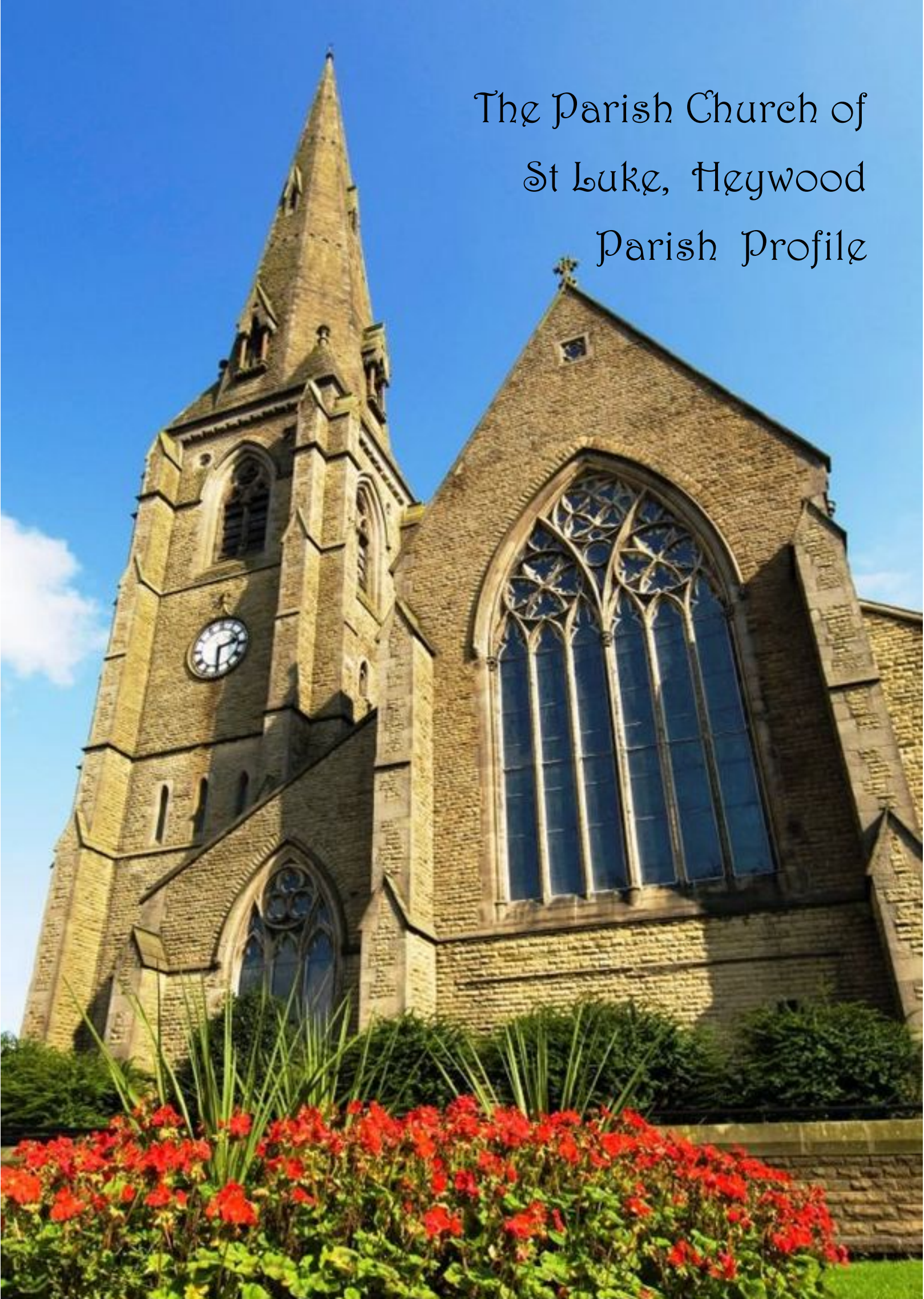


The Parish Church of
St Luke, Heywood
Parish Profile





St Luke's Heywood



Jesus calls us to deepen our faith in God,
radiate his love,
serve the Community,
offer his welcome to others.

St Luke, Heywood

Full name of benefice or parish(es) : [The Parish of St Luke, Heywood](#)

Name and address of patron [Bishop of Manchester](#)

Archdeaconry [Rochdale Archdeaconry](#)

Deanery [Heywood & Middleton Deanery](#)

Area Dean [Sister Frances Guite](#)

Anglican churches and licensed places of worship in the benefice or parish(es) profiled here.

a. Name of principal church

[St Luke, Heywood](#)

b. Approximate key dates for the building

[Consecrated 18th October 1862](#)

c. Approximate seating capacity

[350-400](#)

d. Name of any attached or nearby hall or other comparable facility

[No related other building.](#)

[Close proximity to Heywood Civic Hall](#)

e. details of other Anglican churches or licensed places of worship in the benefice or parish(es) profiled here

[The Parish of St John, Hopwood](#)

Official clergy housing: address and brief description

St John's Vicarage,
Manchester Road,
Hopwood
OL10 2EQ

A detached property, within the grounds
of St Johns church with a garage

Official population 4180

Number on electoral roll 60

Average number of Sunday communicants 25

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

- a. those baptized 34
- b. those admitted to holy communion before confirmation 5
- c. those confirmed 2
- d. marriages 2
- e. Funerals 10
- f. Christmas communicants (all services) 98
- g. Easter communicants (all services) 49

Circulation of parish magazine (if applicable) Recently a Heywood Cluster newsletter has been setup which covers all C of E churches in Heywood and Sudden and is issued on a monthly basis with circulation of 500.

Name, address, and telephone number of churchwardens

Mrs Allison Bamford (Acting Warden)

65 Shaftesbury Drive

Heywood

Lancs

OL10 2PT

T: 01706 621065

M: 07939 102 939

E: kaspbamford@sky.com

Mr Max Robinson (Acting Warden)

Arthog House

Egerton Crescent

Heywood, Lancs

OL10 1HH

T: 01706 625018

E: chrisrobinson883@gmail.com

Name, address, and telephone number of any representatives (usually two where applicable, but in certain notified cases more) appointed under the Patronage (Benefices) Measure 1986 section 11 (1)

Mrs Allison Bamford (Acting Warden)

65 Shaftesbury Drive

Heywood

Lancs

OL10 2PT

T 01706 621065

M: 07939 102 939

Mr Max Robinson (Acting Warden)

Arthog House

Egerton Crescent

Heywood,

Lancs

OL10 1HH

T: 01706 625018.

PRIESTS (ORDINATION OF WOMEN) MEASURE 1993

In the Church of England women have been able to be ordained as deacon since 1987 and as priest since 1994. At the PCC meeting held within four weeks of the date on which notice of a vacancy is sent to the PCC Secretary (*Patronage (Benefices) Measure 1986 section 11 (1)*), the PCC must consider whether to pass a resolution that it will not accept a woman as the minister who presides at or celebrates Holy Communion or pronounces the Absolution in the parish (Resolution A) or a resolution that it will not accept a woman as incumbent, priest-in-charge, or team vicar (resolution B), or a resolution rescinding an earlier resolution which was to the same effect.

If any such resolutions have been put and formally voted on at that meeting, please record details below.

N/A

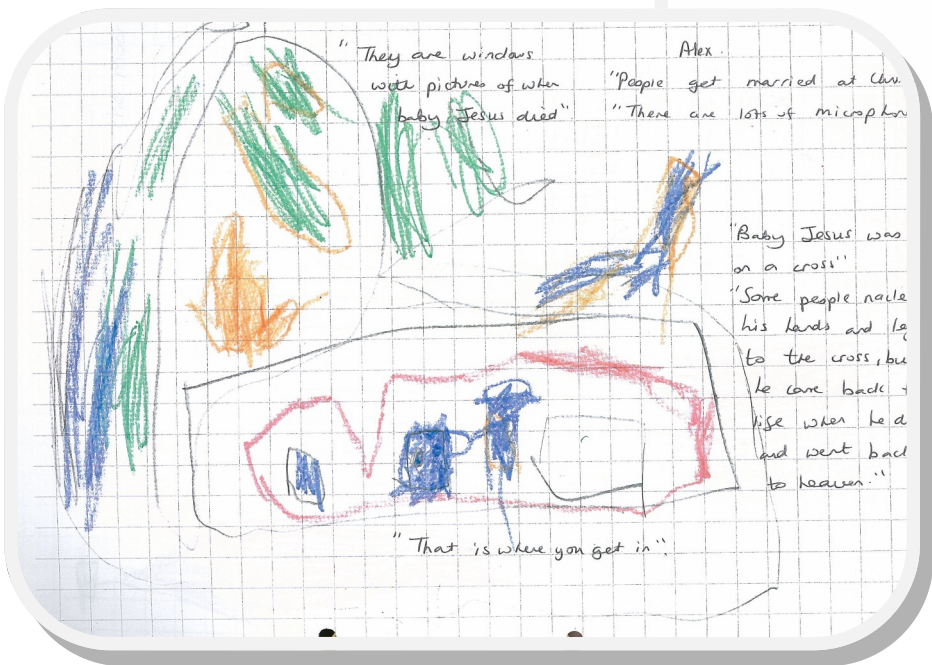
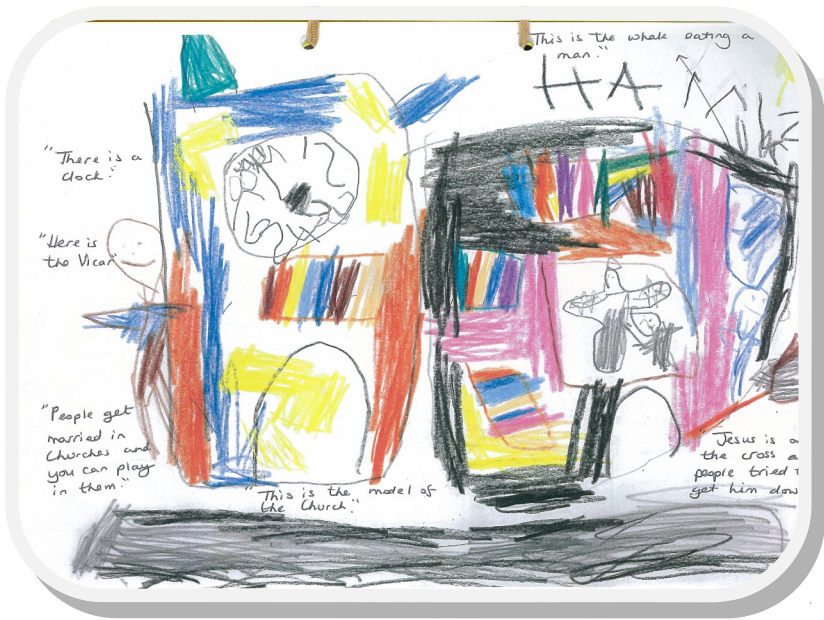
PETITION FOR EXTENDED EPISCOPAL OVERSIGHT

Please give the date of any petition from the parish for extended Episcopal oversight

N/A

Thank you notes from various School Children following their school visit.

Thank you for showing us around the church.
 You make really nice things here.



Connor.
 The Church.
 "There are lights and chairs."
 "People get married"

LOCAL COMMUNITY

St Luke's is a town centre church. There are a limited number of residents of mixed ethnicity and age. The housing stock is made up of council flats, terraced house and number of pre war semi detached. We are one of the two largest churches in the town, so are used for civic occasions and town events due to seating capacity and location.

In recent months, we have gained a number of younger families, which encourages other young families to join us.

SCHOOLS, INSTITUTIONS, VOLUNTARY GROUPS

Within the parish of St Luke there is St Luke's C of E Primary school and also Harwood Park Primary School we also support Holy Family College, a Secondary school in our neighbouring parish.

St Luke's C of E Primary school, is a voluntary controlled school where we have excellent links. The Head teacher is a Sunday School leader (at another church) and therefore understands the church link, and we currently have a retired member of the clergy taking an assembly service at school each week. Our incumbent is also expected to be the Chair of School Governors. We currently have a members of St Luke's congregation as a school governor.

Harwood Park Primary School is a non-faith school. The school is always invited to our regular family services and a small number of people attend.

Holy Family College is a unique secondary school as it is a mixed faith school, with 50% of students being Catholic and 50% Anglican.

The school is growing in size and it's results are very impressive compared to other local secondary schools, therefore it is now oversubscribed each year.



Students are required to have church attendance to gain a place. We have strong links at the school as one of the foundation governors is our Sunday School teacher, Wendy, who was heavily involved in the setup of the school and our incumbent is expected to take a place on the board of governors.

Within St Luke's parish, is the main town centre, including local and national businesses and Charity Shops.

Heywood centre is the home of Heywood Business Group which organises two huge events each year, the 1940s day and the Christmas Lights Switch on. St Luke's Church building and congregation play a huge part in these truly family days.

On the 1940s day the church is open for coffee morning and then becomes transformed into a war torn NAAFI for the afternoon serving hot and cold drinks with light snacks, and of course Uncle Sam's Hotdogs. Outside the church, a concert is held on the back platform where all sorts of performers sing, dance, recite, march and play to the audience sat on the facing lawn. It's a fabulous occasion, and if the weather is against us, the whole concert moves inside, something that a building our size can and does accommodate well. During the day we serve over 500 drinks and provide seating and welcome for everyone.

The Christmas Lights Switch On day, again this falls with our monthly coffee morning in the morning, and then in the afternoon we serve refreshments. As this event takes place in late November, we offer warmth as well as welcome and drinks. Again outside there is a concert, however this is shorter and ends up with the town's choir VOICE singing before the count down to the lights switch on. Following the lights being switched on, we sing carols guided by the choir, and our bell ringers ring our 8 bells in celebration of the start of the festive period, topped off with a firework display. During these days we encourage people to wander around the church unguided, we have information boards out to explain various places in the church, and we often hear "I've lived in Heywood for 20 years and I've never been in here before," although these events have been taking place a few years now and this is heard less frequently. The church becomes much more of a

Uniform Group Service



Community Centre and we have found that people are more likely to come in now, as they've been inside on a number of occasions and it's not so strange to them.

St Luke's has been trying to encourage the town to feel that the church belongs to them and they are always welcome.

Churches Together in Heywood continues to thrive. St Luke's takes it's bi-annual turn in hosting the Christmas Carol Concert arranged by Churches Together. This takes place in early December and invitations are sent to the whole town. The service is loosely based on 9 Lessons and Carols with local groups and schools singing and performing. Following the service refreshments are served.

Other groups include Uniformed Groups, The Cellar Project and Heywood Foodbank.



Family Wedding at St Luke's



WORSHIP AND WORSHIPPERS

Currently we hold the following services

Sunday 9.30am Sung Eucharist Service

1st Wednesday of the month – 10.00am (currently suspended)

Normal vesture for ministers.

Our congregation is very mixed. We age from 2-80 plus, both sexes, family groups, widows, widowers and occasional teenagers – there are rarely people in age group 18-25. Our congregation is a mix of all social classes.

The majority of our congregation live outside the parish boundary, however, as St Luke's is central in the town, most people can reach church by a 10-20 minute walk.

Church tradition is traditional, our choir and servers continue to robe and we consider that tradition important to who we are.

With regards to ongoing worship and in particular music, we realised that our hymns were becoming somewhat dated and we have a scheme to introduce new hymns so our weekly music is a mix of modern and traditional, which is proving very successful.

Organ and choir – New Edition of Ancient and Modern – Sung Eucharist



Sunday School Anniversary Service and Crib Service



CHURCH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS AND GROUPS

Due to our numbers, our strongest social group is Sunday School, weekly we have 8-16 children in attendance. The Sunday school is an integral part of St Luke's worship. Our Sunday school leaders are very dedicated and provide structured work each week for the various age groups in the Sunday school, the children take the elements each week and are collectors of the weekly offering. At the end of each Sunday Service, they present their work to the congregation, saying prayers and giving an insight into what they have been working on. We have found these prayers build confident readers. For Christmas our Sunday School raises money for Francis House, Childrens Hospice, something they are very proud of.

Bell ringers – 8 ringers plus weekly visitors from Rochdale and Middleton. Practice night is Monday 7.30-9pm and Sunday morning ringing is 9-9.30am. We have recently acquired a training bell, which is situated in the main body of the church and is silent. The intention is to setup training days with view to drawing in, new ringers.



St Luke's has 8 bells which are rung every Sunday before service

Our Royal Wedding Party



Social and Fundraising Group, approx. 6 people meeting once every two months. The group organises events in church for both social purposes and fundraising, these events include, Annual quiz night, Charities Fete, 1940s day, Christmas Lights Switch On, Christmas Tree Festival, party for Royal Wedding, Cheese and Wine.

Buildings Group, group of approx. 6 people meeting the 1st Saturday every month to do ongoing maintenance on the building and thorough cleaning. The group is currently working through the quinquennial recommendations.

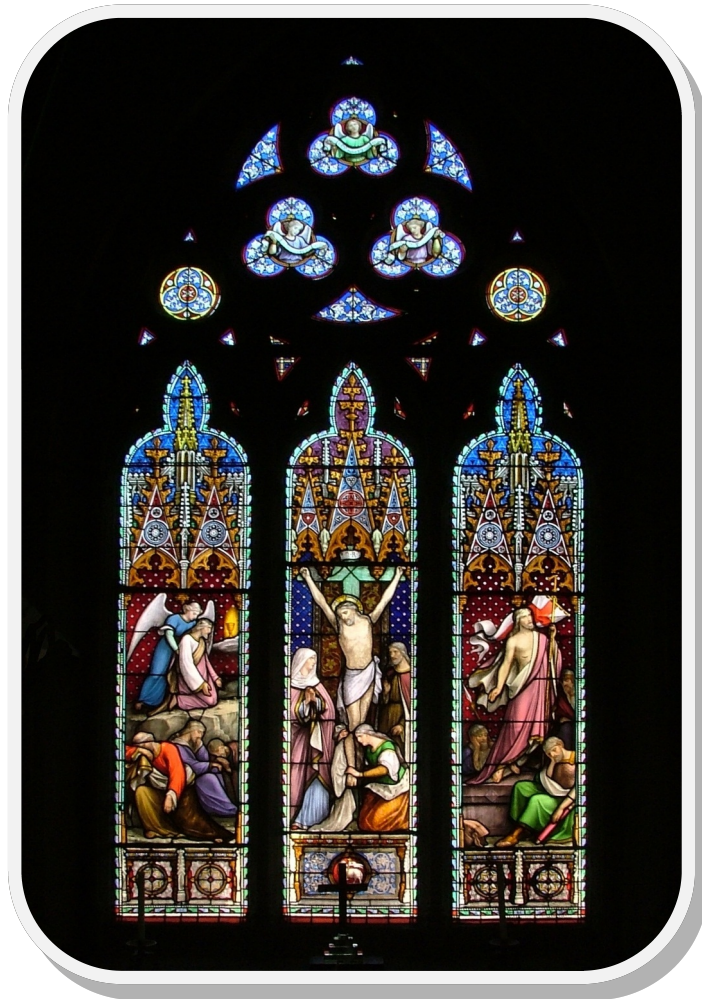
Worship Group, small group of 2-3 people meeting every 2 months to discuss outreach, reviewing weekly worship and planning larger outreach projects like Experience Easter, Crafts at Christmas.

Flower arranging team — this group consists of 2-3 ladies who are finding it increasingly difficult to provide this service, however we are looking at alternatives by making connections with local florists.

Coffee Morning Team, a group of 6 dedicated people who monthly host our coffee morning.

Uniformed groups

Fundraising for Childrens Society, organised by one person, by distributing collection boxes for people to keep at home.



*Capronnier Window in the
Fenton Chapel*

NEIGHBOURING ANGLICAN CHURCHES AND PARISHES

Recently, half of Heywood and Middleton Deanery joined together to form Heywood and Sudden Cluster, this unites all the Anglican Churches in Heywood plus St Aidan's, Sudden. The Cluster is designed to bring the church congregations together via worship and social events.

In the past Heywood was a team parish and therefore most parishes are friendly with others and Heywood church coffee mornings and afternoons are part of the monthly social cycle of Heywood residents.

Heywood also boasts Churches Together in Heywood which we are part of, ensuring Christianity is brought to the people of Heywood in every event which happens in the town.

The Good Friday service, is hosted by Churches Together outside St Lukes, this is a town event, where the passion is re-enacted

MINISTRY

We are pleased to say that we have a number of retired clergy officiating in the parish, these include the following:-

Reverend Ian Taylor

Reverend Robert Whyborn

Reverend Maureen Thorp

Reverend Ian Stamp

Reverend Ralph Mallinson

MISSION

Our Purpose Statement at St. Luke's is:

Jesus calls us to deepen our faith in God,
radiate his love,
serve the community
and offer welcome to others.

St Luke's has always felt that as a town centre parish, our mission is to be serve the community in whatever capacity that may be, usually including the use of the building for events, we always try to accommodate whatever is asked of us and of course generate reasons why people should come into the building and make them feel like it is theirs.

Within our mission priorities in the next two years is to upgrade our toilet and kitchen facilities, therefore making the building more useful and versatile.

We are also building stronger relationships with our uniformed groups, schools and encouraging those who have been baptised to join us in worship.

FINANCE AND STEWARDSHIP

We are in a fortunate position of being able to pay our parish share in full of and meet all the ongoing expenses of a parish priest.

Our funding arises from a legacy received in 2012/2013 of £300,000 of which approx. 2/3rds has been used on the roof project, leaving us a balance to be used for other use.

Without the legacy, St Luke's has struggled for many years to meet its share, however, a 5 year plan was in place to ensure we met the requirement prior to the legacy and we had shown continued growth over 3 years.

Annually we give to various local charities and when specific appeals arise, our congregation are very generous.

QUINQUENNIAL INSPECTION

Date of last QI was 2017.

We are currently working through the recommendations.

THE NEXT PARISH PRIEST

We would like a priest who is able to create a presence in our small town, someone who can inspire our school children and our congregation and provide enlightening, thought provoking sermons each week so we consider them for the week coming.

We would like a priest who is able to nurture and encourage the people we have, so they can find their role within the church environment and move forward on their journey with Christ.

We understand that the next 10 years in Heywood will see maybe two of the 6 Church of England churches close, our new priest needs to understand the need for change, and a willingness to embrace it, and help us find the right way to support our sister congregations. We also need to move towards working closer with St John's congregation and share our talents.

Our mission priority is to grow our Congregation as a matter of survival and therefore investment of time and energy will be required.

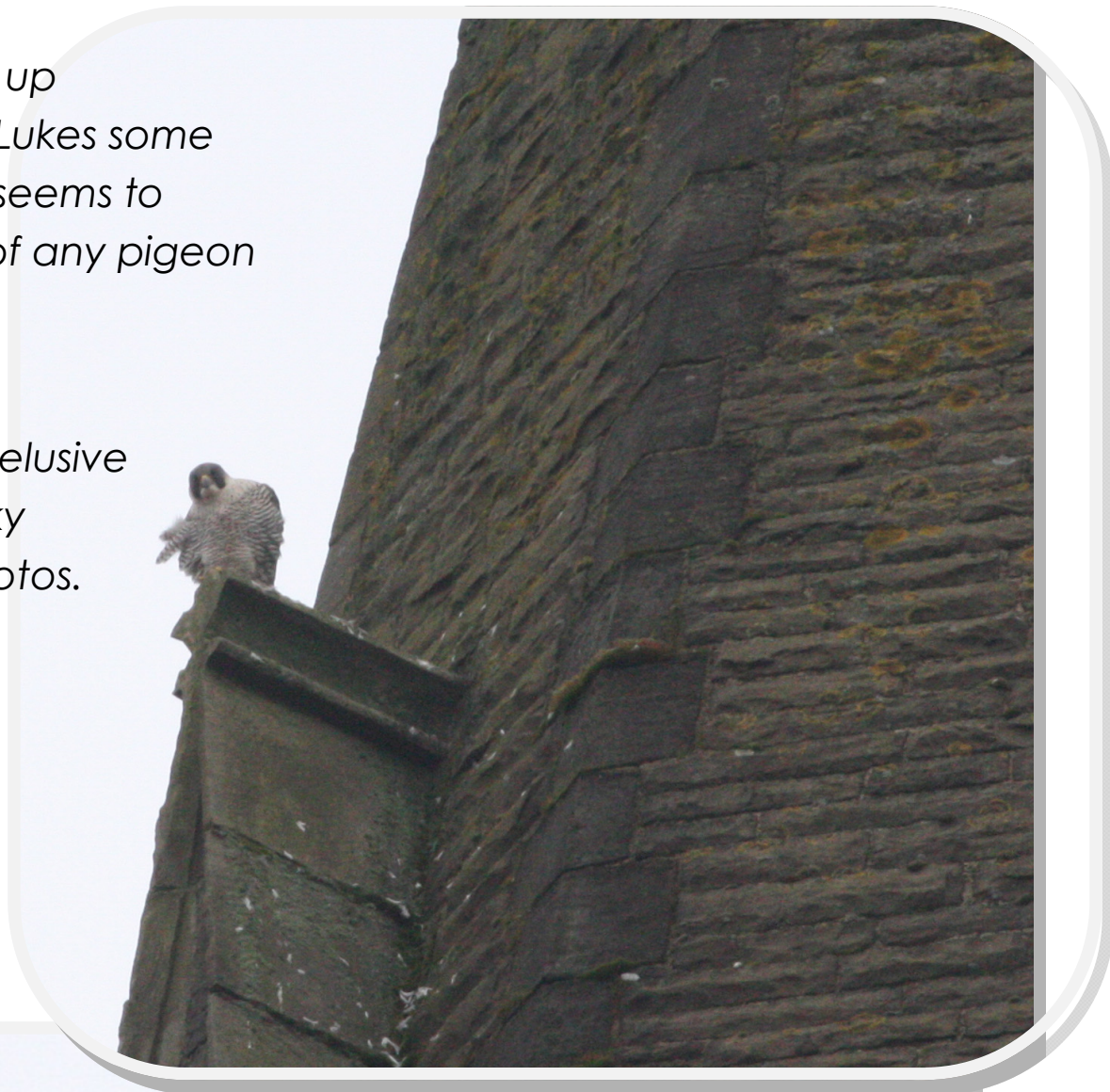


*The Secret Window of St Luke's,
high above the West Window*

Our VIP (**V**ery **I**mportant **P**eregrine falcon)

The falcon took up residence at St Lukes some time back and seems to have cured us of any pigeon problems.

“Percy” is quite elusive so we were lucky to get these photos.







"The calm before the storm"

An hour later the church was filled to standing room only with people of Heywood as they celebrated the Annual Carol Concert and the church being decorated with poinsettias.



ST. LUKE'S CHURCH
HEYWOOD

NEWBURY
A
BIRMINGHAM