

## Parish Profile

This form is designed to give an overview of a parish to be used in a vacancy for the appointment of a new parish priest. It will be accepted as the "statement describing the conditions, needs and traditions of the parish" required by the Patronage (Benefices) Measure 1986. Additional information may be given by way of printed documents or written submissions.

### I. Parish Information

1(a)	Name of parish(es) to which this information relates:	Luddenden with Luddenden Foot
(b)	Name(s) of parish church(es):	St Mary The Blessed Virgin
2.	Name(s) of other C of E church(es)/centres for public worship in the parish:	n/a
3.	Cluster or group of parishes within which you work (formally or) informally:	n/a
4.	Deanery:	Halifax and Calder Valley
5.	Population:  <i>The 2011 census information gives the following figures. Please indicate how this might have changed since then.</i>	3813
6(a)	Number on Electoral Roll:	105
(b)	Date of APCM when this number was declared:	17 <sup>th</sup> March 2024

7. Attendance at worship in each church

*Please provide details of average attendance at Sunday and weekday services*

Church/Service	Time	No. of communicants	Adult attendance	Under 16
Communion for All ( 3 per month)	10:00am	44	48	15
Praise@Ten (1 per month)	10:00am	n/a	38	15
Morning Prayer (Fridays)	900am	n/a	3-4	0

8. Occasional offices

*Number for last 12 months in each church*

Church	Baptisms	Confirmees	Weddings	Funerals in church	Funerals taken by clergy not in church
St Mary's	12	12	4	5	0

9. Communications

*Please give names and contact details BUT only include details that can be shared when this document is made public*

Church	Clergy	Readers	Lay staff eg Youth worker, Administrator	Churchwardens
St Mary's	Rev Ian Sparks – current incumbent intending to retire in November 2025  Ian.sparks@leeds.angl ican.org  Rev Martin MacDonald  mshmacdonald@gmail.co m	Geoff Budd  geoff.bud975@btinter net.com	Christine Akroyd parishadministrator@luddendenc hurch.org.uk	Christine Akroyd <a href="mailto:laceyhey@aol.com">laceyhey@aol.com</a> Debbie Mills debsmills2212@gm ail.com

## II. Parish/Community Information

1(a)	Briefly describe the population mix of the(se) parish(es) in terms of its employment, cultural, ethnic, age and housing mix.	<p>Predominately White British.  Upper third of deprivation  Poverty: lower quarter with a concentration within parts of the Kershaw housing estate.  Population: Low ethnic diversity – 4.4%;  14% without qualifications; 12.5% in social housing; 20% elderly</p>
(b)	Are there any special social problems (eg high unemployment)?	<p>Areas of higher unemployment found in areas of social housing on Kershaw housing state. Woodbank School on Kershaw estate is Calderdale’s primary age special school drawing children with special needs from within the Authority</p>
2.	<p>Please list for each</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Schools:</li> <li>• Youth centres:</li> <li>• Hospitals:</li> <li>• Nursing/elderly persons' homes:</li> <li>• Other Christian churches</li> <li>• Places of worship of other faiths</li> <li>• Local Businesses:</li> <li>• Neighbourhood initiatives:</li> </ul>	<p>Primary Schools:  Luddenden CE School  Midgley School  Luddenden Foot Academy  Wood Bank School</p> <p>Littlefoot private Day nursery</p> <p>No youth centres</p> <p>Medical:  Luddenden Foot Clinic and Pharmacy</p> <p>No nursing/care homes.</p> <p>No other churches or places of worship of other faiths</p> <p>Local businesses:  Lord Nelson public house, Luddenden; Old Brandy Wine public house Luddenden Foot; That’s a Mori bar and restaurant, Luddenden Foot; FH Speight, engineers, Luddenden Foot; Station Road Industrial units, Luddenden Foot; Secret Café and Industrial units, Tenterfields; Cat’I’t’h’Well pub and Bob’s Café, Luddenden Dean</p> <p>Neighbourhood initiatives: Luddenden Mayor’s</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Associations eg tourist group:</li> <li>• Describe any civic responsibilities which the clergy have:</li> </ul>	<p>Fund (community activity and charity fundraising), Luddenden Conservation Society; Luddenden in Bloom, Luddenden Foot Community Centre Midgely Community Shop and Community Room</p> <p>No associations</p> <p>Attendance and participation at the Remembrance Service in Holme Park, Luddenden Foot</p>
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### III. Church Information

*Please give details for each church*

1(a)	What percentage of the congregation lives outside the parish?	Approx 12% of electoral roll
(b)	Describe the mix of the congregation in terms of age, employment, cultural, ethnicity, age and gender.	<p>Age: 0-10yrs 12%; 11-17yrs 4%; 18-69yrs 46%; 70+yrs 38%</p> <p>Gender: 45% male; 55% female</p> <p>Employment: predominately employed</p> <p>Ethnicity: Predominately White British</p>
2(a)	How would you describe the churchmanship tradition of each church and give details of robes and vestments worn by officiants?	<p>Churchmanship – ‘middle of the road’</p> <p>Communion for All: Cassock Alb, Chasuble at Festivals; robed choir</p> <p>Praise@Ten: lay led contemporary worship, no vestments</p>
(b)	What is the regular average weekly giving of those 16 years & over and what proportion of the giving is gift aided?	£12 per week mostly gift aided
(c)	When did you last have a stewardship campaign?	‘Generous Giving’ at all services during January 2024
3.	How does each Church supplement its direct giving in order to meet its financial needs?	Fundraising throughout the year, involving a programme of community events. In the last year, we’ve successfully applied for a grant for children’s work through the Bishop’s Development Fund.

4(a)	What amount of working expenses were paid to the clergy in the last financial year?	£206.11								
(b)	Were these met in full?	Yes								
(c)	Is there an annual discussion with the clergy about their level of expenses as part of the PCC's budgeting process?	No								
5(a)	What amount of Share has (a) been requested; and (b) been paid from the parish in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• last year?</li> <li>• current year?</li> <li>• next year ?</li> </ul>	<table border="0"> <thead> <tr> <th><u>Share requested</u></th> <th><u>Share Paid</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>£30,239</td> <td>Paid in full</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£31,635</td> <td>Paid in full to date</td> </tr> <tr> <td>£33,475</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>Share requested</u>	<u>Share Paid</u>	£30,239	Paid in full	£31,635	Paid in full to date	£33,475	
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(b)	Will this year's be met?	Yes								
6(a)	Is there any capital project in hand at the moment?	No								
(b)	Please give brief details with costs and state how they are to be met.	n/a								
7.	Please attach a copy of the last PCC accounts.	Included in brochure								
8(a)	What is the general state of repair of: the Church(es) - <i>please list</i>	Has been maintained in good state of repair Last Quinquennial April 2021 raising a number of minor matters all of which have now been resolved								
(b)	Please give details of major maintenance needed following the last quinquennial.	None								

#### IV. Outreach and Mission

1(a)	What are the regular mission and outreach activities of the parish?	St Mary's Pop-In-Shop charity shop on Kershaw estate providing affordable clothes etc and offering hardship grants 'Open The Book' presented regularly in two local schools
(b)	What are you doing to help people find out about Jesus?	We regularly run Start and Alpha courses. We have Home Groups in three locations. We offer 'Young Church' activities each Sunday for children during the services
(c)	What are you doing to help grow people in discipleship?	We have follow up courses to Start and Alpha including House groups and Sunday Groups exploring a variety of topics including bible study, prayer and discipleship. During the Sunday Group meeting we run children's activities which includes helping them to find out about Jesus and discipling them. This allows adults with children to access the group.
(d)	What are you doing to grow people in leadership?	Identifying potential leaders and offering guidance and nurture through practical involvement and instruction as well as being aware of Diocesan online and personal courses. We encourage our young people to help shape and lead some All Age services
2(a)	Please give details of the support of the Church (not individual members) for work overseas:	We work closely with our Link church in Mmazame in the link Diocese of Mara, Tanzania. This includes fundraising to assist projects and regular visits (every 2 years) to help implement the projects. We usually identify overseas charities to support each Christmas with our charitable giving
(b)	How much is given annually?	Average £3000 per year for Mmazame
3(a)	Give details of the support for home missions and charities:	Our Pop-In-Shop offers grants to applicants in need We usually identify home charities to support each Christmas with our charitable giving
(b)	How much is given annually?	£9000 in 2023
4(a)	Does the parish have an overseas link?	Yes
(b)	If so, please state where/who?	Our Link church St Mary's in Mmazame in the link Diocese of Mara, Tanzania.

5(a)	Is there an organised system of outreach and welcome to new families?	Yes
(b)	If so, please describe:	Our children and young people make welcome gifts and write prayers to give to the baptism families. New families are encouraged to join our children @ St Mary's WhatsApp group to enable them to join in the conversations and know what's going on.
6.	What part does the church play in community care?	Grants are provided through the Pop-In-Shop which are available for anyone living in the parish to apply for who are suffering hardship or with a specific need.  We support a local food bank
7(a)	Are there any Lay Eucharistic Assistants who take communion to the sick?	Yes
(b)	If so, who are they?	Geoff Budd, Licensed Lay Minister
8.	What work does the church undertake with young people, other than in church based organisations (eg open youth work)?	We have a team operating 'Open the Book' regularly in two of the primary schools: Luddenden CE and Midgely School  Luddenden CE School holds End of Term services in church and the other schools hold regular seasonal services and class visits.

## V. Ecumenical Relations

1(a)	State involvement in local Council of Churches:	n/a
(b)	Is there a formal covenant with any other denomination?	no
2.	What informal ecumenical contacts are there?	None

## VI. Church Education and Social Provision

1(a)	Name of Church School(s) if applicable:	Luddenden CE Primary School
(b)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aided?</li> <li>• Controlled?</li> <li>• Foundation?</li> </ul>	Controlled
(c)	Number of pupils on roll (approx)?	105
(d)	If aided, does the PCC support the school?	n/a

## VII. Lay Education and Participation

1.	<p>What education and training work takes place in the Church for the following (give approx numbers):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children</li> <li>• Young People</li> <li>• Adults</li> </ul>	<p>Children and Young People: provision each Sunday morning with regular involvement in two of the services each month. The number of children is growing with 30 on the present roll of which about 15 on average attend each Sunday. We admitted 10 youngsters to communion before confirmation this year. The resources we made for this have been shared and used by the children's team in the diocese.</p> <p>In addition we hold offsite forest church style activities during Holy Week on the Easter Story</p> <p>Adults: Two regular Home Groups, Sunday Group; Start and Alpha courses</p>
2(a)	Give details of house/prayer groups:	<p>Monday Home Group each fortnight – lay led</p> <p>Thursday Home Group each fortnight – vicar led</p> <p>Sunday Group held after the service covering a course or topic approx. twice a year – clergy and lay led</p> <p>Friday morning Celtic prayer group follows the Northumbrian Community morning prayer liturgy – lay led</p> <p>A team offers prayer ministry after each Sunday service.</p> <p>There is an active WhatsApp prayer group</p>
(b)	Are the leaders clergy or lay?	Both
3(a)	How do you rate the strength of lay leadership?	Good, strong



(b)	To what do you credit this strength, or lack of it?	Strong commitment with long term experience which is accumulated from other places and parishes and willingness of the present incumbent to enable lay ministry.
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## VIII. Mission

1.	List areas of Church life which you consider in need of development.	<p><b>A praying community</b> – to continue to ensure that we are first and foremost a praying community</p> <p><b>Growing our church</b> – continues to evolve including the exploration of mission within the parish.</p> <p><b>Encouragement of lay ministry</b> - with a part-time priest-in-charge we recognise the need to develop the lay ministry to take the gospel into the community.</p> <p><b>Succession planning</b> - continued development of future lay leaders as the present team is ageing.</p> <p><b>Young people</b> - to continue to develop the offering for children and young families in all our Sunday services.</p> <p><b>Pastoral care</b> - to expand the team to meet the needs of the members of our congregation and the wider community.</p> <p><b>Discipleship</b> - to ensure there is a variety of groups and activities and to welcome our fringe members to become established members of our church community</p> <p><b>Working with the Erringden Benefice</b> – exploring the opportunities of working together.</p>
2.	What are the main areas of mission that you think the new priest should prioritise in their ministry?	<p>To broaden the links within our four local schools.</p> <p>To engage with the large numbers of young families who live in the parish.</p> <p>To retain more wedding couples and baptism and funeral families as regular church members.</p> <p>To integrate fringe members who attend church into the church community.</p> <p>Maintain and develop further our links with the local community eg: Luddenden Mayor Fund Group, community events in the churchyard</p>
3.	In summary, what are the top three challenges with which you and the new priest need to engage?	<p>Developing a strong lay ministry towards pastoral care and church leadership</p> <p>Ensuring unity within the church community and congregation ( ie: how do you meet the needs of all the people all the time).</p> <p>Small number of members contribute a high percentage of the church giving.</p>

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## IX. Additional Information

*Please add here, or on another sheet, anything else which you would like the Patron and the Bishop to know about the conditions, needs and traditions of the parish.*

St Mary's is a healthy, growing church with a dedicated congregation of all ages. We have a strategy (mission plan) in place (originally based on LyCiG) which we have been pursuing for a number of years, which has led to considerable growth in children and families and in discipling existing members of the congregation. We face challenges associated with growth, in particular how to offer the 'new' while still being relevant to the 'old' or 'traditional', and how to reach out to the whole parish beyond the village in which the church is situated. These are exciting challenges.

We endeavor to ensure the church is open each day which attracts walkers and visitors to the prayer corner and cemetery visitors.

The church narthex is used as a polling station.

The Upper Room is used for Yoga classes, an Art Group and the Conservation Society meetings

A Macmillan coffee morning is held each year

The 'Mayor's Fund' hold a Christmas Fair in the church

The churchyard is closed and is maintained by Calderdale Council. It is a pleasant, open, grassed space, which is used for the church summer picnic and for various village events.

A small Garden of Remembrance is retained for the interment of ashes.

Luddenden Cemetery, owned by the local authority, lies just across the beck from the church and most visitors use the path through the churchyard and pass the church door.

Blackwood Hall Luddendenfoot Cemetery is closed and cared for by Calderdale Council but belongs to the PCC and still may be occasionally used for burials in existing graves where there is room. The church was closed in 1977 and demolished in 1980.

The church owns no other buildings but holds the lease on the Pop-in-Shop, which expires in 2028.

The church has been awarded the Eco Church Bronze award and is working towards the silver.

St Mary's Church is situated in the picturesque village of Luddenden which is a conservation area and has been called the 'Jewel of Calderdale'. There is a lively village pub, the Lord Nelson, opposite the church where the landlord is an active member of the congregation and serves on the PCC. There is a good rapport with the local Conservation Society and the Luddenden Mayor's Committee.

The parish is made up of several distinct settlements, ranging from villages and hamlets, to more modern housing estates.

Many of the houses in Luddenden Foot were demolished in the 1960s and replaced by new housing to create the Kershaw estate. This has a mix of social housing and privately owned homes. There are a number of elderly people's flats on the estate and a small community centre. The estate has a small supermarket and adjacent to this is St Mary's 'Pop-in-Shop'.

The hilltop village of Midgley feels to be quite a separate entity. It has a community primary school, its own small community centre and a community shop run by volunteers.

Luddenden Dene is an attractive valley with a country park at Jerusalem Farm. A number of people visit the area, many of them walking past the church at the beginning of a ramble up the valley.

Former farm buildings have been converted into attractive houses drawing a more affluent group into the parish.

In the past, the parish contained many mills, providing the main source of employment. Nowadays, with all the mills having closed, the feel is very much that of a commuter area, although there are a number of new industrial units providing some local employment. Some of the mills have been converted into apartments or pulled down to provide space for new housing. These changes have encouraged an influx of young couples and families into the parish.

In the parish, there are football and cricket teams and a bowling club.

The parish lies within the Calder Valley in between Halifax and Hebden Bridge. Excellent road and rail links exist to the major cities of Leeds and Manchester as well as the university centres of Huddersfield and Bradford. There are excellent grammar and comprehensive schools close by. Within easy reach are two National Parks - the Yorkshire Dales and the Peak District.

## **X. The New Priest**

*List the qualities and skills you would like to see in the new priest.*

In a future priest-in-charge, we are seeking a leader with vision:

- who can encourage, energise and inspire us.
- who is enthusiastic about working within a team.
- who can recognise and help develop strengths and qualities in others.
- who can lead us onto the next stage in our journey
- who can engage through a variety of worship styles
- who is comfortable working with youth and young children

The Priest in Charge will inherit the role of Trustee for the two historical Dr Watkinson Charitable Trusts, the Trustees of which decide the use of a small annual interest to be made available towards Christian Education and Social Needs within the parish

**St Mary's Luddenden with Luddenden Foot**

on ..... 20.....

Signed: .....

Print Name: Clive Horsman

Office Held: Lay Chair

**This form, duly completed, should be sent to:**

***The Mission and Pastoral Secretary  
Deborah Thorley  
Diocese of Leeds, Church House  
17-19 York Place, Leeds, LS1 2EX  
deborah.thorley@leeds.anglican.org***

She will circulate copies to the Patron and Bishop

**Please also send a copy directly to the Archdeacon's office**

***Please keep copies of this form  
and ensure that all PCC members have a signed copy.***