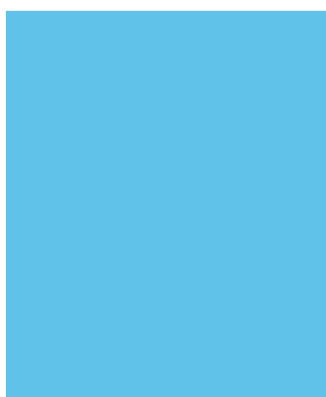


HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

SOUTHWELL, NOTTS



PARISH PROFILE
WWW.HOLYTRINITYSOUTHWELL.CO.UK

CONTENTS

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| Our Vision | 3 |
| Our Diocese | 4 |
| Our Patron | 6 |
| Our Church | 7 |
| Our Strengths & Challenges | 11 |
| Our Priorities | 12 |
| Our New Vicar | 14 |
| Our Town | 15 |
| Our Vicarage | 17 |
| Safeguarding | 18 |
| Meet Some of the Team | 19 |
| Financial Overview | 20 |
| Membership and Financial Statistics | 21 |

OUR VISION

To be a confident community of growing disciples

- ◆ A church filled, empowered and equipped by the Holy Spirit
- ◆ A church which is multi-generational
- ◆ A focus on the ministry of God's Word
- ◆ Inspired to reach out to our community with His love
- ◆ Enabling our church community to deepen their faith as they walk with Jesus

*We want to be **distinctive** disciples of Jesus,
who together reach out with His love and
power to those around us*

OUR DIOCESE

The Diocese of Southwell and Nottingham incorporates the City of Nottingham, the whole County of Nottinghamshire and five parishes in South Yorkshire. The population is 1.15 million – 51% live in the greater Nottingham conurbation, 31% in ex-mining areas, and 18% in rural. There are 305 churches (252 parishes), served by 142 stipendiary clergy and licensed lay workers.

In 2024 we launched our refreshed vision of **Living Hope for the city, towns and villages in Nottinghamshire and beyond**. We believe the presence of thriving, growing churches across the diocese is vital for people to discover Living Hope and make the best decision anyone could ever make for their lives – to become a disciple of Jesus Christ. To enable this vision, we are committed to our mission of **Growing Disciples of Christ** with **compassion, confidence** and **courage**. To support both parishes and the diocese in this, we have identified 7 areas of focus: inspiring worship, reaching younger, enhancing diversity, growing leaders, enabling commitment, encouraging generosity, and nurturing prayer. This vision is set out in more detail on our website:

<https://southwell.anglican.org/vision/>



'It is my hope that each worshipping community in the diocese will develop a compelling picture of its own future in God's purposes, with an expectation of growing numerically and in the scope of its mission. It is my prayer that the new vicar of Holy Trinity will have the creative leadership and imagination to develop discipleship, plan for growth and reach out to the unchurched of all ages in its locality.

As you consider the role of vicar of Holy Trinity Church Southwell, may I encourage you to take time to look over and reflect on our diocesan vision as part of your discernment as to whether God is calling you to be part of this diocese at this exciting time.

I look forward to welcoming the new incumbent of Holy Trinity to join us on this faith-filled journey.'

Rt Revd Paul Williams, Bishop of Southwell & Nottingham

We find ourselves at a crucial moment for the church in relation to a changing culture. The good news of Jesus Christ is as important and life-giving as it has ever been. There are many opportunities to serve the people of Southwell with the gospel of hope in the power of the Holy Spirit. This parish has a vision to grow the church younger and to continue to build on its kingdom work for the future.

Every parish is encouraged to create its own 'Growing Disciples Plan' so that it can play a significant part in the strategic commitment to growing disciples of Jesus Christ with compassion, confidence and courage. For Holy Trinity, this includes developing its role as a local resourcing church. I look forward to supporting the congregation of Holy Trinity in its mission and welcoming a new incumbent to lead and implement the vision for the parish.



The Venerable Tors Ramsey, Archdeacon of Newark

OUR PATRON

CPAS is patron to nearly 700 parishes in England and loves to connect with its clergy and congregations as a supporter behind the scenes. Our priorities for the churches are expressed in the following four icons.

**Every church
a pathway
to faith**



**Every leader
a catalyst for
evangelism**



**Every Christian
a courageous
witness**



**Every child
the chance to
explore Jesus**



We are committed to praying for a great appointment and supporting the person chosen to lead Holy Trinity in its next phase of ministry. To read about patronage resources, holidays and leadership development products we have available, visit www.cpas.org.uk

OUR CHURCH

Holy Trinity, Southwell, was founded in 1844, with an intentional evangelical, Bible-based ministry from the start, open to the work of the Holy Spirit. This continues today, and we are in full accordance with our diocese's renewed vision to bring the living hope of Jesus to our community. A single-church parish with fewer than 2,000 people, we provide the whole town of 7,500 people, and the surrounding villages, with a distinctive, informal, low Anglican ministry. Thank you for your interest in our Parish—we are excited by the process of identifying our new incumbent.

The Building

Our Victorian building was reordered 25 years ago to provide more usable, flexible space, which enables us to host many groups and events, in the absence of a church hall. We have good kitchen and toilet facilities, but no car park, which is a problem at times. Despite the challenges of an older building, it is in good order, and all the requirements of the latest Quinquennial Report have been met. During the week, our neighbouring Infant School even uses the building for PE!

We have two closed churchyards, and one which has limited capacity.

Holy Trinity and the Diocesan Vision

◇ INSPIRING WORSHIP

Worship draws us into the presence of God and opens ourselves up to receive ministry from the Holy Spirit and to draw closer to Jesus. We therefore strive for inspiring worship at all our services, regardless of their particular style.



Kids & Families Service

Most Sundays we have two morning services: a traditional Holy Communion Service at 9am with hymns, and a contemporary service at 10.30am with a worship group who lead modern songs. We take biblical preaching very seriously. The third Sunday is a more interactive café-style service at 10.30am, with a Kids & Families service with tea at 4pm.

"I really love the lively sung worship."

We have a Leaders & Preachers' Team that includes our two LLMs and others who lead and preach on an occasional basis. Currently, we are being supported for Communion services by two retired clergy and others from the diocese.

◇ ENABLING COMMITMENT

"We are a community growing in commitment."

Small Groups - We have a number of Small Groups that meet every two weeks in order to strengthen relationships, study the Bible, and pray together, with 90+ members in total. Our small groups are the first point of contact for pastoral care and prayer for anyone who has specific needs or requires support.

Alpha - We have run Alpha courses over many years, with the last one in Spring 2023.

Teaching Weekends - For several years we have held biennial 'Staycations' with a speaker, a mix of inspiring biblical teaching and social activities, including a ceilidh and great food!

National Conferences - Groups have gone to New Wine, Spring Harvest, Activate and others, and these influences are fed into our 10.30 worship service, in particular.

◇ REACHING YOUNGER

We have close links with Holy Trinity C of E Infant School: one of our church wardens is Chair of Governors, and several of the congregation regularly lead Collective Worship.

In the recent past, the church has reflected the age demographic of the town well, with numbers of young families, children and teenagers. We



Toddler group



Youth Café

have a thriving Toddler group and open Youth Café - both of which meet weekly during term time and predominantly welcome those from outside the Holy Trinity Church family.

There are opportunities to potentially further develop links with the Brackenhurst Campus of NTU. We have recently made contact with the Christian Union leaders with regard to their 'Church Search' in the autumn term.

◇ GROWING LEADERS

This is an area that we need to develop, so that people are helped to recognize and use their gifts more fully.

As well as our two LLMs, there is a group of people who help with occasional leading of services and preaching.

We have a strong PCC comprising 11 elected members, plus two who are members of Deanery Synod - one of whom is also a member of General Synod.

◇ ENHANCING DIVERSITY

Recently, the PCC undertook a CMS course via Zoom on being Pioneers, something to which we feel very much drawn. Key takeaways were:

- Who are our pioneers, and are we enabling them?
- How can we use our finite resources in the most effective ways to reach our community with the Good News of Jesus?
- Are there some things we need to let go of, or change?
- What are some good starting points?
- Don't expect instant results - new initiatives can take a long time to embed!

◇ ENCOURAGING GENEROSITY

Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. Luke 6:38

Our Planned Giving is strong, with 89 individuals/families currently members of our Planned Giving Scheme. Our core income is tithed to support mission organizations.

We also recognize that generosity includes the sharing and offering of our time and our talents to God, to be used to grow His Kingdom. We have a specific stewardship focus most years at some point, when we encourage the giving of time and talents as well as money.

◇ NURTURING PRAYER

“HT is a very special place. A welcoming family and a safe port to harbour your pain.”

Prayer is one of the key pillars on which the life and ministry of Holy Trinity is built. We recognize that unless God is building this house (Psalm 127) our efforts are in vain. In order to encourage church members in their faith, to seek God's leading in our



Julie Barker - Prayer Coordinator

ministry and church life – including the fruit of His Spirit and acts of power, we have appointed a prayer ministry coordinator to oversee all aspects of our prayer life.

We have a WhatsApp group of prayer champions who link the home groups in prayer, cascading prayer needs. We have training days designed to increase confidence in different types of prayer. Before and after our 10.30am service there are always members of our prayer ministry team available to pray with anyone who wants that.

We recognize that we could do much more, and long to see more corporate prayer across our church family.

Wider Ministry

Older people - Our care for older people has been very strong over many years. On Wednesdays, church is open for Connections - refreshments from 10am followed by a light lunch. The morning includes craft activities, and once a month the children from Holy Trinity Infant School join in. There is the option to be part of a Bible Study group and also a bereavement support group - both of which meet twice a month.

From Connections, a monthly memory café called Moments has evolved, to support those with dementia and their carers.



Mission organizations - We have a long history of strong links to mission organizations at home and abroad, and have regular mission focus Sundays.

<https://www.holytrinitysouthwell.co.uk/mission>

Men's ministry - A bi-monthly Men's Breakfast is held in church on a Saturday morning with an in-house or visiting speaker, for encouragement and outreach.

Eco Church - We have achieved Silver Status under the A Rocha Eco Church scheme, which we are striving to maintain and progress to Gold at some point in the future. We are also working out how we engage with the journey to Carbon Net Zero.

OUR STRENGTHS & CHALLENGES

We have many strengths and challenges at this time, and we are looking for a leader who will encourage, enable, support and oversee a healthy leadership team. Our biggest challenge and overriding desire is to become genuinely multi-generational again. This is something we have lost over a number of years and for numerous reasons. That said, two of our biggest strengths involve younger people.

| | |
|--|--|
| Strengths <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Intentional evangelical bible-based ministry• Thriving Toddler group• Popular 7-11 open Youth Café• Strong care support for Older People• High level of engagement with the financial Stewardship Scheme• Long-established support for Mission Organizations• Committed and supportive leadership team and PCC• Well-supported Small Groups network | Weaknesses <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Loss of nearly all families with children at Sunday worship• Not representative in age or social profile of our parish community• Kids and families service now poorly attended• Disconnection between membership of Toddler, Youth Café and Connections groups and membership of our worshipping community |
| Opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Create new forms of worshipping community for our Toddler, Youth Café and Connections groups• Engage more with our immediate Parish community• Develop and enhance our outreach to local schools and college• Establish Children, Youth and Families ministry and outreach team• Develop a stronger discipleship pathway• Develop a greater corporate prayer focus | Threats <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We will lose contact with current Youth Café families if we do not have a quality KS3 club established by September 2025• Ceasing to be an attractational church if we cannot widen our generational membership• Falling numbers as our current membership gets older |

We are good at providing opportunities for people to encounter the gospel, but how do we move them on from encounter to discipleship?

OUR PRIORITIES

We are looking forward to supporting our new vicar in developing all areas of church life, but have identified the following priorities, structured around Our Vision, where we believe we need to enhance our existing ministries:

1 To build on and develop the Vision of Holy Trinity to be a church filled, empowered and equipped by the Holy Spirit.

Specifically:

- Lead in the development of a Growing Disciples Plan (GDP), with the PCC, which will capture and communicate the vision and strategy for the church.

2 To become a fellowship which is, once again, multi-generational.

Specifically:

- Work with the local schools and college to raise our profile and develop our ministry in this area.
- Lead the recruitment and development of the youth, children and families team, and review opportunities for Kids & Families worship.
- Explore the potential for, and lead the development of, new worshipping communities springing from current ministries (Toddlers, Youth Café, Connections/Moments).
- Explore outreach to NTU students, with a view to planting a service for young adults.

The Church of England is aiming to have a 'vibrant' church within reach of every child in England - meaning 25 under-18s attending services weekly. We aim to be one of those churches soon!

3 To strengthen the focus of the ministry of God's Word

Specifically:

- Lead and support the service leading and preaching team in delivering a pattern of worship services that is both true to our evangelical heritage and embraces a charismatic ministry.

- Teach and uphold the authority of Scripture while also welcoming and loving all people in Jesus's name.
- Identify and develop opportunities for ministry of the Word outside of the Sunday context (eg: Connections/Moments, other Holy Trinity groups, local care homes etc).

4 To reach out to our community with God's love

Specifically:

- Develop working relationships with other church leaders in the town and local area, including the Diocese, Deanery, and Churches Together in Southwell.
- Encourage engagement and outreach opportunities in the immediate parish area.
- Lead and encourage a missional approach to the Occasional Offices held at Holy Trinity.
- Support church members engaged in the local council and focus groups in the town.
- Develop the church as a resourcing church to the town and beyond.

5 To enable our church community to deepen their faith as they walk with Jesus

Specifically:

- Develop and enable pathways of nurture and discipleship for enquirers and church members alike, and help them engage with the GDP.
- Support and encourage the nurturing of prayer within the life of the church.
- Help church members to explore and develop their own spiritual gifts so that the full range of spiritual giftings is exercised within the church.
- Identify and encourage new leaders, including vocations.

We are really excited about moving forward as a Church, and are really looking forward to our new Vicar joining us!

OUR NEW VICAR

We are looking for a passionate Spirit-filled person who, in equal measure:

- is a strategist, able to gain an overview of what we do, and discern how we can become more effective at sharing the gospel and making disciples who have a living faith in Jesus
- is a preacher and teacher who will help us to engage with our faith and grow in commitment and discipleship
- Will help us to become truly multi-generational once more, and to more closely mirror the demographic of Southwell in our church
- is an empowering leader who will re-energize and grow our leadership team and build our core ministry
- will discern, encourage, and help to develop spiritual gifts across the church, and use our gifts in mission to our community
- will listen to and love us, and will listen to and love our great community

If you think this might be you, please feel free to come and visit us on a Sunday.

OUR TOWN

Holy Trinity is situated near the edge of the attractive market town of Southwell, some 15 miles northeast of Nottingham and 8 miles west of Newark. There are good transport links, being close to the A1 and M1, and the East Coast Mainline, which is just a 20-minute drive away.

The Town - Southwell is a popular place to live, for both families and the retired. With a population of 7,500, it is a hub for the neighbouring villages. It offers a wide range of amenities, including a good range of shops, eating places, and a popular outdoor Saturday market. Our modern library is a venue for a wide range of events.

Sport & Leisure - There is a Leisure Centre, and five separate sports clubs, each with their own facilities – Rugby, Football, Tennis, Hockey and Bowls. There are also three local golf clubs. Rural walks are plentiful and the River Trent is a couple of miles to the south. National Trust members are attracted to Southwell Workhouse, on the edge of the town. Two major music festivals are held annually; the Gate to Southwell Folk Festival in June, and the Southwell Classical Music Festival in late August.

Churches - There is a wide range of other churches in the town, most notably our cathedral, Southwell Minster. The churches are all linked by Churches Together in Southwell, a vibrant organization that encourages collaboration in activities that include bi-monthly open forums, Lent lunches, Christian Aid support, Food Bank support, and a Welcome Scheme for new residents.

Schools - Southwell has two infant schools (including Holy Trinity, linked to our church), one junior school, and the Minster secondary school, which has a junior department for musically gifted pupils. This school, which is well-regarded, drawing pupils from a wide catchment area, specializes in musical



excellence and achieves high grades in all areas of the curriculum up to and including A level standard. On the southern edge of town is situated the Brackenhurst Campus of Nottingham Trent University, comprising some 1,200 students.

Other Interests - There is a wide range of interest groups, and a host of more than 50 voluntary activities, as well as sporting/exercise opportunities in the town, for all ages. Recreational facilities developed by the Town Council in recent years include children's play areas and a new Skate Park.

Local Community - Community voice in the town is strong, and community leadership important. Three members of Holy Trinity are actively involved as town councillors, as are Christians from other churches. Social concerns play a significant role in the way the town responds to local and national issues.



OUR VICARAGE

Holy Trinity Vicarage is a spacious house with an extended and refurbished kitchen diner, two reception rooms, a study and downstairs cloakroom.



Upstairs are four good-sized bedrooms and a family bathroom.

It is set in its own private grounds away from the main road, and with a detached garage.



It is a five minute walk from the church.

SAFEGUARDING



*Ann Clark
Safeguarding Officer*

At Holy Trinity we take safeguarding extremely seriously, and we are fully committed to providing a safe environment and healthy culture across all relationships.

Our PSO is Ann Clark, and at present our Lead Recruiter is Margaret Newstead, who is our Administrator.

We use the Parish Dashboard to ensure that all our policies and procedures are reviewed and up to date; we are currently working at level 3. We have started to use the online Safeguarding Hub to record training, job descriptions and roles within the church. We currently have 37 volunteers who have completed the foundation level of training, in addition to PCC members and LLMs.

Some of these have also completed the Leadership level of training and Domestic Abuse training.

All volunteers are safely recruited. Safeguarding is a standing item on the agenda at all PCC meetings.

MEET SOME OF THE CHURCH TEAM



Chris Stead
Warden



Ian Baird-Smith
Warden



Margaret Newstead
Administrator*



Suzanne Dent
Reader



Shelagh Baird-Smith
Reader



Denise Parkin
Bookkeeper*



Andy Wall
Worship Group Leader



Kelly Wall
Worship Group Leader

This Leadership Team is supported by a large number of committed volunteers across all areas of church life

*Part-time paid positions

FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

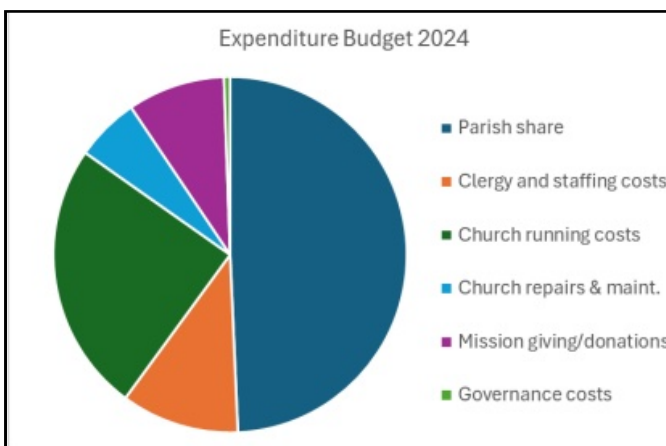
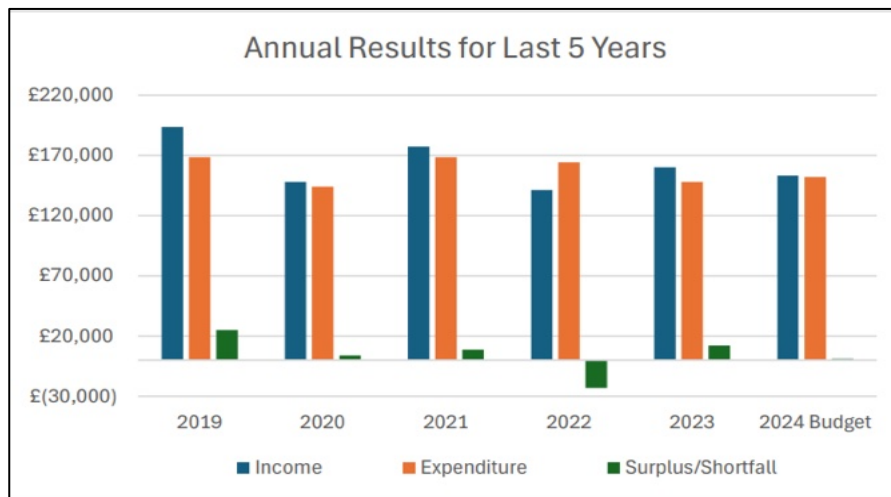
This is a very brief summary of the financial picture. For more details, see the link on the next page for the Finance Dashboard for the Parish of Southwell: Holy Trinity for details for 2014 – 2023.

In four of the last five years we have achieved a budget surplus on unrestricted funds. Our 2024 budget assumes a breakeven position for the year, and at the end of the first half we were on track to achieve this.

Around 85% of our income comes from church members via the Planned Giving scheme, and most of this is received under regular standing orders, supplemented occasionally by specific gift days. About 80% of this income is donated under Gift Aid.



*Richard Marjoribanks
Treasurer*



The Parish Share represents just under half of our 2024 budgeted expenditure. Our requested Parish Share is paid in full each year by monthly standing order.

The church gives 10% of its core income away to mission organizations each year. This is managed on behalf of the PCC by the Mission group.

Accounts are presented to PCC on a quarterly basis and a budget for the following year is prepared and agreed by PCC each November.

The 2023 Trustee Annual Report and Accounts can be viewed online at:

https://www.holytrinitysouthwell.co.uk/files/ugd/8b5f2f_eff1b803e054298889fc9d0de2721eb.pdf

MEMBERSHIP & FINANCIAL STATISTICS

Information on our finances and membership statistics over the last 10 years may be viewed by clicking on the links below:

SfM Dashboard for the Parish of Southwell: Holy Trinity for details for 2014 – 2023:

https://www.holytrinitysouthwell.co.uk/files/ugd/8b5f2f_6148645dfd2f49e0ae303d8f52bb3808.pdf

Finance Dashboard for the Parish of Southwell: Holy Trinity for details for 2014 – 2023:

https://www.holytrinitysouthwell.co.uk/files/ugd/8b5f2f_84eda5c6c9cc479a866fab0cd0ee6151.pdf