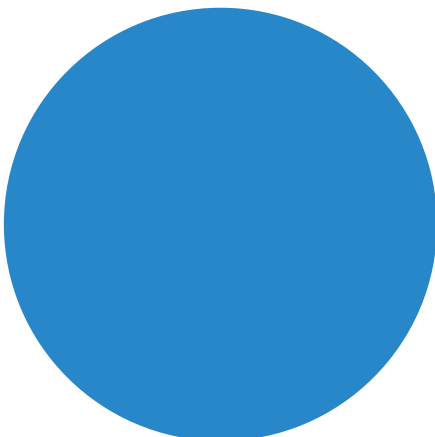
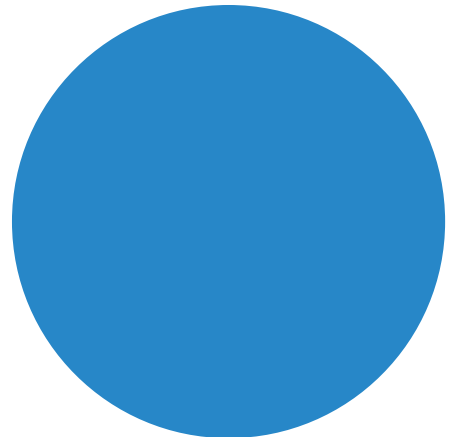
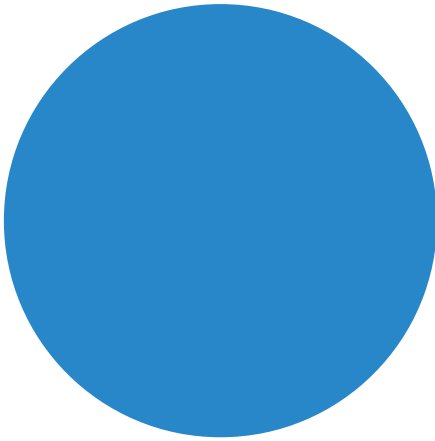




APPLICATION PACK

Priest in Charge of
Swindon New Town
(S. Mark, S. Saviour and S. Luke)



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FROM THE BISHOP

September 2019

Thank you for showing an interest in the role of Priest in Charge of Swindon New Town. This Anglo Catholic parish with its three churches is in a dense residential area which includes bustling shops and night clubs.

In recent years the parish has worked to come to terms with a reduction of clergy and the last incumbent endeavoured to bring about change with limited success. During the extended vacancy a number of measures have been adopted to help the churches refocus on mission. With the right style of leadership, harnessing the energy of the retired clergy and lay volunteers, the potential to shine the light of Christ into the heart of this thriving town is enormous.

This information pack provides an outline of the role, the skills and experience that we are looking for. Background to the context has also been included.

As a diocese, we are living out our vision of 'Creating connections' – with God, each other and our communities, across Bristol, Swindon, South Gloucestershire and North Wiltshire. We sense a real energy locally to reconnect with our communities and reignite our calling to be a Church for this and future generations. Our vision, priorities of making disciples, growing leaders and engaging younger generations, and the strategic plan that has been agreed to support them, are our response to what God is calling us to. This can be explored further at www.bristol.anglican.org/creatingconnections. We also fully embrace the Five Guiding Principles in order to enable a continued mutual flourishing across the Church of England.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this opportunity. If this is a role which excites you then I encourage you to prayerfully offer yourself for the post. If you would like an informal discussion about the role, please don't hesitate to get in touch with one of the contacts listed at the end of this pack.

Please submit your application on the attached application form and ensure you have also read our Applicant Guidance Notes.

Yours in Christ,



Rt Revd Vivienne Faull
Bishop of Bristol



FROM THE BISHOP OF EBBSFLEET



During the months that the parish of Swindon New Town has been vacant a good deal has been happening to prepare it for the future. With diocesan support the three worshipping communities—S. Mark's, S. Luke's and S. Saviour's—have reflected together on their journey as a parish, and the mission challenges of their local setting; the old team ministry scheme has been dissolved, and a new journey towards greater unity between the communities has begun; priorities for the future have been identified, and now, at last, they are looking forward in real hope to the appointment of their new pastor who will help them take the next crucial steps forward. Priestly leadership here is a big task; an important and rewarding task, that needs pastoral experience, resilience, and a spirit of hope; a strategic task within the Ebbsfleet family, and the diocesan family of Bristol too: to build a centre of Anglo-Catholic sacramental life and mission. And so we—the parish and I—are hoping and praying you will read this profile (which has been revised and retooled since its first appearance) with a real question in your thoughts: *might God calling me to this place? To taking on this responsibility in the Ebbsfleet family and the diocese of Bristol?*

Swindon has a large and younger than average population (nearly a quarter of a million) and is one of the fastest growing towns in the UK. It benefits from an excellent location on the M4, with strategic connectivity right across the south of England and into Wales, and a great deal of energy is going in to supporting businesses and employment. Nonetheless it suffers challenges of deprivation, poverty and increasing diversity, which is where the contribution of the church is, as so often, found.

The congregations have three great assets: a deep desire now to make progress and to grow in their parish vocation; second, a deeply rooted sacramental life at the core of their welcome and invitation to new worshippers; and third, a willingness to discover new ways of growing in faith together, learning from and working with each other, and making the blessing of Anglo-Catholic parish life available across Swindon's catchment population.

It will suit a confident and motivated priest who is firmly rooted in Catholic identity, and who believes that the sacraments—the way the church is fed and nurtured by Christ—must shape and inform the mission strategy of the church.

I hope that this profile will encourage you to apply. If you want to talk through any aspect of the appointment, or anything you find in this profile or you want to discover what you might expect from me as your bishop, please feel free to contact me (0118 948 1038). Alternatively you could also ring the acting Archdeacon of Bristol (0117 906 0100).

We all commend ourselves to your prayers and thoughts, and pray for you.

+ Jonathan

AREA DEAN'S LETTER



Dear Friend,

Swindon is one of the most exciting places in the country to be a follower of Christ. Our Deanery is confident in faith and full of hope.

As one of the five fastest-growing towns in England, Swindon provides fascinating opportunities for ministry, in an increasingly culturally diverse community.

Nestling between the Cotswolds and North Wessex Downs areas of outstanding natural beauty, Swindon has excellent transport links, with London only 50 minutes away by rail, and Bristol, Bath and Oxford within easy reach.

Swindon is a centre of excellence in many fields, with Nationwide Building Society, Zurich Insurance, Intel, National Trust, Network Rail and BMW among the major employers in the town, which ranks in the top ten for economic productivity. Our community is growing in terms of educational outcomes, with all three secondary schools serving the parishes achieving some of their best GCSE results in 2018.

As a large diverse town with areas of both wealth and deprivation, Swindon faces many of the challenges of communities throughout the country, but with a strong plan for redevelopment from local businesses and the Council, with a regional leisure destination, a UTC within the Parish and a new university-level Institute of Technology to be built adjacent to the Parish and ambitious plans to redevelop the town centre. The Bishop of Swindon has built strong links with local businesses and our influence in our community is growing.

The Swindon Deanery draws together 21 parishes over a large area from the town centre to the rural areas of North Wiltshire. Within our diocesan vision of Creating Connections to help each other to make disciples, develop leaders and engage younger generations, we are passionate about the hope of Christ for our community.

In 2019 our focus continues to be on growing leaders and vocations and as a Deanery we do all we can to build up the ministry and confidence of one another as colleagues, friends, and partners in mission.

Our Chapter is a warm, prayerful, welcoming and supportive group and all clergy make our monthly Chapter meetings a high priority. We value the skills and passions we have between us and seek to learn from one another.

The Churches of The Parish Swindon New Town, St Mark, St Saviour and St Luke along with the Parish centre of St Aldhelm cover the commercial heart of Swindon as well as a large part of the housing built for the railway workers and their families. With the changing face of industry and migration within the parish there are many challenges to be faced. The Parish has always played a leading role in the life of the town, previous incumbents have been chaplains to The Royal British Legion as well as supporting the local Foodbank and other charities.

Please be assured of our prayers as you consider applying to ministry in this Parish and town, joining our journey of hope.

With best wishes

Revd Captain Clive Deverell C.A. B.A. Hons
Area Dean of Swindon
01793 877111 clive.deverell@btinternet.com



THE PARISH

WHO WE ARE

The Parish of Swindon New Town sits right at the heart of the historical 'Great Western Railway Town' of Swindon. It incorporates the churches of S. Mark, S. Saviour and S. Luke, as well as the Parish Centre of S. Aldhelm, incorporating a Chapel, the Parish Office and Resource Centre, the Rainbow Bookshop and a community hall. The parish serves the town centre and the homes originally built for the families of those working at the Railway Works.

We are an Anglican parish in the Catholic tradition. The parish is part of the Swindon Deanery of the Diocese of Bristol of the Church of England, part of the Anglican Communion. The parish has for many years been under the sacramental and pastoral care of the Bishop of Ebbsfleet. Following the passing of the 2014 House of Bishops' Declaration on the Ministry of Bishops and Priests the PCC passed the necessary resolution, the Bishop of Ebbsfleet was asked to continue to provide oversight. The parish is also affiliated to The Society under the patronage of Saint Wilfrid and Saint Hilda; and remains a member of both Forward in Faith and of the Church Union.

For many years the parish had been constituted as team ministry. That scheme was finally dissolved in 2018, in readiness for a new appointment, and the next crucial stages of our parish journey.

More statistics can be found on our Parish Spotlight page:
<https://cofebristol.contentfiles.net/media/documents/document/2016/12/SWINDON-550179-Swindon-New-Town.pdf>



VISION

During the vacancy, following the practice in our diocese of a period of shared reflection on our needs and aspirations for the future, we seek as a parish to –

- continue to provide pastoral ministry and witness to the diverse population of Swindon New Town
- encourage growth and spiritual maturity within the parish, developing the discipleship and missional confidence of all our members
- continue to be known as a place where the Catholic faith is taught in all its richness
- work in partnership with neighbouring parishes for the strengthening of faith and the enrichment of worship
- encourage children and young people to come to faith, and participate in the life of the parish through Junior Church and youth activities with the possibility of engaging a youth worker
- strengthen communication and fellowship between the several congregations within the parish.

The congregations of our parish consist of many willing and committed people and we would welcome a priest who has the enthusiasm and pastoral experience to work collaboratively with us, and encourage others to join us, as we reach out to the wider community.

We also want the wider Diocese to see our collective vision and priorities – making disciples, growing leaders, and engaging younger generations – reflected in the patterns and commitments of a catholic and sacramental approach to mission and social outreach.

WE SEEK A PRIEST WHO WILL
HELP US TAKE THOSE NEXT CRUCIAL STEPS
ON OUR JOURNEY

SUPPORT

Swindon New Town is an excellent contributor to the Swindon Deanery and the Bristol Diocese through synods and Parish Share and a new incumbent will be supported by both.

The new incumbent will also be ably supported by a very committed team of people within the parish. We aim to ensure that the priest will be free to carry out his vital work, unencumbered by the day-to-day necessities which present themselves in any parish. We are keen to continue the work, begun during the previous vacancy, where lay members are involved in parish visiting, intercessions, and stewardship – and no doubt other areas of parish life also.

We are fortunate to have had the steadfast support of a number of retired priests, who regularly assisted with both weekday and Sunday services throughout the parish. That long-term blessing has recently reduced however to the continued support of Fr John van der Linde SSC, for whose generosity the churchwardens want to express the parish's gratitude.



THE PRIEST WE WANT

We seek a priest with strong leadership skills to strengthen the unity of the parish. He will have pastoral gifts in presiding at worship, teaching the faith, responding to the needs of the people committed to his care, and being known by them. He will himself be a person of prayer and spiritual maturity, able to guide and work with others, and raise up and help equip new leadership for the future.

ROLE DESCRIPTION

We seek a priest who fully inhabits the traditions of Anglo Catholic theology and life, and who will support our corporate needs and aspirations by

- providing pastoral ministry and witness to the diverse population of Swindon New Town and develop our pastoral work amongst the sick and disadvantaged in our community
- encouraging growth and spiritual maturity within the parish, developing the discipleship and missional confidence of all our members, creating opportunities for lay people as appropriate
- working in partnership with neighbouring parishes for the strengthening of faith and the enrichment of worship
- ensuring Swindon New Town Parish becomes as a place where the Catholic faith is taught in all its richness, and as a result evangelism and church growth is strong
- leading and preparing inspirational worship and teaching, placing the celebration of the Mass at the heart of the parish's life
- encouraging greater involvement in our midweek services
- reviving the partnership with local primary schools and continue the support for the uniformed groups
- encouraging children and young people to come to faith and participate in the life of the parish through Junior Church and youth activities with the possibility of engaging a youth worker
- modelling commitment to good and robust practice in matters of safeguarding so that our fellowship and worship are places of safety for all ages
- working with the three congregations to strengthen communication and fellowship between them, and a greater connection with each one's local community
- sharing as fully as possible in the life and the structures of the Diocese and Deanery
- maintaining a prayerful spiritual life with appropriate support networks
- giving proper attention to his own personal well-being, spiritual growth and professional capacities
- sharing his ministerial experience and needs with the bishop, and using the processes of ministerial review to shape his professional development
- working with immigrant communities

PERSON SPECIFICATION

ESSENTIAL

OUR NEW INCUMBENT WILL

- Be a priest who was ordained within the Church of England, a church in communion with it, or a church whose orders it recognises
- Have satisfactorily completed Initial Ministerial Education, and have been recommended at selection or candidates' panel for incumbent status stipendiary ministry

AND ALSO WILL BE

- registered, or willing to register, as a Priest of The Society of Saint Wilfrid and Saint Hilda: See www.sswsh.com/Priests-and-Deacons.php
- able to drive having a current driving licence
- able to organise and lead traditional forms of Anglo-Catholic worship.
- able to interact with a range of ages and nationalities.
- able to work as part of a team, building confidence, delegating where possible, and making good use of existing talents
- keen to work with local schools, community groups and participate with public issues
- relaxed and welcoming and have a sense of humour.
- appreciative of the role that music can play in worship

DESIRABLE

AND WOULD IDEALLY BE ABLE TO DEMONSTRATE

- familiarity with ministry in an urban multi-church, multi-ethnic setting
- skills leading a team with shared responsibilities
- ability to raise up new leadership across various aspects of parish life, identifying and fostering personal vocations, whether lay or ordained
- skills building up secure parish finances and personal stewardship
- a readiness to foster relationships with community leaders, and especially schools

CLERGY ACCOMMODATION

The Clergy House is a modern four bedroomed detached house in a private cul-de-sac and is being refurbished. Internally, there are three reception rooms downstairs, with a fully fitted kitchen and upstairs there are four bedrooms including one en-suite. There is a garage and plenty of off-street parking.

The parish also has at its disposal a further three-bedroomed house, which it has purchased using various endowment funds/trusts as well as some of its own funds.

It will be important for any prospective incumbent to know that the Diocesan Bishop has recently expressed her willingness for the parish to use this asset to look toward the appointment of a House-for-Duty priest to supplement and support the ministry of the incumbent. The new incumbent will be a full part in the process for such a new appointment.

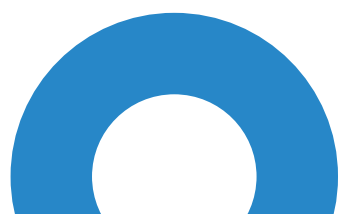


LOCATION AND HISTORY

Swindon has a population of around 215,800, with a broad mix of inhabitants of all ages and ethnicities. There are areas of affluence, interspersed with those of great poverty and deprivation. Several major employers operate in Swindon, many of which are in the financial and car manufacturing sectors. A number of cultural institutions are also based here. These include the headquarters of the National Trust and the Research Councils UK. Historic England's National Monuments Record Centre is housed in part of the former railway works. Much of the housing in the parish itself is terraced, built during the height of the railway construction era for which the town is famed, but there are areas of more recently built housing, including new apartments in the town centre. Like the town itself, the population within the parish continues to grow. Swindon Borough Council has ambitious plans for the regeneration of the town centre – currently, a work in progress.

There are many good primary and secondary schools in Swindon and two further Education Colleges, both of which have been graded by Ofsted as good or outstanding. Oxford Brookes University also has a campus in Swindon, offering degrees in nursing related subjects and a new Institute of Technology. Within the parish is Robert le Kyng Primary School, judged by Ofsted as 'good'. This school has, in the past, had links with the parish and the PCC is keen to re-activate those links. Drove Primary School is on the edge of the parish and many of its students live within the parish. It would be good to create a link with this school. Next to S. Mark's stands UTC (University Technical College) Swindon. This institution was opened in 2014 and provides a technical education for 14—19 year olds.

The Parish of Swindon New Town came about as a result of the construction of the Great Western Railway Works, in order to serve the people and their families, who were brought into the area to work in the expanding railway works. Housing, health and leisure facilities were all provided by the Great Western Railway for the workers and their families. Many of these services were used in the modelling of the social services that replaced them after the war. The railway works were closed down in 1985, although many legacy rail related organisations remain, many of the buildings have been refurbished to form the nationally acclaimed Designer Outlet Village.



Swindon is famous for the Magic Roundabout (the invention of an ingenious boffin from the British Transport and Road Research Laboratory to keep traffic moving at a complex road junction). Like most large towns, it has its black spots but, with its local v, easy transport links to Bristol, London and beyond, access within minutes to the Wiltshire Downs and prehistoric sites, and friendly and welcoming inhabitants, it is a pleasant place to live and to put down roots.

For further information about Swindon as an attractive place to move to, see www.switchontoswindon.com

OUTREACH AND COMMUNITY

The parish currently has close associations with a number of community projects. The Swindon Food Collective – the parish was a ‘founding father’ of its predecessor the Swindon Food Bank - has a distribution centre at S Aldhelm’s hall three days a week and the Parish Office is often used as a drop-off point for donations. All three churches regularly have collections of food for this initiative and members of the Parish assist in the running of this project.

At S. Luke’s there is the Harbour Project, founded by local people in 2001 at the time of the Kosovo crisis. The drop-in centre is for refugees and asylum seekers of all backgrounds. Staffed largely by volunteers, it operates Monday to Friday from 11.00 am to 2.00 pm.

Close to S. Saviour’s church is the Kings Court Care Centre. A service is held for the residents there twice each month, and members of S. Saviour’s are actively involved in supporting this.

The Swindon Street Pastors have a base in S. Aldhelm’s Centre on Friday and Saturday nights, as they minister to those out and about in the town centre at the weekends. We aspire to increase our outreach within the local community, particularly with local schools, youth organisations, care homes, ethnic groups and perhaps military organisations.

We are actively involved with the organisation Churches Together in Swindon Town Centre, which fosters communication and cooperation between the many churches in Swindon.



MISSION

The current PCC policy is that 10% of Stewardship Income, together with the surplus on the Rainbow Bookshop in any year, will be allocated to missions in January of the following year. In January 2018 the total amount allocated to missions/charities was £5,400. The PCC policy has been to allocate these funds on a 50-50 basis between home and overseas missions/charities. Overseas missions include the Diocese of Lebombo in Mozambique, which has been supported by the parish since 1906; priest housing in Lusaka, Zambia; Church Roofs in Zimbabwe, as well as the Oxford Mission to Calcutta. Home missions/charities supported include the Life (UK) organisation, the Children's Society, as well as direct financial help to the Food Collective and Street Pastors groups. Coffee mornings take place monthly at S. Saviour's and raised much needed funds (£1,350 during 2017) for local and national charities. In addition, there are Lent savings, supporting the work of USPG (United Society Partners in the Gospel), the ACS (Additional Curates Society) and Water Aid.

We continue to support the Swindon Food Collective with the free use of the hall at S. Aldhelm's three afternoons each week for their distribution centre. Additionally, many of our members have assisted their work as volunteers at the distribution centre, warehouse and at supermarket collection days. Contributions of food are made regularly in each of our churches, for distribution by the Food Collective. The Swindon Street Pastors project, an inter-denominational Church response to urban problems, engaging with people on the streets to care, listen and talk have been given free use of S. Aldhelm's as their base on Friday evenings.

OUR CHURCHES



The parish's three churches cater to the differing needs of the congregations who worship in them, which we hope is a strength.

S. MARK'S

S. Mark's Church, a grade II listed building, played a major part in the foundation of Swindon New Town, and is the designated parish church.

Built by George Gilbert Scott in 1845 it sits alongside the main London to Bristol railway line. A few yards away are neat rows of stone cottages built for the railway workers. The Mechanics Institute provided reading rooms and education facilities and a hospital (used until the 1960's) completed "the village" as it became known. It provided a complete package of social, health and spiritual care; a self-help village organised and run by Mechanics and now a historical treasure.

S. Mark's congregation are committed and friendly; and enjoyed a strong musical tradition in recent decades. This has lapsed since Easter 2017 when the organist left to pursue his studies but a replacement has since been appointed. Our worship is traditional in style, though the congregation play a full part in organising and participating in the

services. We also enjoy fellowship and social activities. S. Mark's boasts a fine ring of eight bells, which are rung by an enthusiastic and skilled band (regularly winning ringing competitions).

The recent change of Mass times has seen the 10.30am Sunday service shift to 6pm on Saturday evening and Morning Prayer, led by lay people, has recently been introduced at 10.30am on Sunday mornings.

This move has been a challenge too far for some, but we are keen to stick together and help build a solid future in the community.



S. SAVIOUR'S

S Saviour's is the smallest church building, originally built in wood, in 1890 by voluntary labour, in response to the call of Canon Ponsonby to 'build me an ark.' The building was clad in modern stone block work in the 1960s and considerable efforts have been made to maintain and improve it, most recently by the installation of a new pipe organ and re-lighting and re-wiring of the church. A new carpark means that parking for the church has been improved.

It has an enthusiastic and extremely loyal congregation, which has over the years participated enthusiastically in social and fund-raising activities. Uniformed organisations are an important feature of St Saviour's life, and Parade Sundays usually find S. Saviour's with the largest attendance in the parish.

S. Saviour's has the most relaxed style of service. This encourages younger people and S. Saviour's has a broad spectrum of age groups from young families to elderly worshippers in their nineties. It has had a female pastoral assistant, and women administer the chalice and serve at the altar.

S. Saviour's has a thriving kindergarten (up to 7yrs) and a junior church (up to 12yrs) with a view to forming a group for teenagers.



S. LUKE'S

S. Luke's church is situated in an area with a high number of black and minority ethnic residents. The church was originally built in 1902 to meet the needs of the growing population. This original church building is now used as the church hall. The church we have today was built in 1911.

The church lies within the heart of the community of Broadgreen, well known for the diversity of ethnic origins and faiths of the local population. Indeed, the congregation of S Luke's is made up of many different nationalities. Notices are sometimes read and hymns sung in both English and Konkani (Goan). Many strides have been made towards inclusion of the diverse members of the congregation into the family of the church and we hope to continue to build on this.

We now need to develop succession planning to encourage more local congregation members to take on

roles of responsibility, at present largely performed by stalwarts, some of whom live outside the parish boundaries. Since the change in time of the Sunday mass, the Junior Church has diminished with those children attending, joining with their parents for the service, joining in the singing of the Angelus/Regina Coeli and the enthusiastic lighting of candles for Our Lady.

The church hall and additional rooms are much used by local community groups, catering to the needs of homeless and vulnerable people, refugees and asylum seekers. The hall was refurbished in 2011, in time for its centenary, to provide modern catering facilities and the additional meeting rooms. The refurbishment was funded by grants from the Landfill Charities Trust, the Community Foundation, the parish reserve and by the generosity of the parishioners.



S. ALDHELM'S CENTRE

The Church of S. Paul originally stood on the site of what is now S. Aldhelm's Centre. The church was demolished in the 1960s to enable the commercial expansion of the Woolworth's store to take place, on the proviso that a chapel of ease was built on an area of the site, to preserve the consecrated ground. S. Aldhelm's Centre, in the town centre, was built, to include the chapel dedicated to S. Aldhelm, a hall with kitchen and toilet facilities and a small courtyard. Over the years the building has changed and now is home to the Rainbow Bookshop, a Resource Centre and the Parish Office. There is a single parking space adjacent to the building.

THE CHAPEL

The Chapel of S. Aldhelm is open to the public each weekday and on Saturdays. People often pop in for a few quiet moments of private prayer and reflection. Additionally, a Mass is held on Tuesday of each week, and this is supported by a small but regular congregation.

THE PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office serves as the administrative centre for the whole parish and is staffed from 9.30 am to 1.30 pm Monday and Thursday. The parish employs a part-time administrator, who is responsible for the tasks, which form a necessary part of parish life, including: the preparation and production of documentation, service sheets, leaflets, posters and flyers; maintenance of the parish website; liaison with outside agencies (eg. Charity Commission). She is also

the first point of contact for those who wish to enquire about baptisms, weddings or funerals, or indeed any other queries relating to the parish. There is a private office on site for the use of the Parish Priest.

RESOURCE CENTRE

Within the Parish Office itself we offer, for public use, a variety of Christian books, bibles and study material, which people may browse and borrow. Currently this facility is under-used and we would like to see an expansion of its use, both from the other parishes within the Deanery and Diocese and by the local public.

RAINBOW BOOKSHOP

The Rainbow Bookshop began life in 1979, when the Revd W Awdry, of 'Thomas the Tank Engine' fame, opened it. Two major expansion projects in the intervening years have resulted in the current shop, with books, bibles, greeting cards for all occasions and a range of devotional gifts, CDs and DVDs.

The Bookshop has 4 part-time paid staff, managed by the Bookshop Manager, and enjoys the services of a dedicated team of volunteers who come in at various times each week to give support and respite to the paid staff. These volunteers come from a variety of Christian backgrounds. The Bookshop caters to all Christian traditions, from non-conformist to Roman Catholic; our visitors are equally diverse, from those who wish to pass on their own views to those who are curious about the faith. Our small surpluses each year are donated to the Mission field and we pray that we will be around to serve the local community for more years to come.

PATTERN OF WORSHIP

Given this variety, it can be a challenge to keep open the channels of communication to foster a sense of parish unity which we recognize and want to invest in. The dissolution of the moribund team ministry scheme has reinforced our desire for a greater degree of mutuality, and recently have seen very encouraging steps in that direction.

Worship in the parish follows a pattern in the Catholic tradition using contemporary language liturgy, with which the majority of members feel comfortable. Prior to the vacancy, Mass was sung or said on a daily basis, in at least one of our churches. Special services are held for all major feasts and solemnities and joint worship takes place for many of these.

Communion is taken to those in the parish who are sick or housebound on a need-by-need basis. Most of those prefer to receive communion from an ordained priest, rather than a lay-person, but this is a matter

for discussion and development of ministry.

The members of the parish contribute to worship in many ways, through reading, serving, singing, leading intercessions, flower arranging, cleaning, etc.

Baptisms and weddings take place on a regular basis throughout the parish. We have experienced a reduction in the number of funerals being conducted during 2018, since the introduction of non-religious funeral officiators at the local crematorium. Each year for the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day), those who have lost a loved one are invited to attend a Mass in remembrance of them.

A Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham takes place each year during the summer time, providing an opportunity for prayerful retreat.

The current pattern of services is:

Sunday (including Vigil Mass)

6 pm Saturday Sung Mass at S. Mark's (First Mass of Sunday)

9 am Sung Mass at S. Saviour's

10.30 am Morning Prayer at S. Mark's

11 am Sung Mass at S. Luke's

Tuesday

10:45 am Low Mass at S. Aldhelm's

Wednesday

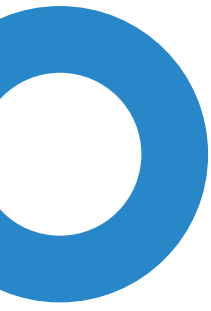
9:30 am Morning Prayer at S. Saviour's

11 am Non-denominational service at Kings Court Care Centre (monthly)

Thursday

9.30 am Morning Prayer at S. Luke's

During the interregnum and due to the shortage of available priests, the PCC changed the Sunday service pattern to allow a single priest to cover all three churches; there is now a Vigil Mass on Saturday evening and two masses on Sunday at 09:00 and 11:00. Weekday masses have been suspended apart from Tuesday morning at S. Aldhelms. The service schedule is subject to review by the new incumbent.



PARISH SUMMARY

Bishop with oversight: The Bishop of Ebbsfleet

Patron: The Diocesan Bishop

Parishes: One parish – three worshipping congregations, and one parish centre

PCC: One PCC, and currently three district church committees

Members of the PCC:

Churchwardens:

Mr Alasdair Skeil (S. Mark's)

Mr John Bishop (Treasurer, S. Luke's)

Deputy Churchwarden:

Mr Sandy Steele-Davis (lay vice-chairman, S. Saviour's)

12 other elected members (4 per District for 3 years)

plus two co-options

3 members of the Diocesan Synod

4 members of the Deanery Synod

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Mrs Pat Gordon

Retired Clergy and Priests Associates: Fr John van der Linde SSC

Other authorised and licensed ministers: Twenty persons across the parish licensed to assist in the distribution of Holy Communion.

People employed by PCC or with whom the PCC has a work agreement:

Parish Administrator, Bookshop Manager, three Bookshop assistants, three cleaners, one gardener.

Buildings: S. Mark's Church and Hall, S. Saviour's Church and Hall, S. Luke's Church and Hall, and S. Aldhelm's Church Centre

Churchyard: S. Mark's churchyard is closed; there are plots for the Burial of Ashes plots at all three churches

Parish Population: c19,000 (source Church Urban Fund - <http://www2.cuf.org.uk/parish/550179>)

Average weekly attendance: 140 adults, 30 children

Electoral roll: 198 (2019)

Parish Share 2019: £85,488 (up to date with payments)

STATISTICS

The following are extracts from the Churches' Registers

SM = S. Mark's; SS = S. Saviour's; SL = S. Luke's

	2016			2017			2018		
	SM	SS	SL	SM	SS	SL	SM	SS	SL
Baptisms	18	2	3	5	2	0	4	1	0
Marriages	4	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0
Funerals (church)	5	1	2	2	2	4	2	3	4
Funerals (crematorium)	11			5			5		

		2016			2017			2018		
		SM	SS	SL	SM	SS	SL	SM	SS	SL
Electoral roll		75	84	78	75	84	78	72	85	76
Average weekly attendance (adults)		47	40	60	42	35	58	35	34	63
Average weekly attendance (children under 16)		3	11	21	1	10	20	1	11	14
Easter Vigil Attendance	SM	Ad 91 Ch 16			Ad 62 Ch 1			Ad 24 Ch 3		
	SS	No Service			No Service			No Service		
	SL	Ad 210 Ch 62			Ad 295 Ch 106			Ad 249 Ch 76		
Christmas Midnight/Day	SM	Ad 89 Ch 1			Ad 77 Ch 0			Ad 65 Ch 4		
	SS	Ad 39 Ch 0			Ad 39 Ch 4			Ad 40 Ch 4		
	SL	Ad 237 Ch 83			Ad 195 Ch 46			Ad 249 Ch 65		
Total Acts of Communion	SM	2,958			2,898			2,454		
	SS	2,947			2,670			2,444		
	SL	5,628			5,093			4,133		

FINANCES

The parish is registered with the Charity Commission, registered number 1131070, and is part of the Church of England, which is in itself a Registered Charity. Each year the PCC is required to submit its annual report and financial statements to the Charity Commission and they can be viewed on their web site.

	2017	2018
Income	£231,621	£240,439*
Expenditure	£266,175	£247,291
Parish Share	£79,420	£83,391
Church Maintenance	£22,380	£9,967
Major Repairs (church)	£16,083	£11,437
Fundraising	£3,386	£2,155
Income from giving	£61,243	£59,745

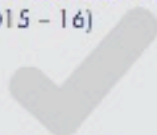
*The income for 2018 includes interest from an endowment received during the year, but not the value of the endowment itself.

THE FACTS ABOUT SWINDON: THE UK'S 7TH MOST 'INVESTABLE TOWN'

A GREAT PLACE TO WORK

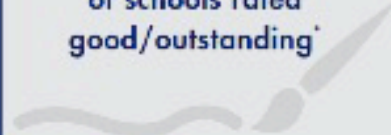


**LARGEST
APPRENTICESHIP
GROWTH INCREASE**
(2015 – 16)



Over
8,600
thriving companies
(of all types & sizes)

91% ^{*in 2016}
of schools rated
good/outstanding*



12 UNIVERSITIES ARE LOCATED WITHIN 1 HOUR OF THE BOROUGH
5 of which are in the UK's top 10 for accounting / finance / economics / mathematics

A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE

GREAT ROAD AND TRAIN LINKS



Be in London, Oxford,
Bath, Bristol and Cardiff
and Heathrow and Gatwick
Airports within an hour



Within half an hour
of some of the
finest English
countryside,
from Stonehenge
to the Cotswolds

1 OF EUROPE'S MOST SUCCESSFUL DESIGNER OUTLET CENTRES

Exceptional green & open space,
a fantastic mix of high street retail
names, boutiques, specialist retailers



HIGH QUALITY, GOOD VALUE HOUSING

Swindon has some of the South's best
'house price to earnings' ratios

Swindon 6.4% • Bristol 8.2%
Reading 8.5% • Oxford 11.7%



A growing population of

222,000



**1.9 MILLION PEOPLE live
within 1 hour of Swindon**

(a ready-made market for labour,
retail and leisure)

A GREAT PLACE TO INVEST



**LOWEST
COMMERCIAL RENTALS**
along the M4 corridor

**£multi-million commercial
opportunities planned**

**TOP 5 MOST ATTRACTIVE
REGIONS IN ENGLAND
TO LOCATE A BUSINESS**

1 OF THE UK'S FASTEST GROWING TOWNS (5 times the UK average)



1,500 HOUSES A YEAR TO BE BUILT
(before 2026)

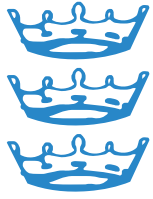


**OVER £0.5 BILLION
TOWN CENTRE INVESTMENT**



**1 of the most
INNOVATIVE & KNOWLEDGE
intensive places**
(in the UK)

**10th
MOST PRODUCTIVE
ECONOMY**
(in terms of GVA per worker)



THE DIOCESE OF BRISTOL



The Diocese of Bristol is the Church of England across Bristol, South Gloucestershire, North Wiltshire and Swindon. There are 30,000 people worshipping regularly in more than 200 churches, led by hundreds of clergy who we train and provide. Around 15,000 children and young people attend our 69 church schools, while chaplains serve in institutions across our region.

The Diocese of Bristol is presided over by the Bishop of Bristol, Rt Revd Vivienne Faull. The Bishop of Bristol is supported by Rt Revd Dr Lee Rayfield, the Suffragan Bishop of Swindon, Venerable Christopher Bryan, the Archdeacon of Malmesbury and from August, the Venerable Neil Warwick, Archdeacon of Bristol.

Our diocesan identity and vision of “Creating connections: connected with God, each other and our communities”, helps shape the work of ministers, parishes and schools. Our priorities as a diocese at the current time are making disciples, growing leaders and engaging younger generations.

The Diocesan Support Services exist to support our identity, vision and priorities. Based at the Diocesan Office to the north of Bristol and made up of 50 employees and volunteers, we serve ministers, parishes and schools by expressing vision, strengthening relationships, empowering people, maximizing resources and developing structures. We offer training, consultancy, advice in a range of areas, highlight and share best practice across the Diocese and manage different aspects of the life of the Diocese.

Come and join a strong and committed team.

PARISH CONTACTS

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