



Welcome to St Anne's Church, Tottington

An open, inclusive and family
friendly community where no-
one is a stranger

Website: <https://tottingtonstannes.org.uk/>



Facebook: tottingtonstannes



Twitter: @TottyStAnnes

SECTION 1

SUMMARY



Summary

Who/where we are:

We are a liberal Catholic Anglican church which is the heart of Tottington and has served the community since 1799

What we can offer you:

Support, friendship, commitment, loyalty, challenge and a sense of belonging

What we expect of you:

A shared collegiality

Engage with the community (including our local schools and businesses)

Be a focus of the worshipping community

Engage openly and generously in sacraments

Be faithful and prayerful

Our focus/vision:

To grow St Anne's numerically and spiritually; welcome new families and baptisms; support pastorally the aging congregation; be central to the local community of Tottington and actively engage them in the life of the church; maintain and grow our music through our choir and musically talented members; be an exemplar for other Parishes in the Diocese and to be open to new ideas

Summary

Strengths:

Open, inclusive and family friendly
Great community connection
Website and social media presence
Regular weddings, baptisms and funerals
Committed team of dedicated volunteers
Experienced and supportive ministerial team
Parish hall which is self financing from the hire income
Our music – full mixed choir, including choir scholars supported by a musical director and four organists on a rotational basis
A large active and supportive Mother's Union group
Our Youth – altar servers, choral scholars, Sunday School and uniformed organisations

Challenges:

The need for a vicar as a focal point of our community and to re-establish our pastoral care in the parish
An organ that is in need of refurbishment
The need to establish a regular organist (with alternative cover when required)
Aging congregation and a need to find more opportunities to attract the younger generation
Maintain and improve connections with the local schools
A parish hall that needs to continue to be self funding from it's hire income

SECTION 2

THE BROADER CONTEXT



Broader Context

Welcome to St Anne's, Tottington. Tottington Parish is a semi-rural community, in the Borough of Bury. We are a liberal Catholic Anglican Parish church. Our beautiful church building is a fine example of Georgian architecture with a bell tower housing a single bell and is widely used by the community especially for weddings and baptisms. We are frequently commended for the strength and warmth of our welcome. We find inspiration in the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. We have built up very good links with our village community, schools and local businesses.

We are part of the Ramsbottom and Tottington Mission Community.

We do not have any paid staff members. We are blessed with an OLM and five readers plus a multitude of volunteers who are responsible for various roles (see later in the document)

St Anne's is in a good financial position and a copy of our latest financial accounts is available to view. Our financial commitment is primarily to keep our buildings in good working order and the PCC are also committed to paying in full our Parish Share.

SECTION 3

THE VICAR WE NEED



Who we are looking for

Tottington St Anne's is looking for, based on the needs of the parish as set out in this profile, a 0.5 priest who is approachable, practices hospitality, is dedicated to their calling through following word and sacrament, and can walk people through change and support our community. We look to our priest to:

- be a servant
- respect and uphold the traditions of the church and its liturgy
- have a strong commitment and dedication to the leadership of pastoral care
- have a vision for the growth of the church through outreach and engagement
- be a builder of a collaborative team
- be someone who can recognise the many talents and gifts of the laity, able to listen, trust and delegate
- strengthen ecumenical links and our partnerships with other Anglican churches in the Deanery, charities, and goodwill services
- Supportive of remembrance and the military services
- has an unrestrictive baptismal policy
- has a pastoral responsibility to the parish and the community
- to be resident in the vicarage

We pay in full all legitimate working clergy expenses, expect them to take proper holidays and days off and we support them as they take time for training (CMD), reading weeks, personal development, retreat and academic study. We have an understanding and concern for the health, well-being, personal and professional development of a priest.

SECTION 4

ABOUT THE PARISH



About the Parish

Tottington is a small village located in the borough of Bury, which is in the Greater Manchester region of England. It lies approximately 10 miles north of Manchester city centre and is surrounded by beautiful countryside. Tottington is known for its peaceful and picturesque setting, making it an attractive place to live for those seeking a quieter and more rural lifestyle while still having access to nearby urban areas.

The village has a rich history, with evidence of settlements dating back to the Bronze Age. Over the years, Tottington has evolved into a close-knit community with a mix of residential areas, local businesses, and amenities. It retains a traditional charm with its historic buildings.

The village offers a range of amenities to cater to the needs of its residents. There are several shops, including grocery stores, small independent businesses, and local pubs where residents can gather and socialize. There is a High School and a Primary School and the surrounding countryside provides opportunities for a number of outdoor activities.



About the Parish (Cont.)

Tottington benefits from its proximity to Bury, a larger town that offers a wider array of services, shopping centres, and entertainment options. Bury has a rich industrial heritage and is known for landmarks such as Bury Market, which is one of the largest outdoor markets in the UK. The market offers a variety of goods, including fresh produce, clothing, crafts, and more.

Transportation in Tottington is primarily facilitated by roads, with nearby access to the A56 and A58, which connect the village to other parts of Greater Manchester and beyond. Public transportation options include bus services that connect Tottington to neighbouring towns and villages, as well as the larger transport network within Greater Manchester.

Overall, Tottington offers a peaceful and scenic setting for residents, with a strong sense of community and convenient access to nearby urban areas.



About the Parish (Cont.)

(the following tables refer to the Ward rather than the Parish but they give a broad outline of the population detail in the area)

TOTTINGTON

Ward in North West England








Population

The population development of Tottington as well as related information and services (Wikipedia, Google, images).

Name	Status	Population	Population	Population
		Census 2001-04-29	Census 2011-03-27	Census 2021-03-21
Tottington	Ward	9,699	10,151	10,068

Tottington

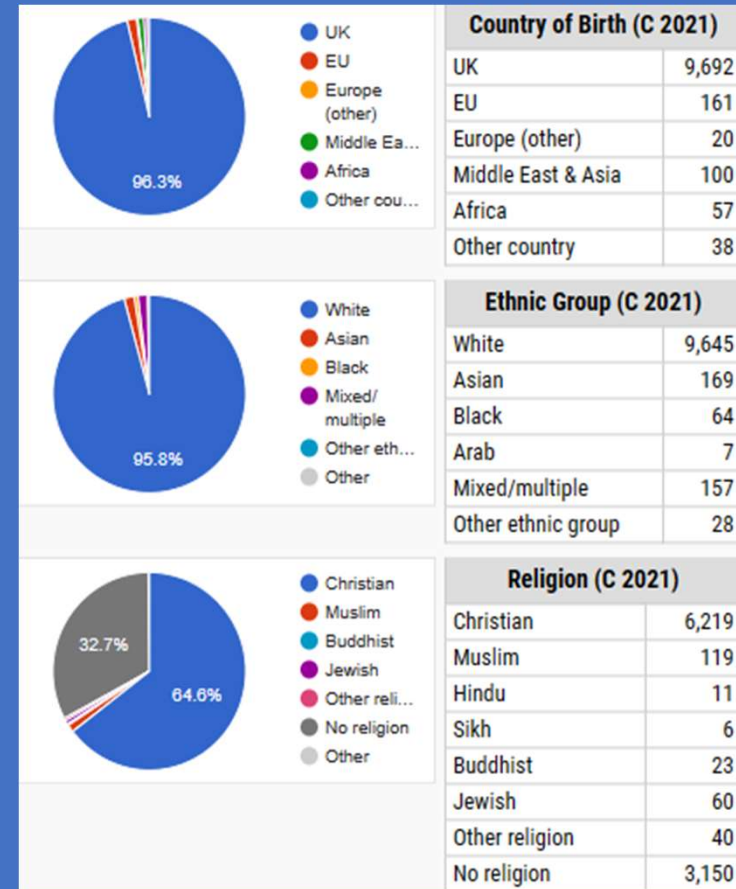
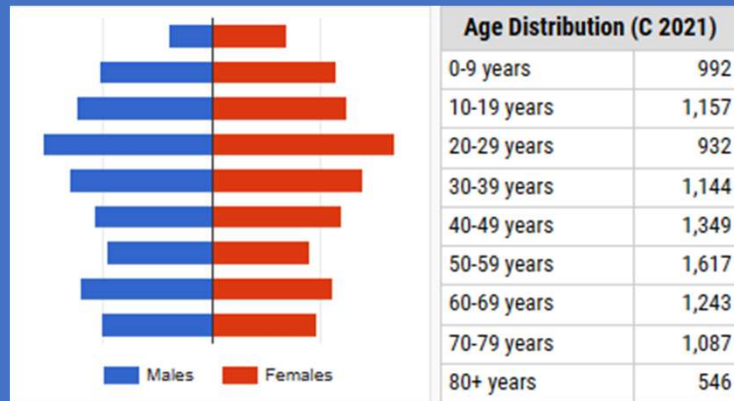
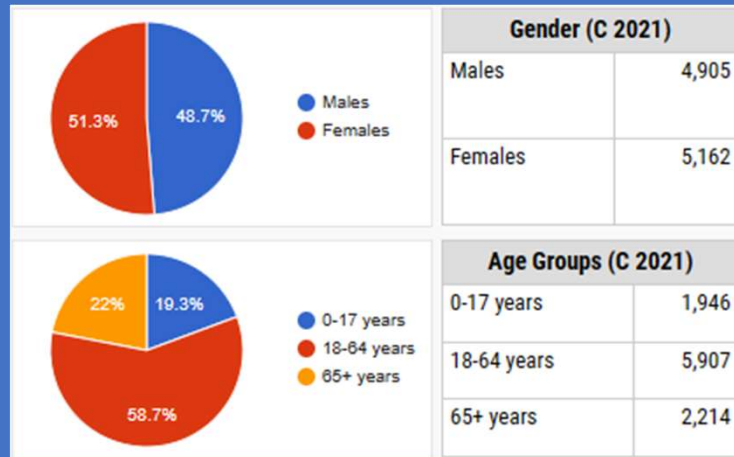
- 10,068 Population [2021] - Census
- 6.763 km² Area
- 1,489/km² Population Density [2021]
- 0.080% Annual Population Change [2011 → 2021]



North West England	Region	6,729,764	7,052,177	7,417,397
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Source: UK Office for National Statistics (web).
Explanation: Wards as at December 2022. All area and population figures of wards are based on output areas. Thus, slight discrepancies are possible compared to the actual ward boundaries that are depicted in the map.

About the Parish (Cont.)



About the Parish – a bit of history

- George Peachment, a rifleman in the First World War, was killed aged just 18 after saving the life of his commanding officer in the horror of battle. He went on to be posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross - the nation's highest military honour. Peachment was born in 1897 in Parkhills, Bury, and his family later moved to Tottington. Town Meadow Park in the village was renamed in his memory as Private Peachment VC Town Meadow Park and dedicated by the former St Anne's vicar. A mural has been painted on a wall in the park and his memorial plaque is displayed in St Anne's church next to the war memorial.
- Whitehead Gardens in Tottington, opposite St Anne's, is a memorial to seven people who lost their lives on Christmas Eve, 1944 in an enemy air raid which destroyed the houses there and badly damaged St Anne's. The garden has a large stone tablet set into the wall on which the names of the dead and the circumstances of the raid are recorded. Robert Whitehead's daughter Agatha Von Trapp was the Grandmother of the children whose escapades were featured in the film 'The Sound Of Music'. He invented the self jet-propelled guided missile - the torpedo. Relations include inventors John Kay (flying shuttle) and Robert Kay (drop box for weaving looms)



SECTION 5

ABOUT THE CHURCH



The church - as a worshipping people

Worship at St Anne's is rooted in Word and Sacrament. We are inspired by an Anglican choral tradition with a vested choir and associated organ accompaniment. We would welcome a new incumbent who would like to work with our choir to explore ways in which we can extend our joy understanding and appreciation of this tradition and music generally.

Currently those presiding at Holy Communion vest in cassock and surplice with lay chalice bearers also vesting in cassocks and cottas. We are blessed with several younger lay altar servers who contribute to our worship. A new incumbent's support for inclusion of the laity within our worship and a recognition of how this might be expanded is also something that we would embrace.

Although the principal Sunday service at 10.30 am follows Common Worship liturgy, the church is affiliated to the Prayer Book Society and Holy Communion is celebrated on Sunday mornings at 8.00am in accordance with the BCP rite which is supported by a loyal congregation of regular worshippers. Our regular pattern of services is completed with a mid-week morning service of Holy Communion at 11.00am on a Wednesday. Exploring how this regular pattern might be expanded to include additional services is something which we would much appreciate. Currently the regular pattern of worship is supplemented by occasional services of Evensong. We are blessed with 234 members of our Electoral role and consistently have over 100 attending for Holy Communion each week over our three services.



The church - as a worshipping people (Cont.)

Our PCC is a keen supporter of the development of young people and sponsors Guiding and Scouting Association groups who come together once a month in a traditional church parade service. The engagement of young people within worship is something we are keen to support and extend.

As a servant of the parish and the wider local community, we have an open and welcoming policy to the Occasional Offices. Baptisms usually take place by arrangement outside the structure of the regular Sunday services, we have found this to be missionally the most successful way of embracing the wider community.

The church plays a significant role in the annual Remembrance Sunday services including at the village cenotaph with the other village churches. An incumbent who enjoyed this aspect of public ministry and wished to develop it further would find the full support of the congregation and the PCC.

We are part of the Ramsbottom and Tottington Mission Community and are starting our journey of working alongside our fellow churches with occasional joint services.



The church - as a worshipping people (Cont.)

Our current ministry team:

Reverend Richard Moffat – OLM

Nick Bebb – Reader

Isobel Hinchliffe – Reader

Chris Jupp – Reader Emeritus

Mark Knight – Reader

Bridget Park – Reader Emeritus

SERVICES AT ST ANNE'S

Wednesdays - Holy Communion at 11.00 am

Sundays - Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) 8.00am; Holy Communion (Common Worship) 10.30am;
Church Parade every second Sunday for the uniformed organisations

Mothering Sunday

Holy Week – Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Hour at the Cross on Good Friday, Easter Sunday

Harvest

Remembrance – including parade to village cenotaph with local churches

Christmas Services – Christingle with Sunday School nativity; Nine Lessons; Christmas Eve; Christmas Day

Services recognizing other national events – death of Queen, Kings Coronation

There is a regular Bible study group led by one of our readers

We have weekly rotas for sidespeople, readers and prayers of intercession

Our PCC, volunteers and groups

Parochial Church Council

Our **PCC** currently consists of our OLM, five readers, two Churchwardens, and 5 Deanery Synod representatives (all ex-officio), plus 19 elected members of the laity who are listed on the electoral roll of the Parish.

Our meetings generally take place in January, March, April, June, September and November with a Christmas social held in December. The Annual Meeting takes place before the end of May each year and before the Archdeacon's visitation.

We have a Standing Committee who meet, when required, to make decisions in between PCC meetings.

Safeguarding Officer

In line with the Manchester Diocesan safeguarding policy entitled 'Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk' (updated May 2017), our policy statement on safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults here at St Anne's is reviewed annually and the PCC and leadership team talk on a regular basis to review the status of safeguarding at church. We also discuss any potential issues that could impact upon the protection of children or vulnerable adults here at St Anne's and consider the Diocesan safeguarding newsletters.

The Diocese of Manchester subscribes to the Churches' Child Protection Advisory Service (CCPAS) and we are registered with that service. This allows Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check applications for our volunteers to be made on-line.

Our PCC, volunteers and groups (Cont.)

Churchwardens Deputy churchwardens

We have 2 Churchwardens and 5 Deputy Churchwardens who assist in the absence of our Churchwardens

Sidesmen

We have 20 Sidesmen over 5 groups which rotate to serve the Sunday church services. Their duties include welcoming our parishioners and new visitors; handing out and collecting in hymn and service books; ringing the bell before service commences; taking the collection to the altar

Other volunteers (the list is not exhaustive)

Sacrosanct - manages the altar servers and the church supplies

Churchyard maintenance

Church clock/bell maintenance

Electoral role officer

Social – organised lunches for Palm Sunday, Christmas, Harvest and also other events such as Call My Bluff wine tasting, whiskey tasting, celebratory lunches and dinners

Brass cleaning

Altar flowers

Faculties

Parish Hall bookings

Our PCC, volunteers and groups (Cont.)

Mothers Union

Our church has had an active Mother's Union for over 125 years, the strength of our success very much attributed to the continued support and leadership of our clergy.

In our membership we are fortunate to have 3 readers, a churchwarden, 3 Sunday School teachers and 4 licensed chalice bearers. This gives us the opportunity to take an active part in church services, preparing sermons, reading lessons and intercessions and serving at Communion. A group of our members regularly arrange flowers in church as well as Mothering Sunday, Easter and Christmas.

The dynamics of our membership has changed over the past 50 years with many women having jobs outside of the home. The afternoon meetings and mum and baby groups are long gone. These days we hold a monthly meeting, usually with a guest speaker and share fellowship. At present we have 84 members and 4 ladies awaiting enrolment. Our ages range from 40-90.

We organise visits to the sick and infirm in their home and in residential homes. We cater at many church events, often raising money for the church. Through the Diocese we support Strangeways Prison, regularly supplying prison bags; premature baby units; local women's refuge; local food bank and families in need.



Our financial position

We are blessed with a committed Treasurer in Roger Morley who has looked after our financial affairs for the last 16 years.

With the 3 Georgian buildings (all subject to listings) a large graveyard and a football pitch there are always financial challenges at St Anne's. Challenges we have successfully managed for the last 224 years. A copy of our faculty tracker, listing the repairs needed around the church, in order of importance, is available to view, as is a copy of our latest quinquennial report.

A positive action during COVID was the opportunity to move away from the traditional weekly envelope giving with the help of our regular attendees switching to automated giving. This has seen an increase in the number of monthly standing orders/online giving to over 150.

We have also added an electronic "CollecTin" to our means of collecting donations from the increasing number of visitors who carry no cash.

We are proud of our presence in the village and intend to ensure this is maintained both spiritually and financially for future generations.

Our latest income and expenditure to year end 31st December 2022 which also includes last years figures, is available to view.

Our financial position (Cont.)

Parish Hall

Our Parish hall is busy with hirers all week, during the day and evening. In addition to the regular hirers, we also take booking for ad hoc meetings, birthday parties and other celebrations. We also use the hall for our own church social events and meetings. Currently, thanks to the income it generates, the hall is self funding.

Land

We own land which is currently used and maintained by Tottington United football club who have a contract with us and pay a monthly lease.

Magazine

We have a popular monthly magazine which is edited by one of our church members and sold at £1 per copy. We have local businesses who pay to advertise making the magazine a good source of income.

Income producing events, Advent Draw and Tottington's Big Day out, are mentioned later in the profile under 'The Community it Serves' section.

100 Club

Members pay £5 per month and the monthly draw, usually made at coffee following the 10.30 communion service, gives prizes of £70, £45, £35 and £20 and at Christmas £1,000, £250, £100 and £50

Our music (Alan Beedie, Choirmaster)

Worship at St Anne's takes a traditional form in all services, using hymns from Common Praise, and communion liturgy set to music by Merbecke. There are also versicles and responses for services which do not include communion. We have made some ventures into using Taize chants at times, and this could be expanded on.

There is quite a healthy choir, usually numbering between 10 and 15 on a Sunday morning. Some members are elderly, but we also have three children recruited as choristers, and one young man who has remained since a young boy and now sings bass, even standing in as cantor at times, also some members of middle age! The choir meets each Wednesday evening at 7.30pm for a one hour rehearsal, usually including the hymns for the following Sunday, and also anthems which we occasionally include during the distribution in communion.

We hold a service of Nine Lessons and Carols at the end of Advent, and usually two or three choral evensong services at points during the year, sometimes supplementing singers, and with a guest organist. The choir sings for some weddings and funerals.

The organ is over a hundred years old, and the organ builder agrees with me that the instrument was never great! It has many deficiencies, but still works. We are struggling to cover all services with an organist, and have been without a single organist to cover everything for a number of years.

There is scope to develop the music in different worship styles and traditions, but the choir is the main strength, as few parish churches have quite such a resource to call upon.

Our youth

Sunday School

Our Sunday School is run by DBS checked volunteers and we have a large number of children who attend on a regular basis. The children join our family service each Sunday at Communion time. The teachers organise our annual Christingle service where the children take part in a nativity play

Altar servers

We currently have 6 Altar servers/crucifers who serve on a rotational basis

Choir scholars

We have 3 Choir scholars who attend choir rehearsals and sing at the weekly and other special services

Scouting and Guiding

We have active Beaver, Cub and Scout groups and Rainbow, Brownie and Guide groups who meet weekly in the hall and attend a monthly church parade service. They assist with many church related tasks and events.



The church - and the community it serves

Tottington's Big Day Out (TBDO) – We have been organising this event annually since 2002 (except for 2 COVID years). Initially we ran this event ourselves in Whitehead Gardens opposite the church but then, when it became so popular it was too large for us to manage alone and outgrew Whitehead Gardens, St John's Cricket Club approached us to ask if we would like to share the event and use their cricket ground. The event expanded further and is now a huge event which people come to from all over the country (this year we estimated attendance of around 5,000) . It is held on the first Sunday of July from 12 noon with six live bands, beer tent, BBQ and other food stalls and lots of games and activities. This year, the event raised £16,000 profit split between ourselves and St Johns Cricket Club. We are very grateful for a main sponsor and individual sponsors, especially band and beer barrels, who enable us to raise such an incredible amount each year.



The church - and the community it serves

Christmas Draw

Each year the profits from the draw are divided between the church and a charity of choice, decided by the PCC. Charities benefitting have included the NW Air Ambulance, Red Door, Bury Hospice, The Big Fandango, Fort Alice, and the 2022 charity, Margaret Haes Riding Centre, who were delighted to receive a cheque for £634



Eco church

St Anne's has a long-standing commitment to taking action to help protect the environment. To this end we have held environment focused eco-services highlighting the importance of protecting Gods creation.

Our belief in protecting the environment goes back over a decade with our registration as a 'Fair Trade Church' in 2006. As a registered Eco church we are currently working towards our Bronze award, which we are hoping to achieve in 2024.

There is a long-standing support for maintaining Gods acre and recently discussions took place regarding rewilding a small area of the churchyard. Our young people have been at the forefront of this and a tree planting ceremony, organised by our uniformed groups, took place as part of the 'Green Canopy' project to celebrate Queen Elizabeth ii Diamond Jubilee.

More about St Anne's and its connections

We have connections with our schools and they have held leaving services at St Anne's. During advent our nativity family are taken to businesses around the village by our local primary school children and finishes it's journey in church on Christmas Eve.

In 2014, on Cherry Tree Avenue alongside the Armed Services Wood at the National Arboretum, we had a cherry tree planted to honour the servicemen of Tottington. We organised a dedication service and travelled by coach to the Arboretum and held the service around the tree.

Local Brookhouse Farm was the birthplace of Henry Wood, a Quaker from Bury who left the country in 1862 and set sail for America due to religious persecution. He set up a new community and named it Woodbury and in 2000 Bury and Woodbury were twinned as part of millenium celebrations in both countries. We have a window on the East side of church which commemorates that connection.





The church buildings

St Anne's church was built in 1799 and attracts a grade 2 listing. The vicarage carries no listing and is dated 1802. It has been a family home for former vicars of St Annes and acts as a focal point for parish pastoral care.

The church stands in the centre of an extensive active graveyard which borders three sides of the parish hall. There is also an active memorial garden and remembrance garden.

Our latest Quinquennial report (dated 2022) is available to view as is our active faculty tracker used to manage the tasks required around the church and grounds.

The Georgian church hall was constructed in 1835 and also attracts a grade 2 listing. This building was originally a National school.

In 1867 the Victorians added an extension to the hall and this is how the group of buildings is today. In 2010 the whole hall was completely refurbished and is a very popular venue for a wide range of activities used by the local and wider community which is why we these days refer to it as the Parish hall.