Christ Church

Davyhulme

For a life worth living





Church and Parish Centre buildings

Parish Information and Profile

Christ Church, Lostock Road, Davyhulme

Christ Church parish covers the area between Junctions 9 & 10 of the M60 to the North and South. Barton Road/Crofts Bank Road (East side only) and Winchester Road form the other two boundaries. The parish contains mainly owner occupied housing in two large estates; one built either side of World War Two and the other in the 1960s. The initial influx of people to the area led to the founding of a Sunday School at Davyhulme County School in 1943 and a dual purpose building was built in 1954. This now demolished building became the daughter/mission church of St Mary the Virgin, Davyhulme and was served by a curate.

Christ Church was built and dedicated in 1969; it is in a good central position within the parish in a visible position on a main road. The worship area is on the right and two vestries and a council/meeting room are on the left.

The parish now has around 2500 households and a population of approximately 7000. The parish is part of the Electoral Ward of Davyhulme East. There are two primary schools, a special needs school and two nurseries in the parish. The parish will soon be expanded to contain the Trafford Centre and parts of the industrial area of Trafford Park.

To the left of the church building are the car park and the Parish Centre. The Parish Centre hosts a wide variety of weekly activities involving members of the local community.

The entrance to the church is bright, warm and welcoming. There is level access to the building. The church seats 200 people with space for extra seated if needed.

Christ Church is a Fairtrade parish. There is a permanent stall at the back of church selling a wide variety of Fairtrade goods. Fairtrade coffee and tea is used at events and many members of the congregation use Fairtrade ingredients when baking for social activities.



Fairtrade stall

1 Basic Information and statistics

1.1 Full name of benefice or parish – Christ Church Davyhulme

1.2 Name and address of patron (if the Bishop of Manchester, write 'Bishop') – Bishop

1.3 Archdeaconry, Deanery and name of Area Dean

Manchester Archdeaconry

Stretford Deanery

Area Dean – Rev John Hughes

1.4 Anglican churches and places of worship in the benefice or parish

(a) Name of principal church – N/A
(b) Approximate key dates for the building – 1969 church built
(c) Approximate seating capacity – 200
(d) Name of any attached or nearby hall or other comparable facility – Parish Centre with 1 large and 1 small hall, recently refurbished kitchen, toilets and store room.

1.5 Official clergy housing, address and brief description

14 Welbeck Avenue
Davyhulme
M41 0GJ
Telephone 0161 748 2018

The vicarage was built around 1955 and is a short distance from the church. It has four bedrooms, a large lounge, a sitting room/study, a dining room and large kitchen. There is an upstairs bathroom, a downstairs toilet, a utility room and a large garage. The front garden area is mainly paved and there is a large rear garden.

1.6 Official population 9500 approx

1.7 Number on Electoral Roll – 63 (30% living outside the parish)

1.8 Average number of Sunday communicants – 40

1.9 In the last twelve months, numbers (if applicable) of

(a) those baptized – 2
(b) those admitted to Holy Communion before confirmation – 0
(c) those confirmed – 0
(d) marriages – 1
(e) funerals – 12
(f) Christmas communicants (all services) – 55
(g) Easter communicants (all services) – 77

1.10 Name, address and telephone number of churchwardens

Mr Wyndham Lane
14 Harris Avenue
Davyhulme
M41 7FT
Telephone 0161 614 0421

1.11 Name, address and telephone number of any representatives appointed under the Patronage (Benefices) Measure 1986 section 11 (1)

2 Priests (Ordination of Women) measure 1993

The PCC have no preference between a male or female priest.

3 Petition for Extended Episcopal Oversight – n/a

4 Local Community

The size of the population is static. Christ Church parish is within the ward of Davyhulme East which has a population of around 9,500. Most housing in the area is owner occupied and is mainly semi-detached housing with a few terraced houses. There are three areas of elderly people's bungalows which are council owned. There are very few ethnic or national groups.

5 Schools, Institutions, Voluntary Groups

There are three state schools in the parish, two primary schools with nurseries and one special needs High School. There are two day nurseries.

There are two areas of shops – Canterbury Road and Davyhulme Circle. The Trafford Centre will be in the parish after boundary changes. There are a few offices and a sports centre. There is a community centre based in the local park, various voluntary groups meet there.

Schools' Link – Christ Church has good links with the two primary schools and the nurseries. There are regular class visits to church, children are shown round the church by a group of church members and taught about baptism etc. There is a Come to the Crib service each year for very young children which is always well attended. Members of the church are represented on the governing bodies at both local schools.

Cubs and Beavers visit Christ Church to achieve their Faith Badge. The church has good links with the 3rd Davyhulme Scouts.

Staff and children from one of the local nurseries are involved in a garden project in the church grounds working with members of the congregation. The garden area has been developed and contains a vegetable patch, a bird table, a wild area and picnic table and benches.



School Link display

6 Worship and Worshippers

The pattern of Sunday and weekday services is set out below:-

Sunday	09.00 Holy Communion (said)
	10.30 Holy Communion (sung) Junior Church
	Whole in One service (all age worship) 4th Sunday of the month
Wednesday	10.30 Holy Communion (said)

Common Worship is used. The Bridge is the main hymn book and a wide range of music is used, from traditional to modern.

The church tradition is Central moving towards Evangelical.

The congregation is mainly middle aged/elderly/female. There are a small number of children/teens/twenties.

Only a small percentage live outside the parish and a very small number are from ethnic minority groups.

Service books are given out in the entrance area by members of the Welcome Team. Words for the service and hymns are projected for the Sunday 10.30am service and for other occasional services such as the Churches Together in Davyhulme Songs of Praise. A weekly news sheet is provided with details of the week's events, prayer list etc.

7 Church-based Organisations and Groups

Music Group – Meets weekly in church and consists of singers and musicians (keyboard and guitar). One of the musicians is gifted at composing new worship songs which have been used during services. A wide range of music is used and enjoyed. This is an informal group open to everyone and meets primarily for enjoyment at the same time being kept up to date with the latest worship music by the Group leader.

House groups – There are two house groups which meet weekly with bible study at the centre supported by prayer and praise. Each of these groups has a regular attendance of 10-12.



IDEA/Eco-Congregation - In May 2006 the environmental group IDEA (Improving Davyhulme's Environmental Awareness) was launched at Christ Church in Davyhulme. The purpose of IDEA is to promote awareness of local and global environmental issues within the community. Through regular promotional activities and links with the local schools, nurseries, youth and voluntary organisations the IDEA team aims to encourage energy saving, recycling, waste reduction, less car use and a choice of healthy life style with a low global impact. This supports the aims of the Church of England 'Shrinking the Footprint' initiative.

IDEA's work with the local church community resulted in the successful achievement of eco-congregation status for the church in 2008, one of only 100 churches in the whole UK to achieve the award. A second eco-congregation award was made in 2011 and a further third award is anticipated in 2014.

In 2009 IDEA expanded to become a community based group and a two year Davyhulme Energy Saving Project (DESP) started. Working with the Energy Saving Trust and supported by Trafford MBC it has successfully introduced energy saving measures such as low price loft insulation, cavity wall insulation and heating boilers for residents. The offer was taken up by 331 households giving a calculated CO2 saving of 231,000 kg per annum.

The second part of the project was undertaken in 2011 when the 40 year old Parish Hall was upgraded to modern sustainable building standards by installing insulation, double glazing and a new high efficiency condensing gas boiler. This was supported by a grant from Veolia Environmental Services.

Two further key projects have been introduced in 2012/13. A highly successful series of cookery courses for young parents based on the WRAP 'Love Food Hate Waste' and the WI 'Lets Cook Local' programmes has been started led by two members of the IDEA team. Also the church garden has been converted into a community garden for young children to grow food crops.

In addition to these key projects a regular programme of litter picks, eco-fairs, fun days, coffee mornings and awareness campaigns have been held.

All this has been supported by an awareness of the wonder and diversity of creation in our worship particularly at Harvest time, in Christian Aid week, in Fair Trade fortnight, at Environment Sunday and other appropriate occasions.





Christ Church Garden - This is a new project for IDEA started in 2012 with the aim to support a local pre-school nursery by converting some unused church grounds into a community garden. Children and teachers have unlimited access to the garden as do the many users of the adjacent parish hall and church congregation who can sit in and view the garden.

We have installed:

(a) raised growing frames for growing vegetables and flowers;
(b) a sensory growing bed for herbs and insect/butterfly attracting plants;
(c) a bed of soft fruit bushes (non – prickly type);
(d) grow pots of potatoes, tomatoes and soft fruit;
(e) a poly-tunnel/greenhouse for planting seeds & growing plants;
(f) a picnic table and bench for use by children and visitors.

Volunteers from the nursery staff and children's parents along with IDEA volunteers have helped to develop the garden with support of a grant from Trafford Council.

In a suburban area such as Davyhulme projects which link all ages and interest groups help to foster a community spirit and bring enjoyment and pleasure to all involved. Through working with children, nursery staff and parents the garden is intended to raise awareness of the way small gardens can be developed to grow crops and make them wild-life friendly. A bird feeding station has been successful in attracting birds to the garden. A bug hotel has been constructed near to the polytunnel and bird boxes have been put up on the trees.

Up to 60 young children per year from the Canterbury Road Nursery have made weekly visits to see plants growing and to play in the garden. In addition the Play & Stay pre-school group with 25 young children, which uses the Parish Hall weekly, has also started to plant and grow things in the garden.





Junior Church – This is available at the 10.30 service with an input to All Age Worship services during the year. The three leaders are assisted by a team from the congregation.

Play and Stay – A pre-school group of 25 children which meets weekly in in the Parish Centre.

Companions' Lunch Club (Parish Centre) – Most Wednesday lunch times a substantial meal is offered at a reasonable price. This is run by a small team from the congregation for the benefit of church members and the wider community.

Social activities – There are various activities during the year – concerts, coffee mornings, bring and share lunches, Harvest supper, Christmas Fair, events around national celebrations. In recent years we have had social events for St George's Day, scarecrow competitions at Harvest time and social evenings with entertainment provided by members of the congregation. Concerts by the opera groups which use our Parish Centre have been enjoyed by the congregation and the wider community. All social activities are advertised in the local community and press where appropriate.

Flower Guild – A dedicated team of arrangers provides wonderful floral displays throughout the year. During Lent a bare cross is displayed on the sanctuary; the cross is made from a former Christmas tree. Over the weeks items are added representing the Passion of Christ. When Easter Day comes the tree is transformed to illustrate resurrection to new life.





Brownies/Guides – These two groups meet weekly in the Parish Centre and attend the 10.30 service on certain occasions during the year.

Non-church organisations using the Parish Centre

Monday Dance Club

2 Opera groups

Karate

Zumba

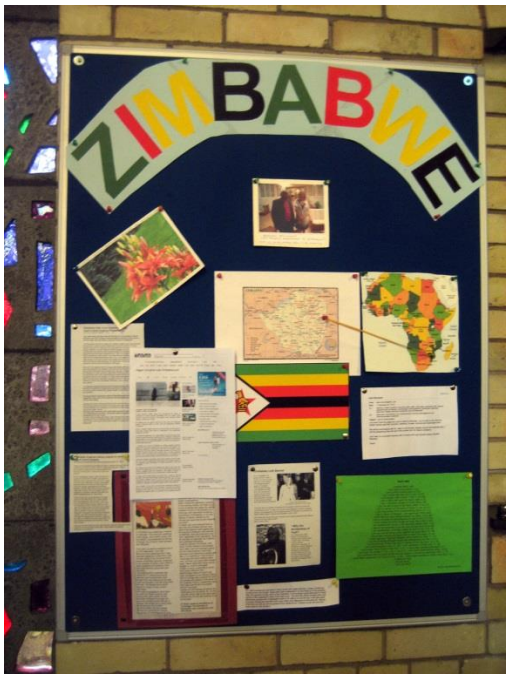
Dance classes

8 Neighbouring Anglican Churches and Parishes

Clergy from the five Anglican churches in Davyhulme, Urmston and Flixton (St. Mary's, St. Michael's, St. John's, St Clement's and Christ Church) meet regularly to discuss joint ministry and the way forward. Pulpit exchanges and some joint PCC meetings with St. Clement's are currently taking place as we prepare for the proposed united benefice.

Overseas Link

Christ Church has, during the last two years, formed a link with St. Bartholomew's Church in Rusape, Zimbabwe. There is a small display in the church including a candle which is lit before each service. A prayer written for the link is said at the end of every service.



9 Ecumenism

Christ Church is involved in Churches Together in Davyhulme with Cornerstone Methodist church and St. Mary's. Events include services during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and an annual Songs of Praise. There is also co-operative publicity for big festivals including Easter and Christmas. Christ Church, along with most of the other local churches takes part in the Good Friday Walk of Witness through Urmston town centre; this is a good demonstration of the churches' presence in the local community. In recent years members of Christ Church have helped to run a refreshment stall at the annual Flixton Carnival with other local churches.

10 Ministry

There is a licensed Reader and a retired vicar in the congregation who deputises when necessary.

The PCC has recently given authorisation for a member of the congregation to undertake training as an Authorised Local Minister specialising in prayer and spirituality.

There are six Eucharistic Assistants who assist with communion. Three of the assistants also prepare and read intercessory prayers and two of the assistants are involved in home communion visits.

All members of the congregation are encouraged to participate in worship, prayer, bible study and many other areas of worship.

11 Mission

The church has connections with/outreach to various organisations using the parish centre and church grounds. The congregation views outreach to the local community through these groups as a vital element in mission.

Mission work includes strong links with local schools and nurseries. This involves various activities such as class visits, development of the garden at the rear of the church, the very popular "Come to the Crib" service as well as previously mentioned activities. One of our local primary schools benefits from an annual visit from John Froud (Christian singer/poet) who was originally introduced to them by Christ Church.

A very popular outreach event is our annual Christingle service combined with carols round the tree. Music is provided by the local scout band together with our organist. This service is always well attended and enjoyed by all.

12 Finance and Stewardship

Stewardship is practised and this is based around thanksgiving. A gift weekend was recently held and members of the congregation and the wider parish were encouraged to attend various activities over the three days which culminated in an outpouring of praise from a gospel choir.

The parish is committed to full payment of the Parish Share and this is always achieved.

Christ Church has a commitment to support several causes with regular donations; these include:

- Wood Street Mission (annual Toy Service)
- Lifeshare (Harvest and weekly collection of food)
- Christian Aid (for the last two years a coffee morning has been held in place of the annual envelope collection)

Support is given to other causes as the needs arise.

Gallery



Social evening for St George's Day



A typical Christ Church bring-and-share buffet



Fantasy Football social evening



Bible study group Christmas party



Christian Aid coffee morning



Palm Sunday open air service



Harvest



Easter