




# Holy Trinity Heath Town Wolverhampton Parish Profile 2025

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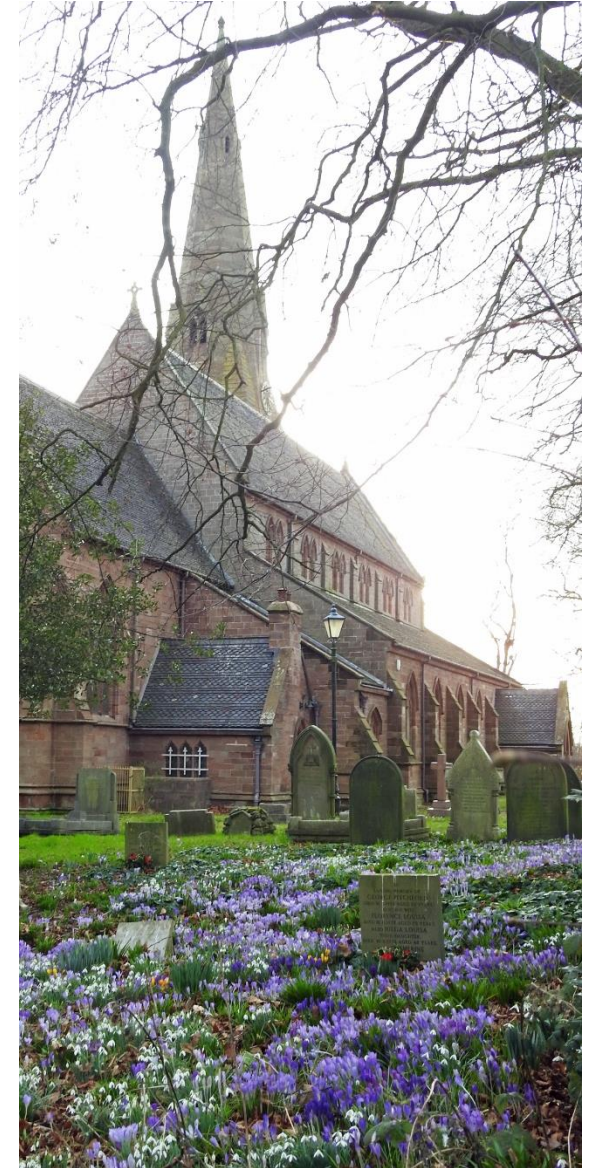
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# Vision Statement and Introduction

***Our vision is for the whole fellowship to express our love for God, for God's world, for one another, and for our community, through:***

- ***Praying earnestly,***
- ***Serving others whole heartedly,***
- ***Sharing our faith relevantly,***
- ***Using our buildings appropriately,***

***in order to bring Christian hope and the love of Jesus to all.***



This Parish Profile is to help you discern if God is calling you to work with us in forwarding God's mission here at Holy Trinity Heath Town. The vision statement, and mission we feel called to as a church, reflects the view that the Church of God does not live for itself, but is only true to its calling when its focus is centred on Christ's mission; the realisation of the Kingdom of God.

The fellowship has a strong desire to reach as many people as possible with the Good News of the Kingdom, for individual salvation, and for transforming communities. There continues to be a strong emphasis on concern for the 'outcast and stranger', with 'being Good News' and 'speaking Good News' of equal importance.

The church has registered charity status, is registered for "Eco Church", and has a well-developed "Inclusion for All" policy, which all event organisers are asked to reference.

There is also, following Diocesan Guidelines, a well-established Safeguarding Policy with a Safeguarding Officer and deputy who oversee the required completion of training by both clergy, church officers, and volunteers.

The following pages describe how God has shaped and equipped the fellowship for this mission, in the past, for the present and for the challenges of the future.

# 1. ABOUT THE FELLOWSHIP

## STYLE and TRADITIONS

Holy Trinity is rooted in an open evangelical 'low church' tradition, with some more inclined to freer worship styles and others more traditionally evangelical. In 2010, after consultation and with a growing fellowship, the decision was made to provide two services each Sunday morning at 9.30am and 11.15am, to reflect these differing needs and provide for further growth. Those within the fellowship get on well with each other, and the friendly welcoming atmosphere continues to draw people in. We consider ourselves a down to earth, plain-speaking congregation – no 'airs and graces' required.



## CHURCH LEADERSHIP

The church has a strong policy of 'all member ministry' and has a Leadership Team in place. This is fundamental to how the leadership of the church is seen by the fellowship.

The Leadership Team's areas of ministry are based around the Church of England's "*Five Marks of Mission*" and are: -

- **Nurture:** Overseeing activities related to "*teaching, baptism and nurturing believers*"
- **Pastoral Care:** Overseeing activities related to "*responding to human need by loving service*"
- **Proclaim:** Overseeing activities related to "*proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom*"
- **Sustain & Renew:** Overseeing activities related to "*safeguarding the integrity of creation*"
- **Transformation:** Overseeing activities related to "*challenging injustice, pursuing peace and reconciliation*"



Each has a team leader, with the 2 churchwardens leading the Sustain & Renew Team. Each member of the PCC is on at least one team, along with other members co-opted from the congregation. These Team Leaders, with the Vicar, Readers and the Curate (when one is appointed) form the Ministry Leadership Team and meet regularly to plan and co-ordinate ministry accordingly.

The PCC currently has twelve elected members and four representatives on the Deanery Synod. Other ex-officio members are the Vicar, Curate (when there is one) Readers, Church Wardens, PCC secretary, Treasurer and Safeguarding Officer.

Currently the PCC employs a part-time Administrator (12hrs/wk), and a Cleaner (8hrs/wk). Our Youth Worker left in June 2025 after 6 years, to be ordained. We are looking to employ a 'Families and Community Worker' as soon as funding is in place.

There are four licensed Readers, one with PTO.

The Parish is recognised by the Diocese as a training parish and would normally have a curate in post. Currently there is no curate in post.

## SERVICES



Over the last fifteen years, since introducing two services each Sunday morning, the services have gradually developed their own character. All services are well planned and have an informal, relaxed style with robes mainly worn for morning Communion services only. The 9.30am attendance profile is mainly middle aged to older, with a growing number of children, using a more traditional style of worship. In contrast, the 11.15am profile is mainly young families with children and some middle aged and older and has a less traditional style of worship. There is a broad range of ethnicity and ages at both services, reflecting the multicultural nature of the parish.

Each service is planned around a liturgical framework taken from Common Worship and/or other sources, with a specific theme or using the Common Lectionary. Service sheets containing the liturgy and songs are printed for each service. Generally, the "New Living Translation" Bible is used in all services. The liturgy and song words are also projected on to the large central screen. Once or twice a month (on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays) part way through the 11.15am service, the primary school-aged children are encouraged to attend "Kingdom Builders" children's group, organised in the church hall ( see page 17).

Communion services take place each week, alternating between the 9.30 and 11.15 services.

A Joint "Walk of Witness" is held within the parish, along with members of the Harvest Temple (New Testament Church of God) after the morning service on Good Friday.



On Remembrance Sunday an Act of Remembrance is held at the war memorial in Heath Town Park between the morning services.

All services involve varied approaches to worship, seek to be inclusive, and reflect our policy of an 'All member' ministry. This takes the form of both adults and youth taking part in the reading of lessons, intercessions, notices, drama, testimony and music. Children and young people are encouraged to be involved in the services as much as possible. Encouragement and training are given to all, both young and old, to explore and use their gifts within the fellowship.



Refreshments are served after each service with the aim of building relationships and encouraging intermingling of the two congregations between services. Prayer Ministry is offered after each service, led by a trained and experienced team. For this there is a comfortable seated area in the north aisle of the church if required.

A comprehensive rota system is in place for leaders, preachers, lead musician, Bible readers, intercessors, projectionists, stewards, and 'welcomers'. As well as the Vicar and Readers, four lay people are also regularly involved leading services. The preacher allocated for a particular Sunday usually preaches at both services. There is a service planning team, which plans the two Morning Praise services at 11.15am each month. Other services are generally planned by the service leader, in consultation with the lead musician over the musical content. The leadership and service planning team, seek to provide a varied but predictable / comprehensible programme of Sunday services and teaching.

### Holy Trinity Marathi Congregation

*"It gives me great privilege to write a few things about our Marathi congregation at Holy Trinity. Originally, we started as house prayer group in 2008 and thereafter we started as Marathi Congregation in Birmingham. We were praying and fasting to get a church in Wolverhampton as most of the families work and live in Wednesfield. In August 2015, we met with Rev Richard at Praveen Ahi's house who is our member and him and his family use to attend 11:15 Service and we proposed Rev Richard about our vision and he was so welcoming and was helpful and supportive. After few days, having discussions with Bishop Michael and Clive and being informally agreed by them we started worshipping at Holy Trinity Church from August 2015.*

- *Most of us work for NHS mainly at New Cross Hospital and Sandwell and West Birmingham NHS Trust.*
- *We worship two Sundays a month, which is second and fourth Sunday at 13:00 hours*
- *We have 5 families with 12 adults and 8 children.*
- *Rt Rev Pankaj Devnoor from Manchester ministers for us.*
- *The service is conducted mainly in Marathi language, and also in Hindi and English.*
- *The other Sundays of the month when we don't have service, we Marathi families usually join Holy Trinity congregation 11:15 service.*
- *We are so blessed to be extended family of Holy Trinity Church and would like to give emphasis that we have always been well supported by Holy Trinity congregation while doing our ministry and worshipping in our own language."*

Included in the congregation are a Marathi-speaking group who run their own Sunday services twice a month at 1.00pm. Many also attend the main services. "Black History Month" is celebrated at both morning services on the last Sunday in October each year, sometimes with an accompanying event on the Saturday.



## Summary of Main Services

<u>9.30am Services</u>		<b>Average Attendance</b>		
		2023	2024	2025 (to 31 July)
<b>1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday</b>	Morning Praise	Adults 30 Under 16 3	Adults 34 Under 16 5	Adults 34 Under 16 6
<b>2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	Holy Communion	Adults 31 Under 16 4	Adults 37 Under 16 5	Adults 36 Under 16 7

<u>11.15am Services</u>		<b>Average Attendance</b>		
		2023	2024	2025 (to 31 July)
<b>1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday</b>	Holy Communion ( Informal)	Adults 46 Under 16 12	Adults 48 Under 16 13	Adults 49 Under16 11
<b>2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> , 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday</b>	Praise & Worship	Adults 47 Under 16 14	Adults 50 Under 16 15	Adults 51 Under 16 15

### Other Services

<b>Sunday Marathi Service 1.30pm</b>	Bi-monthly
<b>Sunday 3.00pm Baptism</b>	Monthly as required.
<b>Sunday 6.00pm</b>	Memorial Service (three held a year: - March, July, November)
<b>Morning Prayer 9.00am</b>	Monday, Tuesday, Thursday
<b>Festival and Other Services</b>	Ash Wednesday 6.45pm Holy Communion Maundy Thursday 6.45pm Holy Communion Good Friday 10.30am Family Service Easter Day 10.30am All Age with communion Ascension Day 6.45pm Holy Communion Act of Remembrance at the Park War Memorial 10.50am Christingle 4.00pm Christmas Eve Christmas Eve Midnight Communion Christmas Day 10.30 All Age with communion
<b>Monthly on 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday 11.00am</b>	Service at Verona Court (nearby care home)
<b>Monthly on 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday 11.00am</b>	Service at New Cross Care Home



## MUSIC



A wide range of musical styles are used in worship, from traditional hymns to the latest worship songs, selected to fit with the service theme and liturgy. The church had a Musical Director (MD) who retired from the post in 2019, though still regularly plays keyboard and organ for services. The search for a replacement Musical Director is on-going. Currently the music is led by the music group mainly using a Clavinova piano / keyboard. There is a well-maintained Walker, two manual tracker pipe-organ, used mainly for weddings and funerals,

and used on occasion in the main services. When a keyboard player is not available, 'iSing' (Computer programme backing tracks) is used to lead the music.

The present music group consists of a core group of 4 regular singers, guitarist, bass guitarist and violinist, along with the 2 keyboard players who lead from the keyboard. The group 'mix and match' to lead the singing at both the 9.30am and 11.15am services. The church has a CCL licence allowing the use of a wide source and range of music, printing of service sheets, and word projection.



## BAPTISMS, WEDDINGS AND FUNERALS

**Baptisms:** There is an open baptism policy. Enquirers are given the choice of either incorporation into a Sunday morning service or a separate 3.00pm Sunday Baptism service. Generally, people choose the afternoon service, usually on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month. Baptism preparation takes place through a home visit. A baptism certificate is presented during the main service or in the case of the 3.00pm service, at the following Sunday main service to which baptism parties are encouraged to attend. In 2024 there were 11 Baptisms.

**Weddings:** There is an established policy of undertaking the marriage of divorcees. On request, Blessings of Marriage after civil ceremonies and renewal of vows are also offered.

In 2024 there were no weddings, there have been 3 in 2025 with no more booked this year. Many couples join the electoral roll to marry and some return on a regular basis following the marriage, bringing their children to be baptised.

**Funerals:** In 2024 there were 13 funerals. In 2025, up November there were also 13, 9 were held in the church, 4 at the local crematorium. Currently the vicar carries out funeral visits and services.



## CHILDREN and YOUTH WORK

We have at Holy Trinity, for many years, had a clear commitment to children and youth work. The church's policy in recent years has been to have family worship at 11.15am with the children staying in for the whole service on three out of four/five Sundays in the month, and it's been encouraging to see the children regularly reading the Bible, leading the prayers, collecting the offertory, and preparing the communion table. At the back of church, we have a worship table available to all who need it which includes instruments, flags and ribbons etc to use in worship. For toddlers and babies we have bags that contain toys and books for them to use as well as a comfortable, carpeted crèche area for parents and carers to take young children to if they get restless during the services. These are all regularly used and maintained by volunteers.

We saw a decline in the numbers of children and young people attending church and the groups after COVID and these numbers have not reached the pre-COVID figures. However, more recently we have been fortunate to welcome more families into our services with several choosing to attend the 9:30am service rather than the 11:15am. The Nurture Team, alongside other members of the church, follow many approaches and initiatives to reach and keep young people. This has kept our numbers steady in recent years but there is still much work to be done in reaching the under18 year olds with the love of God.

The PCC has a policy to allow children, who are prepared through a short course for communion, to take communion before confirmation.

Our employed youth worker has recently left Holy Trinity to be ordained and so the Children and Youth ministry is being run by volunteers. The hope is that a *Church and Community Children and Families worker* will be appointed in the near future (depending on funding) who will be able to devote their time to working with children and families in the church and wider community.

We have a number of groups that meet throughout the week.

- **Kingdom Builders** (Reception to Year 6)

The children meet in the church hall during part of the 11.15am service on every 3rd and 5th Sunday of each month. This group helps the children to develop their relationships with one another as well as having access to Bible teaching, prayer and fun together. They often follow the theme of the week's service. The numbers can vary, but there are about 5 -12 children coming to each session.



- **Rooted;** (year 7 plus)

The young people meet every Thursday evening in the Church Hall, 7:00pm – 8.30pm. The numbers tend to fluctuate depending on school commitments but there is an average of 10 young people, some of whom attend church. This was previously run by the youth worker but has now been taken over by a team of volunteers. It is a safe space where youngsters can be nurtured and develop a sense of responsibility and belonging. The evening involves youth club type activities plus a 'God slot' with Christian teaching. The group has followed programmes such as a youth adaptation of the Saints Alive program, and Youth Alpha. Thanks to the availability of some funding, the youngsters have been able to go away on residential activity weeks which have helped to build their confidence through taking part in new activities and meeting other young people. The group have also undertaken other activities such as drama workshops, sports activities, arts and crafts, discussion groups and the occasional trip out.



- **Trinity Toddlers Group**

This group for parents and carers and their very young children used to be held, for many years, on Wednesday mornings during term time and was often an oversubscribed group. However, due to leadership stepping down and a lack of volunteers Trinity Toddlers sadly came to an end in summer 2024. There is a hope that this group will reopen when we employ a Children and Families worker.

- **Schools work**

A team of clergy and volunteers regularly go into Trinity Primary Academy to lead collective worship. The pupils have regular visits into church to support their RE lessons, plus attend special events and services.

Occasional assemblies are also taken at Heath Park High School, and their annual carol service is held in church.

- **Special activities**

The children and young people take part in various events in church throughout the year, such as the 'Light Party' for families in October, and the very popular two Christingle services on Christmas Eve. Seasonal activities, such as litter picking in the churchyard, cake decorating and arts and crafts are organised for all ages and take place at the 'Place of Welcome' on occasional Saturday mornings.





# COMMUNICATIONS

A weekly **Jottings** sheet is produced which highlights midweek events and services, forthcoming events, both within the church and wider community. It also contains a list of bereaved families and people who have requested prayer for healing. This is printed and distributed at Sunday services and is also circulated by email.

A fortnightly **Prayer Diary** is also produced which gives weekly prayer pointers and our prayer strategy.

Leaflets are distributed to the whole parish twice a year, before Christmas and Easter, detailing services and other events along with a seasonal message.

There are four external notice boards around the church site, used to advertise service times, contact details and special events.

There is a Facebook page ( <https://www.facebook.com/holytrinitychurchht> ) and also a website ( <http://www.htht.org.uk/> ) giving information about the church which, is linked to the “A church near you” website, where information about services and activities are also given.

PCC minutes are on public display on a notice board in church, together with photographs of the PCC and Leadership Team.

Each area of ministry has a large notice board in church to keep the congregation informed.



## PARISH ACTIVITIES and PROGRAMMES

The Church provides a variety of regular groups and activities both for church members and for other members of the local community. These are:-

- **Connect Circles**

Regular attenders are encouraged to join one of a number of Connect Circles. Each Circle has a main contact person. The purpose of these is to help us stay connected to one another and to look out for and encourage each other.

- **Morning Prayer**

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9.00am in the church chancel.

- **Tuesday Prayer Meeting**

2.30pm in the church chancel.

- **House Groups and Lent Groups**

- **Monday Morning Bible Bunch**

Meet fortnightly on a Monday in the church hall for Bible study.

- **Music Group**

Friday 7.30pm fortnightly practice in the church.

- **Coffee & Chat**

Meet monthly on Thursday morning, open to all in the community and provides a welcoming place for people to drop in to meet with others over light refreshments.

- **Place of Welcome**

10.30am – 12.30pm weekly on Saturday morning, open to all in the community. Part of the national Place of Welcome network providing free light refreshments and a safe space for people to gather, connect and reduce isolation.

- **Community Friendship Group**

Held Monday morning monthly, open to all in the community. There are 30-40 regular attendees, mainly retired, providing social activities, occasional outings, and short celebrations of main Church festivals (Christmas, Easter, Harvest and Remembrance).

- **Job Club**

Weekly on a Tuesday. Working with Job Change, a local specialist organisation, providing support for those seeking employment.

- **Teaching programmes** (see below)

- **Walking for Health**

A walking group, open to all, meet at the church hall weekly on Thursday morning to start their walk.





A parish weekend away has been held several times over the last few years at Cefn Lea in Wales. A programme of activities is provided, led by either an invited speaker, or the leadership team. The last one held in July 2025 was attended by around 60 adults and children.

There are also occasional events, for example, Prayer Breakfasts, Quiet Mornings, and Churchyard Celebrations.

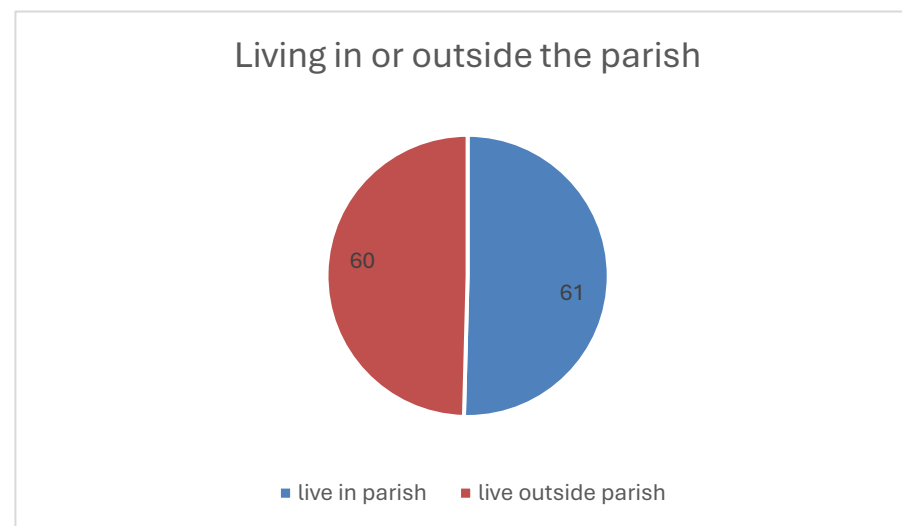
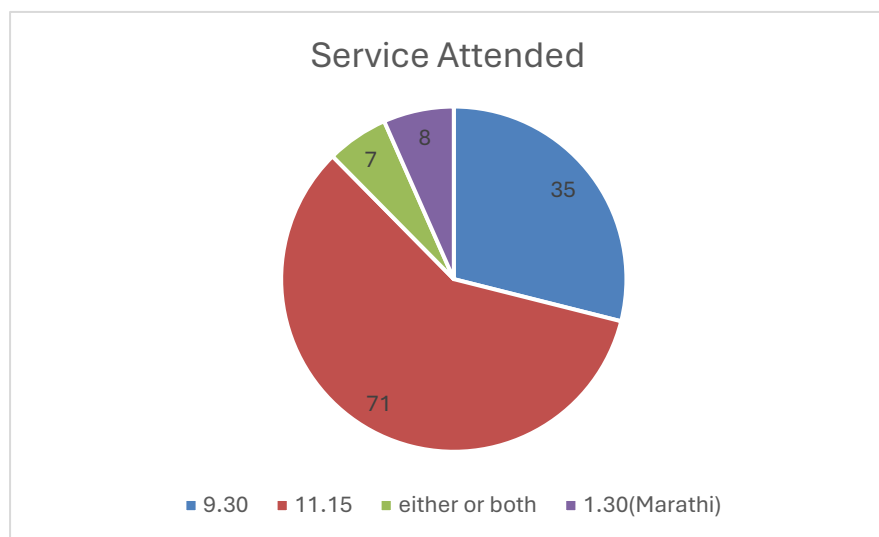
Courses and training are arranged to suit current needs. Living Faith, Growing Leaders, home grown “Enquirers” and “Christian Basics” courses are regularly used. Training mornings are also occasionally provided for those reading the Bible and leading intercessions in services and use of the PA / IT systems. Welcome events for newcomers are also held.

There are occasional social events. These include, for example, Musical Concerts, Harvest Supper, among other fund-raising events.

Holy Trinity is also involved in CONNECT, which is a Wolverhampton-wide Christian organisation promoting unity and prayer for the city. Children and Youth Group’s activities are detailed in the ‘Children and Youth’ section.

## ELECTORAL ROLL FACTS and FIGURES

***Electoral Roll May 2025 = 121***

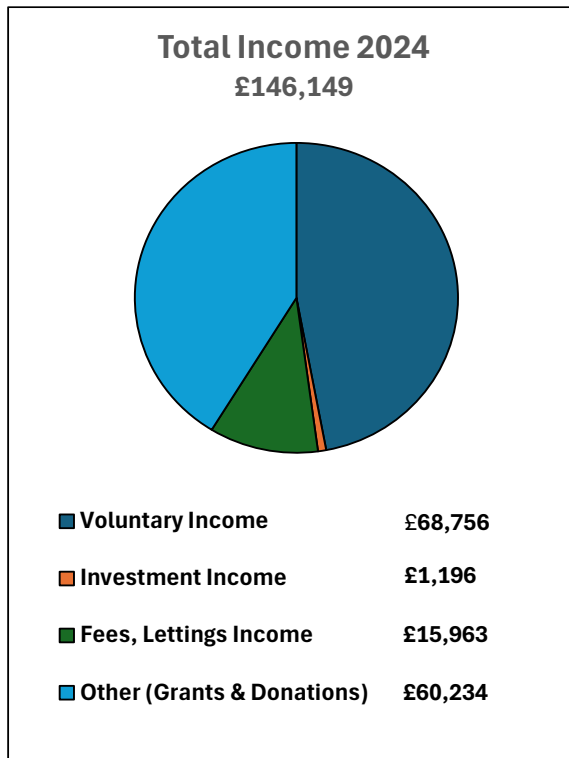


# CHURCH FINANCES

## Current Financial Situation

With generous giving, grants won for projects, and good financial management, the Church Accounts have always been reasonably healthy. The PCC believe that financial responsibility is important and good witness, however, money is not for storing but for the use of God's Mission in our Parish and beyond. All bills, invoices and expenses, including the Common Fund to the Diocese, have always been paid promptly and fully, our Church being one of the few in Wolverhampton who have no Common Fund arrears history. The Common

Fund for 2025 is £33,792. As of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024, there were net assets of £58,131, of which £37,563 are in restricted funds. The PCC also holds 1162.92 shares with the CBF CofE Investment Fund. The Pie Charts show a summary breakdown of 2024 Income and Expenditure. A copy of the full 2024 Independently Examined Accounts can be provided on request.



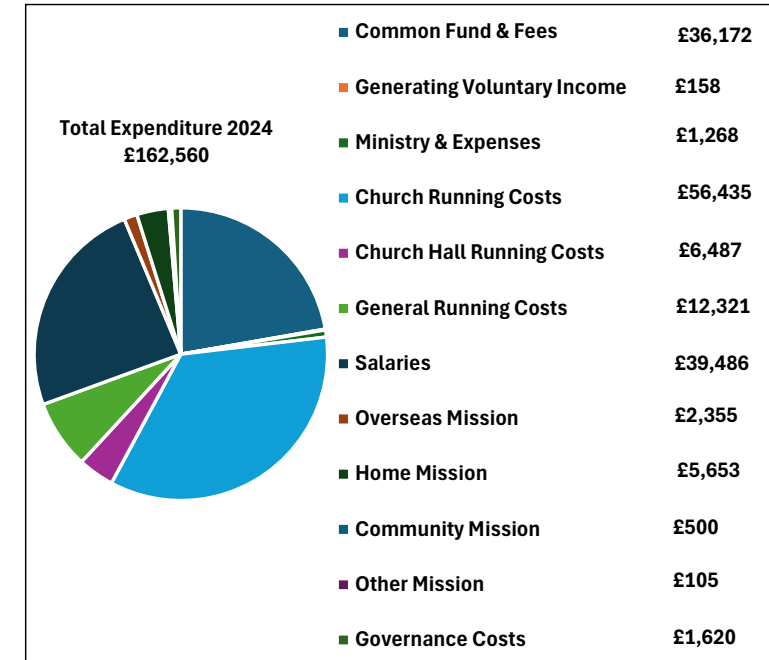
## Giving

Along with open plate giving, the Church employs a stewardship scheme, using weekly envelopes and bank transfers. Gift aided giving is encouraged. During 2024, personal giving, use of time, talents and discipleship, were challenged by study and teaching during Worship, this is normally planned annually. Response to these challenges is positive but variable, as was seen in 2024. Church family members are regularly encouraged and informed about giving and running costs and projects planned or under way, with the use of annual Gift Days to give further opportunity.

The PCC encourage the application for grants from organisations to support the work and mission of the Church. It does not seek general fund raising through events. These are considered to reinforce the perception that the Church is "only about raising money" and can distract our time and effort from God's Mission.

## Missions and Charities

The PCC has a policy that 10% of all income from giving is allocated to mission, upholding the principle of tithing. Further information can be found in Home and Overseas Mission on page 25.



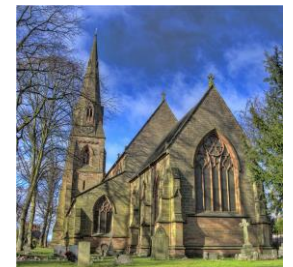
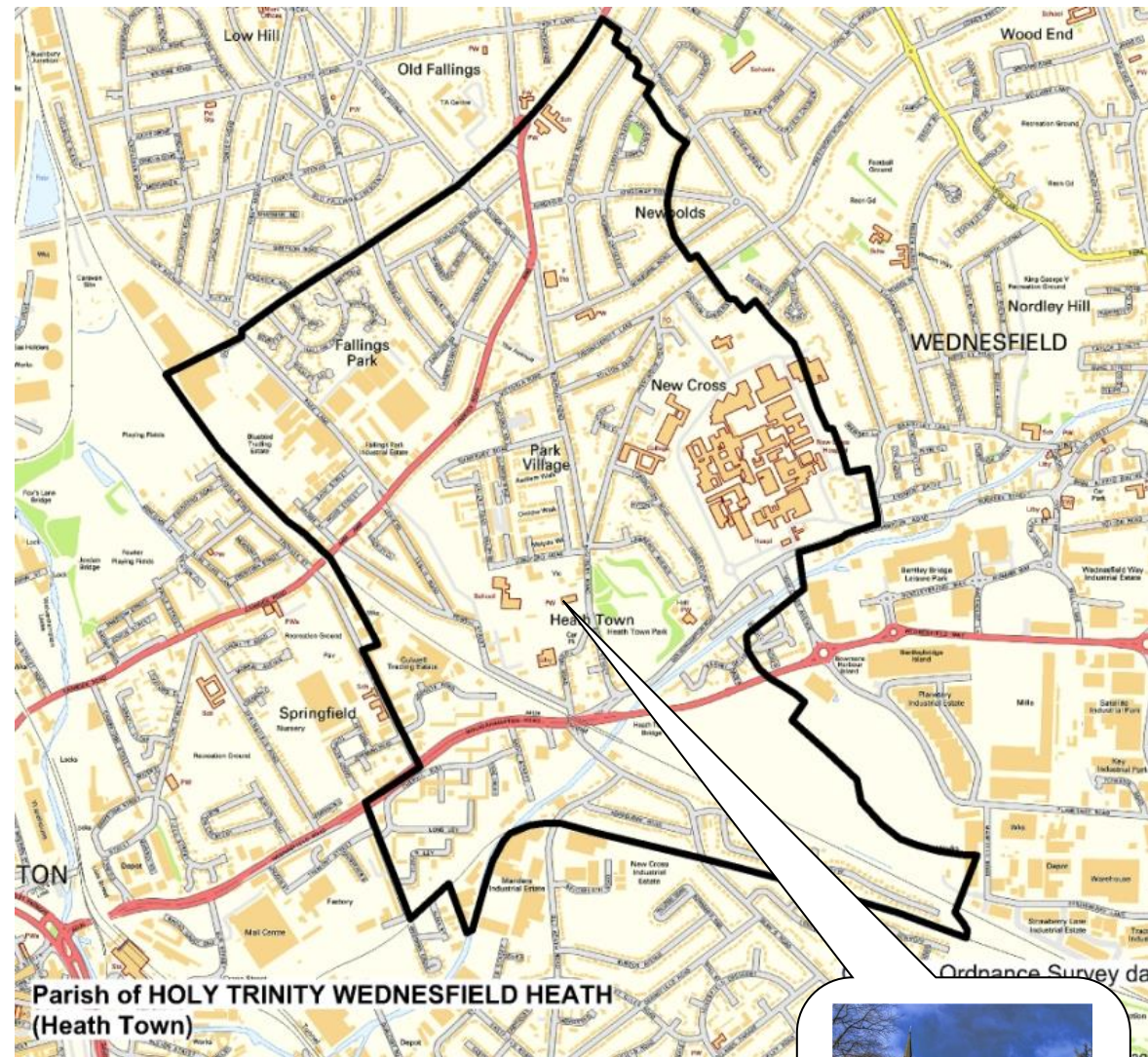


## 2. ABOUT THE PARISH

### THE URBAN CONTEXT

Heath Town Parish Church, built in the revivalist Gothic style, was dedicated on July 22<sup>nd</sup> 1852 to meet the needs of the growing population of Heath Town in the 1850s. Situated approximately 1.5 miles North East of Wolverhampton City centre, it is close to rail and motorway networks (M6, M54, Black Country Route ). The parish is in the Heath Town Ward of Wolverhampton which has a population of almost 15,000 and over 6,000 households. The area continues to see an increase in population, a proportion of which is made up families of Eastern European origin, and asylum seekers, along with new housing developments. This is a vibrant, cosmopolitan area, with over 40% of the population comprising Asian, Black, or non-British White, with a wide variety of thriving cultures and religions embedded within the wider community.

The Parish is an Urban Priority Area, characterised by several distinct historic communities, centred around Heath Town, Park Village, New Park Village, Fallings Park, New Cross, Danehurst Estate, and the more recent Copper Beeches and Fishes estates. The Parish lies across three Lower Super Output Areas (LSOA), used to measure levels of deprivation. Two of these fall within the top 10% deprived in the country, the other in the top 20%. Within these areas there are high levels of long-term unemployment, single parent families, health and lifestyle issues, and drug abuse. The good news is Street Crime and Gang Related Crime has reduced in recent years due to a number of initiatives involving the police, local groups and the City Council.



Holy Trinity Church



There is a mixture of housing and tenancy, ranging from the high-rise flats and maisonettes of the Heath Town estate, Victorian terraces, pre, inter and post war semi-detached, to more recent small development, mixed type housing estates. Currently both the Heath Town Estate and New Park Village Estate are undergoing a phased re-development programme. A high percentage of housing in some areas is rented. These are managed by either Tenant Management Organisations, Wolverhampton Homes or Private Landlords. There is considerable turnover of tenants, within the private sector.

Although much of the industry around in the earlier days of Holy Trinity has been lost there still remains a number of small firms within the Parish, and one large employer, New Cross Hospital. This provides not only for the health needs of the city, but also takes referrals, as a centre of excellence, from Cannock, Telford, Walsall and other parts of the country. There are currently two GP practices and a Dental Practice within the parish.

There are a number of small 'local' shopping areas catering for a range of needs within the surrounding communities, from 'take away' to small Asda / Heron Foods, to 'You name it, I'll try and get it for you!' Within walking distance of the church, just outside the parish, there is a leisure centre with both a swimming pool and leisure pool. Next to this is Bentley Bridge, a vibrant retail / leisure park development with cinema complex, pub, restaurants and a range of high street stores including a large Sainsbury's, all with free parking.



There are a number of open spaces which are well used by the local community. These include Heath Town Park opposite the church, the Churchyard around the church, and the Essington and Wyrley canal, which runs through the parish. As well as good transport connections to the centre of the city and national rail network, there is easy access to facilities outside the parish. Open countryside lies two miles to the northwest where the Black Country sprawl ends.

Within the parish there are a number of other church congregations and faith groups:-

- Old Fallings United Reformed Church,
- Wimbourne Road Methodist Church,
- Two Roman Catholic churches, (St Patrick's, St Mary's)
- A small Mosque
- New Testament Church of God, known as the Harvest Temple,

Further information can be found at:-  
<https://areainsights.co.uk/borough/wolverhampton/heath-town>



## THE CHURCH BUILDING

The church stands surrounded by trees in a well-maintained, picturesque churchyard opposite Heath Town Park, one of Wolverhampton's six well used parks.



Built in Victorian Gothic style, it is grade II listed, with seating for 300 in oak pews in the nave. There have been some internal improvements to accommodate current needs. At the front of the nave several rows of pews were removed in the 1980's, and a raised platform area, with removable communion rail and communion table, added. This gives a flexible space for drama, occasional productions and concerts. Side aisle pews have also been removed with the addition of moveable chairs. These aisles are also used for a variety of activities both within services and at special events. A ramp has been added to enable disabled access to the platform and Chancel.

The Chancel area has been reordered. With the Choir pews removed, the addition of 50 movable chairs and curtains on the rood screen, this has created a further flexible space within the building. The two manual tracker pipe organ sited on the north side. The chancel, platform, music group area and central aisle are all carpeted.

Electrical upgrading was undertaken in 1994. It was further upgraded in 2022.

There is a Peavey sound system with a 24 track Yamaha mixer desk and hearing loop. A data projector and computer, CD player are also incorporated into the system, along with a dedicated PC used to record services (currently 11.15am service only). There is a large retractable screen above the platform area.

A new kitchen/servy and accessible toilet were installed in 2019 at the back of the church in the former choir vestry.

The boiler for the gas fired central heating was fitted in 2005.

There are no major repairs needed on the church building following a prolonged period of renovation, with no repairs from the last quinquennial (2021) outstanding. The next quinquennial is due in 2026. This summer we will be refurbishing the lychgate, and hoping to renew the battens and underfelt to the north aisle roof (car park side). This will complete all the work on the building, and its drains.



## THE CHURCH HALL



Separated by the car park and drive, the church hall, built in 1979, is situated to the northeast side of the church. The main hall can accommodate 120 seated at tables. Off the main hall there is a kitchen and store room. As well as the main hall, toilets and vestibule, there is a small meeting room which also accommodates the parish office. This has a separate phone line and Wi-Fi internet access. In 2000, the kitchen and toilets (ladies, gents and disabled) were refurbished. The building has gas fired central heating.

Behind the hall there is a secure high fenced area and storeroom along with a secure shipping container for storing churchyard gardening equipment. To the east side there is a large tarmac play area (accessed from the hall) used by our youth group (Rooted) and for some children's parties and for Holiday Clubs.

The hall is in constant use, both for church-based activities and community activities, and is almost self-financing. Community groups using the hall include:-

- Walking group
- Heathfield Park Community Action Network (HPCAN)
- New Park Village Activities Network (NPVAN)
- CAN Consortium
- Job Club

Church members run Rooted, a weekly youth group, Monday Morning Bible Bunch (MMBB), a monthly Community Friendship Group, monthly Coffee and Chat group, PCC meetings 4 times a year, Women's Fellowship twice a year, and more occasionally Welcome Nights for newcomers. It is also used for occasional Parish Lunches on a Sunday.

The hall is regularly hired out for private functions and other events.





## THE VICARAGE



The vicarage, built in 1975, and situated by the church and well back from the road, is in good decorative order.

It comprises:-

- four bedrooms
- bathroom and separate WC
- downstairs cloakroom with WC and wash basin
- dining room
- large lounge
- kitchen
- laundry room
- large study
- garage

There is a large well-kept garden, fenced for extra privacy and security.

It is double glazed throughout with gas central heating.

A new Smart security alarm system was installed in 2025.





## THE CHURCHYARD and ALMSHOUSES

Covering an area of 7 acres, managing the churchyard has always been a challenge. However, through a re-ordering programme funded from various grant streams, it is now seen as a valued community asset. What was a source of complaint has now become a tranquil oasis in the middle of a busy urban area.

With the development of a community garden, teaching resources for local schools, Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/htchurchyard>) and community events within the churchyard, it is becoming a well used and appreciated resource. Local schools use the churchyard for a number of nature-based activities.



There is a team of volunteers, which manages the grass cutting and general up-keep. For many years the churchyard has been entered in annual Diocesan Churchyard Award scheme. The Churchyard has gradually progressed from Bronze, through Silver and for the last three years has received a Gold Award, along with a Nature Friendly Award.



In 2011 the church yard was re-opened to new burials within the 'Old Ground' area. There is also an area designated for the burial of cremated remains.

Within the churchyard are six almshouses, managed by the Josiah Mason Trust. Reconstructed completely in 1993/4, neither the parish, nor the Vicar has any responsibility for them. There is an access drive from Powell Street to these, used by the residents.



## FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

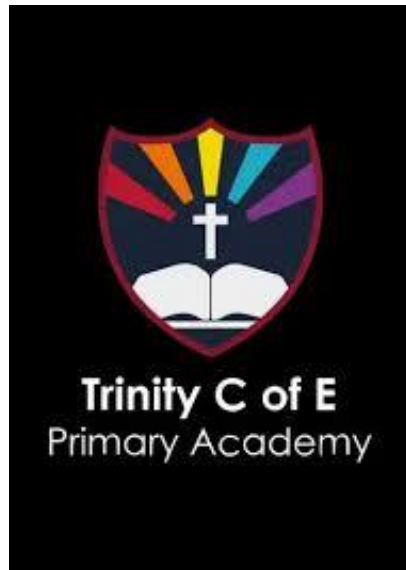
Holy Trinity has constantly worked to ensure the buildings remain suitable for current needs. Over time, a platform area, an access ramp to it, a music group area, a kitchen servery, accessible toilet, and a new standing area for the stone font have been added. Regular repair work is carried out to keep everything structurally in order.

Plans have been drawn up to add more welcoming doors to the north porch entrance to the church building (the car park side). The outer red doors are to be replaced with new solid oak twin doors that open out rather than in. Just behind these there will be automatic sliding laminated glass doors to prevent draughts. The original inner door is to be retained but left open during services. Two new oak framed and glazed inner doors are to be added to keep heat in, which will be much more welcoming. Recently completed roof repairs have put this project back. The car park needs resurfacing. A working party is currently focused on raising “seed funding” for these projects which will enable grant applications to be made.



### 3. ABOUT THE CHURCH AND THE COMMUNITY

#### SCHOOLS WORK



Trinity Church of England Primary Academy is a large, three form entry, multicultural primary school within St Chad's Academies Trust. At present there are 710 pupils, ranging from ages 2 to 11, with the majority, although far from all, living in the local community. 53% of the pupils are entitled to free school meals, 10% of the children have special educational needs, and for 48% of the pupils, their first language is not English. The school's executive head is also head of St Jude's Church of England Primary Academy and it was decided to combine the two Local Academy Committees which has proved to work well. Two church members from Holy Trinity and until recently, the vicar are on the committee.

Trinity is a very diverse school where individuals and their unique characteristics are welcomed and celebrated. It serves a community facing significant challenges and turns these potential barriers into opportunities for celebration and achievement. A distinctive Christian nature permeates all aspects of school life as highlighted in a recent SIAMS inspection. The school aims for all pupils to enjoy the very best start on their learning journey and the school's values are rooted in 'Commitment. Consideration and Co-operation.'

The school lies at the edge of the churchyard, and is accessed through this, as well as by the main roadway. There is a good relationship

between the church and school. Throughout the year the pupils lead services in church to celebrate the main Christian festivals with enthusiastic singing, dance and drama, and once a year, to celebrate Education Sunday, the pupils lead Sunday worship in the church. The school also brings children into the church for educational visits as part of the RE curriculum and uses the churchyard to support learning. The school choir comes annually to entertain the members of the Church's Community Friendship Group.

Trinity School has appointed an ordained chaplain who works between the two schools and offers support to pupils, staff and parents, and is very involved in the worship at the school. The church 'worship team,' comprising the vicar and two volunteers, lead worship in key stage 1 and 2 regularly throughout the year.







Our local secondary school, Heath Park High School, which was rebuilt in 2014, is a well-established and highly successful community school, with 1191 pupils aged 11 to 18, and a rapidly expanding 6<sup>th</sup> form. It benefits from a rich cultural diversity with a high proportion of students from minority ethnic groups, primarily Black Caribbean, Indian, and increasing numbers from Eastern European countries

Our employed youth workers, over many years, have volunteered as mentors at Heath Park and have built up good links between the church and school which we hope will continue. The school uses the church for its annual Carol services, and the occasional educational visit



## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Throughout its history, the fellowship of Holy Trinity has striven to be outward looking, welcoming, accessible and open to everyone, as expressed in our Vision Statement. Community Engagement is overseen by the Transformation ministry team. As a Church Community, we are committed to listening to, understanding, reflecting, recognising where God is already at work and responding to the ever-changing needs of the local community, the City, the country and the wider world. All are encouraged to live out their faith in everyday life, transforming workplaces, schools, and neighbourhoods into platforms for mission and engage with local, national and international issues.

An example of this is 'Baby Basics'. In recent years there has been an increasing number of vulnerable mums from the nearby Heath Town housing estate seeking support. In response to this identified need, in 2020, Holy Trinity became designated as a local centre of the national charity Baby Basics UK. In conjunction with the Hope Community, and working with the midwives service at New Cross Hospital, a small team of volunteers meet as and when required to pack Moses baskets with much needed essentials and equipment to mothers and families who are unable to provide these items for themselves ( clothing, bedding, nappies, toiletries and toys ) to provide a lovely gift to an expectant or new mum in our community. We rely on donations of new and preloved items from the congregation, the wider community and regular donations of baby items and money from the Trussell Trust Foodbank , Morrisons supermarkets ( community champions ) and Fallings Park Methodist Church. To date, around 200 baskets have been given away

Along with the parish activities and programmes mentioned, several of the fellowship are either volunteers, members of the board, or trustees of local community groups and charities. Recently the PCC voted to join the Community Action Network Consortium ( <https://can-consortium.org/> ). The Consortium was formed in December 2018 bringing together seven local community organizations, comprising of voluntary-run groups (one of which was founded by, and run by members of the fellowship), not-for-profit organizations, faith communities and charitable organizations working collaboratively in and around the area of the parish.



Building on the established relationships with council officers and the developing relationship with the CAN Consortium, there are continuing opportunities for the church to continue developing its significant role in shaping the future wellbeing of the surrounding community. One such opportunity, not yet fully explored by the CAN Consortium, is the redevelopment of the former Heath Town Library and Baths, following the collapse of the most recent redevelopment proposal. Due to its location at the heart of the area and proximity to the former Heath Town Baths and Library, and as a member of the CAN Consortium the church may well have a significant role to play in any redevelopment plans to bring this significant Grade II listed building back into community use of some form.

## HOME and OVERSEAS MISSION

10% of all income from giving is allocated in three areas: -

- Overseas Mission
- Home Mission
- Local Mission

The following table shows organisations which were supported in 2024 from the 10% of income from voluntary giving and from separate initiatives, see note below: -

Overseas Mission	Home Mission	Community Mission	Other Small Donations
Leprosy Mission Bible Society Crosslinks Christian Solidarity Mission Aviation Fellowship Christian Aid	CPAS Mercian Trust Love Black Country Samaritans Purse The Well Stop Hate Baby Basics Message Trust Children's Society Wolverhampton Connect Good Shepherd Ministries Christians Against Poverty	Hope Family Centre New Park Village Action Network Black History Month	National Churches Trust

Individual financial support for mission is also encouraged, along with occasional events to promote awareness of missionary activity. These include for example, individual collection boxes for the Leprosy Mission and generous support for the annual Christmas Shoebox appeal by Samaritan's Purse. Holy Trinity has also been a long-term supporter of Dr Alison Talbert, currently working with the Welcome Trust, Kilifi District Hospital, Kenya, through the Crosslinks' 'Partnered Missionary' scheme. Christian Aid is supported annually by collections and fund-raising activities. The Children's Society is supported through our annual Christingle services. A contingency fund is also maintained to enable rapid response to emergency appeals.



## 4. ABOUT THE CHALLENGE

As a thriving diverse fellowship, with numerous active groups within the church reaching out into the community, there are ever changing challenges to be addressed. If we are to continue to see growth over the next few years, and relevantly serve the local community, overseeing all that goes on is a challenge.

Building on our strengths of:-

- a shared vision, put together by the fellowship
- a welcoming and lively atmosphere
- a core of dedicated Ministry Team Leaders
- a policy of encouraging all people ministry
- involvement in and with the community, both as a church and individuals
- a well-maintained accessible churchyard and building, seen by the community as their church and an important asset

We need to make the most of the God given opportunities around us to grow God's Kingdom here in Heath Town by:-

- making full use of Occasional Offices, the contacts made, and providing better support
- continuing to build links and relationships with the local secondary school, and the church primary school, Trinity C of E Primary Academy
- working with other agencies, local council and individual links, seeking ways of addressing the issues and needs of the parish
- making good use of our buildings for the benefit of the local community, where community space is limited
- continuing to work with other local churches, especially those in the Deanery of Wolverhampton

There is an openness to the gospel, with many 'unchurched' willing to listen and explore the gospel message. However, the current lay leadership is overburdened at times with external pressures and other heavy commitments. A small number carry a large proportion of the workload and financial burden. The parish meets its contribution to the Common Fund despite the socio-economic profile of the fellowship. However, it is financially challenged in meeting the needs of mission, and the maintenance of the buildings and churchyard.

The challenge is therefore three-fold:-

- 1. Spiritual:** Exploring ways, through worship, prayer and other church activities of attracting teenagers, young families and adults. Nurturing and growing disciples, increasing commitment across the fellowship. Growing the fellowship both numerically, spiritually and in generosity of time and money. Recognising the diversity of the church and encouraging progression of those from ethnic minorities into leadership roles.
- 2. Facilities:** Discerning how to continue developing and using the church buildings to meet the needs of today. By creating future sustainability for the building, the financial burden will be reduced, releasing more funds for mission.
- 3. Community:** Building on current relationships and exploring others, so to be at the 'heart' of serving the community.

## 5. ABOUT THE ROLE

The role of the Vicar will be to pastorally oversee all the Ministry Team Leaders, and overview how the fellowship is working together to address the challenge by:

### 1. Spiritual

- **Working** collaboratively with the Proclaim Ministry Team and Service Planning Team to plan and develop worship, develop the personal and corporate prayer life of the church, and meet the needs of families, the young and the elderly, through weekly services, prayer meetings and Occasional Offices.
- **Collaborating** with the Nurture Ministry Team to nurture, and grow disciples and leaders, both spiritually and numerically.
- **Preaching** God's word faithfully, adapting content and style to suit the needs of all.
- **Supporting** those in need of pastoral care as appropriate, ensuring that members of the Pastoral Care Team volunteering to visit are trained effectively to carry out their ministry
- **Ensuring** that personal growth in ministry and spiritual development is maintained through a programme of Continuing Professional Development.
- **Providing** and facilitating curate training.

### 2. Facilities

- **Working** with the Sustain and Renew Team and the fellowship, in developing our church plant to meet the needs of the congregation and the local community, so that it is fit for purpose for current and future generations.
- **Ensuring**, along with the PCC that the incoming resources of the Church meet the expanding requirement for mission in our locality and further afield.
- **Overseeing** that the parish is administered effectively, including the management and support of PCC employees.
- **Taking time** allocated for personal relaxation.

### 3. Community

- **Working** with the PCC and the Transformation Ministry Team, to ensure the church is fully engaged with the local community, through maintaining and building relationships with individuals, the Community Action Network and other organisations, so that Holy Trinity Church continues being seen to be at the heart of the community.
- **Continuing** as a member of the Local Academy Committee for Trinity Primary Academy, to ensure the relationship and work with the academy is supported and continues to be developed, with regular contact with school through assemblies, prayer, support for RE, and school visits to church.  
To continue developing the relationship with Heath Park School.
- **Attending** local chapter, deanery, diocesan and ecumenical meetings, as appropriate.
- **Engaging** with opportunities for shared witness with other churches within the parish and across the Deanery.

## 6. ABOUT THE PERSON

We are looking for a forward-thinking vicar, someone who:-

- is servant hearted, who accepts male and female leadership, be it lay or ordained
- is passionate about urban ministry and can develop relationships throughout the local community, our partners and the fellowship to enable the church family to share faith relevantly
- leads worship, thoughtfully drawing on Scripture and prayer, using creative, attractive and engaging approaches to worship for all ages and needs
- through prayer, teaching and pastoral skills, will nurture and develop faith and love for God, for one another and for the community
- is a listening, approachable and visionary leader
- is an excellent communicator of the truth in today's society, recognising the opportunities that technology brings to share the truth with others
- must be able to work collaboratively with the Ministry Leadership Team, enabling every member ministry
- has good leadership, co-ordinating, management and delegation skills
- is enthusiastic about children and youth work, and supportive of the increasing numbers of elderly people in the fellowship.
- has the ability to get on with people from all backgrounds, ethnicity and ages
- has some understanding of financial management systems and processes



## 7. ABOUT THE SUPPORT

The fellowship provides a wide range of support for the ministry of the Vicar through the:-

- Parochial Church Council
- Ministry Leadership Team
- Team of four licensed Readers (one with PTO)
- Prayer ministry team
- Part-time administrator
- Part-time cleaner
- Families and Community Worker (to be appointed if funding obtained)
- Music Group
- Many willing and capable volunteers, doing a variety of activities from welcoming, stewarding, running groups, providing refreshments, doing 'odd jobs', assisting at communion, to name but a few.

Holy Trinity is a solvent, welcoming, warm and supportive, growing, diverse fellowship that has strong links with the community it serves.

We are excited that God may be calling you to serve with us in this fellowship and surrounding community. If God is calling you to Holy Trinity, we are committed to supporting you both in prayer and practical ways as we seek together to grow God's kingdom.

### Quotes from a recent survey of the fellowship

#### **What excites you most about Holy Trinity?**

*"...at Holy Trinity we are a family, from babies to seniors in their 80's and 90's....."*

*"...we are a welcoming church..."*

*"...several countries are represented in our congregation – all are accepted and loved..."*

*"...the preaching style, which I find very practical and relevant to daily life ..."*

*"...the welcome and encouragement to do what God is calling you to do..."*

*"*

#### **What would you like to see happen over the next five years?**

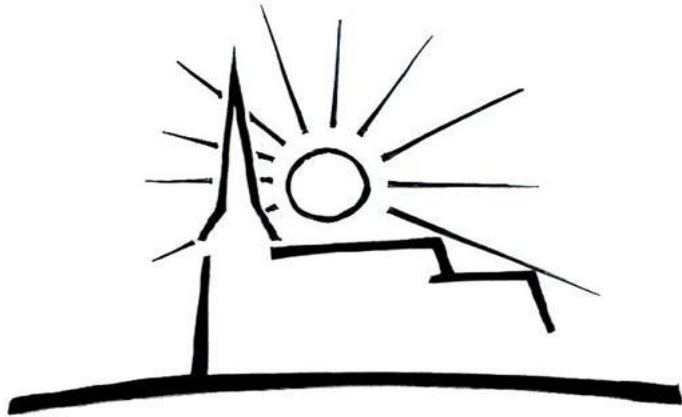
*"...I would love to see Trinity Church continue to grow as a welcoming and inclusive community where people can deepen their faith..."*

*"...the church to flourish and recognise the vast diversity..."*

*"...develop children's and youth work, and strengthen our support for those in need locally..."*

*"...build closer links with the wider community..."*

*"...more people put their faith in Christ..."*



**Praying  
Serving  
Sharing Jesus**



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