularly to pray, develop their skills and discuss feedback from their groups in an open and frank way. The MATs have a specific focus on outreach in their growth in faith and discipleship: these teams will be described in the next section.

Leadership training is encouraged for all areas of ministry and we take full advantage of opportunities offered by recognised organisations such as New Wine and others. A number of the parish attend national Christian conferences such as the New Wine summer conference, Spring Harvest and Keswick Convention to gain wider input.

Within the Parish, Marriage Preparation Courses are offered to all couples getting married. To support the continuity of marriages, we have successfully run the Marriage Course for those who have been married for more than two years. Over 40 couples in the church have benefitted from this, as well as many from other churches.

## FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND CHILDREN

We aim to teach our young people to be lifelong disciples and our work among children in their pre-teenage years is lively and engaging. Work with teenagers is an area for further investment and development.

Our vision for our young people is the building of godly character, enabling them to use their gifts to serve others in and outside church, and to reach out and lead others to Christ. To support this, in addition to Sunday mornings, cell groups for boys and girls are run during the week. Older members of the congregation partner with young people to pray individually for them. This is complemented by other events and weekends away during the year.

We operate weekly Kingdom Kids groups on the first 3 Sundays in the month during term time, one at each church during Sunday morning services. Children from pre-school to Year 6 can come and make friends, have fun and get to know more of God in a safe environment. The leaders aim to cultivate relationships with Jesus by teaching biblical truths through fun and friendship, creating an environment which encourages, affirms and respects every child.

At joint church services in the summer both Kingdom Kids groups meet together. This gives the children a time of learning and fun in the larger group as Whitfield Parish Kingdom Kids.

At both churches a creche is provided during the morning services to enable pre-schoolers to have fun together and learn about Jesus, while enabling their parents to engage fully in the service.

Our passion is to see all our children commit their lives to Jesus and be filled with the Holy Spirit.



# A CHURCH COMMUNITY THAT IS, AT ITS VERY HEART, MISSION MINDED

As part of our aspiration to be a church without walls we have, over the past five years, actively looked for opportunities to connect with the community, facilitating opportunities for people who are not churchgoers to encounter Jesus.

Mission Area Teams (MATs) are our primary vehicle to fulfil our vision. MATs are missional communities who are committed to 'Reaching and transforming our town with the love of Jesus' in a particular geographical area or with a particular people group. MATs pray and study God's word together, with a strong emphasis on reaching out into the community. Currently we have five teams of between 8 and 16 people which include members from both churches.

**High Street** launched in June 2013, this MAT wasted no time in faithfully prayer-walking the High Street, seeking the voice of God to guide them in their planning. As a result Street Pastors was launched, in collaboration with a number of other churches. They have also enjoyed sharing God's love through gift-wrapping and kids' trails at Christmas, open air services and members of the team go out on Saturday mornings to offer to pray with anyone who chooses to stop.



**FLAME** also launched in June 2013, with the aim of reaching and transforming schools and young families with the love of Jesus. This team has already seen fruit in the lives of families new to our community as relationships have been made through bonfire parties, events for Dads and Kids, a Salsa evening for women, an Easter 'Peg Hunt' and good old intentional spoken evangelism. The Light Party on Halloween is popular with parents, carers and children. Over the past year the team has been meeting for family meals, to which the team invite and welcome new families.



**Gamesley MAT** launched in June 2013 and serves the community of Gamesley, a 1960s Manchester overspill estate and one of the most socially deprived communities in the Glossop area. (The most recent ONS figures for claimants for Jobseekers' Allowance show that Gamesley has the highest level in Derbyshire with a rate of 6.6%.) Gamesley MAT is based primarily at the busy Jericho Café which is run full-time by two members of Whitfield Parish and staffed by a team of volunteers. The Cafe is in the Parish of Charlesworth and it is with the consent of that parish that we serve in this area.

As well as being a social focus for the council estate, those who run the café give practical, moral and prayer support to the community. Following a successful Mothers' Day Sunday morning event, Gamesley MAT now meet monthly for Cafe Church and for Spirit Fall, another monthly event which sets out to enable people to encounter God in an informal setting. The Jericho Cafe is one of our strategic mission partners.



## MORE MISSION-MINDED ACTIVITY

Our other Mission Area Teams (MATs):



**Whitfield Breeze** launched in May 2014, and reaches out to the people of the Whitfield Estate where there are 1000 or so homes, right on the doorstep of St James' church. Whitfield is an area of deprivation: the percentage of people on Employment Support Allowance and Incapacity Benefits is 12.4%, the average in the High Peak being 5.1% (ONS 2013). Partnership with the local multi-agency team enables the MAT to help local people in practical ways. More than this, as the team reach people whose lives are broken through poverty, addiction and abuse, they are seeing lives transformed by the love of Jesus.



**St Luke's Area MAT** is our most recently established team. With a mission to reach out to the area around St Luke's Church, this MAT has reached out to the local retreat for children with life-limiting conditions and their parents and for families who have lost a child, to the Adult Education Centre across the road and to newcomers to the new North Road housing development. The MAT has excellent relationships with the local primary school, hosting Messy Church events at Christmas and Easter.



Another group is meeting on **Shirebrook estate** and it is envisaged that this will develop into a MAT. Already the team has organised events for the community, including two summer parties and two pop-up Carol Services on the estate, sharing the love of Jesus in words and actions.

For the last two years, the Vicar has set up chairs in a small marquee for a few days in the main square to give the people of Glossop the opportunity to bring their questions, concerns and prayer needs, and simply to show the people of Glossop that God loves them.

*"I love the fact that we reach out to the community to people who don't know Jesus"*      *Mission Area Team Member*

## IN OUR COMMUNITY...

Links with our local primary schools, St James' and St Luke's, are well-established and Schools Prayer Groups meet weekly. The PCC appoints three Foundation Governors at each school, one of whom is normally the Vicar or the Vicar's representative; a number of Parish members serve as Governors in other capacities.

The Curate and our Children and Young Families Outreach Pastor (CYFOP) regularly lead collective worship at both schools and along with the Vicar have conducted whole school weekly assemblies and RE lessons. Both schools are welcomed into church for special services such as Harvest, Christmas and the end of term. In recent years we engaged The Bible Encounter Trust to present both the Easter and Christmas Story Trails to all primary schools in Glossopdale.

We are actively involved in Glossopdale Community College, with the Vicar, Curate and CYFOP all leading assemblies. The latter also goes into the college each week as School Pastor. Other congregation members lead groups in other primary schools at lunchtime, giving children the opportunity to learn about Jesus in an engaging and relaxed way.

Karibuni (Swahili for Welcome) welcomes parents, carers and pre-school children for a weekly play and chat in St Luke's back room. Approximately 15 adults and 20+ children enjoy fellowship together over tea and coffee and home-made cake most Wednesday mornings. Many visitors to Karibuni have begun to come along to church.

Another St Luke's conceived and administered ministry, Coffee Pot, is a great opportunity for people to meet together every Thursday morning to enjoy coffee, cake, conversation, company and prayer. It is a place to make friends and share Jesus. Around half of the 35 people who attend on a regular basis are yet to know Jesus.

A group of 30 - 40 Seniors meets monthly for lunch and also enjoys 'Holiday-at home' and outings. They love to welcome guest speakers to their meetings and encourage everyone who comes to use and share their God-given gifts. They love to bring friends along. Last year the Seniors hosted a well-attended conference about Dementia led by the Pilgrims' Friend Society and further conferences are planned. Every week a group visits one or other of the local care homes to conduct worship for the elderly residents, while others do pastoral visits to maintain contact with older friends who are sick or housebound.

Men's Ministry is a mixture of events and pastoral support for men, aimed at providing social and sporting activities and support in informal settings. This is an area we would like to develop. Our recently begun Women's Ministry is exploring ways for women to get together for fellowship and friendship.



***“The best thing for me is you feel like part of a family and you’re actually cared about and loved”***

***Church member***



*"It's a blessing to be able to support other organisations, financially, in prayer and with our time. What a privilege to be able to visit and serve with the team in Romania."*

*Church member*



We firmly believe that the job of the church is to introduce people to Christ and to teach them to become his disciples. We give away one tenth of our non-specific income to support mission at home and abroad. Two thirds of this is divided between our strategic mission partners, organisations with whom we have built relationships. They are represented by members of the congregation who keep in touch with them and report back to the PCC and the congregation. Our current strategic mission partners are the Eden Bus, Dave McGuire working in Romania, Nick & Donna Rogers at the Gamesley Community Cafe, Open Doors and Tear Fund Change a Nation. The remaining third is allocated at the 6 PCC meetings, based upon the recommendations of the Finance Committee who receive appeals and requests for grants.

At Christmas, financial gifts are sent to overseas compassion ministries. Harvest-time gifts are often shared between two local charities, the Women's Refuge and St Christopher's Trust. Financial offerings have usually been sent to the Bishop's Harvest Fund. We also give Christmas and Easter gifts to youngsters on the Whitfield estate and beyond. Whitfield is a certified Fair Trade parish.

During the past few years a number of our older teenagers have gone on to serve in other churches and have continued in full-time Christian ministry. Our Schools and Young Families Outreach Pastor is part-way through her ordination training and we have other candidates awaiting a Bishop's Advisory Panel.

# INTRODUCING OUR TOWN AND PARISH

Whitfield Parish (9,500 people) is the central parish in the town of Glossop situated on the northern tip of Derby diocese just 14 miles from central Manchester. Situated on the A57 at the foot of the Snake Pass in Derbyshire, Glossop is within 4 miles of the motorway network and 20 miles from Manchester Airport and has a half-hourly train service to Manchester. There is open countryside within a few minutes' walk of the Vicarage.

Around two thirds of people grew up in the town or nearby, the other third having migrated from all over the country. About one third of the population commutes between 10 and 25 miles to work.

The parish and Glossop have a good social mix in terms of socio-economic groups, being around the bottom of the top quartile, ie well above average but not wealthy. St James' Church is on the doorstep of the Whitfield estate, which consists of council housing and former council properties. The parish also includes Shirebrook Park, a large private housing estate which has grown rapidly over the past 30 years. In between are stone terraced houses, popular with young couples and families as starter homes. In the St Luke's area of town are a number of private housing estates as well as some larger properties.

Much of the parish is easily accessible by foot and bicycle as well as car.

The parish includes two secondary schools and three primary schools, two of which are Voluntary Controlled C of E schools. We also work in two other primary schools within the town. Our main secondary catchment School, currently on two sites, is being rebuilt on a single site nearby in Hadfield. A bus travels from Glossop to the Blue Coat C of E Academy in Oldham and many young people from church attend this outstanding school.

Glossop is a great town with a strong sense of identity, bordering the spectacular scenery of the Peak District National Park; there are two lovely parks within the town. Local shops and small businesses can be found alongside the usual High Street brands and the town has four supermarkets to choose from. With a varied selection of restaurants catering for most tastes, public and privately owned leisure centres and gyms, a swimming pool and theatre, not to mention the proximity of the cultural and recreational facilities that Manchester has to offer, Glossop has something for everyone. There are excellent GP surgeries and dental surgeries in the town and several hospitals, three of which are centres of excellence, are within driving distance.



*“The beautiful waterside walking circuits around the reservoirs here cater for both keen walkers and families with young children in tow”*

*The Guardian*



## FOR OUR NATIONAL COVERAGE SEE:

<http://www.theguardian.com/travel/2014/feb/21/glossop-derbyshire-peaks-fancy-high-street>

## FOR A MAP OF THE PARISH SEE:

<http://www.achurchnearyou.com/parishfinder.php?sk13%208ug>

# OUR CHURCH HISTORY



**ST JAMES' CHURCH**

St James', a recently modernised and refurbished Victorian structure, was built on the south side of Glossop in 1850 as the place of worship for Whitfield residents who were mainly employed in the town's many cotton mills. Now a well-established church, St Luke's was constructed in 1905 as a 'daughter church' to the north of the High Street where the more affluent members of the community resided. St Luke's is a larger building with pews which are to be removed when funds permit.

The appointment of Whitfield's first evangelical vicar reversed the continuing decline in congregational numbers experienced after World War II. Many changes were introduced and growth commenced, initially with ministry to children whose parents began to stay instead of just dropping them off for Sunday school. Faithfulness to Scripture saw the congregations continue to grow during successive incumbencies. Contemporary music was introduced at St James' and courses such as Start, Alpha and Christianity Explored were organised across the parish. In the last 10 years our affiliation to the New Wine Network has developed a more spiritually charismatic dimension in our congregations. Contemporary music was also established at St Luke's. More recently, our passion for evangelism has been re-kindled and the congregations have again become more outward-looking, something we want to develop.

Over the years, Derby Diocese has recognised Whitfield as a training Parish, and we have been blessed by competent Curates, one of whom became the first Associate Minister responsible for St Luke's.

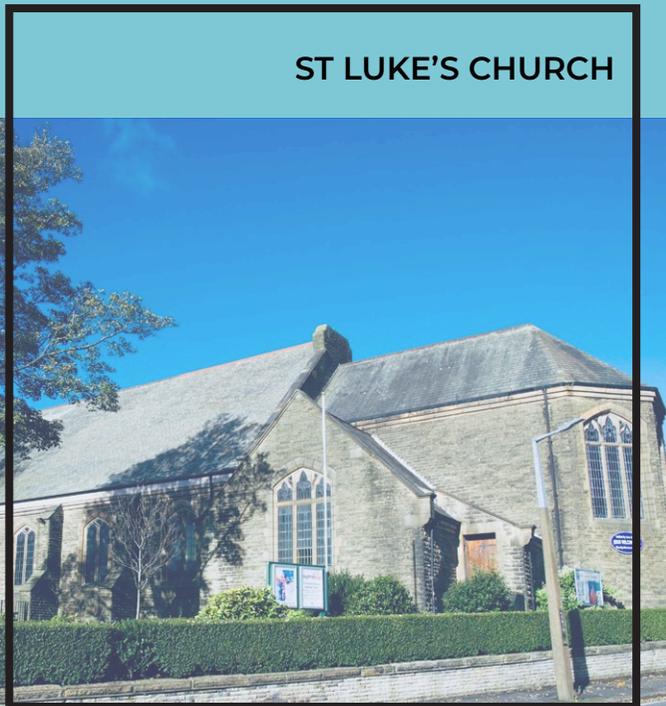
Members of the congregations continue to give generously to fund our Parish Operations Manager, our Children and Young Families Outreach Pastor and our Youth Co-ordinator.

In addition, our parish supports and encourages those called to leadership in ordained ministry. Over the years several people have taken this step.

In the last fifteen years, major refurbishment of the two church buildings has also been undertaken and financed by church members. Refurbishment at St James included a new roof, removal of pews, improved accessibility, and the installation of underfloor heating, a servery and additional toilets. At St Luke's, there has been the provision of a new room to accommodate children's work and community outreach, disabled access, installation of new toilets and kitchen and a new roof. We hope to begin work to replace the pews with chairs, install underfloor heating and re-carpet the main worship space to enhance the flexibility of the building and make it a place in which we can engage with the local community. When funds permit, we will build an upstairs room, primarily for our young people.

In 2005 the house for the Associate Minister was built next door to St Luke's. Currently the house is rented out, with much of the rental income being added to the building fund. At the moment we do not have an Associate Minister.

**ST LUKE'S CHURCH**



## THE VICARAGE

The south-east facing house is situated on a recently built phase of the newly developed Shirebrook estate to the east of Glossop, with beautiful views over Derbyshire Level, Shire Hill and the Pennines. This sizeable detached modern home with gas central heating offers modern family living with four spacious bedrooms, en-suite to master bedroom and Jack-and-Jill en-suite to bedrooms two and three, in addition to a separate bathroom and downstairs toilet. There are two reception rooms on the ground floor as well as a separate study which has a fitted desk, cupboards and book shelves. A large, recently refitted, family kitchen and dining area with French doors overlooks the secluded rear garden which has a lawn and patio. There is an integral garage with utility area, and off-street parking. Scotty Brook Crescent is a 10 minute walk from Glossop town centre, and a 15 minute walk to St James' and St Luke's. Find the floorplan of the Vicarage on our website: [www.whitfieldparish.org/welcome/vacancies](http://www.whitfieldparish.org/welcome/vacancies)



## CHURCH HOUSE

The Associate Minister's accommodation was built on land owned by Trustees who are selected by St Luke's congregation. The Incumbent of the Parish is the Chair of Trustees. A maintenance fund is available for the upkeep of Church House. This house is currently rented out; part of the rent is being used to contribute to the refurbishment of St Luke's Church.



## THE VINEYARD

The parish hall, which is owned by Trustees for the use of the PCC, is heavily used by many of our young people's groups as well as by the seniors and for events which reach out to the local community. The Church Office is based there. We are planning to begin a programme of refurbishment to this building to provide meeting rooms, a well-equipped kitchen, office space, a new heating system, a lift and accessible facilities. The Vineyard is a one minute walk from St James' Church.



## ST JAMES' CHURCHYARD

The churchyard is closed.

## QUINQUENNIAL REPORTS

All major work from the most recent Quinquennial in 2015 has now been completed. Both churches are in good condition and require minimum work, mainly routine maintenance. We have programmes in place for the repair of all of the stained glass windows (urgent work having been completed), St James' bells and the replacement of chairs.

# GOVERNANCE

The Parochial Church Council (21 voting members) meets bi-monthly. The PCC Agenda is set by the Clergy/Wardens Team in consultation with the Secretary.

Leadership Team: the Vicar, Curate, Wardens and Deputy Wardens meet each month for prayer, spiritual and strategic oversight and vision and business and is accountable to the PCC. The two Wardens support the clergy with spiritual and strategic insight. The two Deputy Wardens support the clergy with oversight of practical and operational activity.

The Finance Committee meets before each PCC Meeting to review finances and provide recommendations to the PCC.

The Fabric Committee meets before each PCC Meeting to review work needed, carry out the work within the scope of its budget (£23k in 2017) and provide recommendations to the PCC for planned work.

A Standing Committee is established in accordance with the Church Representation Rules and the Charity Commission's requirement. This meets as necessary.

The Ministry Leaders Team meets bi-monthly for leadership training and coordinated oversight of day to day ministries and is accountable to the PCC. On this team are MAT leaders, Wardens, the Treasurer, the Operations Manager, leaders of Prayer Ministry, Children's work, Youth Ministry, Seniors Ministry and Events, LIFE Group overseers and Worship leaders.

We are part of the Diocese of Derby and enjoy our links with them and support from them. We are fully compliant with its Safeguarding Policy.

Whitfield Parish currently has 6 lay members on the Peak Deanery Synod. (Entitlement: 7)

# FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP

## Financial Position

The Parish operating cost budget in 2018 is £216k, and as in all previous years we expect to have sufficient income to break even. Over the past 20 years about £1m has been raised from the congregation to pay for capital projects. The major projects have been a new room at St Luke's Church, a new roof for St James Church, a house for the Associate Minister, refurbishing St James' Church and a new roof for St Luke's Church. Currently planned are phased improvements to St Luke's and a complete refurbishment of the Vineyard.

The financing of the Parish continues to be conservative, with no external debt. PCC policy is not to apply for lottery finance.

Our Parish Share, paid to Derby Diocese, is £78k and has been paid in full every year. The Staff Budget (for the Parish Operations Manager, Schools & Family Worker, Youth Coordinator and Cleaning Team) is £41k.

We maintain 3 months unrestricted reserves of around £54k, in line with Charity Commission Guidelines.

## Plans and Commitments

At St Luke's there is a restricted fund of c£90k. Faculty applications have been made for pew replacement and underfloor heating. The following phase of the project is to build an upstairs room for young peoples' work. The Vineyard has a fund – including grants – of £147k for planned refurbishment.

In addition the Parish maintains Church House, which has a maintenance fund of £5.7k and a current rental income of £7k pa.

## Mission Tithe

10% of the unrestricted income given away by the PCC. (See p12)

## Staffing

We currently employ a Parish Operations Manager (24 hours per week), a Children and Young Families Outreach Pastor (24 hours per week) and a Youth Co-ordinator (8 hours per week).

## Clergy Expenses

All clergy expenses are paid in full.



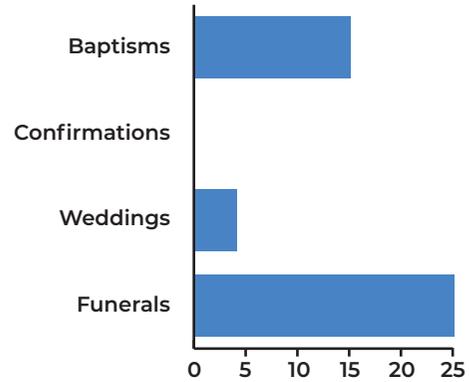
*“Not only are there warm hearts – there are warm buildings!”*

*Church member*

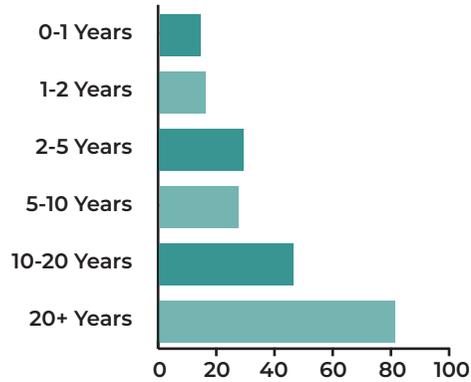


# GENERAL STATISTICS 2017

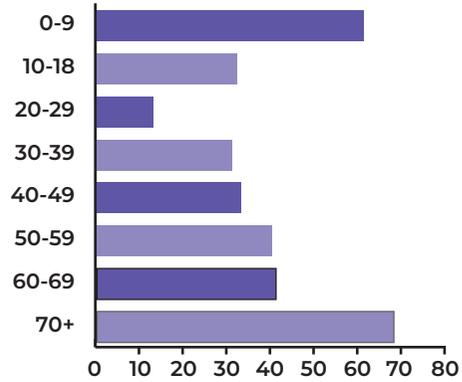
## BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS & FUNERALS



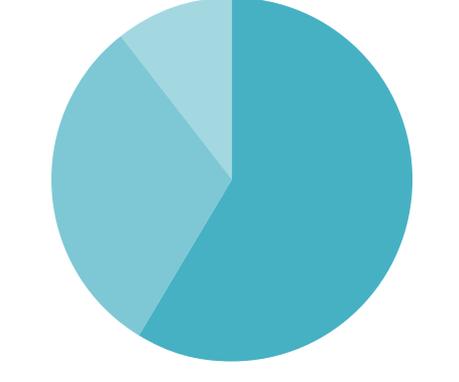
## YEARS ATTENDING



## AGE OF CONGREGATION



## JOINED FROM ANOTHER CHURCH



<b>Baptisms</b>	15
<b>Confirmations</b>	0
<b>Weddings</b>	4
<b>Funerals</b>	25

<b>0-1 Years</b>	14	7%
<b>1-2 Years</b>	16	8%
<b>2-5 Years</b>	29	14%
<b>5-10 Years</b>	27	13%
<b>10-20 Years</b>	46	22%
<b>20+ Years</b>	81	38%

<b>0-9</b>	61	19%
<b>10-18</b>	32	10%
<b>18-29</b>	13	4%
<b>30-39</b>	31	10%
<b>40-49</b>	33	10%
<b>50-59</b>	40	13%
<b>60-69</b>	41	13%
<b>70+</b>	68	21%

<b>Yes</b>	107	59%
<b>No</b>	56	31%
<b>20+ Years in Parish</b>	19	10%

The parish welcomes the opportunity for outreach and service that the Occasional Offices provide. After a process of conversation and counselling in each case, requests for marriage from previously married people have been accepted on a regular basis. Funerals are carried out by the clergy team on a rota basis, with a minority of services being taken by our Reader. When we receive a baptism request one of the clergy visits; a Service of Thanksgiving is usually offered as an alternative but there has been a low take-up of this option.

# DEANERY DEVELOPMENTS: GLOSSOPDALE MISSION COMMUNITY

## Current Situation

- Whitfield Parish comprises St James' and St Luke's Churches and is in Vacancy
- The Benefice of Hadfield is held in plurality with the Benefice of Charlesworth and Gamesley with one clergy colleague appointed as Vicar
- The Benefice of Glossop is held in plurality with the Benefice of Dinting Vale and is currently in Vacancy.

## The proposals

Derby Diocese has proposed the establishment of the Glossopdale Mission Community in which the Vicar of Whitfield would play a significant role. Proposed by the Diocese after a year-long consultation with the Anglican churches of Glossopdale, this is an imaginative vision for a future in which there is a collaborative approach to mission across the churches and it will require a person with proven ability to develop mission conversation carefully and sensitively across diversity of tradition and theology.

Creation of the Mission Community will unfold in stages, holding together firm developments with future aspirations, which include the deployment of a self-supporting colleague in All Saints Glossop, a stipendiary post in St Andrew's Hadfield, another in Dinting Vale, Charlesworth and Gamesley and a pioneer minister working in a mission or growth project in the valley.

Whitfield Parish sees this as an exciting proposal which offers real potential for church and Kingdom to flourish.

On the following pages you will find the statement from Derby Diocese about this planned development and the part to be played by the next Vicar of Whitfield Parish.



*“We can tell this has been a praying church over many years.”*

*Visitor from The Message Trust*



## DIOCESE OF DERBY: DEANERIES – DEVELOPMENT AND AIMS

The Diocese of Derby has established a renewed understanding of deaneries as a key strategic place for mission. We hold a vision to be growing, outward facing, healthy and learning. We have committed ourselves to work together, deepening our common life in service of Christ's presence in every community.

The creation of eight new larger deaneries, and the appointment of an Area Dean to each, sit within Derby Diocesan strategic priorities as we seek to better enable growth and mission. Our aim is to facilitate greater missional collaboration and partnership between parishes, deanery and diocese.

Though Area Deans have canonical responsibilities in line with traditional models, they also hold a key role of strategic development, embedding and growing the new ways of working. Deanery development is an intentional strategic response by the Bishop of Derby and his senior staff to the challenge of growth and mission in our time.

### **Peak Deanery – Glossopdale Mission Community**

Supported by extensive conversation in the Deanery Leadership Team, Glossopdale Mission Community is the outworking of a year long exploration and conversation between the Area Dean and the PCCs of the Anglican churches in the valley – seven churches of rich diversity and tradition: Whitfield St Luke's and St James'; Hadfield St Andrew's; Charlesworth St John's; Gamesley Bishop Geoffrey Allen Centre; Dinting Vale Holy Trinity; Glossop All Saints.

Mission Community aims to be intentionally growth and mission focussed. Our commitment to this is

demonstrated by our aspiration to appoint a pioneer minister to work on a mission or growth project in the valley. Discerning the exact nature of this role will be a shared responsibility of Mission Community churches in consultation with the Area Dean and will unfold over time as the Mission Community conversation opens up and plans develop.

The person appointed to be Vicar of Whitfield will have a significant role in the Mission Community: first, to develop a shared mission and growth conversation with the community and second, to offer a place of spiritual oversight to the pioneer minister when we are in a position to make that appointment. For both of these, it will be important for any prospective candidate not only to be comfortable with and supportive of the new deanery and its aims, but to also grasp the opportunity Mission Community offers. Great potential exists for Kingdom growth, but it will not be without challenge. The journey ahead will need careful navigation with sensitive leadership, a non-hierarchical approach with a 'light touch', a leader equal amongst others. Applicants will need to recognise and value the Kingdom work already underway, an approach which is able to receive wisdom as well as offer it, the development of a two way-street of shared conversation and mutual learning.

Supported by the prayers and resources of the whole community, each church will be encouraged to drive forward the growth and mission agenda in their own respective context, but Mission Community also seeks to develop a culture which thinks 'Kingdom first'.

The vision is to encourage willing and sacrificial support for projects which may not be in 'my' parish or run by

'my' church, rejoicing in God's activity in a place where the community discerns Kingdom is best served and promoting a culture which displays characteristics of interdependence – the pooling of wisdom, gifts and resources.

It is hoped that Mission Community will also help inform the developing conversation about how 'Resource Church' might work in Market Towns and urban settings which do not have 'city' status. The recent launch of Resource Church in Derby will provide valuable insights.

### **IN SUMMARY**

Mission Community imagines the seven churches:

- sharing a growth and mission focussed conversation for the glory of God.
- sacrificially supporting projects in another part of the vineyard – Kingdom first.
- valuing each other in their identity.
- supporting the work of the whole community in prayer.
- displaying a generosity of heart and mind to God and to one another.
- having humility to receive as well as give.

Glossopdale Mission Community imagines mutual respect in the midst of theological difference. Applicants will not be asked to compromise their own theological understandings but within the boundaries of the creed and 'good disagreement', the person appointed will need to respect the right of others to uphold a different understanding. Mission community aims to offer respect where difference is evident, while discovering the common missional values that permit each to join in. That is quite a task, but with goodwill and the right candidate, we are confident it can be achieved.

## OTHER CHURCHES

Roman Catholic, Methodist, Elim Pentecostal and Congregational churches can be found in the town. Glossop Ministers Fellowship meets regularly and includes representatives from some of these congregations.

Whitfield Parish is willing to work with any church which shares our values.

Street Pastors has brought us into partnership with the local Elim Pentecostal Church, the local Roman Catholic and URC Churches and Carmel, an independent Church.

Our Vicar attends Ministers' Fellowship, a group of five or so evangelical church leaders meeting in the area.

We are part of the New Wine Network.

## PARISH CONTACTS

If what you have read so far inspires you to take a closer look at this vacancy please seek God's wisdom as to whether he has been preparing you for such a ministry opportunity. You are welcome to contact any of the following people for further information or to arrange an informal tour of the parish.

### Lay Representatives

Daniel Jones  
daniel@whitfieldparish.org  
Dorothy Rank  
dorothy@whitfieldparish.org

### Church Wardens

Daniel Jones  
daniel@whitfieldparish.org  
Dorothy Rank  
dorothy@whitfieldparish.org

This appointment is subject to an enhanced CRB disclosure.

**Closing date for applications:** 21 February 2018

**Interviews:** 13 & 14 March 2018

### Area Dean

Rev Colin Pearson  
colin2pearson@gmail.com

### Archdeacon of Chesterfield

Rev Tony Kaunhoven  
tony.kaunhoven@derby.anglican.org



*"I love the warmth you feel when you walk into church, the exuberant worship and the general sense of care for one another"*

*Church member*



## WHITFIELD PARISH

[www.whitfieldparish.org](http://www.whitfieldparish.org)