



St Francis of Assisi, Ingleby Barwick

Parish Profile



BARWICK WAY, INGLEBY BARWICK,
STOCKTON-ON-TEES, TS17 0WD

<https://stfrancisib.org>

A message from the Rt Revd Paul Ferguson, Bishop of Whitby

Thank you for your interest in the post of Vicar of Ingleby Barwick.



Although Ingleby Barwick's name reveals that there has been a settlement here for a thousand years, as you will see from the profile, today's community is less than 50 years old, and still growing. There is a sense that it is continuing to establish its own social and civic identity, in which the role of the Church of England has a significant part to play — not least through the presence of our church primary and secondary academies.

St Francis', then, is the worshipping and serving hub for the whole community. That is reflected in the breadth of its style, at the core of which is the main Sunday eucharistic celebration. Alongside that well-established principle, the appointment of a *Multiply* minister (see the relevant page of the profile) has been a major step in diversifying our pattern of mission. The energy of St Francis' worshipping life overflows into many other activities.

Ingleby Barwick is an exciting place to be. There has been excellent strategic leadership during the time of its last incumbent, and scope for the parish — the largest by population in this archdeaconry — to move on further. If you come as our next vicar, you will find able lay leadership, a strong ethos of spiritual formation among worshippers, and potential to explore developments for the future.

I hope that you will consider prayerfully whether God is calling you to Ingleby Barwick.

+ Paul Whitby

The Bishop of Whitby acts as the delegate of the patron, the Archbishop of York.

Appointment is subject to a satisfactory Enhanced DBS disclosure, bishop's reference, and eligibility to work in the UK, and if necessary an Occupational Health assessment.

If you would like to discuss this post informally, please feel free to contact any of the following:

Bishop Paul Ferguson bishopofwhitby@yorkdiocese.org / 01642 593273

Archdeacon Amanda Bloor adcl@yorkdiocese.org / 01642 706095

Area Dean Tessa Stephens tessa.stephens@btinternet.com / 07944 302344

An application form is obtainable from the Bishop of Whitby's PA, Mrs Mandy Robinson mandy.robinson@yorkdiocese.org / 01642 593273.

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Welcome!

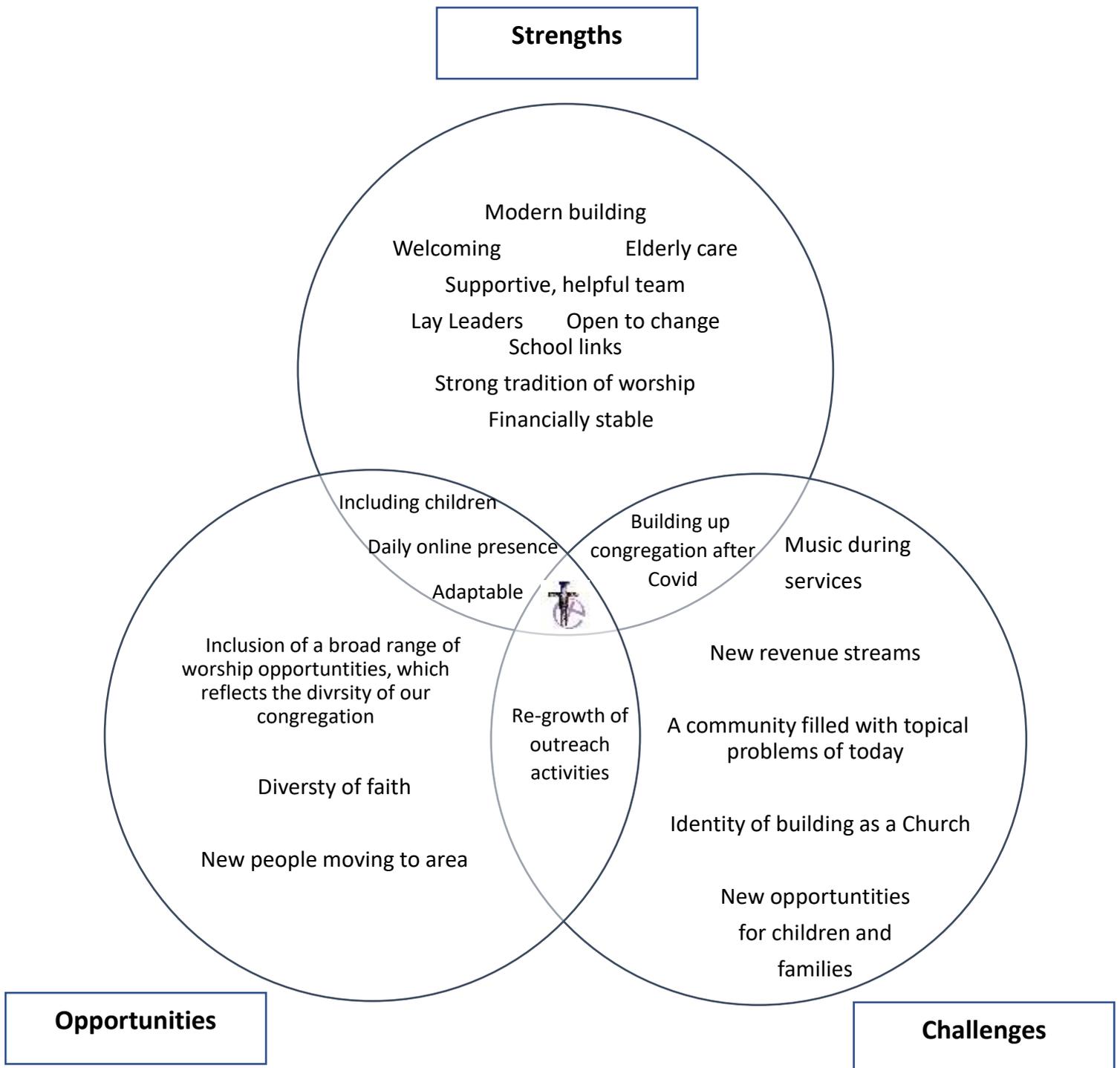
Welcome to St Francis of Assisi, Ingleby Barwick and thank you for your interest in our Parish. In this profile you will find an overview of our church, its strengths and opportunities as well as the challenges which we hope to overcome. We are currently adapting to the new post COVID-19 normal and hope our new Vicar will join us in facing the opportunities and challenges which this presents.

We are a diverse and inclusive community of all ages, gathering from all walks of life, growing together in fellowship, friendship, and service. Worship is at the heart of our shared life of prayer and witness, with sacraments as a core element. We enjoy Anglican worship that ranges from traditional to contemporary and we want to grow as members of the Body of Christ. Though we are living in unusual times, we are still a church and worship, discipleship and service are still at the heart of what we do. There are so many in the congregation who want to deepen their faith and that is very encouraging.

We look forward to working with our new incumbent as we develop into the next chapter of the life of our church.



Our Vision



Worship and the Church Family

At St Francis of Assisi Parish Church, we are a prayerful community following Jesus Christ as disciples, and striving to share God's love with everyone we meet. We encourage each other to explore the roles to which we feel called and have supported several members of our congregation to enter ministry. We seek to be a generous church family rooted in worship, growing in faith, and offering a warm welcome to all.

In response to Covid-19 and the realisation that national lockdown would require us to change, we quickly adapted by ensuring that weekly notices were sent out by email, and that a pattern of online delivery was developed. The Church remained closed for the minimum amount of time, with face to face services resuming at the earliest opportunity in line with Church of England Guidelines. To facilitate this, adaptations were made within the Church and an online booking system using Eventbrite was established. Engagement with both online and face to face services has been strong, with online services attracting an increased following from within our local community.

Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, the number of attendees at Sunday services had begun to see a slight decline, with approximately 105 attending services each week. However, it is believed that this decline was largely due to the review, and temporary pause of Cornerstone, a regular Sunday morning Children's worship group. It had been intended that this previously successful group would be developed into a new group which would take into account the changing age demographic amongst the children attending the Church, including a new opportunity for older children. Unfortunately, progress was halted by the Pandemic. It is hoped that the work required to re-establish a Sunday morning worship group for children can be undertaken very soon, however, it is acknowledged that this is dependent upon securing appropriate volunteers.

Online worship has welcomed a significant number of new, regular worshippers. However, it is not yet known whether this will lead to an increase in the congregation at face to face services, or an ongoing demand for online services.

The Church is financially stable, despite a slight decline in income due to the pandemic. Regular giving plays a significant role and is encouraged. The Church has been able to pay the full amount of our freewill offer, with the exception of one payment, again in relation to the Pandemic.

Representatives attend the Deanery Synod and we take an active interest in Diocesan initiatives and visions including *Living Christs Story*.



Multiply Minister

Nik is working in the local community as an Ordained Pioneer Minister as part of the Diocese of York's Multiply program. Multiply aims to develop new worshipping communities especially amongst people in their 20-40's who are poorly represented in congregations across the diocese.

Nik and his wife Shelly run an online community, Digital Saints facebook.com/digisaints, which has seen increased activity and importance during the recent pandemic. They currently offer Night Prayer 5 nights a week, midday reflections 4 days per week and an online children's service on a Sunday afternoon. This work has proved a useful hub for the many community contacts Nik has developed over his 2 years in the community. There have been some particularly strong links made with the local Running Club, the Orchard Eagles. Nik has used the opportunity to run and walk with people during the lockdown as a way of providing pastoral support, these relationships have led to an increased participation with their online activities. At Easter there was a 14 mile run marking a station of the cross every mile, starting in Ingleby and finishing on Roseberry Topping.



Nik and Shelly are qualified Mental Health First Aiders and there are good relationship with the local leisure centre and they are currently developing opportunities to run/walk and talk aimed at supporting folk whose mental health has been adversely affected by the recent pandemic.

Before lockdown Nik was running a quiz in the local pub with a small team and they developed good relationships with staff and customers which often led to pastoral support. Nik also has a wider role within the Deanery to help Churches develop new worshipping communities which may often be lay led with the support of their local Priest.

Our Normal Pattern of Services

The Church has resumed a pattern of face to face worship, albeit with reduced numbers due to the limitation of space. Currently, regular services take place in Church on a Sunday morning at 9.30am and Sunday evening.

Prior to the Pandemic, worship in the Parish Church was predominately Eucharistic on Sundays, including a monthly Parade Service with our uniformed groups. BCP Holy Communion was held each Wednesday at 10am, Common Worship Order One is used at other times. There were a number of family services held through the year and opportunities were offered to adults who wished to explore and deepen their faith including, for example, Lent Courses. The Mothers' Union was very active and have led creative worship services on a Sunday evening. Youth Church on Sunday evenings, Kinder Service for families on a Sunday afternoon and term time Noah's Ark toddlers services were fully integrated into the life of the church. It is hoped to resume a full range of face to face services at the earliest opportunity, introducing new worship opportunities which address the diversity of our congregation, taking into account all age ranges.

A team of 6 Recognised Parish Assistants assist in worship. Church services are also supported by Sides Persons, Eucharistic Ministers and a Team of readers and Intercessors. In addition, we have a Baptism Team. Prior to the pandemic, a Serving Team was also well established.

Pre-Covid Services

Sunday	8.30am Holy Communion 10.00am Holy Communion (Parade with Uniform Organisations on 2nd Sunday of month) 6.00pm Evening Prayer (1 st Sunday of the month)
Tuesday	Noah's Ark Children's Service
Wednesday	10.00am BCP Eucharist



The Church Building

The Church building is a modern, spacious building benefitting from underfloor heating and non-fixed seating. The magnificent stained-glass windows provide a focus within the chancel, Lady Chapel and a smaller Chapel, currently used as a Creche. The Nave and Chancel are only 17 years old. Outside, a Bell Tower takes pride of place. The Church is very popular with those seeking Baptism, and we also host a number of funerals and weddings throughout the year. Floral displays created by the Flower Team ensure that the Church is well presented. The Vestry is used as an office space for a weekly Parish Office Hour, during which members of the public are invited to attend to arrange Church Bookings.



The Church is not in a central location with Ingleby Barwick, and there is little obvious signage visible from the road. It is hoped to increase the presence of the building within the Community.



The Church Hall

The hall (attached to the church) is 22 years old. The church centre contains a large main hall, a number of meeting rooms, a recently refurbished kitchen and toilets. Disability access and baby changing facilities are provided. Pre-Covid, the hall had bookings every daytime and evening from local organisations, some of which have strong connections with Church, including Scouts, Cubs, Beavers, Rangers, Rainbows and Brownies. Twice a year, the Hall was used for Church Fayres, which provide a valuable income.

Outside, there is a large grassed area which is maintained by the council, and a private car park. Other outdoor areas are maintained by a Volunteer. Outdoor storage rooms are used by Community Groups for the storage of equipment.

The buildings at St Francis of Assisi are supported by a Hall Bookings Secretary, Health and Safety Officer, 1st Aid Lead and a Fire Officer.



Music

Music has a central role in worship at St Francis of Assisi. Both live and pre-recorded music have featured in services. Although the Church does not have a choir, there is a strong relationship with the Ingleby Barwick Community Choir who regularly perform at services such as the Remembrance Sunday Service. The Church has an organ, but there is currently a vacancy for an Organist.



Safeguarding

The Parish Church Council of St Francis of Assisi Church has formally adopted the House of Bishops' 'Promoting a Safer Church; safeguarding policy statement' and seeks to promote a safer church for children and vulnerable adults. A Safeguarding Officer is in place.

The Vicarage

The four-bedroomed Vicarage is situated to the side of the Church with the back garden designed to be accessed by the Church car park, which also includes reserved parking for the Vicarage. The house was purpose built 22 years ago and has a medium sized, enclosed and manageable garden. It makes a good family home but is not too large for a single incumbent.

The Vicarage includes a study, which can be accessed by the front door and partitioned from the main house, ensuring privacy.



Schools and Community Groups

We are very fortunate in having three church schools in the parish: St Francis of Assisi C of E Primary, All Saints C of E Academy (11-16), and St Therese of Lisieux RC Primary. There are four other primary schools in the parish: Ingleby Mill Primary, Whinstone Primary, Barley Fields Primary, and Myton Park Primary. There is another Secondary School in the Parish, Ingleby Manor Free School. The Church enjoys a good relationship with all of the Head Teachers in the parish, and there was, prior to Covid-19, a great deal of weekly collective worship led by the previous Incumbent. Anglican clergy have led collective worship in all of the schools except for the RC School, and there have been regular school visits to the Parish Church. The previous Incumbent was the Chaplain to All Saints and Chair of Governors at St Francis School, both of whom are members of the Dales Academy Trust. St Francis Primary School's Headteacher is very keen for a regular act of worship to be re-established in the School Hall. It is our hope that, post-Covid we can strengthen all of these relationships and continue the partnership work.

St Francis of Assisi strives to create links with the Community through offering a number of groups, clubs and activities. Prior to the Pandemic, established groups included Toddlers, Soup for the Soul (lunch club), Open House (craft group), Mothers Union and Pause (Prayer group held in the community room in the local Supermarket). In addition, Communion services were delivered in the two care homes within Ingleby Barwick.

The Church has strong links with Scouts and Guides and the Ingleby Barwick Community Choir, all of whom meet within the hall and regularly take part in worship services.

In addition, a number of other groups hire the hall including dance groups, slimming clubs, education tutors and Titches baby group.



The Parish and Local Facilities

Ingleby Barwick is a very large private residential housing estate, now considered a small town which is divided into a number of smaller areas or 'villages'. The area has been built mostly in the last 40 years, on what was the southern perimeter of Thornaby Airfield in the borough of Stockton-on-Tees. In addition to private housing, there is also now a small amount of social housing provision.

The area is famous for being the site of one of the northernmost Roman Villas in the Roman Empire, Quarry Farm, and the site is known to have been inhabited from as early as 1500BC, possibly even earlier. In addition, Teesside has a strong history in heavy industry, in particular in the steel and chemical industries and has recently been announced as a Freeport.

Ingleby Barwick, is within a short drive of the glorious scenery of the North York Moors National Park and the breath-taking North Yorkshire Dales. In addition, the area is in close proximity to several coastal towns providing many opportunities for day trips to several areas of beauty.

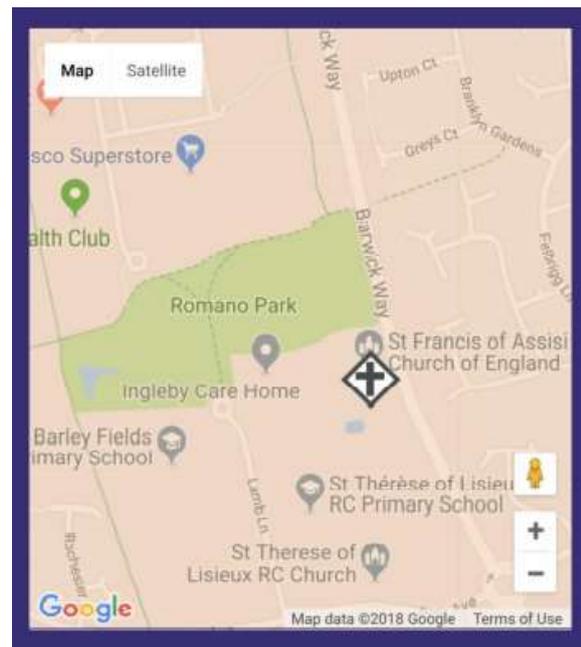
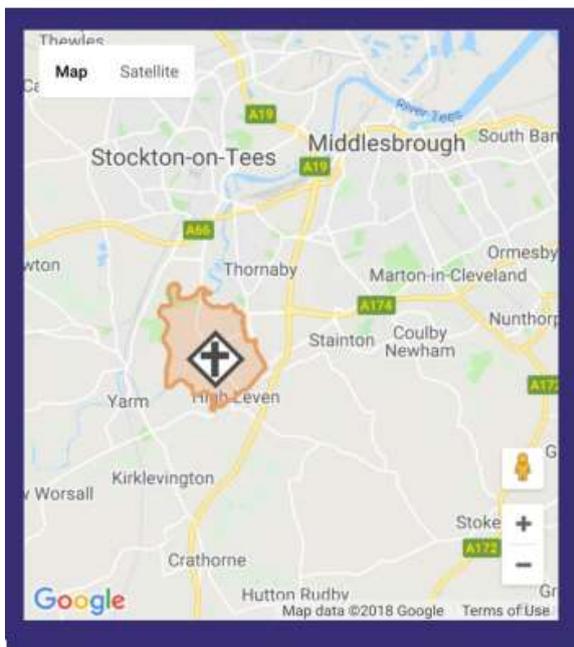


Alongside St Francis of Assisi Church, there is a Catholic Church in very close proximity. In addition, a Community Church meets within Ingleby Barwick. In the wider area, many other places of worship can be found including a Mosque, Baptist Church, Gurdwara and a Salvation Army Citadel.

The town is well provided with green spaces, walks and cycleways and playgrounds. There are many amenities within Ingleby Barwick including shops and takeaways, doctors, dentists and opticians, hairdressers, a library, pubs and restaurants and a supermarket as well as a veterinary surgery and two Care Homes. Recently, there has been the addition of a leisure centre including gym and swimming pool.

In the wider area, both Stockton and Middlesbrough provide larger shops and leisure facilities, including Teesside Shopping Park.

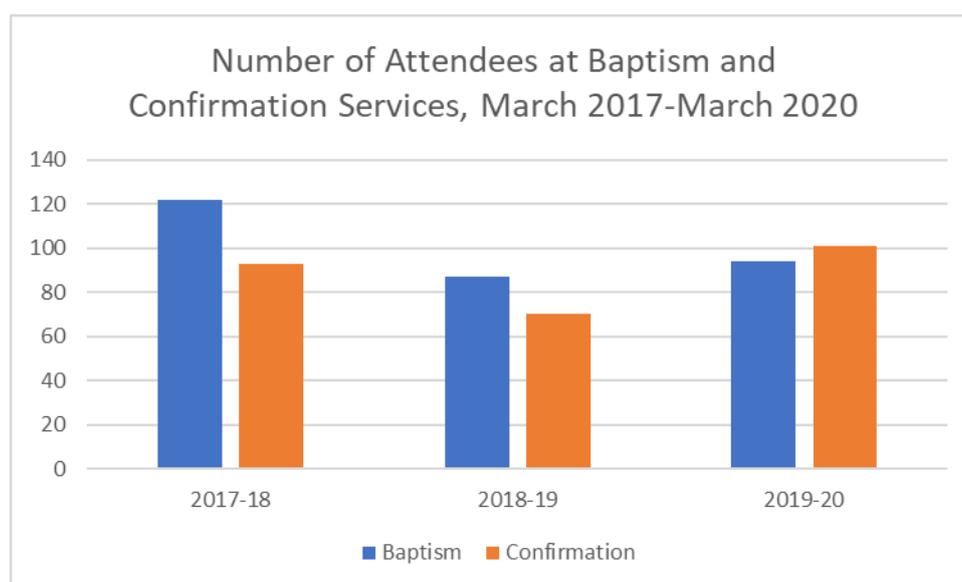
Ingleby Barwick is easily accessible from both the A19, 5 minutes via the A174 (which lies to the east) and A66 (10 minutes) via Queen Elizabeth Way and the A135 (to the north), making the town a prime location for commuters. Transport links around the area are good including buses from within Ingleby Barwick, mainline and local trains from Thornaby, Eaglescliffe, Darlington and Middlesbrough and growing and developing Air Links from Teesside Airport. Newcastle airport is also within easy reach.



Appendix 1: Numbers Attending Worship

	Jan-Dec 2017	Jan-Dec 2018	Jan-Dec 2019	Jan- Dec 2020
Baptisms	76	63	59	18
Children admitted to communion before confirmation	5	3	12	0 Due to Pandemic
Confirmations	10	9	6	0 Due to Pandemic
Weddings	3	1	2	1
Funerals in Church	6	2	6	5
Funerals in Crematorium	17	12	11	19
Blessing of civil Marriage or Thanksgiving for Marriage	1	0	1	0
Usual Sunday attendance (inc children)	113	124	105	50 (October)
Easter Eve and Easter Day	235	226	210	Building closed due to Covid
Christmas Eve and Christmas Day	662	527	463	62
Participation in online worship	N/A	N/A	N/A	180

Total number in our 'Worshipping Community' who attended a service at least once per month, or who would do if they were not prevented by illness, infirmity, or temporary absence: 345.



Appendix 2: Finances 2018 -2020

	2018	2019	2020
Freewill offer made	£60,000	£61,200	£61,200
Freewill offer paid	£60,000	£61,200	£42,840 *
Planned giving	£33,510	£32,770	£32,780
Fairs & other fundraising	£2,970	£3,200	£12,450
Hire of church hall & other rooms	£20,440	£18,870	£9,565
Total income	£83,630	£79,810	£59,550
Total expenditure	£81,920	£81,190	£59,520

* 70% of amount offered.

No bequests or capital reserves.

Designated funds for decorating and other building improvements (donation): £6800.