

St Chad Toller Lane, Bradford

Parish Brochure 2025



Summary

Welcome, and thank you for showing interest in becoming our next priest at St Chad's. We hope that the information contained in this brochure will be helpful.

This post represents an exciting opportunity for a Society priest to serve in a traditional Anglo-Catholic parish within the Church of England. Our liturgy is predominantly based on the English Missal and for the Offices we use the Book of Common Prayer. Full vestments are worn, and the ceremonial is that expected of a traditional Anglo-Catholic church.

If you feel this may be a calling for you, then please read on. A warm welcome and a rewarding ministry awaits.

St Chad's is on the web. You can find out more about us on:



@SChadTollerLane



<https://www.facebook.com/SChadTollerLane>

Find S. Chad's at: www.achurchnearyou.com and: <https://schads.church>

Resolution

The PCC has passed a resolution under the Bishops and Priest (Consecration and Ordination of Women) Measure of 2014.

In November 2023, the PCC reviewed our theological conviction within the Church of England (the Resolution under the House of Bishops' Declaration and our affiliation to the Society). The PCC voted unanimously to reaffirm our theological position and continued affiliation to the Society. The parish is under the pastoral and sacramental care of the Bishop of Beverley.

Offer

This is a part time position based on 0.5 stipend. For a suitable candidate this position is supported by a generous grant from The Additional Curates Society.

People

We are a small but dedicated congregation whose worship of God is centred on the Mass and on the offices of the Church and who value priestly ministry. In common with many inner-city parishes, we have an eclectic congregation, predominantly middle aged and above, but with a small group of children. We clearly need more young families and those aged between 30 – 50.

1.0 - Bishop's Statement

St Chad's is an inner city parish and in the top 1% most deprived in England (according the Church Urban fund statistics). The population can be characterised as young, Asian and Muslim, but that is not the full story. Of the 6,616 people living in the parish at the 2021 census, 80% were Muslim, 37% were under the age of 20 (and more than half were under 30). However, 10% were of white British heritage and there is also a sizable presence of Eastern European people.

The Diocese of Leeds is committed to retaining an engaged presence in such challenging contexts. We are also committed to ensuring that a flourishing, viable and welcoming ecclesial presence in the Catholic tradition of the Anglican church continues in the Bradford Episcopal Area. St Chad's, with its strong traditional Anglican Catholic heritage, is one of two parishes in the Episcopal Area that have passed a resolution under the Bishops and Priest (Consecration and Ordination of Women) Measure of 2014. As such, it is a spiritual home to many people from outside the parish.

The church building and its adjacent modern church hall are both in good condition, and new infra-red heating has recently been installed in the church. A ministry of some 47 years from a previous vicar ended in 2016, after

which the church has had Interim Ministry. The Interim Ministry objectives included assessing whether the future of St Chad's lay more in being a centre of Catholic worship and mission within the Diocese of Leeds, or in focusing on its immediate parish context in outreach and service. Some growth was seen from the former, supported by improvements to the parish website, and nearly 95% of those on the electoral roll now live outside the parish. However, the PCC is clear in its commitment to the latter alongside continuing to offer its distinctive catholic worship and mission to the wider Diocese.

Our vision as the Diocese is about confident clergy equipping confident Christians to live and tell the good news of Jesus Christ so that churches grow and communities are transformed. For this post, we are seeking a priest with a joyful and confident faith which can inspire church growth, both spiritually and numerically. We are also seeking someone who is able to lead this congregation with love and sensitivity through challenging times, navigate St Chad's distinctive liturgical practices with skilful reverence, and manage required changes well.

Thanks to a generous three year grant from the Additional Curates Society (ACS), we are able to make a 0.5 stipend appointment of a priest-in-charge (three days a week plus Sundays) for an initial period of three years. This timescale offers a helpful impetus to continue progressing the main emphases of the Interim Ministry, namely:

- Providing further evidence that the church can flourish, with growth and sustainability;
- Agreeing and implementing changes needed to develop and establish St Chad's as a catholic centre of worship and mission within the Diocese;
- Contributing to thinking about the best provision within the city of Bradford for worship and pastoral provision with Extended Episcopal Oversight for Anglicans who are not persuaded by the Church of England's decision to ordain women – including any possible pastoral reorganisation which might support this;
- Helping the parish to play an appropriately full part in the life of the deanery, wider Episcopal Area and Diocese, in particular working with the neighbouring parish of Girdlington, Heaton and Manningham in reaching out to the local community, not least through schools.

In view of the time-limited funding, an appropriate monitoring process will be put in place, with a review point at the end of two years at the latest, so consideration can be given to what should happen when ACS's current generous grant ends (for example there is a possibility of the grant being extended).

The Deanery of Inner Bradford is comprised of parishes with similar demographic profiles to St Chad's, many of whom are experimenting with mixing new approaches to worship and mission alongside inherited patterns. The new priest-in-charge will therefore find a group of creative and supportive colleagues in the Deanery chapter, all of whom will be deeply familiar with the joys and challenges that each other faces. He will therefore be expected to work with a spirit of generosity in sharing wisdom and insights about ministry within the Deanery of Inner Bradford and across the Episcopal Area.

+Toby Howarth
Area Bishop of Bradford
May 2025

From Bishop Stephen Race, Bishop of Beverley

I am delighted that the Bishop of Bradford is committed to the people and ministry of St Chad's and look forward to working alongside him, the Churchwardens and Parishioners as we seek God's guidance in the appointment of a new parish priest. St Chad's Toller Lane is a vibrant and outward looking Christian community that seeks to serve a diverse, 21st century, city population using all the gifts associated with their traditional Catholic inheritance of faith within the Church of England. I encourage any priest who feels called to serve in this parish to make contact with me, the Archdeacon of Bradford or the Churchwardens for a conversation.

+ Stephen Race
Bishop of Beverley

2.0 – About the Parish of Toller Lane St Chad

Context

The parish of Toller Lane is located approximately 1.5 miles north west of Bradford city centre along the main route to the Bradford Royal Infirmary on the B6144.

St Chad's lies within the Toller electoral ward, which includes parts of Manningham, Girdlington and Heaton. The area is fairly densely populated with a mixture of late 19th and early 20th century housing, of terrace and semi-detached houses, mostly private housing, although the house-for-let market is growing. There are a few small pockets of social housing, but no significant (former local Authority) housing estates or flats.

Fig 1 below shows a plan of the parish boundary.



Fig. 1

The top two thirds of the parish are predominantly residential, and represent a densely populated area, whereas the bottom one third is given over to more industrial and retail properties.

Fig 2 below shows a typical example of terraced housing in the parish.

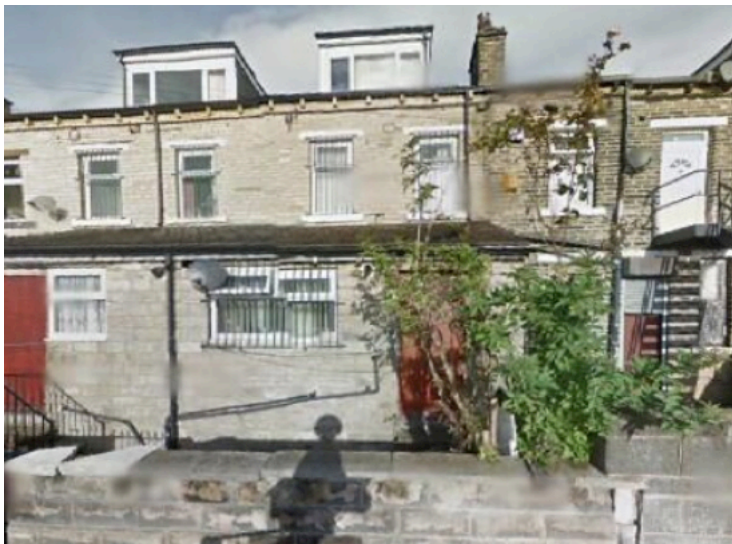


Fig. 2

There are several care homes within the parish serving elderly residents, notably Sherrington House and Lister Care Home, and the Alms Houses of the Tradesmen's Homes on Heaton Road, and the nearby Musgrave Homes on Ashwell Road. See Fig 3 below showing the Tradesmen's Homes.

The nearby Hanover Close complex provides sheltered housing for over 55s.



Fig. 3

Statistical Data

The 2021 census results show that 20,850 people live in Toller, and:

- 26.9% of the population is under 16;
- 75.3% of people living in Toller identified as Pakistani – the highest percentage in the District;
- 64.8% of the ward's population is aged between 16 and 64;
- 7.2% of the population of Toller is aged 65 to 84;
- 1.1% of Toller's population is aged 85 and over;
- 49.1% of households live in terraced housing;
- Toller has a population density of 9,288 people per square kilometre - the highest population density in the district;
- 80.5% of residents described their health as very good or good.

The studies into deprivation in the Bradford Metropolitan District show that Toller ward is ranked 5 of 30 wards in the District for the 2019 Index of Multiple Deprivation, where 1 is the most deprived (Manningham ward) and 30 is the least. Toller ward is in 6th place for income deprivation, 7th place for employment deprivation, and 7th place for education, skills and training.

The results also show that 14 of the District's wards are amongst the 10% most deprived wards in England.

Ethnicity data for Toller ward from the 2021 census shows that 10.6% class themselves as white, with the largest group being of Pakistani origin at 75.3%. Religion data for Toller ward from the 2021 census shows 8.9% class themselves as Christian, with the largest group being Muslim at 80.1%.

Fig 4 below shows a tabulated breakdown of Ethnicity and Religion data for the Toller ward from the 2021 census.

Ethnicity		Religion	
	Percentage		Percentage
White	10.6%	Christian	8.9%
Multiple/mixed ethnic groups	2.0%	Buddhist	0.1%
Indian	3.1%	Hindu	0.4%
Pakistani	75.3%	Jewish	0.0%
Bangladeshi	1.6%	Muslim	80.1%
Other Asian	2.8%	Sikh	0.8%
Black	1.5%	Other religion	0.2%
Other ethnic group	3.2%	No religion	4.2%
		Religion not stated	5.2%

Fig. 4

Current data from the Church Urban Fund shows the parish population to be 6,616, with an IMD score of 55.94, giving a ranking of 107. This means we are amongst the most deprived parishes in the country.

3.0 – About the Church of St Chad Toller Lane

Brief History

Originally started in a hired 'Upper Room' in Whetley Hill in 1904, the church grew and moved to premises at 54 Toller Lane, later moving again to an 'Iron' Chapel around 1910 which was located on the site of the present vicarage and parish hall (see Fig 5 in the section "Setting" below) just to the south of the main church building. Deeds for transfer of the land are dated 1909.

The Church Buildings

The present church, built between 1911 and 1913, and consecrated in October 1913, is in the form of a basilica in Byzantine Revival Style, the fabric being mainly local (Heaton) quarried stone. It has a bell turret at the west end, and two apses to the east, one above the High Altar, and the smaller to the Lady Altar. The church is Grade 2 listed (October 2010), and the centenary of the consecration of the church was celebrated in 2013.

Internally the most significant features are the mosaics which line the two apses of the two main altars and can clearly be seen in the two photographs shown on next page.

There is also some 12th and 13th century stained glass incorporated into the roundels in the Lady Chapel. Internally the church remains very much original, with the only significant changes being the modern lighting, sound system, a coffee area and a Binns Pipe Organ installed circa 1988, which replaced the original. A new heating system was installed just before Christmas 2023. The latest Quinquennial Report (2021) shows the church to be in good order, with no major concerns. A copy of the Quinquennial Report can be provided on request.



High Altar



Lady Chapel

Setting

The church setting occupies an elevated position, in a well-established urban area. The church grounds are predominantly given to shrubs and trees (most of which have preservation orders), with gardens to the west, north and south which are well kept. Integral with the church site is the vicarage and church hall; both built in 1990/91 (see Fig 5 below).

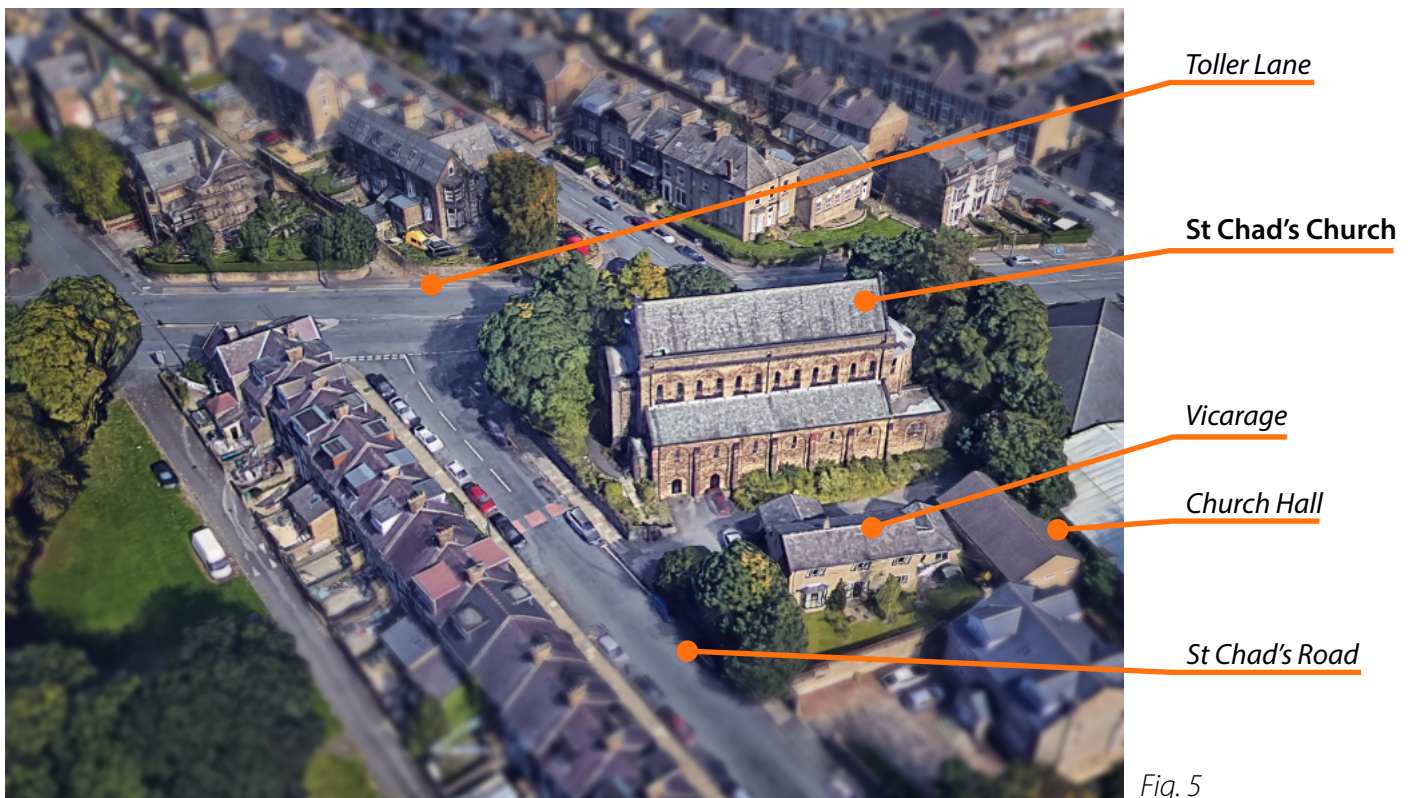


Fig. 5

Vicarage

The present vicarage is a relatively modern purpose-built house of good proportions, the property constructed in 1991, and set within the church grounds, as can be seen in Fig 5 above. The setting is south facing with an elevated view and is made of stone with a slate tiled roof, matching that of the adjacent church hall also built at the same time (see Fig 6 opposite).

The property itself is a two-storey dwelling, with four bedrooms, bathroom, and shower room upstairs. Downstairs is the sitting room, dining room, study, dining kitchen, utility and integral garage/storage area. Externally a small manageable garden exists mainly to the south and west, with shared access with the Church to the north and east. There exists room to park two cars, excluding the garage; access is off St Chad's Road.



Fig. 6

Parish Hall

This is a modern property, built circa 1990 in stone with slate tiled roof of single storey construction, being set within the church grounds to the south east immediately adjacent to the vicarage to the west (see Fig 6 above and Fig 7 opposite).

Access is shared with the vicarage from St Chad's Road, and there is parking for several cars. The hall has male/female toilets, one of which is a disabled facility, a meeting area, kitchen and main hall, and is licensed for 50 people.



Fig. 7

4.0 – The Church and its People

Electoral Roll

There are 38 registered on the Roll, 2 are resident in the Parish and 36 are non-resident.

Church Wardens:

Mrs E M Speight, Mrs C H Gardner

Treasurer and Gift Aid Secretary

Mrs C H Gardner

Deanery Synod Representatives:

Miss P Matthews, Mr E Walgrove (H&S Officer/GHMCC representative)

PCC Elected Members:

Mr T Clay (Web Master), Mrs C Czenkusz, Miss F-E Evans (PCC Secretary/Safeguarding Officer), Mr J Moss
Mr A Speight, Mrs B Pawson (Electoral Roll Officer/Sunday School)

The PCC routinely meets four times per year, with a Standing Committee meeting as and when required. There is also an Events Committee, which plans and organises the many social and fund-raising events.

Worship

The congregation at the Sunday Mass is averaging around 28, and 7 for mid-week. We have a fortnightly Sunday School, where the children join the Sunday Mass at the Offertory.

Fig 8 opposite shows the children lighting the Advent candles (2024).

Until the start of the interregnum in September 2023, we enjoyed a Mass four days per week, including a Saturday Vigil Mass, Solemn Sung Mass on Sunday mornings and Vespers with Benediction on Sunday evenings plus Mass on Holy Days.

Currently we have:

- Sunday 10 am Litany, 10.45am Solemn Sung Mass

- 6.30pm BCP Evening Prayer (lay-led)

- Wednesday 7.30pm Low Mass preceded by Rosary and BCP Evening Prayer (lay-led)

- CBS Exposition (monthly) replacing Evening Prayer one Wednesday per month

- Angelus (whenever possible)

- All major festivals are celebrated on the day



Fig. 8

5.0 – The Church and Community

Warm Spaces has become Warm Welcome Wednesday with free drinks, homemade scones and cake most Wednesday mornings from the end of October to the end of February. Fig 9 shows our welcome banner displayed outside church.

Our space is registered on the national map.



Fig. 9

Parish Larder

We stock and maintain a parish larder in church for those in need.

Coffee Area

A coffee area in Church along the south aisle is well used after Mass on Sundays, and we have over 200 hours per year of church open days. Although visitor numbers are few, we attract some favourable comments from those who do visit us.

Church Union

We have parish membership of Church Union, and are active in the relatively small Bradford Branch which meets typically three times per year for worship, convivial interaction and an AGM. As members we promote the evangelism and proclamation of the Gospel as well as supporting the distinctive ministry of the clergy. One of our laity is the Chair of the Bradford Branch, and St Chad's hosts some of the annual events. One particularly large annual celebration for which St Chad's is well known in Church Union/Anglo-Catholic circles is Solemn Vespers on the Eve of Corpus Christi, where a number of both priests and laity from other churches attend along with our own people, and which is followed by refreshments in the parish hall.

Prayer Book Society

The parish became a corporate member in January 2025.

Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament

St Chad's is home to the Ward of St Faith of the Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament. Presently, without a priest to lead us, the faithful still meet in prayerful contemplation monthly before the Blessed Sacrament. Our Walsingham Cell of St Chad and All Saints remains suspended after the departure of our parish priest.

The needs of the sick and the Year's Mind each form the special Intention of one Wednesday evening Mass each month.

Social Media and Website

St Chad's enjoys a thriving social media presence mainly on the X (formally Twitter) and Facebook platforms.

Additionally in late 2021 we embarked on an online engagement strategy through a new website.

Fig 10 opposite - Website Home Page.

Fig. 10

Over 2024 and year to date 2025, the website continues to see positive growth in its usage. We received 2,800 unique visitors in this time period. The Journal page makes up the lion's share with an average of sixty downloads each month. Google is expected to remain top, but increasingly we are seeing referrals from the See of Beverley.

Other

There are a steady number of lettings for the adjacent parish hall, mainly from the local Asian community, which value this facility for various social events. Indeed the congregation itself is very active in social events utilising both the church and parish hall to raise funds for the church, and for some outside charities also. (See a copy of our accounts for 2024 available online). There is also a small but growing local eastern European community who are making use of both religious and secular facilities available at St Chad's. Taekwondo classes began in 2025 and take place three times weekly in the hall.

Since the vacancy, the level of lay participation including at Mass has increased. We now have four regular members reading the Epistle at Mass on Sundays. We have access to one licensed Reader shared with this parish and Holy Trinity Bingley with St Wilfrid Gilstead. As can be seen in the photo opposite (Fig. 11), full vestments are used, along with incense and bells.



Fig. 11

We publish a very good quality monthly magazine – *S. Chad's Journal* (a copy of our current Journal is available online).

Our Home Mission is ACS, and overseas we are now partners in Mission through USPG with the Church in Southern Malawi.

Each year the children of the Sunday School support a charity (currently Martin House Children's Hospice and Safe Haven for Donkeys).

We regularly support Fairtrade initiatives.

Fig 12 below lists some of the efforts and events which are a regular feature of life at St Chad's, along with the income generated.

Efforts and Events	2021 Income	2022 Income	2023 Income	2024 Income
Coffee Mornings	2837	2722	2589	2562
eBay sales	2119	2126	2514	1658
Advent Fair	870	903	749	1014
May Fair	102	715	532	620
Christmas Cakes	236	360	400	400
Easy Fundraising				73
Photographic Competition	119	96	92	65
Plot Night Supper	5	17	20	49
	6288	6939	6896	6441

Fig. 12

Major Capital Project - Church Heating

In 2023 we completed a major project to replace the church heating from gas to infra-red radiant Halo heaters of a chandelier design, allowing the use of a sustainable energy source and efficient zoned heating within the church building. The total project cost was just under £90,000, which was raised from grants, personal donations and fundraising. The design of the heaters is reminiscent of the original chandelier lighting, as can be seen from the two photos below.



In summary, St Chad’s maintains a Christian witness in the inner city of Bradford, with several services a week, ministering to our parish, congregation and wider community, running a parish larder and welcoming visitors from near and far to special services, concerts and social events. (See our Photo Collage on the penultimate page, and a copy of our Annual Report for 2024 available online).

6.0 – Church Finance (see a copy of our accounts for 2024 – available online)

In 2024 the PCC had an income of £45,921 and expenditure of £39,329, with reserves of £19,797. An additional income of £24,804 and expenditure of £25,000 were designated to the heating fund (formerly referred to as the boiler fund). The parish share for 2024 was £20,941 and we paid £20,000 (96%). Average net personal weekly giving is around £16 with 97% eligible for gift aid.

Online giving to St Chad’s is available through the GiveALittle scheme, QR codes are displayed in church and published in the journal, website and social media. We also have a small but regular income from our easyfundraising account, where retailers make a charity donation when supporters shop online.

There are currently no major capital projects beyond the normal maintenance.

St Chad’s supports home and overseas mission and other causes totalling £1,826 in 2021, £1,673 in 2022, £1,804 in 2023 and £2,411 in 2024, these included: ACS, USPG and Martin House Children’s Hospice. We also collected in 2024 £287 for Christian Aid Week. For comparison, the other Churches Together in Girlington Heaton and Manningham raised the following in 2024:

Parish of Girlington, Heaton and Manningham	£29.50
Westgate Baptist	£76.90

The Parish Share

Fig 13 below shows a table of the level of share requested in the last four years and the % paid.

<i>Year</i>	<i>2021</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>2023</i>	<i>2024</i>
<i>Requested</i>	£24,424	£23,203	£22,043	£20,941
<i>Paid</i>	£18,000	£20,000	£20,000	£20,000
	74%	87%	91%	96%

Fig. 13

7.0 - Terms of 0.5 Stipend Appointment

The post is supported by a generous grant from the Additional Curates Society. As such, the appointment will be made under Common Tenure and Section 29 (1)(d) of the Ecclesiastical Offices (Terms of Service) Regulations 2009, and is subject to an enhanced DBS check. In the Diocese of Leeds this position will include the provision of the house (including water rates, Council tax and repairs). All expenses of office are paid by the parish.

There are six weeks holiday per annum plus Bank Holidays (or time in lieu). Participation in annual Ministerial Development Review and in-service training is required and an annual retreat is strongly encouraged.

8.0 - The New Priest

Overview

We require a Society priest, who is an energetic, forward-thinking, Anglo-Catholic priest who through his ministry will bring people to God. He will lead by example, maintaining a traditional Catholic ethos through his preaching, teaching and the practice of Christian morality.

We seek a parish priest who will communicate easily with parishioners and give good pastoral care.

We need a priest who will nurture the talents to be found within the congregation, so that together priest and

people may work for the continuing development of school and community links, seeking through mission and evangelism to grow Christian outreach to those in the parish who have little or no experience of God and of the Church.

The Priest we require:

- A priest who shares our theological position, firmly rooted in the Catholic tradition of the Church of England, who will celebrate the Holy Mysteries frequently, and offer times for Confession.
- A priest with energy and enthusiasm, who will happily work with schools and the various community associations and be a strong presence and influence within the parish.
- A priest who will work with people of all ages, including young families, and encourage children and young people to attend.
- A tolerant individual who is comfortable with the area's diverse and eclectic nature, who would be welcoming in his approach to ministry and enthusiastic about building bridges with the many differing communities.
- A strong leader who will work with the laity to encourage and develop their many skills and identify and develop individual strengths and spiritual gifts.
- A priest who will help us form and implement a vision for the future in both spiritual and practical ways.
- A priest who is confident in helping the parish move forward.
- A first-class communicator and listener and someone with a good sense of humour!

Informal enquiries to:

Archdeacon of Bradford:
The Ven. Dr Andy Jolley,
andy.jolley@leeds.anglican.org,
0113 353 0290 or 07973 458403

9.0 - Parish Representatives

For the vacancy process, the Parish Representatives are:

Mary Speight Tel 01274 638517
Email: speightelizabeth@gmail.com

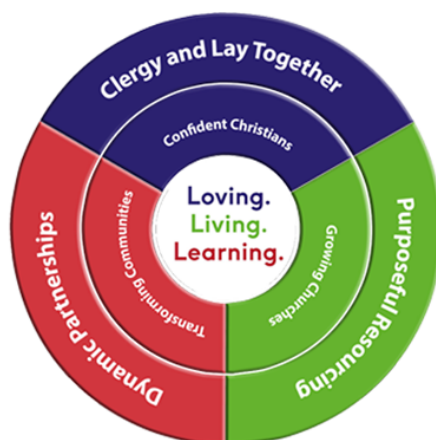
Christine Gardner Tel 01274 488742
Email: chris.gardner11@btinternet.com

Applications can be made via the Church of England Pathways system.

10.0 - The Diocese of Leeds

The Diocese of Leeds was formed at Easter 2014. It is one of the largest dioceses in the country covering an area of around 2425 square miles and a population of around 2642400 people. The diocese comprises five Episcopal areas, each served by a suffragan Bishop. Each Episcopal Area is coterminous with an Archdeaconry.

The Diocesan Vision is 'confident Christians, growing churches, transforming communities and so helping share the Good News of Jesus Christ across our Diocese'. This Vision is embedded into the Diocesan Strategy and Goals.



Our goals

- ① Thriving as a distinctive diocese whose culture is shaped by a shared vision and values
- ② Re-Imagining ministry
- ③ Nurturing lay discipleship
- ④ Building leadership pathways
- ⑤ Growing young people as Christians

The Diocese is a mix of urban and rural. The area includes the major cities of Bradford, Leeds and Wakefield; the large industrial and post-industrial towns of Halifax, Huddersfield and Dewsbury; the market towns of Harrogate, Skipton, Ripon, Richmond and Wetherby; and the deeply rural area of the Yorkshire Dales.

The Diocese is unique in having three cathedrals; Bradford, Ripon and Wakefield. The Deans of the Cathedrals work together to provide key diocesan services.

Photo Collage - Gallery from September 2023 – May 2025



In September 2023 we celebrated 110 year of S. Chad's with Solemn Mass and later a cream tea in the hall



At Harvest Thanksgiving we collect gifts for our parish larder



Our new heating was installed just before Christmass 2023



May Devotion 2025



Palm Sunday 2025



Holy Communion



Warm Welcome Wednesdays in the hall

