

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.

Please write in black ink

I. Parish Information

1(a)	Name of parish(es) to which this information relates:	Cragg Vale
(b)	Name(s) of parish church(es):	St John the Baptist in the Wilderness
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:	Erringden Benefice
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>	710

6(a)	Number on Electoral Roll:	42
(b)	Date of APM when this number was declared:	14.5.23

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
St John's	9.30am	17	17	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 John's	0	0	2	5	0

9. Communications

Names, Addresses, Telephone Numbers and E-mail addresses for each church

Church	Clergy	Readers	Lay staff eg Youth worker, Administrator	Churchwardens
St John's	Interregnum		-	Julie and Geraint Harris 19 Caldene Avenue Mytholmroyd Hebden Bridge HX7 5AJ 01422 885183 gjwsa2@gmail.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>The make-up of the community served by St. John's has changed considerably over the years from a mainly working-class mixture of mill workers and farmers to a smaller, younger community of mainly middle-class professionals, most of whom commute or work from home. There is an increasing number of businesses opening in the village providing employment for some in the village. Almost half of today's population of Cragg Vale is under 44 years of age. Most of the population is of white British origin.</p> <p>Housing in the village consists of a mixture of older terraced houses, semi-detached and detached houses and farmhouses and farm buildings converted into homes on the hillsides and hilltops. Most of these are lived in by the owners, some are rented and there are several holiday properties.</p> <p>There is no social/council housing.</p>
(b)	Are there any special social problems (e.g. high unemployment)?	Property has become quite expensive in the village meaning young adults who grow up there often can't afford to stay.
2.	<p>Please list for each</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Schools: • Youth centres: • Hospitals: • Nursing/elderly persons' homes: • Places of worship of other faiths • Local Businesses: • Neighbourhood initiatives: • Associations eg tourist group • Describe any civic responsibilities which the clergy have: 	<p>Steiner Education Kindergarten</p> <p>2 pubs, a brewery, deli/local produce + café, IT services, swimming school, sound/vision, construction, textiles, storage, energy (oil distribution) etc.</p> <p>Cragg Community Hubbub Rural Watch</p> <p>Cragg Vale Community Association Cragg Vale History Group Yorkshire Countrywomen's Association</p> <p>None</p>

III. Church Information

Please give details for each church

1(a)	What percentage of the congregation lives outside the parish?	52%
(b)	Describe the mix of the congregation in terms of age, employment, cultural, ethnicity, age and gender.	5% in their 50s 14% in their 60s 42% in their 70s 29% in their 80s 10% in their 90s All but 4 retired, 2 working full time. All white British. 15 female, 6 male
2(a)	How would you describe the churchmanship tradition of each church and give details of robes and vestments worn by officiants?	St John's has a middle of the road evangelical tradition, we are committed to working together, learning more about God and sharing the good news we have discovered. The presiding clergy are usually robed to reflect the obligatory guidance regarding robes for particular services.
(b)	What is the regular average weekly giving of those 16 years & over and what proportion of the giving is gift aided?	Total of £190 a week from over 16s. Mostly gift aided
(c)	When did you last have a stewardship campaign?	Campaign 3 years ago when regular givers were encouraged to increase their giving and to switch to the PGS
3.	How does each Church supplement its direct giving in order to meet its financial needs?	Fundraising events, letting rooms for community use and grants when available
4(a)	What amount of working expenses were paid to the clergy in the last financial year?	Minimal travel expenses claimed by clergy stepping in to help during interregnum
(b)	Were these met in full?	Yes
(c)	Is there an annual discussion about level of expenses as part of the PCC's budgeting process?	Usually discussed when an incumbent/curate etc. is first appointed.

5(a)	What amount of Share has (a) been requested; and (b) been paid from the parish in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • last year? • current year? • next year? 	<u>Share requested</u> £19166 £20483 Don't know yet	<u>Share Paid</u> £9583 £7681 (up to Sept)
(b)	Will this year's be met?	Probably not	
6(a)	Is there any capital project in hand at the moment?	Recently started a fundraising campaign to install a lift from ground to 1 st floor. Still completing smaller jobs left over from the main reordering project 7 years ago Looking at having new notice boards	
(b)	Please give brief details with costs and state how they are to be met.	Around £25,000 - £30,000 for lift Extraction/ventilation for the kitchen - ?£2500 Need work on churchyard paths - ?£4000 Two new notice boards needed - ?£1500 Using restricted funds appropriately and direct fundraising campaign, grants.	
7.	Please attach a copy of the last PCC accounts.	Attached	
8(a)	What is the general state of repair of: the Church(es) - <i>please list</i> <i>St John's, Cragg Vale</i>	Externally okay but some pointing to be done especially on tower. Internally not bad as reordered 7 years ago but will need redecorating in the next few years.	
(b)	Please give details of major maintenance needed following the last quinquennial.	Pointing on tower (not the whole tower) and parts of roof - awaiting quotes - ? £7,000	

IV. Outreach and Mission

1(a)	What are the regular mission and outreach activities of the parish?	Pre Covid, we had launched 'Sanctuary in the Wilderness' which reached out through regular baking sessions, walks, communal meals and regular mission through outdoor services aimed at families. We'd like to get these up and running again.
(b)	What are you doing to help people find out about Jesus?	Encourage people to attend church and church events through community newsletters and social media Just signed up to 'Re-Weave' looking at how we can engage more people in finding out about Jesus
(c)	What are you doing to help grow people in discipleship?	The Re-Weave project should help grow the discipleship of existing church members as they learn about missional thinking.
(d)	What are you doing to grow people in leadership?	Encouraging all to be involved in leading/contributing to services during interregnum Occasional diocesan training opportunities taken up by Churchwardens etc. Encouraging congregation members to take a lead on the Re-Weave project.
2(a)	Please give details of the support of the Church overseas:	Ad hoc
(b)	How much is given annually?	Variable but not a lot
3(a)	Give details of the support for home missions and charities:	Ad hoc
(b)	How much is given annually?	Variable but not a lot
3(a)	Does the parish have an overseas link?	No
(b)	If so, please state where/who?	
4(a)	Is there an organised system of outreach and welcome to new families?	No
(b)	If so, please describe:	

5.	What part does the church play in community care?	<p>We run (jointly with Cragg Vale Community Association) the Cragg Community Hubbub on two afternoons a week. This was set up as a response to the cost-of-living crisis 2 years ago to provide a warm and welcoming space for those who might need it. We have found that loneliness and social isolation are the main problems, especially among older members of the community.</p> <p>We now encourage anybody and everybody to come along, have a cuppa and cake or a cooked meal and either just chat or do one of the many activities available - table tennis, art/craft, jigsaws, board games, children's corner, books.</p>
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6(a)	Are there any Lay Eucharistic Assistants who take communion to the sick?	No
(b)	If so, who are they?	
7.	What work does the church undertake with young people, other than in church-based organisations (e.g. open youth work)?	None currently

V. Ecumenical Relations

1(a)	State involvement in local Council of Churches:	We have a representative who attends local 'Churches Together' meetings.
(b)	Is there a formal covenant with any other denomination?	No

2.	What informal ecumenical contacts are there?	Churches Together
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VI. Church Education and Social Provision

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

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"> • Children • Young People • Adults 	Footsteps project (based on the Scripture Union Lifepath model) based on the life of Thomas Crowther led and staffed by members of both churches in the benefice. Aimed at KS2 children from local schools. Up to 100 children annually
2(a)	Give details of house/prayer groups:	Benefice house and prayer groups but not that many people from St John's attend.
(b)	Are the leaders clergy or lay?	A mixture
3(a)	How do you rate the strength of lay leadership?	Managing but in need of support

(b)	To what do you credit this strength, or lack of it?	Small ageing congregation, only a few lay volunteers with limited time!
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VIII. Mission

1.	List areas of Church life which you consider in need of development.	<p>Participation in groups such as Alpha and Bible Study.</p> <p>Providing marriage, baptism and parenting courses.</p> <p>Encouraging St. John's and St Michael's to work together more closely.</p> <p>Provision for young people</p>
2.	What are the main areas of mission that you think the new priest should prioritise in their ministry?	<p>Increasing the number of people, especially younger age groups, becoming involved in our church through new forms of worship and activities.</p> <p>Developing the use of the spaces created by reordering, motivating the community to actively participate in the use of the building.</p> <p>Re-establishing 'Sanctuary in the wilderness' (put on hold during Covid) and similar new approaches</p>
3.	In summary, what are the top three challenges with which you and the new priest need to engage?	<p>Growing our congregation on Sunday and throughout the week, especially among the under 50s.</p> <p>Getting people to engage with courses such as Alpha, bible study etc.</p> <p>Improving the pastoral care of our parishioners (develop a pastoral team to take communion to those who can't get to church, are bereaved, lonely/housebound, ill etc)</p>

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.

We have managed to pay our Parish Share in full for many years up to last year. We understand why we should pay our share and always endeavour to do so but the need to carry out work recommended in our last quinquennial survey means that we didn't have enough money to do both last year and probably not this year either.

By growing community use of the church, growing our congregation and further encouraging regular giving we plan to improve our financial position in the near future.

X. The New Priest

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

We are looking for someone

Who is:-

A good communicator

Passionate about God and the church

Prepared to 'think outside the box' to increase the number of people, especially those in younger age groups becoming involved in our church.

Who has:-

Great leadership skills

Innovative ideas to reach out into the community

A sense of humour

Who will:-

Build the prayer life of the churches

Be at ease with different styles of worship

Help us to grow the number of people who use both churches in the Benefice.

Recognise the uniqueness of each church

Agreed by the PCC of

.....

on 20.....

Signed:

Print Name:

Office Held:

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.***