

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Diocese of Manchester

The Parish of Christ Church Denton

with St. George's Dane Bank

'Making the light and love of Christ known in this community'

Parish Profile



Welcome to the parish profile for **The Parish of Christ Church Denton with St George's Dane Bank.**

The parish is located in the town of Denton, which can be found in the east of Greater Manchester. The parish is part of the Diocese of Manchester.

The parish has many features and attractions, and our churches have loyal and passionate congregations. Yes, our parish has TWO churches. Christ Church with St George's.

There is an abundance of physical and spiritual activity in both our parish and surrounding areas.

Our mission statement:

'Making the light and love of Christ known in this community'

That is certainly what our parish endeavours to do.

The purpose of this parish profile is to attract the services of a new parish rector.

Please take a look at our profile and if you feel the Holy Spirit pulling you in our direction, please contact us. Contact details are at the back of this profile.

We hope you enjoy reading all about our parish and its people and what we have to offer.

We are looking for a rector who will:

- Lead us in prayer and spiritual growth, helping us deepen our discipleship
- Offer pastoral care and compassion, presence and wisdom
- Support our vision of being a welcoming, worshipping, relevant church reflecting God's love
- Work collaboratively with our PCC and congregation, values, shared leadership and lay ministry
- Help us reconnect with children, young people and families.
- Be open to developing fresh styles of worship while respecting our traditions
- We would like to continue the tradition of the whole parish to encourage and support the development of both Lay and Ordained Ministry
- Engage creatively with our wider community and help us to be more outward looking in mission
- Bring resilience, a sense of humour and a hopeful vision for what God can do among us
- Continue pastoral care of the community including developing links with the local nursing homes and visiting the sick and housebound
- Develop and strengthen links with local schools
- Work with the churches in the surrounding areas where possible

The applicant must be someone who is passionate about our existing way of life but also someone who will bring fresh ideas and challenges to the parish, someone who can help our parish grow and develop as the world grows and develops around us.

We would like to continue the tradition of the whole parish to encourage and support the development of both the lay and ordained ministry.

Our parish very much supports the ministry of women priests and we would welcome a man or woman as our next incumbent.

The gender of our rector is not what is most important to us but instead what we desire most from our next incumbent to be someone who has a passion for the Lord and a love for parish life.

As the current vacancy for the post of rector is a part time role. We would welcome joining with another local parish to increase the post to a full time role over two parishes and work together accepting possible differences and changes needed to make this happen.

Our Commitment to you:

We recognise that parish ministry brings both joy and challenge. What we are looking for is not a superhero but a pastor - someone who will lead us in prayer, walk with us in faith and love us and our communities with grace and care.

Ministry is a sacred calling and we want to help you lead from a wellspring of God's love - nurtured by rest, sustained by prayer, and supported by a team that walks alongside you. You will be supported by a committed team who genuinely want you to thrive. Together, we will work collaboratively, valuing your leadership and making space for your rest and renewal. We also hope to be a community where you find laughter and joy alongside the work of ministry.

About the Parish

Official population of the parish = circa 6,702

Christ Church and St George's comprises a single parish located in the town of Denton.

The parish is an ecclesiastical parish formed on 17th March 1846.

Christ Church is located in the centre of Denton and St George's is located in Dane Bank, which is one of several suburbs that form the town of Denton.

The Christ Church building is a traditional stone church. The St George's building consists of both a church (Chapel of Ease) and a community centre.

The facilities at both Christ Church and St George's are vital to the community and are used regularly by several groups.

Denton is served by Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council (www.tameside.gov.uk) which is a metropolitan borough of Greater Manchester.

Tameside is named after the River Tame which flows through the town.

Denton is located five miles to the east of Manchester city centre and has a population of approximately 36,591

There are good transport links to Manchester city centre and the local towns of Stockport, Hyde and Ashton-under-Lyne, by way of the A57 and A6017.

The parish is divided east to west by the M67 motorway and north to south by the M60 motorway. Access to both of these motorways can be found within the parish.

Denton offers a mix of housing types including terraced, semi-detached and some detached properties; there are both private and housing associations. However, some residents in Denton experience overcrowded and inadequate living conditions. Denton has a diverse population with some areas of deprivation.

Dane Bank has a rising population with the majority of houses and bungalows being semi-detached.

The town of Denton has a lot to offer. Parks and nature, shopping, entertainment, sports and leisure, health and municipal services

Parks and Nature

- Victoria Park
- Audenshaw Reservoir
- Debdale Park
- The Tame Valley Nature Reserve
- Haughton Dale Nature Reserve
- Trans Pennine Trail
- Granada Park
- Dane Bank Green Space

Shopping and Entertainment

- Crown Point North Shopping Centre (www.crownpointshoppingpark.co.uk)
- Restaurants Bars and Pubs
- Four major Supermarkets
- Stockport, Hyde and Ashton-under-Lyne are close to Denton and offer a good selection of local shops and markets.

Sports and Leisure

- Denton Golf Club (www.dentongolfclub.com)
- Tameside Wellness Centre
- Three semi-professional cricket clubs

Health and Municipal Services

- Three Medical Centres
- Post Office
- Town Hall/Library
- MP Council Offices

Town History

Denton is famous for the Hatting Industry. Felt hatting was recorded in Denton as early as 1702 and Denton gained supremacy in the hatting industry towards the end of the 19th century.

The well-known saying “If you want to get ahead, get a hat” arose in Denton and, needless to say, anyone attending for a job interview not wearing a hat was quickly shown the door. Similarly, until the early 20th century, anyone entering a Denton shop without a hat would receive much cursing. There is no longer a compulsory requirement to wear a hat in Denton but if donning a trilby is your thing you’re right at home!

Denton is situated on the Lancashire coalfield and once had a number of collieries in operation. Much of the coal produced was consumed by local industry and there is an abundance of steam powered mills in the area. The largest of these mines, Denton Colliery was filled and capped in 1974. There are no longer any functioning mines in the town.

After hatting, the most important industry in Denton was the manufacture of lead-acid batteries by Oldham Batteries (Oldham and Sons Ltd). In 1865, Joseph Oldham established a millwright general engineering shop and by 1887 this company was manufacturing machinery for the hatting industry. Oldham Batteries became a major Denton employer with over 1000 employees, but by the beginning of 2002 the decision to close the factory had been made. The factory which used to be off Lime Grove, Denton is no longer there. It has been demolished and has been redeveloped into a mixed-use residential and leisure scheme. This includes 163 new homes and Tameside Wellness Centre.

Denton is a busy and popular location for workers, shoppers and entertainment seekers alike. Several industrial estates play host to a spectrum of small and medium businesses.

An eclectic mix of restaurants, pubs and the Tameside Wellness Centre provide relaxation and refreshment, and Crown Point North shopping Centre offers everything a shopaholic could wish for.

Schools and Colleges in the Denton and Dane Bank area

Denton Primary Schools

- Corrie Primary School
- Dane Bank Primary School
- Denton West End Primary School
- Greswell Primary School
- Linden Road Primary School
- Manor Green Primary School

- Russell Scott Primary School
- St Anne's Primary School
- St John Fisher RC Primary School
- St Mary's RC Primary School
- Denton Central Primary School closed in 2005 and became the Denton Centre, which is now used as council offices and undergoing redevelopment for a special educational needs school

Denton Secondary Schools

- Denton Community Academy
- St Thomas More RC College

We have a really large selection of multi faith schools and would welcome further connections with any of them.

At present St George's have very successful visits from **Dane Bank Primary School** and **Denton West End Primary School**.

Christ Church used to have a visit from Russell Scott Primary School but this stopped during COVID.

[About our Churches](#)

Christ Church and St George's church are both wonderful places to worship our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

We welcome worshippers from all backgrounds, both young and old and those new to faith and those whose faith is well seasoned.

We continually try to ensure both our buildings are fully accessible to all. St George's has recently been successful in bidding for a 'Changing Place' grant and has just had a fully accessible bathroom installed.

We continually give thanks to God for establishing our parish and keeping it strong.

As part of putting this Parish Profile together we asked our congregations 2 questions:

1. Why do you choose to worship in our parish
2. What it means to you to be part our Church family

Here are a few of the responses we received:

Why do you choose to worship in our parish?

'to hear a human voice, to see a smiling face, to hear a kind word'

'I enjoy the diverse services – they're not dull or boring. So many people are willing to share readings, intercessions etc. lots of help with activities – we have fun, fellowship and spiritual guidance'

'There is a real sense of community'

'Friendly and inclusive. Christ centred'

What it means to you to be part of our church Family:

'our church family look after each other and understand each other's needs. Through the darkness of time, they were there for me'

'A safe place to be. Loving and caring – a second family. No cliques, lots going on'

'feels like home from home'

'Church is increasingly becoming a big part of my life. I have been encouraged and guided by the church family to further my understanding of what it means to be a Christian'

Sunday Services

Both Christ Church and St George's hold regular Sunday Services

The services are performed using liturgy from the Book of Common Worship and the liturgical colours are used on the altar in accordance with the Common Worship lectionary

Holy Communion service is held either at Christ Church or St George's every Sunday whilst a Lay led service is held at the other church ensuring every Sunday there is a Lay worship team service and a Communion Service at either end of the parish.

The Sunday morning service at St George's begins at 9.30am and 11am at Christ Church.

Weekday Services and Drop-in

Christ Church offers a drop-in service, starting at 9am for morning prayer followed by a 'Drop-in' at 10am to 12pm every Wednesday morning with refreshments.

St Georges offers an informal act of worship at 12.30pm during 'Community Cafe' every Friday at 11.30am to 1pm with refreshments.

Home Communion

Our parish provides a home Communion service but needs to be further developed by our new incumbent.

Christ Church provides a home Communion service once a month at Thorncliffe Grange Nursing Home, which is next door to church. The service is carried out by a lay minister and our PTO Minister (Permission to Officiate) and the service is available to other locations upon request.

Church Tradition

The church tradition at Christ Church is considered to be central, with the clergy wearing cassock, Alb, stole and chasuble.

The church tradition at St George's church is considered to be more evangelical with clergy dress being more flexible.

Both churches are flexible with the Worship Team taking some services.

The books and reading material used for worship are as follows:

- Holy Communion Order One using set readings
- Mission Praise
- Songs of Fellowship
- iSing Worship Flexible backing tracks with lyric projection (recently installed at St George's)
- A variety of service sheets depending on time of year are being continually reviewed.

At present we have in our Worship Team:

- One Lay Reader
- Two Authorised Lay Ministers
- Two Foundations for Ministry graduates
- One Permission to Officiate Minister
- One Retired Minister

Special Services

Midnight Christmas Eve Service

We have a joint Christmas Eve Service at Christ Church, where the members of both congregations and a large number of the local community come together to welcome the arrival of our special Christian day.

Christingle Services

Two services are held, one at each Church, in support of The Children's Society. This family service is very popular with not just our usual congregation but also the local community. We have in the past been joined by a large *Christingle*, followed by mince pies and hot drinks.

Christmas tree Service

A service with all uniformed organisations and church groups decorating a Christmas tree with readings, carols and songs at Christ Church.

Easter Sunday

We have a joint Sunrise Service on the top of Werneth Low followed by a full English breakfast back at Christ Church. Again, the local community is invited to join us. This is before the regular Easter day services.

Remembrance Service

Names of all parish servicemen who have died in both World Wars and Afghanistan, including Lance Corporal Andrew Breeze. This is a joint service held at Christ Church.

All Souls Service

We remember the lives of loved ones who have passed and invite families who have arranged funerals at either Christ Church or St. George's during the past year. This is a joint service held at Christ Church.

Mothers' Union Service

Led by members of the Mothers' Union

Easter Taize

Taize music. This is a joint service held either at Christ Church or St George's

Maundy Thursday

A very moving evening service of bible passages, symbolic washing of feet and stripping of the altar. This is a joint service held at Christ Church.

Good Friday Passion

A quiet service of prayer and contemplation. This is a joint service held at St George's Church.

Also Lent Bible study and other Bible studies throughout the year.

Other services

Two farewell services were held for God's faithful servant **Rev Miles Howarth** both were followed by food with a special request for Pie and Gravy at Christ Church. During his 11 years of service with us he has brought the two congregations closer together to work as one and encouraged and mentored many to go further in their ministry. We pray Rev Miles that he has a long happy and healthy retirement.

About our Congregation

The congregations at both Christ Church and St George's Church cover a healthy blend of people from various ages and ethnic backgrounds, nationalities and abilities. Both churches

have loyal and dedicated congregations who help out when needed and attend our many events and functions.

There is always fellowship after Sunday services at both churches with some members baking delicious cakes.

The congregations at both churches support each other in both prayer and in physical activity. Attending each other's functions and sharing worship services together at various times throughout the year.

A policy on Child Protection was introduced into the Parish on 26th January 1998. As members of this Parish, we have committed ourselves to the nurturing, protection and safekeeping of all, especially children, young people and vulnerable adults.

We have a Safeguarding officer at each church and all PCC members undertake Safeguarding training.

The average number of people attending our Sunday services at each church is as follows:

Christ Church 40-45

St. George's Church 24 + 6 children

The number of people on the electoral roll at each church is as follows:

Clergy 2

Churchwarden 2

Christ Church 39

St. George's Church 23

Total 66

Resident 24

Non Resident 42

PCC 16

The Church and the Community

Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals

Weddings, Baptisms and Funerals, Marriage Blessings and Burial of Ashes are all services that are cherished and lovingly supported by our parish Churches.

To provide an illustration of just how enthusiastic we are about these services, here are the figures for services in the year 2024:

Weddings at Christ Church 2

Weddings at St Georges 0

Marriage Blessings at Christ Church	2	
Marriage Blessings at St Georges	0	
Funerals at Christ Church	37	(26 church 11 at Crematorium)
Funerals at St Georges	5	
Burial of Ashes at Christ Church	5	
Burial of Ashes at St Georges	0	
Baptisms at Christ Church	4	
Baptisms at St Georges	3	

Community Groups

There are good links with the community through the following groups:

- The Mothers' Union
- St George's Sunday Starlight's (Junior church meet on the 3rd Sunday of the month)
- Church Lads and Church Girls Brigade at Christ Church
- Rainbows
- Brownies
- Guides
- Mums and Tots at Christ Church
- Starlight's Playgroup at St George's
- Cubs
- Scouts
- St Mary's Food Bank regularly with both food and money donations.

Two new community groups have been set up in 2025 with the help of a grant from Manchester Diocese. '**Messy Church**' at Christ Church and the '**Community Cafe**' at St Georges both are proving very popular.

Welcoming Fellowship and Outreach

Both Churches run a number of fundraising events during the year:

- Afternoon Teas at both churches
- Spring, Summer and Christmas Fairs
- Quiz nights with a supper at Christ Church with our famous potato pie supper.
- Concerts with Brass Bands, Music groups and Choirs at Christ Church
- Sponsored Walks
- Coffee mornings and cake sales

We take advantage of every chance to enjoy fellowship. Our annual 'spring cleans' are no exception, where we clean and tidy our churches and their grounds. The bacon butties that are provided are greatly appreciated.

Regular community events:

- Drop-in every Wednesday morning, a warm hub space at Christ Church for refreshments and conversation.
- Souper Saturday the first Saturday of the month at Christ Church
- Lace making, 'Rock Choir' and Women's Fellowship are held in St Georges Church
- Community Cafe every Friday at St George's
- Annual Easter Egg Hunt and Family Day at St George's

Links to Community Health:

Christ Church has hosted a number of events for the local medical centre 'Millgate Healthcare Partnership' located next to church and the local health authority:

- Covid inoculations
- Local Community Health Checks
- Social Prescribing

The Mothers' Union

The Mothers' Union has a strong presence in the parish and is very inclusive, having both male and female members.

The Mothers' Union is especially concerned with all that strengthens marriage and Christian family life. During the year they support the homeless at Christmas with gift packages of knitted clothes and toiletries. A local Women's Refuge is supported by supplying them with toiletry packages, bedding and towels.

They help reduce poverty with sustainable projects, organise literacy projects around the world, and run marriage and parenting courses. We have members from Christ Church and St George's, including indoor members. Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month in Christ Church hall at 7.30pm.

Junior Church

We have a Junior Church located at both Christ Church and St George's called 'Starlight's'. The aim is to extend the Kingdom of Christ to all children with fun, fellowship and love.

St George's has a 'Starlight's service on the third Sunday of each month. The service is all inclusive. Children join the service at the start of the service and leave the service for activities which explain Bible stories in an easy to understand way. Children then rejoin the service to take Holy Communion or receive a blessing. The average number attending is 10-20. Christ Church has a small group every Sunday in the hall. The average number attending is 3.

Church Lads and Church Girls Brigade

Our Parish supports one Brigade group. Church Lads and Church Girls Brigade group meet on Thursday evening at Christ Church 6.30pm until 7.30pm.

Rainbows

Our Parish supports three Rainbow groups; one at Christ Church and two groups at St George's. Christ Church Rainbows meet every Tuesday evening at Christ Church 6pm until 7.30pm. St George's Rainbows meet every Wednesday evening at the Parish Centre from 5.30pm.

Brownies

Our Parish supports four Brownie groups, two groups at Christ Church and two groups at St George's. Christ Church Brownies meet Tuesday evening at Greswell School Community Room, Denton 7pm until 8.15pm and also at Christ Church on Monday evenings 6pm until 7.30pm. St George's Brownies meet every Wednesday evening in the Parish Centre at 6.30pm.

Guides

Our Parish supports two Guide units at Christ Church plus one Guide unit at St George's. Christ Church Guides meet every Wednesday evening at Greswell School Community Room Denton at 7.30pm until 9pm. St George's Guides meet every Wednesday 7pm until 8.30pm.

Activities Taking Place within the Church Buildings

Throughout Lent we offer a lunch of soup and sandwiches each Sunday after service at Christ Church and all donations are given to Christian Aid.

Both Christ Church and St George's hold respective Christmas Parish Lunches in December. Christ Church prepares and serves a four course Christmas meal to the local community and the entire congregation are invited together with any visiting and local clergy, organisation leaders and members of the Local Council. It is a warm and welcoming day of fellowship.

St George's hosts a lunch organised by local Councillors and is open to all residents of Dane Bank. St George's Community Cafe holds a Christmas Lunch which is open to the local community.

Other Churches and Denominations in the Area

There are several Anglican churches that are local to the parish:

- St Hilda's
- St Anne Haughton
- St Lawrence's
- St Agnes North Reddish
- St Stephen's Audenshaw

There are several churches that are local to the parish that support other Christian denominations:

- Carmel Pentecostal Church
- Trinity Baptist
- Hope United Reformed Church
- Denton Methodist Church
- St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church
- Jesus Christ Church of Latter-Day Saints
- Wilton Street Unitarian Chapel
- The Rock Church Denton (Denton Labour club) newly set up but not C of E

Our parish has a good relationship with all churches within the area.

Special Relationships with Local Organisations and Institutions

Christ Church has a close relationship with Thorncliffe Nursing Home which is next door to the church. A PTO Minister (Permission to officiate) who attends our church and a Lay person from our congregation once a month on Tuesday morning at 11am provide a short service with songs and communion.

Every Christmas a small group sings Christmas Carols in the home. Both are really greatly appreciated.

St George's has links with Dane Bank Primary School and Denton West End Primary School. Separate annual visits are arranged bringing children into the Church showing them round and talking about what happens in church e.g. baptisms, Holy Communion etc. This is then followed by craft activities and team building games.

The Churches and their Buildings

Christ Church

Year established: 1853
Church seating capacity: 180

Beautiful and historic Christ Church is perhaps the most striking and recognisable structure in Denton, occupying a prominent position on the main Manchester Road and visible from many directions. Now lit at night, it is truly beautiful, and its interior is simple and clean but very traditional. Christ Church is a home to come home to, and you can feel the presence of God and his people. It is a hugely popular venue for baptisms, marriages and funerals.

The church was built in 1853. It was designed by George Gilbert Scott of London and is built of Kerridge rock and Yorkshire stone in the early Gothic style. The church consists of a chancel, a nave of five bays, aisles, north porch and a western tower with a spire containing a clock and one bell. The church was closed in 1999 for repairs and restoration and reopened in 2004.

The following amenities are supported by Christ Church:

- Church Hall available for various uses.
- Long Gallery that can be used for various activities
- A New sound system with loop system installed in 2024
- Modern LED lighting installed 2025
- A new central heating boiler installed 2023
- Kitchen Facilities
- Disabled toilet facilities with baby changing stations
- Fully functional 1 and 2 manual organ
- Public Clock (in church spire)
- Memorial Garden
- Graveyard (closed to new burials)
- Rectory (currently not available)

Christ Church caters for disabled people and is equipped with a range of features including wheelchair access throughout the church, disabled toilet facilities and an audio induction loop system for those people that are hard of hearing.

The church and its grounds are in exceptional condition. The grass and hedges are kept in good condition by Tameside Council who also inspect the monuments for safety.

Stained Glass Windows

There are many beautiful and interesting stained-glass windows, some of which depict the main events in the life of Christ, and which are part of the history of Denton. There are ten stained glass windows, including the east window, placed in 1866 in memory of Edward son of John Bradbury

Church Gardens and Graveyard

Our graveyard is now closed to new burials. Interred in the graveyard are the members of several of Denton's hatting families.

Six war casualties have been identified who are buried in the churchyard, four from the Great War and two from the Second World War. A special memorial for these casualties has been provided by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission and resides in the front yard of the church.

Our memorial garden is open for new memorials. Memorial wall plaques are available to be fixed to the top of the stone memorial wall in the garden of remembrance. The memorial wall contains numerous flower containers which may be used to place fresh flowers.

The Lych-gate frames the main entrance to the church grounds and welcomes all visitors to the church.

There are our underground vaults. Not much is known about these vaults, which are off limits to both the general public and our congregation.

The Rectory

The Rectory is not available at this present time.

St George's Church and Community Centre

Year established	1954
Church seating capacity	100

St. George's comprises both church (Chapel of Ease) and community centre. These elements are combined into a single building. The following amenities are supported by St George's:

- Fully functional church with an updated ISing Worship System
- Two Function rooms available for various uses.
- Fully licensed bar
- Community Hall (Foyer)
- Kitchen facilities which have been recently upgraded.
- "Changing Places" recently installed accessible bathroom and disabled facilities

The centre is run voluntarily by the Centre Manager who is the licensee of the bar and a team of dedicated volunteers.

The church, community centre and its grounds are in good condition and have recently had a new roof for the church; repairs to the car park with the addition of disabled parking and the toilets have been modified as well as the installation of a new changing places fully accessible bathroom. We have also just installed a new hearing loop system in church.

St George's church and community centre and its grounds are cared for by The Centre Management Team.

The Function Room is spacious and provides ample room for a wide variety of activities i.e. Weddings, baptism and birthday parties etc. The fully licensed bar is integral to the function room and regular bar staff are employed to serve and manage the bar.

The Community Hall (Foyer) The Foyer provides seating and tables for general purposes and is used for after-service fellowship each Sunday morning.

The kitchen facilities and the toilets are integral to the Foyer.

The Foyer, kitchen and toilets have all recently been upgraded, updated and decorated.

What's on at St George's.

Day	AM	PM	PM
Monday	Slimming World 11.30am, 5.30pm, 7.30pm	Jujitsu from 6.30pm	6pm Yoga/Pilates
Tuesday	Moving Mums (mum & baby fitness) 11.45am	Zumba Aftab 6pm	Boogie Bounce 7pm TDW Dance school 5.45pm
Wednesday	Seated Fitness 10.30am	Girl guides 5.45pm	
Thursday	Women's Fellowship 4 th Thursday	Jujitsu from 6.30pm	Boogie Bounce 7pm
Friday	Starlight's 9.30am Community Cafe 11.30	Moving Mums 12pm	Scouts 5.30pm
Saturday	TDW Dance school 9am (2 nd Saturday of month Lace makers 9.30am	PM Party hire and functions with bar available	2 nd & 4 th Saturday of the month Sequence Dancing 7.30pm
Sunday	Church services from 9.30am 2 nd Sunday Family Services 3 rd Sunday Starlight Sunday Club	Boogie Bounce 11.30am	Party hire from 2pm till 5pm (Last Sunday of month Sound bath)

About the Wider Context

Our Mission Statement:

'Making the light and love of Christ known in this community'

During the Interregnum

During the Interregnum it has been 'business as usual' in our parish. We enjoy the support of one PTO (Priest with permission to officiate) who performs worship services and occasional offices such as weddings, baptisms and funerals, at both Christ Church and St George's. We also have a retired priest who attends our church who has helped us in the past but at present is recovering from illness.

In addition, we have really enjoyed the help of retired priests in the Deanery, for worship and services.

We also have an excellent Lay Reader who has continued to lead us in worship every week and perform occasional offices such as funerals and burial of ashes.

We are fortunate that we also have a Worship Team who lead us in Lay Led worship services.

- One Lay Reader
- Two Authorised Lay Ministers
- Two Foundations for Ministry graduates

Support for the New Incumbent

Our two churches are not in short supply when it comes to volunteers for providing support both on a regular and irregular basis.

Each church has a dedicated team of volunteers, made of church laity. Each team covers a variety of different pre-defined roles:

- Two Parish Church Wardens
- One Deputy Warden at St George's
- One Parish Secretary
- Two Treasurers
- Two Safeguarding Officers
- One Sacristan
- Sides Persons
- Readers and Intercessors
- Vergers for weddings, baptisms and funerals
- Eucharist assistants
- Cleaners Voluntary at Christ Church Paid at St George's
- Organist at Christ Church

- Centre Manager
- Centre volunteers

In order to manage the vast number of requests that our parish churches receive for weddings, baptisms and funerals a committed team has volunteered to organise the bookings of these services and produce all the paperwork involved.

The Parochial Church Council

Up until 2010, two District Church Councils (DCC) one for each church and one Parochial Church Council (PCC) were established. During 2010, these councils merged into one single Parochial Church Council, which serves both Christ Church and St. George's church.

Members of the PCC are ex-officio or elected by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in accordance with the Church Representation Rules.

The council comprises 12 members plus clergy. Consisting of 3 members from each Church including:

- Church Wardens (2)
- Deputy Church Warden at St George's
- Vice chair (1)
- Treasurers (2)
- Secretary (1)
- Deanery Synod Representatives (1)
- Clergy are ex officio members (1)
- Lay Reader ex officio member (1)

There are currently 4 sub-committees of the PCC or Church Councils.

- Management Committee for St George's Centre.
Lettings, events and fund raising
- Worship Committee Lay Reader, ALM's, FFM's lay team
Organise services, festivals
- Contingency Committee formed by Rev Miles Howarth
To delegate key parish jobs for interregnum
- Social Committee for Christ Church
To organise events and fund raising activities

The Parochial Church Council is a legally responsible body for the parish in all aspects of its life and work.

It is an exempted charity and does not have a charity number according to Section 3(5) of the Charities Act 1993 and the exemption of Religious Charities. As such Council Members are Trustees of the PCC, which is a corporate body.

The PCC meets six times during the year, on average every 6 weeks. 1 Finance meeting with the accountant is convened prior to the APCM. APCM is the main meeting of the year to receive the annual reports, finances and elections to PCC and officers.

Our Financial Situation

The parish's financial situation is good and in 2024 we fulfilled our Parish Share obligations in full.

Whilst not giving a proportion of its main income to Mission or Charity, the parish has made donations to The Children's Society, Christian Aid and St Mary's Food Bank (both monetary and food donations)

In general, the Parish continues to face a tight budget of income over expenditure.

Our parish income is made up from the following contribution sources:

- Contributions during worship (from envelope system, cash, Sum-Up machine and Standing Orders.
- Cost of wedding services.
- Contributions during baptisms and funerals
- Spring, Summer and Christmas Fairs.
- Miscellaneous and anonymous donations
- Miscellaneous fund raising

We offer our congregation members the opportunity to be part of a Gift Aid service, which allows us to claim back 25% of all donations from HM Revenue and Customs.

Below is a summary of our church finances for the year 2024

Account Description	Final Balance
Christ Church PCC	£13,918.42
Christ Church Fabric	£8,627.57
St George's Church PCC	£3,443.89
St George's Bar Account	£270.04
St George's Centre	£9,688.84
St George's Business Reserve	£1,635.42
Christ Church Denton & St George's Dane Bank	£4,461.78
CCLA Account Christ Church Rector & Wardens Fabric Fund	£64,904.27
CCLA Account Christ Church Rector & Wardens Account – Investment No 3 Account	£4,616.54
CCLA Account Christ Church Rector and Wardens – Investment Fabric & Churchyard No 4 Account	£4,319.40
CCLA Account Christ Church Rector and Wardens No 1 Account	£7.80
CCLA Account Dane Bank St Georges PCC – General Account	£66.29
CCLA Account St Georges PCC Fabric Account	£654.93

What to do Next

Are you interested in this post?

If so, then further details on this post can be requested from the office of the Diocese using the following contact details:

Diocese of Manchester
St John's House
155-163 The Rock
Bury
BL9 0ND

Tel.: 0161 828 1400

Diocesan Information

Diocese:	Manchester
Serving Bishop	Mark Davies (Bishop of Middleton)
Archdeaconry:	Rochdale
Serving Archdeacon:	Karen Smeeton
Deanery:	Ashton-under-Lyne
Area Dean:	Daniel Ramble
Mission Community Leader	Amy Elizabeth Sheridan
Patron:	The Bishop of Manchester