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Diocese of Southwell & Nottingham

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# **The Parish of St Peter and St Paul, Warsop**

**with**

# **St Augustine, Sookholme**

## **PARISH PROFILE**



# CONTENTS

Welcome	3
Aspirations & Priorities	5
Person Specification	7
About Us	8
Deanery	14
Safeguarding	15
Finance	16

# WELCOME

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

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

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

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

I look forward to welcoming the new incumbent of St. Peter and St. Paul with St. Augustine to join us on this faith-filled journey.



**Rt Revd Paul Williams**  
**Bishop of Southwell & Nottingham**

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

Every parish is encouraged to create its own 'Growing Disciples Plan' so that it can play a significant part in the strategic commitment to growing disciples of Jesus Christ with compassion, confidence and courage. St Peter and St Paul with St Augustine is looking to grow the church in Warsop, as well as discerning opportunities with other Anglican churches in the wider Mansfield area working as part of a collaborative deanery. I look forward to supporting the congregation of St Peter and St Paul and St Augustine, in their mission and welcoming a new incumbent to lead and implement the vision for the parish.



**Ven Tors Ramsey**  
**Archdeacon of Newark**

# OUR ASPIRATIONS & PRIORITIES

We long to move where God would lead us and we want to grow in faith as well as in numbers. We aspire to follow the Diocesan vision of “Living Hope” growing disciples with compassion, confidence and courage. In order to do this, we are committed to developing a Growing Disciples Plan that will enable us to identify our vision for the next season and set out the key priorities to help us meet our aspirations.

## Aspirations

- To grow the existing Sunday congregations numerically and spiritually so that they reflect the age and social profile of the parish’s population, especially reaching young families and young adults
- Reach out to new people to invite them into the faith and into our church community
- To develop inspiring worship in a way that encourages and develops the gifts and talents that have been given to us by God. Develop our regular gathered worship that will enable our community to connect in a deeper way with God
- Reaching younger by seeing a significant increase in children and young people belonging to our church communities.
- Deepen our discipleship
- Increase our leaders and volunteers
- Increase our appetite for and patterns and rhythms of prayer
- Encourage generosity to enable mission and ministry in a financially sustainable way
- To make the most of all opportunities, for example, through occasional offices, online engagement and create a strategy to develop the stages from first enquiry through to full participation and integration in the church

## Priorities

### 1. Growth and Reaching Out

- Communicate with local residents including those on new housing developments by posting a welcome through the door
- Improve our advertising of services and events through local media; extend our engagement with local organisations e.g. Vibrant Warsop, The Poppy Group Voices of the Vale. Develop our welcome and share our faith through open days.

## **2. Develop Inspiring Worship**

- Review our regular gathered service pattern to incorporate contemporary styles and alternative services that are more accessible to the young.
- Plan to launch a new family service within 6 months.

## **3. Reaching Younger**

- Build on our engagement with schools, which are a huge opportunity for mission.
- Develop an invitational culture that enables a clear and warm welcome to children and their families in all our interactions with school aged children.
- Invite other organisations working with children and young people to our services and child focused events, looking for new opportunities to disciple the young.
- Develop a worship gathering (Sunday or mid-week) that is accessible and inspirational and enables discipleship of young people.

## **4. Deepen Discipleship**

- Develop discipleship pathways from first contact to full participation e.g. events, outreach, flyers to the community, alpha course, house groups study groups and training and leadership development
- Extend participation in our house groups
- Increase engagement with scripture by creating an annual plan of teaching and study opportunities that could also be invitational events
- Increase the number of volunteers across our ministries and enable more into leadership roles

## **5. Nurturing Prayer**

- Review our corporate prayer patterns
- Plan teaching sessions on prayer
- Identify volunteer prayer leads

## **6. Encouraging Generosity**

- Develop teaching on giving
- Weave in stories and testimony around generosity at gathered services and events
- Work with diocesan team on planned giving as part of whole life discipleship
- Assess the use of our buildings and explore ways to enable them to contribute to the mission and ministry of the church.

## **7. Occasional Offices**

- Build on the opportunities created through occasional offices to link into discipleship pathways that identify the points of welcome and resources needed to extend a warm invitation into the life of the church

# OUR NEW VICAR

## Personal Specification

We are looking for a new leader who can bring vision and energy to our team that will enable us to meet our aspirations. We think some of the characteristics of this person will be:

- A shepherd full of the joy of God so that our worship is Spirit led and who has a deep personal commitment to prayer and Bible study.
- A vision for, commitment to, and experience of, evangelism and church growth across all ages
- An aptitude, experience and gifts in exercising strategic leadership, especially towards vision and implementing plans for growth
- An appreciation of the eucharistic tradition nourishing mission in, and service to, the parish
- Excellent relational gifts, emotional intelligence, tenacity and resilience,
- Able to discern, develop, encourage and deploy the gifts we have for the expansion of God's work in Warsop and Sookholme.
- A prayerful minister for all, who is able to work with the church community as well as the wider community here in Warsop and Sookholme.
- The capacity for working collaboratively to build and sustain life-giving teams
- The ability to lead, enjoy and instigate a variety of worship and musical styles, including contemporary expressions
- A commitment to, and expertise for, engaging biblical teaching and whole-life discipleship
- The ability to relate to, and inspire, children, young people and young families
- Able to spot and enable new missional opportunities and engage with the church community to encourage growth.
- Someone who extends a welcome to all, regardless of their background and has hospitality as a core value.



# THIS IS US

The Parish of Warsop with Sookholme is made up of a welcoming congregation who mainly come from within the parish. We have a thriving Parish made up of 5 villages and our opportunities are endless with the right leader. At St Peter and St Paul's Warsop, we have recently welcomed a few families from other ethnic backgrounds and this is wonderful. All are welcomed to worship with us.

Our dream would be to grow a wider church family, taking our church out into the community more and encouraging younger people. Working with our schools would be a key priority as we have good engagement already and many children visit the church for curriculum visits and events. However, we have not been able to translate those connections into faith journeys.

We would love to encourage lay ministry and training, encourage members of our congregation to see and use their gifts fully.

## Where are we?

The Parish of Warsop with Sookholme is located in the north of Nottinghamshire, lying on the northern boundary of the area administered by Mansfield District Council. Neighbouring parishes are mostly in our own diocese, Southwell and Nottingham, but we also border Derbyshire, and the parish of Shirebrook is our neighbour in Derby diocese.

Warsop itself is a small former mining and market town made up of a number of distinct communities: Market Warsop, Church Warsop, Warsop Vale and Meden Vale. Spion Kop and Sookholme are situated about a mile from Warsop. Population at the 2021 census was 12,644. There is a strong sense of community in the whole parish, and this has survived the closure of the coalmines and the effects of Covid.

There are seven schools including one Secondary Academy.

A recently completed centre, The Hub, with sports facilities and a small swimming pool is proving to be popular. The Carrs is a large area of parkland adjacent to Warsop Church. The river Meden flows through and there is an area designated as a nature reserve. The Warsop Carnival is held there each year and fun fairs appear 2 or 3 times a year. The Carrs is very well used as a recreation area by young and not so young alike.

A variety of shops meet the everyday needs of residents, and there are several eateries and pubs nearby. Warsop has a substantial medical centre and a dentist, which cover the entirety of Warsop, and a smaller surgery, which takes new patients from Church Warsop and Warsop Vale only as it is a sub-branch of the nearest Derbyshire surgery.

There are five care homes, two of which cater exclusively for disabled people.

The nearest towns, Mansfield (5 miles) and Worksop (9 miles), are easily accessible by car or bus. Nottingham is our nearest city (17 miles) and can be accessed by car, or by rail from Mansfield Woodhouse or Shirebrook. The city of Sheffield is around 20 miles away by car. M1 and A1m motorways are around 10 miles away.

A few miles north of Warsop lie The Dukeries, which consist of the large country estates of Clumber, Rufford, Thoresby and Welbeck. The first three are open to the public and contain many hundreds of acres of parkland. The Derbyshire Peak District starts less than an hour's drive away.

The Rectory, a stone-built house constructed in 2018, is situated directly across road (the A60) from St. Peter & St. Paul's church.





## Worship, Services & Festivals

Our Sunday worship begins at 10am every Sunday morning this usually is a Eucharistic service occasionally replaced by Morning Prayer.

We have members of the congregation who do readings and prayers alongside our licenced reader who leads service's and regularly preaches.

The service is sung using a setting written especially for the former St Johns Theological College which the congregation enjoy. Hymns are mostly from Hymns Old and New although we would welcome modern music to fit in with old. The service is followed by a time to chat and get together over tea and coffee.

St Augustine's in Sookholme holds a service at 11.30 on the first and third Sunday of each month. This is a said service. Sookholme has a vibrant community with a great depth of Christian experience, love and care for each other going well beyond its size.

We would love to welcome families and youngsters to a different kind of worship, a worship that is accessible to younger people. Encouraging and showing a wider diverse form of worship which accommodates both young and old, Jesus's love and word is for all. We would love to take our worship out into the community, using different venues other than the church building. Being present, being felt, being seen is an important way in which we want to relate to our community.

## Other Services

We hold a quarterly Hope and Remembrance Service at Warsop, where recently bereaved families can come alongside long time bereaved and remember their loved ones and find comfort in the readings, hymns and each other. The service is followed by a time to come together over tea and coffee.

Warsop Church was used regularly for baptisms, weddings and funerals however the demand for occasional offices has diminished particularly since Covid.

In the past we have held a weekly prayer time during Lent. This is generally themed and has been held at home, other times in the church. Other services include:

- **Maundy Thursday:** Holy Communion with foot washing
- **Good Friday:** a service is held by the Cross with themed activities followed by a penitential service with hymns.
- **Easter Day:** a service of light is held at dawn followed by Holy Communion service at 10am and Holy Communion at Sookholme at 11.30.
- **Ascension Day:** we usually hold a service of Holy Communion at Warsop in the evening, this is the only time incense is used.
- **Harvest** is a traditional Harvest service at both churches with produce being donated to the food bank
- **Advent and Christmas** is a busy time with several schools coming to us for carol services, all the schools join in decorating the Church for Advent with stars, Angels and focussing on Mary and Josephs journey to Bethlehem.
- We hold a **Christingle** service which sees the Church full to bursting.
- Our **carol services** at Sookholme and Warsop are made up of volunteers reading the lessons, the carols are enjoyed by everyone, and these services are very well attended.
- **Crib Service** this is truly a special service attended by many many children with many Marys, Josephs, Stars, Angels, Shepherds and Kings taking part.
- The First Communion is held at 11.30 **Christmas Eve** with a **Christmas Day** service held at Warsop at 10am.



# Ministry, Outreach & Community

## The Diocesan Vision

**Living Hope for the city, towns and villages of Nottinghamshire and beyond.**

Growing Disciples of Christ with Compassion, Confidence and Courage.

We aim to use this concept to further the work of God in our parish, and to secure the future of the faith here.

## Compassion

To meet the world's deepest needs through Jesus' love.

- Our weekly community café, The Cross Keys Project, provides a hot meal at reasonable cost and the opportunity for social interaction.
- We support a local foodbank with regular donations of much needed food and toiletries and financial assistance.

## Confidence

To root our life and faith in Jesus.

- Nurturing new and existing believers to enable them to better use their gifts and skills in the service of Jesus.
- Seeking opportunities in the community to expand the ministry of the church in Warsop.

## Courage

To share Jesus with all of our heart.

- Engaging with baptism families and wedding couples, supporting and encouraging them to become actively involved in the life of the church.
- Reaching out to those who have recently moved into the parish, especially into the areas with newly built housing.
- Building on our long-established links with all seven schools in the parish.
- Sharing Jesus more effectively with families by adapting our service pattern.
- The Oaklands is a residential centre for people with learning difficulties. We take the gospel there to a group known as Church Buddies. Occasionally Church Buddies are brought to Warsop church to join our worship.

Visits which include Home Communion are made to homes and care homes by a dedicated team of lay people led by our licensed reader.

Ministry is undertaken at The Oaklands Care Centre "Church Buddies" takes place once a month giving the residents Christian Worship and activities. This has led the Oaklands attending services at Easter and Christmas in Church.

A mid-week prayer group has been reintroduced recently. It is held at the home of a member of the congregation and each time is led by a different member of the group. This is something that is growing and deepening in faith as it continues.

Remembrance Sunday is a hugely important part of our Community with Church leading the service at Warsop War Memorial with hundreds of people congregating to take part, there is a parade of local organisations. A time where the community truly come together.

We have a full team of 8 Bell ringers. Bells are rung every Sunday before worship and occasionally when requested at weddings. At our carol service we enjoyed the hand bells being rung. A truly special time.

Warsop Church host one or two concerts each year, The Police Band drawing in the community at their remembrance concert. Mansfield Male Voice Choir also are firm favourites. Sookholme has held a more intimate style of concert, and we are hoping for more "Summer Soiree" in the future.

Both Warsop and Sookholme are blessed with volunteers from our congregations who have the skill to display flowers creating beautiful arrangements.

Our work at Warsop is based alongside our 5 local schools who attend throughout the year to discover more about Jesus. Also attending at Christmas for concerts, Christingle and the Crib service. We have developed a good relationship with both pupils and staff.

We attend and have a prayer tent at our local carnival with children stopping to say hello and chat about their experience after attending Church. This is so lovely to hear.

We see huge opportunity for development of our outreach to those moving into the new housing developments locally. As there are more people coming into our parish, the opportunities to take Gods work into our community is endless.



# Significant People in our Parish

Tony Hague	Churchwarden
Val Spencer	Churchwarden
Pat Brewin	Reader
Pamela Stevenson	Parish Administrator
Amy Whant	Safeguarding Officer
Tony Herrod	Organist

There are two retired clergy who regularly worship with us.



# OUR DEANERY

Mansfield Deanery covers a population of around 124,000 including urban, suburban and rural areas. The Deanery is a family of 13 parishes and 17 churches covering every tradition within the Church of England and most settings too, including areas of deprivation and wealth, ex-mining and farming communities as well as Mansfield Town Centre. It is also home to the Major Oak and Robin Hood Trails, Sherwood Forest, the Stags as well as Mansfield Bitter!

The life as a Deanery Family is shaped by the Diocesan Refreshed Vision. From 2026, the Deanery will gather for 2 Deanery Synods. During Deanery Synods we have a particular focus upon one of the Diocesan Vision's 7 areas of focus upon mission and ministry. The two Deanery Gatherings which meet in church buildings primarily share stories together and pray for each other.

We have created supportive network groups which include Treasurers, Administrators and Churchwardens. During the summer, the Deanery Leadership Team hosts an afternoon tea, on alternate years, for retired clergy and Licensed Lay Ministers with Churchwardens serving in vacancy.

The Deanery Leadership Team has been intentional in promoting Eco-congregations, with the hope of us becoming an Eco-Deanery and we promote the Church of England's Generosity Week resources as we seek to grow as communities of grace and generosity. In 2025, 94% of the request £488,424 for Parish Share was paid across the Deanery.

There are several types of Deanery Chapter meetings which meet once a month including; informal clergy lunches, training or business meetings, times to worship and pray together, to share good practice and discuss wider mission and ministry issues. We would expect the incumbent of the Parish of Warsop with Sookholme to make these a priority and share in the mutual support and learning they offer.

We look forward to the new post holder joining the Deanery and working alongside us as together we join in with the Transforming Mission of God, in and for the sake of the world, growing disciples of Christ with compassion, confidence and courage in and around our churches and communities. Will you join us?

For more information about the Deanery and parishes, please contact our Area Dean:



**Revd Zoe Burton**  
**Area Dean of Mansfield Deanery**  
*07983946930 / revdzoeb@gmail.com*



# FINANCE

## Financial Statements

### Statement of Financial Activities

For the year ended 31st December 2024

	Notes	General fund £	Designated fund £	Restricted fund £	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Incoming Resources</b>						
<b>Voluntary Income</b>						
Planned giving		31,580			31,580	32,108
Collections, donations & other giving		9,533	3,194	2,868	15,595	20,229
Income tax recovered		9,267	16		9,283	8,300
Legacies		2,000			2,000	-
<b>Activity for Generating Funds</b>						
Trading		3,675	9,897		13,572	16,906
Fund Raising Events		3,211	701		3,912	1,484
Cross Keys Lunch Club			3,663		3,663	2,738
Childrens Work		294		10	304	136
<b>Receipts from Charitable activities:</b>						
Parochial fees		13,947			13,947	24,038
<b>Receipts from Investments:</b>						
Interest & dividends		2,604		206	2,810	1,585
<b>Other Receipts</b>						
Insurance claims					-	-
Sale proceeds from fixed assets					-	-
Loans received					-	-
Other					-	-
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>		<b>76,111</b>	<b>17,471</b>	<b>3,084</b>	<b>96,666</b>	<b>107,524</b>

## Resources Expended

### Charitable activities:

Donations/Grants to charities	(225)			(225)	(175)
Parish Share	(57,321)			(57,321)	(53,904)
Clergy expenses	(194)			(194)	3
Childrens Work			(150)	(150)	(132)
Provision of Services	(2,894)			(2,894)	(2,572)
Church running expenses	(16,111)	(19,539)	(230)	(35,881)	(26,649)
Churchyard maintenance				-	-
Cost of raising funds	(2,119)	(3,347)		(5,466)	(7,362)
Administration costs (inc. staff costs)	(8,242)	(2,814)		(11,056)	(8,094)
Governance Costs				-	-
Other				-	-
<b>Major expenditure</b>					
Repairs to church buildings				-	-
Repairs to other property				-	-
Capital purchases/additions				-	-
Loan repayments				-	-
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>(87,106)</b>	<b>(25,700)</b>	<b>(380)</b>	<b>(113,186)</b>	<b>(98,886)</b>
<b>Net (outgoing)/ incoming resources</b>	<b>(10,995)</b>	<b>(8,229)</b>	<b>2,704</b>	<b>(16,520)</b>	<b>8,638</b>
<i>Transfers between funds</i>	-	-	-	-	-
	(10,995)	(8,229)	2,704	(16,520)	8,638
<i>Cash at bank and in hand at 1 Jan (R&amp;P Balance)</i>	55,340	11,012	8,007	74,359	65,720
<i>Funds carried forward at 31 Dec 2024</i>	44,345	2,783	10,711	57,839	74,359

## Notes to Financial Statements

### Funds

General funds represent the funds of the PCC that are not subject to any restrictions regarding their use and are available for application on the general purposes of the PCC. Funds designated for a particular purpose by the PCC are also unrestricted. The accounts include all transactions, assets and liabilities for which the PCC is responsible in law

### Resources Used

#### *Grants*

Grants and donations are accounted for when paid over, or when awarded, if that award creates a binding obligation on the PCC.

#### *Activities directly relating to the work of the church*

The diocesan parish share is accounted for in the period to which it relates. Any parish share unpaid at 31st December is provided for in these accounts as an operational (though not legal) liability and is shown as a creditor in the Balance Sheet

### Reserves

#### *Unrestricted Funds*

It is the policy of this church to work towards keeping at least four months running costs in reserve to cover unforeseen emergencies. This is not possible at the moment.

*Designated funds* are set aside for a particular purpose – The Parish Centre.

*Restricted funds* are kept and only used for their intended purposes

The PCC understands its responsibility to ensure that the reserves are used to gain the maximum benefit for the parish in its pursuit of the whole mission of the church. This policy will be reviewed annually prior to the APCM.