

# TEAM PROFILE

## FARNWORTH, KEARSLEY & STONECLOUGH

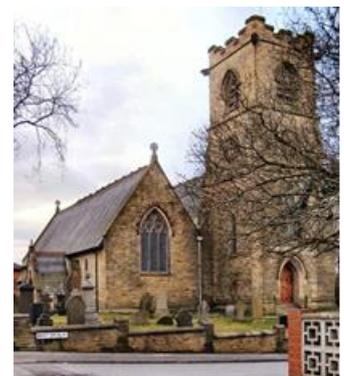
**ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST, FARNWORTH**

**ST SAVIOUR, RINGLEY**

**HOLY TRINITY, PRESTOLEE**

**ST STEPHEN, KEARSLEY MOOR**

in the Deanery of Bolton,  
Archdeaconry of Bolton,  
Diocese of Manchester



**THE CHURCH  
OF ENGLAND**  
Diocese of Manchester

**CHURCH  
FOR A  
DIFFERENT  
WORLD**

## **WELCOME**

God is calling someone to share the next exciting stage of our journey as a Team, leading us in the role of Team Rector.

The Farnworth, Kearsley and Stoneclough Team Ministry was established in 2010, and was enlarged with the addition of St Stephen's Kearsley Moor in 2014 and comprises the three Parishes of Farnworth and Kearsley (St John's), Stoneclough (St Saviour and Holy Trinity) and Kearsley Moor (St Stephen's).

Although there are significant cross team activities, and ministry in the team is planned centrally, each Parish is run administratively and financially by its own Parochial Church Councils. There are no local, Deanery or Diocesan plans for this to change.

The new Team Rector will have a parochial base in the Parish of Farnworth and Kearsley at St John's Farnworth (where s/he will live in the Rectory) and will have special responsibility equally for St. John's, St Saviour and Holy Trinity Prestolee, in addition to the wider responsibility and oversight of the Team Ministry.

## **WHERE ARE WE?**

The Farnworth, Kearsley and Stoneclough team is located 12 miles to the north west of Manchester, just south of the town of Bolton, and has very good access to the motorway network, and regular railway and bus services into Manchester. Historically the towns and villages which make up the team had textile and paper mills, as well as manufacturing and mining. Although some of this industry is no longer in existence, all three parishes have a great number of small manufacturing and service companies, as well as outlets of the major retailers (Tesco/Lidl/Asda) in Farnworth.

An hour from the Lake District, the Peak District or the Welsh Borders, and with the West Pennine moors 20 minutes to the north, the team is well located for

anyone who likes the outdoor life. Within the team there is a substantial country park, along the Croal/Irwell valley.

The team has a population of just under 20,000 people with over half living in the town of Farnworth, which is a lively centre with its own train station, library, banks, shops and an award-winning Indian restaurant.

Stoneclough Parish is mainly made up of two villages, Ringley and Prestolee, which lie in the Croal valley abutting the country park. Historically a centre for papermaking, the two villages are now mostly residential areas, with numerous pubs and restaurants.

Kearsley Moor Parish is situated above the valley, lies on the main road to Manchester, and is a close-knit community with strong ecumenical links between the various churches and a Roman Catholic Shrine, situated within it.



All three parishes

## **MINISTRY WITHIN THE TEAM**

As Team Rector, you will have oversight of the whole Team, but with particular responsibility for St John's and Stoneclough. Both parishes are of a liberal central/catholic tradition. You will serve as ex officio governor at St John Kearsley CE Primary School and All Saints Farnworth, CE Primary School.

The Team Vicar, The Revd Kim E Lafferty, was appointed to the team in August 2015, having served her curacy in the Rivington team, after previously spending a number of years in nursing. Kim has particular responsibility for the Parish of St. Stephen's, Kearsley Moor and the Thursday@7 family friendly evening service in Stoneclough Parish (where she lives). She is also the ex-officio governor at St Saviour CE School, and St Stephen's CE School, Kearsley.

The team has 1/3 of the time of a Stipendiary Church Army Evangelist, Sister Canon Dorothy Needham. She is also the ex-officio governor at St Peter's CE School.

There are also two non-stipendiary priests within the team, the Revd Dr Malcolm Wearing, who is an OLM, licensed to the whole Team, and the Revd Phillip Castle, a retired OLM (Associate Priest). We are also blessed by regular assistance from a number of other retired clergy, and have a licensed Reader, Barry Price.

There are 3 ALM's in the team, two of whom regularly co-lead Sunday worship. Clergy and licensed ministers lead services across all our churches on a rota basis.

Discipleship activities are team wide, with retreats, study groups, Lent and Advent courses, quiet days, and trips to cathedral cities drawing people together from all the Parishes. Team Services, which rotate through the team, take place every three months on the fifth Sunday, and various social events attract people from across the three Parishes.

Occasional offices play a major part in the life of the team parishes. Based on previous years, we average approximately 103 baptisms, 23 weddings and 51

church funerals, as well as a large number of requests to lead funerals at the local crematoriums. These are seen as pastoral and missional opportunities in the team.

The baptism policy is an open one in that following preparation, we welcome all who request baptism. Confirmation is also a significant part of the spiritual life of our churches with a Team Confirmation service taking place each year with both adult and child candidates. St John's PCC have agreed to the admission to communion before confirmation of baptised children, a policy which has been successfully in place for more than 10 years.

The Team has links with The Sycamore Trust through Zac's youth bars. Their main venue is in Farnworth but there is also one in Stoneclough. They provide a wide range of positive activities for young people to engage in, including: after school clubs, sports, 14+ group including skills and lifestyle workshops, 1-to-1 support/mentoring, detached street work, holiday activities, and a range of activities and inclusion support for young people with SEND.



## **WHERE WILL YOU LIVE?**

The Rectory is located in Church Street, Farnworth, close to St John's Church, and only a few minutes' walk from the local shops, banks, the ASDA supermarket, and a train station with direct connections to Manchester. It is a spacious modern four-bedroom detached dwelling with a large study overlooking the garden, a single garage and driveway parking for three cars.





The study and downstairs WC are located close to the front door. There is a large modern fitted kitchen and utility room to the rear of the building, with a separate lounge and dining room. On the first floor there are four large double bedrooms, a shower room and

bathroom.

The rectory has gas central heating, and double glazing throughout.

## OUR CHURCHES

### Parish of St John the Evangelist, Farnworth

#### AREA

Farnworth is a small town situated just outside the larger town of Bolton and only 12 miles from Manchester city centre. The town centre comprises retail and other businesses, cafes, supermarkets, a leisure centre and many and varied food outlets.



Farnworth has two railway stations: Farnworth Station which is situated a matter of minutes away from the church of St John the Evangelist, and Moses Gate Station, situated just outside the town centre. There is also a bus station in the heart of the town centre. There is good motorway network access. There are a number of residential care and nursing homes within the parish. Farnworth has a library which also hosts council facilities.



Directly opposite the library is Farnworth Park, an oasis of greenery within the town boundary. Within the park is the war memorial.

Farnworth has a varied and multi-cultural society, including a large Asian community and is in the bottom 5% of deprived areas in the country.

## SCHOOLS

There are 6 primary schools within the Parish and 1 secondary school. Of those 6 primary schools, 3 are Voluntary Aided Church Primary Schools - All Saints (Moses Gate), St Peter's (Farnworth) and St John's (Kearsley).

The church has strong links with all the church primary schools and members of the team ministry regularly attend to participate in events within the schools. These and other primary schools visit the church throughout the year to participate in a range of events such as 'Experience Easter' and 'Experience Christmas'.

A monthly family service is held at St Peter's school on the second Sunday of each month in the afternoon, which attracts 25-40 children and adults.

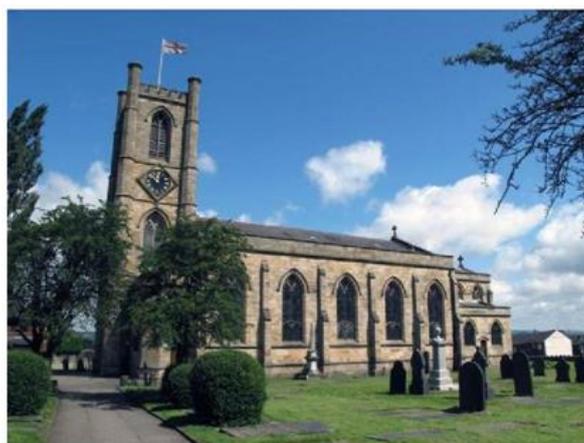
## **THE CHURCH BUILDING**



St John the Evangelist Church building was consecrated on the 9th September 1826 and is in a reasonable condition. It is a Grade 2 listed building and has an open graveyard. There are plans to improve facilities within the church to make it more suitable for use by the wider community.

## **THE WORSHIP**

The Worship at the church comprises a Sunday morning Common Worship Eucharistic Service. The second Sunday of every month is a parade family service, utilising the talents of the Music Group, which is made up of parishioners. At this service, we also invite the parents, godparents and families of children who have been baptised the previous month to attend to collect their baptism certificate and to allow the congregation as a whole to welcome the child into the family of the church. Alternate family services are non-Eucharistic.



There is a service of Morning Prayer every Tuesday and Evening Prayer most Fridays. In addition to this, on Thursday mornings, there is a Book of Common Prayer Eucharistic Service.

The tradition is central/catholic. There are currently 140 people on the electoral roll, most of whom are resident in the parish. On average there are around 40 Baptisms, 10 Weddings and 60 Funerals each year.

The current average attendance on a Sunday is around 70 adults plus children and teenagers and we are happy to say that the congregation is continuing to grow. There is also a Sunday School held once a month.

St. John's offers children in Year 3 and above the opportunity to take Communion prior to confirmation. We run a course every year and celebrate with the children at their first Eucharist service,

### **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

The church is a friendly place with a good social life. It hosts a coffee morning, once a month, which is open to all members of the community.

A new and growing toddler group is held every Monday morning during term time.

There is an active social committee who organize various events throughout the year.

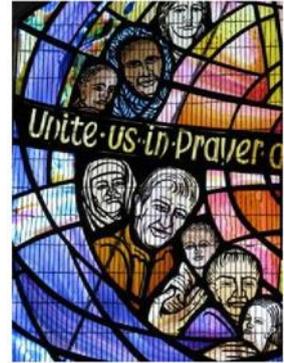
The church also has a Tuesday and a Saturday 'Gang'. These are groups of parishioners who attend during the morning and undertake small jobs and repairs within the church.

The parish has Rainbows, Brownies and Guides, who are affiliated to the church and attend the monthly Parade service. They are encouraged to take part by reading the Bible reading or helping with the intercessions.

## ECUMENICAL CONTACTS

The church has strong links with the local Methodist church, with many joint activities including joint services of worship.

We have also good links with the Salvation Army, which has a Mission/Community Centre in the town centre.



## MISSION

The church of St John the Evangelist sees its mission as:

- Community Outreach. To make more sustained relationships with people and groups in our parish community.
- Discipleship. To see people of all ages grow and deepen in faith.
- Welcome. To see an increase in numbers and enable all to find welcome and belonging at our church.
- Children & Young People. To continue and enhance our provision for children and young people.

Through our Mission Action Plan, we aim to be open and available to everyone and to ensure that we continue to thrive and grow; continue to support the local foodbank; further develop school links; work more closely with the Asian Community.

Currently we have four asylum seekers, who attend regularly. We will continue to support them and all asylum seekers and refugees.

Change within the church is inevitable as we continue through the 21st Century. As a church we will look at ever increasing ways in which worship can be delivered to a wide range of people on their journey of faith.

## The Parish of Stoneclough

### AREA

The parish is fairly unusual in its location as it is still very much a village environment separated from the surrounding area by fields or other open land. It is not isolated, as the A667 road runs through the centre linking it to Kearsley and Whitefield and is largely made up of the two communities of Ringley and Prestolee.



There is also a local railway station on the edge of the parish with access to Bolton in one direction and Manchester in the other. A bus service runs through the village between Bolton and Bury and the motorway network is accessible for most directions within less than a mile. The river Irwell runs through the centre of the village.



The population has increased significantly in the last 25 years with a large housing estate on the site of the former power station, a smaller one on a warehouse site and another large estate on a former paper mill site.

There are 7 shops, 5 public houses (including 2 restaurants), a Conservative Club, Nursery/ Garden Centre, Industrial Estate, an adhesives manufacturer, a mixed-use mill, a garage and a water treatment plant.

### SCHOOLS

There are 2 primary schools in the parish, St Saviour CE School and Prestolee Primary School.

Both schools achieved 'outstanding' in their last Ofsted inspections.

The Team Vicar has worked on building stronger links with the church primary school and other members of the team ministry attend to participate in events

within the schools. Both primary schools have services in their respective churches throughout the year.

There is a pre-school nursery in the village and a nursery class at Prestolee School. A Community Centre has been built as an extension to Prestolee School. This is used currently by the W.I. and other organisations.

Zac's Youth Bars also have their youth group meeting in the old Prestolee community centre twice weekly.



## THE CHURCH BUILDINGS

The two churches of St Saviour, Ringley and Holy Trinity, Prestolee are grade II listed buildings and now form the single parish of Stoneclough. Both have celebrated their 150 year anniversaries.



St Saviour, Ringley, was built in 1854, although the site dates back to 1625 - the original chapel having lasted until 1826 when a new church was built, having to be demolished and replaced less than 30 years later as it was still too small to hold the congregation! The clock tower of the original 1625 chapel is still on the grounds of the current church.

Holy Trinity, Prestolee, was built in 1863. In the past, it has been used as a wedding venue for the TV show Coronation Street and was known to fans as All Saints Church, Weatherfield.



## **THE WORSHIP**

The tradition is central/catholic. The Sunday morning service currently alternates between the two buildings. There is a joint team service when there is a 5th Sunday in the month. There is a Junior Church and Little Fishes group which run during the service.

The Team Vicar has the main responsibility for the Thursday Evening weekly service at Holy Trinity. This service has an average attendance of 100.

There is a said BCP communion service at St. Saviour's on the second Tuesday morning of the month.

Breathing Space is a fairly new service on the last Tuesday evening of each month. It is designed to offer a place of tranquillity and calm within an informal relaxed setting, to help with 'listening' and connecting with God.

Tots' Praise meets the second Thursday in the month in the afternoon at St. Saviour. Aimed at pre-school children, there are songs, stories, crafts and of course, snacks.

The parish has 119 on the electoral roll. Average communicants on a Sunday number 69 adults & 22 children. There were 5 marriages, 11 funerals and 34 baptisms in 2018.

The Mothers' Union meets monthly in the Parish room at Holy Trinity; the Scouts, Cubs, Beavers, Guides, Brownies and Rainbows meet weekly in St Saviour's School.

## **OTHER ACTIVITIES**

There are many fundraising activities and social events which take place in the parish room at Holy Trinity. These have included monthly lunches (increasing to weekly during Lent), annual Harvest Suppers, Girls' Nights, Irish Night, Country Theme Nights and Band Concerts to name but a few.

The community space with its fully equipped kitchen at St Saviour hosts many fundraising activities, including Burns Night, Lancashire Night and St. George's Night meals; also, wine tasting and games evenings and Art Exhibitions.

St Saviour Churchyard has a local community organised team that meet once a month on a Saturday with over 20 people attending, including youngsters. Refreshments are provided by church members

## **ECUMENICAL CONTACTS**

In the parish there is The Emmanuel Mission, although no formal links are maintained. There are links between our other team members and churches in their parishes.

## **MISSION**

The parish of Stoneclough aims to provide a platform for people working together to serve and minister. In order to achieve this, we will:

- Continue the growth in Christian worship within this unique locality.
- Continue and expand on the existing good links with both primary schools.
- Grow and nurture young families to develop their relationship with God. We have many young families attending our Thursday evening service, many of whom are un-churched.
- Recognise skills within the congregation with a view to developing leadership through a number of different avenues e.g. Foundations for Ministry, ALM, Reader or OLM.
- Continue and expand our existing strong community links e.g. within the past few years we have had new kitchens installed in the parish rooms at both St. Saviour and Holy Trinity. This was supplied and fitted by a local tradesman. Further examples are the notice boards at both churches which have been replaced recently.

## Parish of St Stephen, Kearsley Moor

### AREA

Kearsley is the southern-most area of Bolton, sharing a boundary with Salford and Manchester. The population of the parish of Kearsley Moor is 5,043. It ranks 1,898 out of 12,599, in the parish deprivation scale, which means that the parish is among the most deprived in the country.



It has a stable population, rising very slightly due to new housing developments: both private and Housing Association. Kearsley's population structure roughly follows the Bolton and national figures; however, there is a large number of single parent households and also a lot of older people who live alone. There is very little ethnic diversity in the parish: 94% white British at the last census.

At the last census, there were fewer people in employment in higher-grade occupations, and slightly more in lower-grade, elementary occupations in Kearsley than both Bolton and England.

Kearsley has several local institutions such as Kearsley Cricket Club, Kearsley Social Club, Manor Football and Golf Range, Kearsley Park Bowling Club; some of which have links to the church (hosting annual events etc). There are several small shops in the area, a local small supermarket (Costcutter) and Tesco Express.



Industry in the area consists of several small trading estates with a variety of small factories and light industry (e.g. Panalux, Elite Greenhouses).

## SCHOOLS

There are two primary schools and one secondary school within the parish boundary:

- St Stephens CE Primary School, Kearsley Moor
- Spindle Point Primary School
- Kearsley Academy (secondary)



There are good links with St Stephen's Primary School with regular services held in church, assemblies, joint fundraising and other activities. The Headteacher contributes to the Parish Magazine. The Governing body of the school has several Foundation Governors drawn from the PCC and congregation.

## **THE CHURCH BUILDING**

St Stephen's Church, Kearsley Moor, is a Grade II listed building on Manchester Road, Kearsley. The church was founded in 1870 and erected in 1870–71 by the Blair family. It was consecrated on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1871 by Bishop of Manchester, Dr Fraser.

The church has an open churchyard which holds the remains of 19 miners killed in the Unity Brook Colliery disaster.

The church was brought into the newly formed Benefice of Farnworth, Kearsley & Stoneclough in 2014, joining the Parish of Farnworth and Kearsley and the Parish of Stoneclough, which were already formed into a Team Ministry.



## **THE WORSHIP**

The worship is central to low in the spectrum of church tradition. There are two services on Sundays: 8.30 am BCP said Communion and 10 am Family Communion. Baptisms are held within the 10 am service on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month. There are also several special services throughout the year such as carol services, Remembrance Day etc. We do have several parents and children attending the early service to obtain attendance points for school admission. However, in real terms, we are a small church with more older members than young. There is also a distinct lack of men.

The current electoral roll of the church is under 100.

## OTHER ACTIVITIES

We run Lent & Advent courses and a monthly Baptism Preparation class for prospective baptism families.

Both the Church and the school premises are used regularly for fundraising events, including Harvest Supper, line dancing, coffee evenings and Band concerts.

Beavers, Cubs and Scouts meet weekly at the Scout headquarters located next to St

Stephen's Primary School. There are some links with the Church in that the uniformed organisations attend special services.



## ECUMENICAL CONTACTS



We are part of an active ecumenical group called "Churches on the Mount", which consists of ourselves, Kearsley Mount Methodist and the Roman Catholic church, St John Fisher.

There are regular formal committee meetings and joint events are planned and held, including Pentecost, Lent Bible Studies, Stations of the Cross, and our annual Cenotaph service with march of Remembrance.

We are also part of an ecumenical 'Messy church' through this group.



## MISSION

Our vision is that we are seeking to be a growing, nurturing and serving church within the heart of our community. As a church we want to bring God's love to the people of Kearsley. Our priorities, as stated in our Mission Action Plan, are:



## OUR TEAM VISION

- We desire that through the work of the Holy Spirit, the faith of every member of our Church Communities is deepened and strengthened, so that their gifts may be fully used to God's Glory.
- We aim to be a presence in our area to welcome every member of our communities to walk on the journey with God.
- We believe that our churches should be inclusive and welcoming to all members of our communities, who regardless of race, background or situation should be honoured and respected.
- We seek to work ever closer together as church communities in the team and with our ecumenical partners, to reach out and shine Christ's light into our wider communities.
- We aim to have worshipping communities where young and old, life-long attenders and first-time worshippers feel equally welcomed and valued.
- We wish to be a team where every member of our worshipping communities is encouraged, nurtured and given the resources to grow in faith and understanding, so that they can more deeply feel God's presence with them, and share that joy with all around them.

## **IS GOD CALLING YOU TO OUR TEAM?**

We are keen to work with someone who is:

- Willing to listen, but ready to lead
- Of deep faith and who can respect, work with and lead the range of church traditions across the Team.
- Able to think strategically to further the development and mission of our team.
- Pastorally sensitive, who enjoys meeting people and has the ability to work with and nurture people in diverse settings.
- Able to demonstrate the necessary aptitudes to work collaboratively and communicate effectively to lead a team of ordained and lay colleagues across a range of different centres of worship.
- Committed to play a full part in the leadership of the spiritual, administrative and pastoral life of the Team.
- Able to demonstrate an aptitude to develop existing links with schools and a passion to forge new links with schools, civic and community groups across the Team.
- A leader who encourages and develops the gifts of others.
- Competent in IT and has an ability to communicate effectively.

## **Further Information:**

Further information is available from:

The Venerable Jean Burgess, Archdeacon of Bolton

Telephone: 0161 761 6117

Revd Kim Lafferty, Team Vicar

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Websites: <http://www.stjohnsfarnworth.co.uk/>

<https://parishofstoneclough.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Stjohnsfarnworth/>

<https://www.facebook.com/StStephensKearsleyMoor/>

<https://www.facebook.com/parishofstoneclough>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/stjohnfarnworth>

## Facts and Figures (2018 Data)

	St John's	Stoneclough	St Stephen's
Population	11,505	3094	4940
Parish Deprivation (out of 12,599)	571 bottom 5%	6745 53%	1898 bottom 15%
Electoral Roll	140	119	75
Usual Adult Sunday Attendance (Oct 18)	70	66	48 (includes baptisms)
Baptisms (2018)	33	34	13
Weddings (2018)	5	5	2
Church Funerals (2018)	14	11	14
Children to HC (2018)	10	n/a	n/a
Church Tradition	Central / Catholic	Central / Catholic	Central/ Low
No. of buildings	1	2	1
Current allocation Stipendiary clergy	0.5	0.5	1
ALMs	1	2	0
Reader	0	0	1
Other Stipendiary Ministers	Sister Canon Dorothy Needham (1/3 time Whole Team)		
Self-Supporting Ministers	Revd Dr Malcolm Wearing (Whole Team) Revd Philip Castle (Whole Team)		