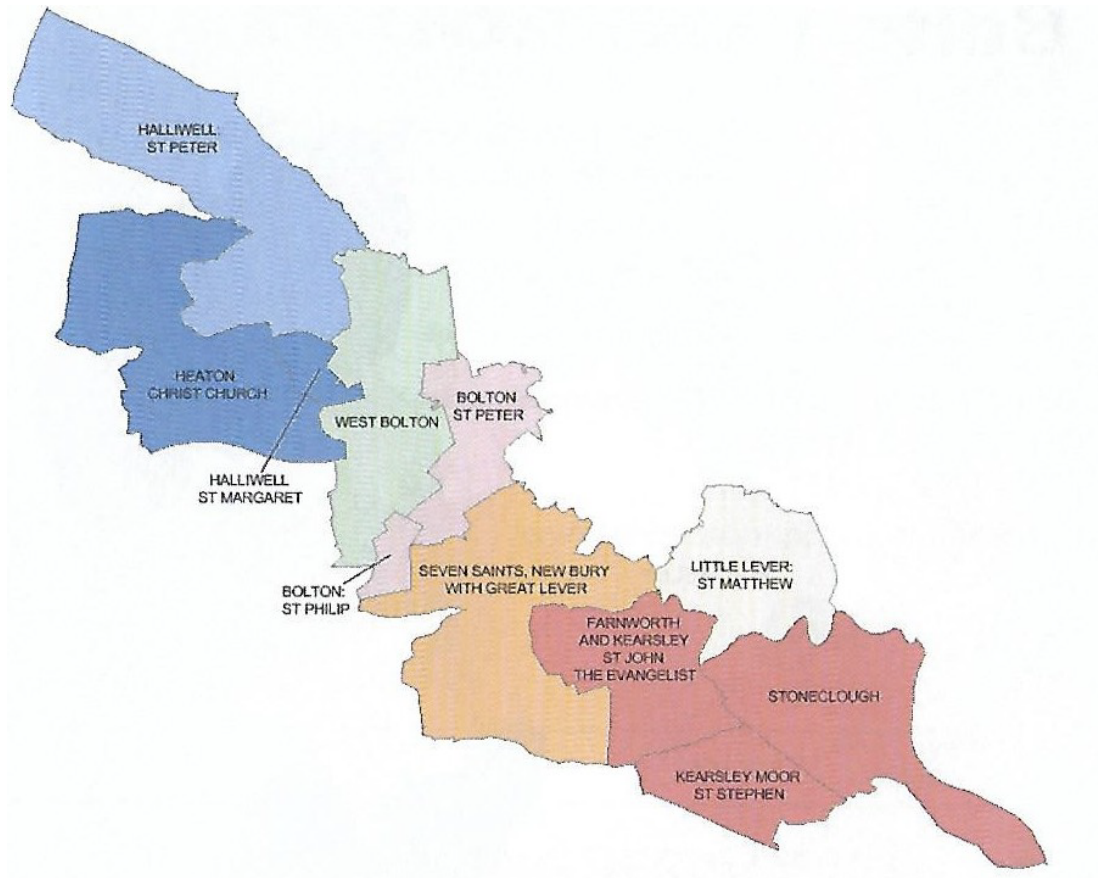


## The Deanery of Bolton



The Deanery of Bolton is one of three deaneries (the other two being the deaneries of Deane and Walmsley) located within the Borough of Bolton. The deanery comprises nine parishes with 22 places of worship, encompassing a range of church traditions.

The following extract from the Bolton Deanery Mission Action Plan provides an overview of the life and vision of the Bolton Deanery.

### **Our Identity:**

Bolton Deanery is a welcoming and diverse group of churches serving multi-ethnic communities in Bolton and neighbouring towns and communities within our area.

### **Our Vision:**

We share the Diocesan vision to be a worshipping, growing and transforming Christian presence at the heart of every community within our deanery.

### **Our Purpose:**

As a Deanery we are committed to using our gifts, energy and willingness to engage and co-operate with each other and the community around us, to be catalysts for transformation within all people who live in our area, and to draw people to Jesus.

### **Our Journey**

Since January 2017, when we held our initial deanery vision morning attended by 120 people from across the deanery, we have been on a journey as we have prayerfully reconsidered who we are, where we are going and how we can equip one another in mission as we collectively seek to be a worshipping, growing and transforming Christian presence in every area of our deanery.

In October 2017 the Deanery Mission and Pastoral Committee agreed and adopted our redefined identity, vision and purpose statements as shown above. Since then, Synod, DMPC and small working parties have been working hard to establish some practical priorities and actions ahead of how we might practically fulfil our vision and purpose as a deanery which form the basis for our Deanery Mission Action Plan. This Deanery Mission Action Plan was formally adopted by Deanery Synod in September 2018.

Our prayer is that with God's help, we may continue to work together as a deanery to fulfil this Deanery Mission Action Plan, and play our part in building God's Kingdom here across the borough.

### **Our Mission Priorities**

Parishes across the deanery have been developing their own parish MAPs which focus on how at a parish level we can fulfil the Diocesan mission objectives of growing, nurturing and serving.

In February 2018 Bolton DMPC agreed to adopt the following mission priorities as we seek to use our gifts, energy and willingness and work together to be a worshipping, growing and transformative Christian presence throughout our deanery.

- Priority 1: Growing Younger: Engaging more effectively with younger generations through local schools
- Priority 2: Growing Younger: Engaging with young adults
- Priority 3: Going Further: Engaging with our wider community

Area Dean: Revd Canon Dr Chris Bracegirdle

Lay Chair: Mr Malcolm Walker

## **Associate Minister St Peter Halliwell and Pioneer Missioner**

This new post provides an opportunity to develop Priority 2 above, combining a parish post at St Peter Halliwell (approximately 60% time) with pioneer work amongst the student and other young adult population of Bolton town centre.

The town centre area of Bolton is located within the parish of St Peter Bolton (Bolton Parish Church) and the area of the Parish and Team of West Bolton served by St Paul with Emmanuel, Bolton.

The town centre population, like that of other towns and cities across the country, is growing. The University of Bolton has approximately 11,000 students with many of its residential students living in or near the town centre. Alongside this, the council led regeneration of Bolton town centre which is already underway, is expected to provide somewhere in the region of 2000 new town centre residential units thus significantly increasing the population of central Bolton.

With the full support of the Deanery and Diocesan Mission and Pastoral Committees, the Bishop of Manchester seeks to appoint a priest with a minimum of three years' experience to this shared post.