

# Keynsham Team Ministry Parish Profile



Four churches,  
one parish  
**Sharing Jesus**

# WELCOME

Welcome, and thank you for considering this exciting opportunity to lead Keynsham Ministry Team

We have prepared this Parish Profile to introduce us to you by describing who we are, those things that are important to us, and our many activities and our vision for the future. We hope you will see from this:

- the sort of Team Rector we are looking for.
- how that person can help keep Jesus central to our life and witness.
- how that person can make a difference to us and to Keynsham.



Situated between Bristol and Bath in beautiful countryside, Keynsham is a great place to live. Originally a traditional Somerset market town, Keynsham is changing rapidly, both in size and demography. Because of this dramatic change, we see Keynsham as a mission field.

The rapid expansion of the town presents a great opportunity for you to be at the forefront of change and growth, and to exercise your ministry in a very diverse, creative and vibrant parish.

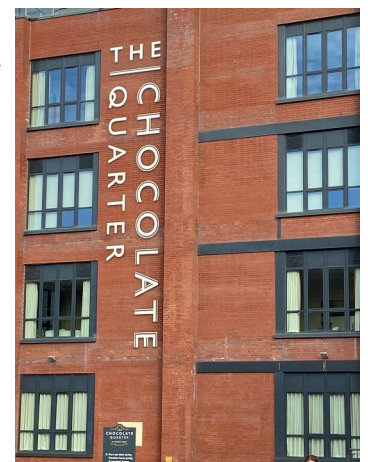
There is an abundance of opportunities, including to:

- expand the work of God and reach both those new to Keynsham and those who have lived here for a long time.
- use the many gifts of those within the congregations to make a difference to those around us and see God's Kingdom grow.
- build on a strong legacy of close community ties with the churches.

Opportunities are also challenges, and we recognise the need for a unified, renewed vision and strategy for the parish. We need someone whose strategic leadership skills will inspire us and bring us together to meet that common vision .

We've a lot to tell you about us. To keep this focused, we've broken this down under four headings:

- [Why Keynsham?](#)
- [Worship and our life together.](#)
- [Outreach, mission and our role in the community.](#)
- [Our shared resources – the facts and figures.](#)



Let's begin with who we are looking for to be our new Team Rector, our strengths and challenges and the future priorities we see for the parish .

# WELCOME

## Our New Team Rector

We want someone who is excited by the opportunities there are for ministry in Keynsham, who will build on our strengths, but not shy from facing our challenges and who will embrace and develop our priorities.

Specifically, we are looking for someone who will:

- work with us strategically to renew our vision, as we seek afresh God's plan for our future through being open to the Holy Spirit .
- share our desire for growth, especially ministering to those new to the town and new to the faith, which is where we believe God is calling us.
- support us in proclaiming the good news of Jesus within the community, but especially to children and young people as we seek to nurture the next generation of Christian witness, which is where we are already seeing growth.
- lead us in outreach, building on our current links with other Christian churches and the community.
- be able to recognise and value people's gifts and talents and to inspire and empower them to use these in the service of God.

## Our Strengths and Challenges

### A diverse parish

Keynsham is a large parish with four different churches, the role of the Team Rector is one which involves holding the overall strategy to include these churches and their congregations. Our parish has diverse contexts, traditions and even theologies including in relation to prayers of love and faith. However, to build on this, we recognise that we need a common, renewed vision and strategy for the parish. We need someone with strategic leadership skills to direct and unify us as we discern God's calling on us as a parish.

We have engaged with LLF and our congregations reflect a range of theological positions and lived experiences on these issues. Bishop Michael has encouraged individual clergy, in discussion with their PCC, to decide whether to opt-in to the use of the prayers of love and faith. We will make that decision once the new Team Rector has been appointed, so that we can discern the way ahead together.

### Community engagement

With our church schools and other links with the community and our civic role in the town, we have great opportunities for outreach. Our churches put on events that draw people in, and many in our congregations are actively involved as individuals in the life of our community. This engagement with the community has always been a strong focus. Our challenge is to ensure that this work continues and thrives. We need someone who can support us in this, building on the high profile the Team Rector has within the community.

# WELCOME

## Pioneer ministry

Our Pioneer Minister's work in connecting with those outside of church and in relationship building blends well with the parish's existing outreach and mission activities. It is, though, a time limited project. Our challenge is to build on this legacy of signposting people into the kingdom. We need someone who sees the benefit of this type of ministry and can think creatively how this work can be continued in the current parish setting

## Staffing and volunteers

We are blessed with many volunteers who freely give of their time and skills to support our development across our four churches including the maintenance and care of our buildings. Building on this resource, especially in children's/youth work, fellowship and community activities, needs sympathetic vision and guidance.

Our challenge is to maintain this commitment and bring on new people to take on these roles and expand our ministry. We need someone with the ability to draw out people's gifts and inspire and empower them to serve God in new ways.

## Our Priorities

### **A renewed parish-wide vision that strengthens our mission**

We recognise the need to be open to where the Holy Spirit is leading us and to embrace change where this is needed. Our priority is to develop a clear vision and strategy, to serve as a focus and provide common goals, as each church seeks ways to use their different opportunities to engage with people.

### **Growth through outreach and evangelism**

We recognise responding to people's spiritual need for a personal faith in God, both those new to Keynsham and those who've lived here for a long time is a key priority. We believe God is leading us to reach out to others, especially to work with children and families, which is where we have seen recent growth.

### **Cohesion and building relationships across the churches**

Fostering a sense of community among the churches in the parish will ensure we work together to realise our goals. We recognise the importance of unity and believe God has been prompting us to become closer as a church family and overcome the barriers that prevent this.

### **Building on our strong links with the community**

Our priority is to utilise the mission opportunities these links bring, to reach out to people, with care and compassion, and show them the love of God. We believe that God has been calling us as churches and individuals to engage more with our community and to express our faith through action.

# WHY KEYNSHAM?

Keynsham is a popular place to live. With the rapid growth in new housing, the population of 15,000 in 2015 is soon set to reach 22,000.

Only 10 minutes away by train from two very vibrant cities, Bristol and Bath, yet Keynsham is proudly independent. Its busy high street includes a range of popular cafes, pubs and restaurants. Sainsbury's, Waitrose and Tesco are all present, along with a number of independents, and there's a monthly Farmers' Market.



The town has a thriving music and arts scene. Outdoor spaces include an expansive park and riverside walks along the Avon and Chew. The Bath to Bristol cycle path also skirts the town. Close by, there's even a wildlife and adventure park ([Avon Valley Adventure & Wildlife Park](#)) and a steam railway ([Avon Valley Railway](#) - Heritage railway based at Bitton station in South Gloucestershire).



Keynsham has good schools. Along with the town's two secondary schools, Wellsway (including the IKB Academy) and Broadlands, there are six primary schools. As the town has expanded, two new primary schools have been built, one of which, Two Rivers, is a new church school. This is in addition to St John's, the existing church school.

The social mix is predominately white, working and middle class. But the demography is changing with the town's expansion, which is drawing in young people, families and those downsizing for retirement.



# WHY KEYNSHAM?

There are many facets to Keynsham, including:

- Sustainable Keynsham – environmental initiatives embraced and supported by the town, including the [Community Fridge](#) and regular Eco events and festivals.
- Community Keynsham – the wide range of thriving community groups; for instance, the scout unit is one of the largest in the country.
- Cultural Keynsham – the music and arts scene in the town, and particularly the annual music festival ([Keynsham music festival - YouTube](#)). Winter festival and local radio station [KTCRfm](#).
- Historic Keynsham – the town's religious, cultural and industrial heritage, including its former Cadbury's factory, now the Somerdale housing estate and the Chocolate Quarter retirement complex.
- Active Keynsham – the sports venues, rugby and cricket clubs and leisure facilities available in the area.



# WORSHIP AND OUR LIFE TOGETHER

## Who we are

Four churches, one parish. We are Keynsham Team Ministry.



St John's



St Michael's



St Margaret's



St Francis

Keynsham  
Team  
Ministry

[Click Here for Detailed Map](#)

All the churches in the Keynsham team ministry constitute different expressions of the family of God and each has a unique identity. Each one is seeking to engage with its local community in ways appropriate to its setting.

*'While we are a diverse parish, our tradition is open evangelical.*

*You'll find our diversity reflected in part within our varied styles of worship and approaches to mission and outreach. Our different services include the:*

- *Contemporary, informal.*
- *Choral tradition.*
- *BCP.*



*We also embrace other styles of worship and spiritualities, expressed by reflective, contemplative, and Taizé services and by those who are Franciscans and members of the Northumbria Community.*

*We seek to uphold the Word, the annual liturgical rhythm, and the sacraments of Baptism and Holy Communion. You'll find we wear vestments at some of the formal services. However, for many services, we dress informally, even embracing creative ways, like dressing as giant Christingles, to communicate the message.'*

Anika Gardiner, Team Vicar, St Francis Church and Keynsham Parish

A few years ago we made a video to show the community what the church was doing in Keynsham and what our parish is about [See link https://youtu.be/6a75hgZailY](https://youtu.be/6a75hgZailY)

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# WORSHIP AND OUR LIFE TOGETHER

## St John's

St John's is the largest church in the team and in Keynsham, its tower literally dominating the high street. It's also a natural draw. As well as hosting most of the weddings and baptisms, it is seen as the civic church in Keynsham and a focal point for the community.

Built about 1270, St John's is Grade II listed. Seating some 415 people, it's a big building. This comes into its own at certain times, especially Remembrance Sunday and at Christmas and when we host the civic (and sometimes ecumenical) services for the town. It's ideal as a venue for concerts and events.

However, we have a vision to transform the building for the future. We want it to be a place fit for continuing worship at the heart of Keynsham, a place where people can encounter God and become part of His people. At its heart, this vision is to make the church more flexible, more accommodating, and more suitable for its role in mission, outreach and community life. You'll find more details on our [website](#).



But St John's is not just a building, it's a people, a faithful worshipping community, Our vision statement is:

*St John's Church is:*

- *Building Community*
- *Growing in Worship*
- *And reaching out with the Love of Jesus Christ.*

On typical Sundays, St John's holds two services, choral eucharistic at 9.15am and informal band-led worship at 11am.





# WORSHIP AND OUR LIFE TOGETHER

## 9.15am service

This service is traditional, using Common Worship liturgy and is choir led. The typical attendance is between 45 – 60 adults.

Music has always had a special place at St John's. The choir is a cherished part of the life of the church.



*Music is a powerful way to enable and uplift worship. At St. John's, we value the diversity of expressions of worship, and use music across different traditions and styles with the common aim of helping people to encounter God.*

*We have a thriving choral tradition. The choir includes a growing cohort of young singers aged 6-12. In the last year, 13 children from 10 families have joined the junior choirs, including seven families who are new to St. John's.*

*Sung worship at our contemporary services is led by a team of gifted worship leaders, singers and instrumentalists.*

*My hopes for the future include:*

- *Maintaining and growing the breadth of musical traditions to support and uplift worship in all its forms;*
- *Encouraging more young people to join in leading worship, playing/singing in the worship band and having input in planning music for services;*
- *Continuing to use the junior choir as a form of outreach to the local community, and to nurture the faith of our young singers.'*

St. John's Music Director, Sam Shackleton

## 11am service

This service is a modern alternative to the traditional style of worship. The typical attendance is between 55 - 70 adults and 17 children.

The vision for this service is that it should be invitational at heart, welcoming newcomers especially those with little or no prior experience of church. It seeks to foster openness, and an environment that is more accessible and more informal in atmosphere.



These services encompass:

- Spirit filled, contemporary worship, drawing on Spring Harvest, Hillsong and other influences.
- Lay participation in leading and speaking, in support of the clergy.
- Inclusion of testimony, shared words and prayers from the congregation, especially using creative prayer (e.g. use of prayer stations and open mic prayer).
- Regular all age worship and involvement of children in the services.
- Prayer ministry during and after services.



# WORSHIP AND OUR LIFE TOGETHER

## Other services

Through the summer there is usually a single joint service at 10.30am. Combined 10.30 services are also held on 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays and on occasions such as Harvest. At 8.30am on these Sundays, there is a short service for those preferring the quiet of said communion (average attendance of 22 adults).

A choral evensong is held at 6.00pm once a month (average attendance of 13 adults, plus choir).

A short communion service is held in church on Wednesdays at 11am, attended, on average, by nine people.

## **St Francis**

St Francis is a small, but lively, community-based church, located in the heart of Keynsham South. Built in 1958, the church provides a flexible space, both for worship and, along with the hall, for community use.

At St Francis, we value diversity and are an inclusive and accepting church. Our mission is *'Growing closer to God and connecting with our community'*.

Each month, St Francis runs a 'Faith in Action' service where local Christians speak about how they put their faith into action in their everyday lives. Speakers have included politicians, campaigners and people who work for charities.

The regular congregation is around 25. Apart from the monthly Holy Communion service, which now includes children's activities, worship tends to be informal. We are seeking to build on the success of groups we host for children, and our occasional events for families, such as Messy Church and holiday activities.



# WORSHIP AND OUR LIFE TOGETHER

## St Michael's, Burnett

St Michael's is a very small, Grade II listed, 12<sup>th</sup> century church, located at the heart of the village of Burnett, some two miles outside Keynsham. Its average attendance is 16.

Worship is BCP based, and the congregation is made up of people who prefer these traditional services. While there is Holy Communion every 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday is an informal Common Worship based service.



The church is highly valued by the community and, in addition to services, hosts well attended village events.

## St Margaret's, Queen Charlton

St Margaret's is also a small village church. Set in Queen Charlton some two miles from Keynsham, it is Grade II listed and dates from the 12<sup>th</sup> century.

The church is valued by those seeking a traditional style of worship. Services are led mainly by a retired priest. The typical attendance ranges from 15-18. There are two services each month (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays), both Holy Communion.



# WORSHIP AND OUR LIFE TOGETHER

## Engaging with families, children and young people

Our vision for our children's and youth work is:

- *Knowing (God and each other).*
- *Growing (in our faith together).*
- *Living (with Jesus every day).*

*'We believe strongly in supporting families in helping their children develop a strong foundation in the Christian faith through teaching and participating in fun activities. Our groups provide children with a supportive environment where they can form friendships and where the leaders provide positive role models to help them connect with the wider church membership.'*

Claire Lowe, Childrens work coordinator

At 9.15am at St. John's, children are involved in Junior Choir and there are three Explore groups which meet during the 11am service (typically up to 15-20 children in total). Once a month, we hold Muddy Church.

At St Francis, a children's group meet once a month and the church also runs a Messy Church. St Margaret's runs occasional children's workshops, such as for Christingle.

In addition to the above, Impact, for those in Years 3-6, meets on Sunday evenings (10-15 children).



The youth programme is coordinated by our youth worker, Pip Lovell. There are around 14-20 young people over all the youth activities run by the parish. At the 11am service at St. John's, Pip has a small group, Waymakers. A youth group meets twice a month on a Sunday evening for those in Year 7 and above. We recently set up a home group for young people in Year 10 and above. Pip is also the chaplain at Wellsway Secondary school.

*'It's so heartening to see young people getting excited about coming to youth groups and feeling safe there. Whether through our regular groups and youth clubs, special events or summer camps, we see them growing in their faith and, when they are ready, going deeper and really exploring what following Jesus means for them.'*

*In the future, I am keen to build on what we have achieved so far by:*

- *expanding the work we do with other churches and the local town youth club.*
- *putting on more combined youth events and activities to help grow youth ministries, no matter how big or small.*
- *ensuring that young people know that they are not alone in their faith.'*



Pip Lovell, Youth Worker

# WORSHIP AND OUR LIFE TOGETHER

We put on a range of events particularly focussed on families, including family games, milkshakes and picnics in the park. We also hold a Light Party each year.



A highlight in 2023 was a weekend away at Greatwood Camp, which saw a group of over 60 building campfires, damming streams and enjoying other outdoor activities.

The parish also supports groups working with children and families even if not directly connected with church. Two examples are:



- 'Who Let the Dads Out' – held monthly at both St John's and St Francis.
- Toddlers – groups are run every week at both St John's and St Francis.



## Fellowship and pastoral care

Home groups are an integral part of the parish's life.

We hold social events and get-togethers, and Parish weekends away further help to deepen our fellowship. Mothers' Union meets monthly. Many from the parish attend Spring Harvest each year.

Pastoral care is offered in both formal and informal ways, including visiting the sick and elderly at home, and occasional lunches aimed at older people.

# OUTREACH, MISSION & OUR ROLE IN THE COMMUNITY

## Alpha

We actively welcome seekers and we run occasional Alpha courses within the parish. These have often led to new home groups being formed.

## Pioneer ministry in Keynsham

Since 2019, through their work at the heart of the Hygge Park new estate, Trevor James and his wife, Holly, have created opportunities for open dialogue, shared celebrations and a unified sense of community among residents. This has been epitomized by the Sanctuary Garden. As the nucleus of the Keynsham Pioneer Project, this serves as a physical and spiritual oasis, drawing in those seeking solace and connection, whether locals or those on the church's periphery.

*“In my vision for this work, I have drawn on the principles of new monasticism. The project is a fresh expression of parish life, one that infuses spirituality into everyday experiences and fosters a deep sense of community and connection.*

Our plans include:

- *Developing a well-being garden alongside the Sanctuary Garden, to create a space fostering mental, emotional and spiritual well-being for all community members.*
- *Building on the established three-times-a-day prayer rhythm and fostering collective spiritual practice.*
- *Continuing a weekly rock painting group, which attracts community members who regularly gather to express creativity and build connections.*
- *Maintaining our monthly “Grow Together” sessions in the One Community Trust garden, an initiative that has seen us connect with over 20 families.*



*Our hope is that these initiatives will naturally lead to the emergence of a worshipping community, one centred on the principles of new monasticism.’*

Trevor James, Pioneer Minister



# OUTREACH, MISSION & OUR ROLE IN THE COMMUNITY

## Our Community Connections and Mission Opportunities

Our church buildings host community groups and events. Many people within our congregations are actively involved in charities, local politics, community support activities and environmental campaigning groups.

At St Francis, the church is very committed to using the hall as part of its outreach and relationship with the local community. It hosts a range of groups including the local Foodbank. St John's puts on major services for the town in its civic role, and the parish as a whole is active through Churches Together in Keynsham and Saltford (CTKS).

Two highlights of our engagement with the community are:

- Keynsham's annual Winter Festival – St John's provides a venue hosting visitors by putting on music, stalls and refreshments, as well as the opportunity to sit and rest.
- Christmas Tree festival – This biennial event draws large numbers as community groups decorate over 40 trees displayed in St John's.



*'For many residents of Keynsham, the local church is an essential part of their community and a source of valuable services. Recognizing this, Keynsham Town Council has always placed a high value on the connection between the community and its churches and are grateful for all that they do. We eagerly anticipate working with the incoming Rector to establish a long-lasting and productive relationship for years to come.'*

Dawn Drury, Clerk, Keynsham Town Council



# OUTREACH, MISSION & OUR ROLE IN THE COMMUNITY

## Together with other churches

The parish is active in Churches Together in Keynsham and Saltford (CTKS). Illustrated below, there is a strong working relationship between us and the other churches.



*‘Through working together, we enable our churches to explore the Christian faith together sharing our different traditions, to witness for the Gospel, share resources and to respond to the needs of our local community.*

*We are able to work with the local town council, schools and other organisations as a united group of churches who share a common faith. We have a great relationship with each other and CTKS is one of the strengths of the Keynsham community’.*

Ros Durrant, CTKS Executive Team Vice Chair



# OUTREACH, MISSION & OUR ROLE IN THE COMMUNITY

## Church schools

As a parish with two church schools, we are indeed blessed!

We have teams who deliver weekly collective worship sessions and people from the churches serve on the governing bodies.

### St John's School

With its motto *'Celebrate life in all its fullness. Let's learn together in God's love'*, Christian values are firmly embedded into the school ethos and culture. With well-established links with St John's church, children from the school celebrate a number of festivals throughout the year at the church.



*'One of our school priorities is to ensure our school's distinctive Christian ethos remains strong under new leadership from the school and church. We look forward to visiting St John's church for special events. The children enjoy taking an active role, through readings, song, poems or short plays. In addition to church visits, we also welcome the assembly team into school each week to lead collective worship.'*

Julia Bamfield, Head Teacher

### Two Rivers

The school opened in 2020, moving to its new building on the Hygge Park estate in 2023. It values the link with St John's church. As part of this, it welcomes us in to lead workshops for events like Harvest and Advent.

*'Two Rivers is leading the development of the RE curriculum for our trust of schools, the Futura Learning Partnership. Children have a good understanding of their own spiritual temperaments and are encouraged to ask 'big questions' during their weekly philosophy sessions. Spiritual leaders are thinking about how they can create spaces around school to promote spirituality, drawing on guidance from the Bath and Wells Diocese.'*

Katie Sharp, RE coordinator

## Life events

In 2023, there were 31 baptisms, 3 weddings and 40 funerals. These offer wonderful opportunities for mission and building bridges with the wider community. We hold baptismal preparation sessions and a marriage preparation Sunday.

# OUTREACH, MISSION & OUR ROLE IN THE COMMUNITY

## Mission partners and links

The parish has an active World Wide Mission Committee which maintains links with CMS; at present our mission partners are Aaron Stanbury, who teaches in a school in Nairobi, and Ruth Radley, who works as a chaplain at Birmingham Childrens Hospital. In addition, we have a prayer partner, Dr Ruth Butlin, who is associated with The Leprosy Mission.

Our link with Zambia goes back many years. Many individuals and groups have visited Zambia to develop and strengthen the relationship. We've also hosted visits, including recently from Fr Benard Phiri (picture below), then the new parish priest in Chipata South.

*'The cornerstones of our link are friendship, prayer, understanding and mutual support. We have been humbled by the faith of our Zambian brothers and sisters, their joy in worship, and their generosity of heart.'*

*'We are looking forward to welcoming teachers Febby and Susan into our schools in 2025 and, in time, we hope a parish group will visit Chipata.'*

Rachel Shaw, Zambian Link coordinator



# OUR SHARED RESOURCES - FACTS AND FIGURES

## Our resources

The ordained, stipendiary staff currently comprise one Team Vicar. Five parish lay readers assist in leading services, alongside three retired priests.

The team vicar plays a key role in working alongside the Team Rector in delivering the mission of the parish. As a result of recent reductions to the clergy team the relationship between the Rector and Team Vicar needs to be reviewed and this will be one of the key tasks to be undertaken once the appointment has been made.

The parish employs staff to run the Parish Office, supported by a team of volunteers. St John's employs a Director of Music and a hall caretaker. St Francis employs a Toddler Group Leader, caretaker and cleaner.

The parish also employs a part time Youth Worker and Children and Families Worker (currently vacant).

## The Rectory

In January 2024, the Rectory was sold in order to purchase a home that would meet the Diocesan specification. The new Rectory is located in a new estate in Keynsham close to St John's Church. Details of the Rectory can be seen [here](#)

## Community Facility

Although independent, One Community Trust (OCT), which was set up in the old Rectory, has close links with the parish. OCT provides monthly community lunches, using the parish hall, and various children's and youth activities are hosted in the OCT building. It is also used for counselling and music lessons, and it hosts the local community radio; [KTCRfm](#).

## Governance and Finance

### Governance

Our parish has one PCC, with a PCC Treasurer. Each church is represented by their wardens, nominated members of each DCC, lay members of Deanery, Diocesan Synod and other co-options as determined by the PCC.

Sitting under this, the four churches all have their own DCC, treasurer and budget, transferring their allocation of parish share and central parish costs across to the PCC to administer. The DCC help their local church to develop in line with the overall strategy of the parish and ensure their church is physically maintained and meets the needs of their local community.

### Finance

In 2022, the total parish income was £400,147, while expenditure was £403,819. We have one parish charity number, so while each church has its own inspected accounts, these are reported collectively to the Charity Commission; full reports can be accessed from their [webpage](#).

Historically, finances have not always been so good; St John's, especially, has struggled in recent years, but has managed to pay the full parish share eventually, even if it went into the following year, and plans are in place to address this. As a Parish, we recently lost a 0.8 clergy post. As a result, our parish share payments fully cover our central costs to the diocese.

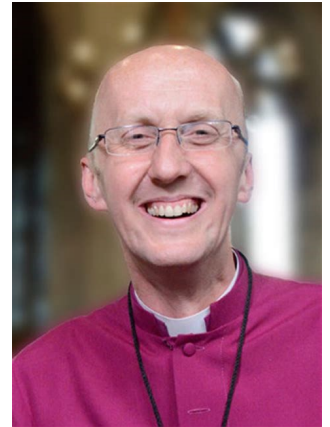
# FROM THE DIOCESE



## Sharing in Ministry in Bath and Wells

Bishop Michael and the whole team here in Bath and Wells are delighted that you are considering a move to this beautiful part of the country. We want to take a moment to share with you our own vision and priorities, which we hope will help in your prayerful discernment as to whether a move to Somerset is right for you.

We have a strong commitment to seeing our mission statement become a lived reality: **“in response to God’s immense love for us, we seek to be God’s people, living and telling the story of Jesus”**. We are praying for clergy who will join us in seeking to lead **growing churches** across the Diocese and to see those churches being a **transforming presence in their communities**, all in the power of God’s Spirit.



We have discerned four particular areas of ministry and mission, which we are focused on at the moment:

**To value and cherish the people and resources we already have.** We want to value all our volunteers, especially our church officers, and ensure they are well supported and equipped for their ministries. We place a high value on our communities that experience significant deprivation (what we call our ‘Magnificat Parishes’) and on our areas of rural sparsity. We want to place a high value on the well-being of all our leaders, both lay and ordained. We have a fully funded clergy well-being service, the offer of peer support groups, and an excellent team of Diocesan support staff fully focused on supporting our parishes, chaplaincies and schools.

**To develop new Christian worshipping communities.** Whether it be church plants, church revitalisations, or new forms of worship in a wide variety of settings and times, we long to see the good news of Jesus connect with the many for whom our traditional offering struggles to reach.

**To share in ministry and leadership.** We are committed to the New Testament vision of the church as a vibrant body of people all using their God-given gifts. We are committed to raising up and training lay and ordained leaders able to share together in leading the church.

**To deepen and grow faith.** This is foundational to all we do. We long to see people of all ages and backgrounds, but perhaps especially our children, young people and young adults, having opportunities to explore, discover and grow in faith.

If those priorities chime with your own sense of call at this time, then we would love to encourage you to look at this role in Keynsham. If you would like to talk to someone further about the role, please don’t hesitate to contact Archdeacon Adrian:

The Venerable Dr Adrian Youings  
Archdeacon of Bath  
56 Grange Road Saltford Bristol BS31 3AG  
Telephone: Direct line: 01749 685149 PA: 01749 685278  
Email [adbath@bathwells.anglican.org](mailto:adbath@bathwells.anglican.org)

# FROM THE DEANERY

Chew Magna Deanery is one of eighteen deaneries in the Diocese of Bath & Wells and one of five in the northern Archdeaconry of Bath. In 2021 we began a process of re-thinking how and where stipendiary clergy should be deployed across our parishes. The result of this process of pastoral reorganisation is that the Deanery will consist of seven benefices staffed by seven stipendiary and one House-for-Duty post.



Geographically, while a significant proportion of the population of the Deanery live in and around the town of Keynsham, we are a family of predominantly rural parishes stretching south-west across the Chew Valley towards Mendip.

The Deanery Synod meets three times a year to discern how we best live-out the Diocesan Vision of 'Living and telling the story of Jesus' through prayerful partnership and mutual support.

We have an active Deanery Chapter which meets on alternate months for Holy Communion followed by a discussion, Bible Study and prayer. In the months between Chapter meetings the clergy met for a pub lunch at a central location, and in the summer, there is a barbeque for clergy and spouses. In addition, we hold an annual quiet day led by an outside speaker during Eastertide. I am sure you will find chapter to be a supportive, friendly, and helpful arena for mutual problem solving.

Should you take up this post please be assured of a very warm welcome from the people and clergy of Chew Magna Deanery. Please do be in touch with me if a conversation would be helpful as you discern God's call to serve in Keynsham.

Rev. Dr Ian Mills, Area Dean

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An Artist's View of Keynsham  
Credit: Anne Hewett

Website: [www.keynshamparish.org.uk](http://www.keynshamparish.org.uk)



[St John's](#)

[St Francis](#)