

Werrington

PARISH CHURCH

Parish Profile
January 2023



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Welcome to Werrington Parish Church

We are so pleased to welcome you, as you explore whether Jesus is calling you to join us, in this new season of ministry and mission for His church here in Werrington.

We are a Jesus centred, Spirit-filled, open Evangelical church, where the Bible is our guide and God's Word is at the heart of all we do. Situated to the North of Peterborough, we believe in the power of prayer, good pastoral care and kind hospitality that makes room for others to grow in their faith and in their spiritual journey with Jesus.

Vision

Our vision statement, given to the PCC late 2019, is "to be a welcoming, vibrant and loving church community for all and to grow as the family of God to love, serve, share and be like Jesus wherever we are each day."

Our five strategic areas of focus are:

- Prayer
- Worship
- Discipleship
- Children & Families and Youth
- Evangelism, Community and Outreach

Mission

We long to see God's Kingdom grow in our parish, ecumenically in PE4 churches, the wider city, the nation and overseas. We are committed to playing our part in proclaiming and spreading the good news of the Gospel, to seeing lives changed, to seeing the church revitalised and our society transformed. We partner with a number of Mission Partners in the UK and Overseas, supporting them prayerfully, practically and financially. We believe each and every member of our church family has a part to play in God's mission and in sharing our life together as His church, through faithfulness in prayer, in serving and in generous giving.



We ask you to prayerfully discern if God is calling you to join in His mission here in Werrington and become our next Associate Vicar (Assistant Priest).

'Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely, I am with always to the very end of the age.' Matthew 28:19-20

Role and Person Specification

We are seeking a prayerful, Spirit-filled, servant-hearted, passionate and capable assistant leader, who is spiritually discerning, has a vibrant relationship with Jesus and feels called to be our next Associate Vicar.

Role Description

In the role you will:

- assist the Vicar in leading Werrington Parish Church in this new season of our church life
- have opportunities to share in every aspect of parish ministry; leading and preaching at our Sunday and week day services, including the Occasional Offices, leading collective worship and assemblies in schools, offering prayer and pastoral care, engaging with our community and mission partners
- deputise for the Vicar in her absence, ensuring continuity of mission and ministry in the parish
- in cooperation with the Vicar, give leadership within the parish, through the chairing of and participation in PCC and other church meetings
- have a heart for mission, making and growing disciples, seeing lives transformed and communicating the Gospel to all generations
- assist the Vicar in planning, communicating, empowering, monitoring and encouraging employed staff, interns on placement, curates in training, PCC and other church members, as they develop and use their gifts
- have opportunity to meet with Deanery Chapter and ecumenical colleagues for prayer and mutual support and work creatively in furthering God's mission in PE4 and the deanery

The Person We Are Seeking

In the role you will:

- be someone who can lead collaboratively and effectively, empowering and enabling members of the church individually and collectively to fulfil our vision, so that we continue to grow in whole life discipleship as a vibrant, healthy church family, reaching out into our community and the wider world
- be able to demonstrate experience of a fresh expression, pioneering, or similar community ministry that resulted in leading others to Jesus Christ
- be self-aware, able to recognise your limitations and seek personal growth and training opportunities

... and in relation to teaching, leading, pastoring and safeguarding, we are looking for someone who will:

- be charismatic and a Godly role model, encouraging others to lead mature Christian lives
- be a warm, approachable, compassionate and empathetic pastor with good social communication skills
- nurture and equip adults, children and young people through uplifting Bible teaching that connects with their daily lives and their faith in Jesus
- be comfortable leading contemporary Spirit-led worship, as well as, liturgical services
- be able to support a collaborative culture and appreciate alternative views and difference

- understand, observe and apply Safeguarding requirements at all times and be proactive in encouraging a Safeguarding culture
- be able to engage appropriately with social media, aware of the benefits, downfalls and its ever-changing landscape
- engage in activities that support your own spiritual and mental well-being, ensuring you develop effective rhythms, for your work life in the parish and your personal life

What would you bring to one of our key areas of mission?

As our Associate Vicar you will have the opportunity to be the key leader, using your gifts and strengths, in **one** of the following specific areas of mission and ministry identified by our PCC as the two key strategic areas to be of missional focus:

- Children & Families and Youth
- Evangelism, Community & Outreach

We appreciate that you will need support, training and our prayers to develop either of these key missional areas and hope the following questions will guide your thoughts and your application.

Children & Families and Youth

- Do you have a heart to see children and young people come to know Jesus, to grow and develop a life-long faith?
- Are you aware of the latest research relating to growing faith in children, young people and the family?
- Does leading our Growing Faith Adventure with William Law CE School and Parents fill you with joy and resonate with you, i.e., faith being a shared experience of Connected communities, Spiritual Encounters, Imaginative Practices, nurtured when Home – School – Church work together?
<https://www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/about-us/children-youth/growing-faith-adventure.php>
- Are you passionate about discipling families; parents, children and young people?
- Can you see the opportunities to ‘be there’ in those times of transition for children and families, and young people, as they prepare for change and how can you ensure we “mind the gap” supporting children, young people and families through changing and difficult times?
- Are you a team player, able to work with, train or seek out relevant training and develop others in their gifts?
- What is your experience of intergenerational worship and the engagement of all ages in leading worship?

Our Sunday morning Children’s Ministry, Messy Church, School’s Ministry, GIFT services, Baptism preparation, Growing Faith Adventure, Family Fun Days, Story Birds, Loud and The Rock groups, are all supported by teams. These are teams of people who are passionate about reaching children, young people and families with the Good News of Jesus and will be ready to support you.

Are you the person God is calling to develop a new season for growing our **Children & Families and Youth** in Werrington Parish Church?

As our Associate Vicar how would you take this specific missional focus forward?

Evangelism, Community & Outreach

- Do you have a heart to welcome those on the edges, who may feel marginalised by society, as they take their first tentative steps closer to Jesus and to his church?
- How would you describe your spiritual giftings and your strengths in reaching out to others in evangelism?
- Do you feel drawn to engage in Community outreach, building reciprocal relationships with the local community and local businesses, local organisations and charities, i.e., CAP money, Light Project working with homelessness?
- Are you ready to come alongside and work with the Community Outreach Manager, who has built good community relationships and who (with the PCC Task Group) has been working on the development of the fabric of the Lighthouse Centre building?
- Are you willing to listen to others and hear their story, before sharing your story?
- Would you be willing to undertake the Mental Health First Aid course?
- Are you familiar with Kintsugi Hope courses?
- Have you led an enquirers course, i.e., Alpha, Christianity Explored, The Chosen, or something else and what's been your experience?
- How would you support and encourage the monthly Werrington Shopping Centre prayer group as they meet in the Lounge Coffee Shop and prayer walk, reaching out to a more deprived area of the parish?

Are you the person God is calling to develop a new season of ministry for **Evangelism, Community & Outreach** in Werrington Parish Church?

As our Associate Vicar, how would you take this specific missional focus forward?

In Summary

Once you have had time to read the rest of the parish profile, please feel free to contact me to arrange a conversation by phone, email or in person. I look forward to hearing from you and receiving your Application Form.

In your Application Form please explain how you meet the Role Description and Person Specification. We would like to hear about your leadership style, gifts, abilities and training needs relating to this role and to the one specific area of mission you feel the Lord Jesus is calling you to, here in Werrington Parish Church.

Reverend Sue Fear
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Werrington Parish and Surrounding Area

We are one church with access to many buildings: the medieval Parish Church of St John the Baptist, located in the village of Werrington; and the modern Emmanuel Church, in the northern part of the parish, which is a dual use building shared with William Law CE Primary School. Werrington Parish Village Centre and the Lighthouse Centre.

We had 189 people on the electoral roll in April 2022 and the most recent quarterly average Sunday attendance (October to December 2022) was approximately 180 (including children).

St John the Baptist Church in the village is Grade 1 listed and parts of the building date from the 12th century. Renovations at the end of the last century added a kitchen & toilets and in 2011/12 the Victorian pews were replaced by chairs, comfortably seating 150 people. The building is in a good state of repair. The last quinquennial inspection took place in October 2021. There is a dedicated fund for the upkeep of the fabric of St John's. There is a closed churchyard surrounding St John's which is maintained by the local authority; however, there are some reserved grave spaces. There is also an ash burial area still in use.



Emmanuel Church shares premises with William Law CE Primary School and the school hall is the home of the Emmanuel congregation on a Sunday; classrooms and the activity room are used for children's and youth ministry. The school buildings and grounds are also used for weekday evening meetings/events and for various activities on a Saturday and in the school holidays. We have separate kitchen and toilet facilities and the Parish Office is located in this building. Upkeep costs are shared with the school and following the school's conversion to a PDET Academy a Hire Agreement is in place. The church seats 350 at capacity, but about 250 comfortably.



The Vicarage will be the Associate Vicar's residence; it is a detached four-bedroom vicarage approximately 530 yards from St John's Church, at 51 The Green, Werrington, PE4 6RT. It was purpose built in the 1970s and is ideally suited for families, having a separate study, gas central heating, double glazing, a single garage and a large enclosed back garden with mature trees and shrubs. There is off road parking for 5 cars. The house and gardens are in a good state of repair with no known problems; the vicarage was renovated in 2021 with a new kitchen, bathroom and an ensuite in one of the bedrooms.



The Parish of Werrington in the Diocese of Peterborough lies four miles north of Peterborough city centre and covers an area of about 2.5 square miles. It is a residential suburb, which has grown around the old Werrington village, populated since Roman times, and mentioned in the Domesday Book. St John the Baptist Church lies at the centre of the village and was originally a Chapel of Ease in the neighbouring parish of Paston. The current parish was founded in 1877 and confirmed in 1888.

By the 1970s, Werrington was a suburb of approximately 6,000 people still with only one school. In the 1980s, under the direction of the Peterborough Development Corporation, development of a new township north of the village was undertaken including three new schools, a leisure centre, library, medical centre, and shopping centre with a supermarket. Major expansion was completed by 1990, but smaller scale development is still taking place. The population is now approaching 17,000.



As part of the expanding parish and resulting church growth, a new congregation was established in 1987 at Emmanuel Church, worshipping in the main hall of William Law CE Primary School.

Werrington has very mixed areas of accommodation from some of the most deprived in the country to affluent. The 2011 Census shows that there are 58% of households in our parish with one or more levels of deprivation.

Werrington is served mainly by a ring road. It has excellent bus services, cycle and walkways, and a small lake with surrounding park.

Character What was once a rural village is now attached to Peterborough by suburbs and is, therefore, urban but not city centre. For housing, immigration, socioeconomic and age-related data, see Appendix 1.

The parish has two distinct areas – the southern pre-1980s area around the original village that contains St John the Baptist Church and the Werrington Parish Village Centre ('WPVC') and the new northern township development post 1980 where Emmanuel Church is situated. Werrington village has a community feel to it with various annual events, taking place from the Summer Carnival and Church Flower festival, to the Lighting of the Christmas Tree on the Green (early December) and Carols on the Green on Christmas Eve.

Churches nearby There is one other church in the parish, The Way Family Church (Assemblies of God), with which we have a good relationship. We are part of an active PE4 Churches Together, which shares a Facebook page and comprises; The Way Church, Brookside Methodist Church, All Saints, Paston (Church of England), Sacred Heart & St Oswald's Catholic Church and Open-Door Baptist. Leaders enjoy a monthly meeting to share coffee, fellowship and pray for one another and our PE4 area. Together they plan and share in the week of Christian Unity Service in January; this year's service is at 7.30pm Wednesday 18th January 2023 (6.45pm for refreshments) at All Saints Church, Paston. Retreat days have also been enjoyed together. In the summer of 2019, PE4 churches initiated and engaged in a week of prayer, this was well attended, and a weekly early Tuesday PE4 morning prayer meeting was established.

Schools and Education Werrington Parish Church has strong links with each of the three primary schools and the one secondary school in the parish. The clergy are invited to lead assemblies at all three primary schools. All the schools are rated 'Good' by Ofsted. William Law CE Primary School was additionally rated SIAMS 'Excellent' in 2019.

Welbourne Primary Academy (capacity 215 pupils) Pre covid clergy held Christingle and Easter services for the school in St John's and a Harvest service was held at school. In 2020 and 2021, the clergy held a virtual Christmas Service via Teams. For many years, a monthly "Splash" outreach gathering was run by one of our Discipleship Groups and Welbourne School developed good relationships with our Love Werrington Team, who liaised with the school for Family Fundays, Webster Stratton Parenting Course.



Werrington Primary School (capacity 420) St John's Church is visited by the children for special services and clergy support the RE curriculum for all the different years, i.e., enacted weddings and baptisms, class visits to understand how the church building is used and what Christians believe. The two Key Stage 1 Christmas Carol services in St John's are attended by parents, while there is a Christmas Key Stage 2 service. Year 6 children have joined in with reading their poems in the short Remembrance Day Service by the War Memorial in the grounds of St John's Church. This has developed in recent years as the local history group take the children to see the Commonwealth War Graves, whilst our Mothers' Union offer drinks and cakes in St John's church, where a member of the congregation shares his Army experiences and "There but not There" figures of a soldier can be seen. The Clergy have been invited to offer assemblies for KS1 and KS2 every term and are invited to join with YR5 to answer "Big Questions".



William Law CE Primary School (capacity 630) part of PDET (Peterborough Diocesan Education Trust) academy. In addition to Emmanuel Church sharing the building, the Vicar and Associate Vicar are governors of the school and also offer to listen and pray individually with staff. The clergy and former Youth Minister have led collective worship for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 each term and assist with services at Christmas, Easter, Ash Wednesday, a Leavers' service in July. We hold a Whole School Eucharist usually in the summer term, as well as offering enacted Wedding Days and Baptisms with Year 1. KS1 visit St John's Church to explore the building, while KS2 children are encouraged to lead readings and prayers in Holy Communion services at different times throughout the year i.e., Year 3 with Year 4, and Year 5 with Year 6. The Vicar together with the Headteacher have developed a team focusing on the Growing Faith Adventure.



Ken Stimpson Community School (A secondary school with approximately 1250 pupils). In partnership with CROPS, a Christian Educational Trust committed to communicating and demonstrating Christian truth and life-style to children and young people, our former Youth Minister with our two Love Werrington Assistants developed a mentoring programme for students. We currently have one Love Werrington Assistant working as a mentor for 10 hours per week and supervised by the Community Outreach Manager.



Other secondary schools The nearest Church of England secondary school is The King's (The Cathedral) School near the centre of Peterborough, rated 'Outstanding' by Ofsted at its last inspection in 2013 and by SIAMS in 2018. A number of the children of church families attend this school.

Nurseries and Playgroups There are several playgroups and nurseries within the parish.

Healthcare There are three doctors' surgeries, two dentists, an optician and two pharmacies in the parish.

Community centres There are three community centres, the largest of which is Werrington Parish Village Centre (WPVC) which is owned and managed by our church.

Retirement and residential homes There are five retirement/residential complexes in Werrington and one nursing home, which have close connections to Werrington Parish Church. Seasonal Services and a monthly communion are currently offered at two of these complexes

Local Businesses There are three supermarkets, two post offices, a library, one gym, cafés, charity shops, several pubs, restaurants/takeaways, two industrial units, two small retail parks, petrol stations, estate agents, paper shops, hairdressers, Coop Funeral Directors and a number of other small businesses.

Children's and Youth Ministry

"Jesus said to them, 'Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it.' And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them."
Mark 10:14-16

We value children and young people as the church of today and actively encourage them to grow in their faith and in using their gifts.

Children's Ministry: Children's ministry has been an integral part of the Sunday morning services, except on third Sundays, which is Gift at Emmanuel and Refresh at St John's. At the 10 am Emmanuel services, children aged 3 to 16 start in the body of the church and then move into separate age groups, using the school classrooms. A crèche area in the foyer is available for parents with children under three.



Third Sunday GIFT (Growing in faith together) has developed into an All-Age service since its return after the pandemic. GIFT is supported by the Vicar, uses a Bible reading, encourages lay leaders (adults and children) our Youth band, drama and various creative activities. Pre-covid Baptism families were invited to this service, joining us for refreshments and Baptism preparation in the Activity room.

10.30am service, St John's church has a dedicated carpeted children's area, although families are welcome to sit anywhere in the Nave. Children's ministry (2-11 years) takes place in the Werrington Parish Village Centre on first and fourth Sundays.

Youth Ministry: Young people form an integral part of our existence and our mission to them remains intentional. We consider them as equals in the family of faith as well as having the responsibility to equip them for mature discipleship. The purpose of this ministry is to draw the young people closer continually and consistently to Christ, combining the elements of fun, food, family and faith to form a connected and an authentically relational family of God's people. Our strategy is to have a good mix of regular and one-off activities that young people can engage with, as well to connect us to them. Since our former Youth Minister left to start his ordination training, a group of volunteers, supported by the Deanery Youth Mission Enabler have continued to offer a slim down Youth ministry:



- **The Rock:** school years 7-12 (with around 12 in the group) running parallel to the Sunday morning services in Emmanuel.
- **LOUD:** meeting on Friday evening for secondary school young people. We aim to create a welcoming atmosphere where young people feel they can belong, including interactive Bible study in groups, plus games and free time to chat; since Covid, numbers have varied.

From time to time, we have offered different activities such as Activity World, Laser Force, Youth Evangelism Conference, Honours Night, Youth Christmas Drama, Christmas parties, McDonald's walk, Fish and Chip suppers, carol singing at Sweetbriar sheltered housing complex. We attend The Point, a CROPS run city-wide monthly event; and have taken our young people to the 'Letton Hall House Party' residential and Summer Camps such as New Wine and Soul Survivor.

We have one young adult who currently volunteers, having been supported by our youth minister on their student placement with us; they are in the final stages of completing the Theology and Youth Mission degree course at Ridley Hall.

Discipleship

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe at the many wonders and signs performed by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. They sold property and possessions to give to anyone who had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favour of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved.

Acts 2:42-47

A critical element of spiritual growth at Werrington Parish Church is the biblical strength and pastoral support within Discipleship Groups, where we have 123 church members in 14 groups; some groups are weekly, some fortnightly, some like men's breakfast meet twice each month on a Saturday. These groups are the principal way of developing deeper relationships and growing in faith and discipleship and as people join our church family, they are invited to join a group. We are delighted to see our young adults initiating the recent addition of an 18–30's discipleship group, which has been steadily growing in number.

Over recent years we have linked Discipleship Group studies with Lent Courses and sermon series. We have studied "Holy Habits" by Andrew Roberts, "The Whole of Life for Christ" Keswick Resources, LICC's "Fruitfulness on the Frontline", a "Tour of the Bible" based on Bible Society resources and, latterly, in-house developed studies based on Thy Kingdom Come (Church of England resource) and a series based on the Holy Spirit ("The Power Within").



Discipleship Group activity is overseen by a leadership team; group leaders and representatives meet for communication, encouragement, feedback, challenge and pastoral care to ensure all aspects of spiritual and pastoral needs are well supported.

The challenge is, through nurturing in our Discipleship Groups, are we radical missional disciples who worship God in spirit and in truth, share the gospel message, grow in wisdom, find God's purpose, bear fruit in our community and bring hope to our world?

Evangelism, Community and Outreach

“Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen ... you will be called Repairer of Broken Walls, Restorer of Streets with Dwellings.”

Isaiah 58: 6-12

These verses from Isaiah were foundational in the prayerful development of The Way In community house. They then became the starting point for the Love Werrington Steering Committee’s meetings and continue to resonate with our prayers and vision for the Werrington Shopping Centre and surrounding residential area.

The Way In is a church community outreach ministry, which for 30 years was based in the Way In terrace house close to the Werrington Centre; the house was sold during the pandemic with the plan for the ministry to relocate to the Lighthouse Centre, situated at Werrington Parish Village Centre. A Task group has been working on plans to refurbish the Lighthouse Centre and grant applications have been made.

In the meantime, the Community Outreach Manager, who is employed to oversee the running of this ministry, continues to offer a Pastoral Hub (personal and phone support), which developed in collaboration with Peterborough City Council during the first lockdown, with referrals from Werrington residents being forwarded from the Council to our team. The Manager working with volunteers and the Pastoral Team offers fellowship and friendship, ongoing support, pastoral care and a safe haven to young and old, through the Tuesday Coffee morning, supporting Story Birds and the Friday ‘Time to Be’ morning in St John’s Church.

Love Werrington was a grant-funded initiative, whose aims were to support and engage with children, families and young people who are in need in the Werrington community. Before its inception local residents, schools, businesses, and healthcare professionals were consulted. Love Werrington began in January 2017 and has provided: children’s groups, holiday outings, family fun days, community events, youth groups and mentoring at local schools, as well as the Webster Stratton parenting courses, which are delivered in collaboration with our three Primary Schools. The Love Werrington Team has been built with strong involvement of the Community Outreach Manager and the then Associate Vicar. During the pandemic the Love Werrington Assistants’ (roles changed to one of mentoring students in Ken Stimpson School; following a successful grant application one LWA continues to mentor students and the Community Outreach Manager has taken over their line management and supervision.



Alpha We are passionate about seeing people come to know Jesus as their Lord and Saviour. Alpha courses have been run for over twenty years, with people coming to faith through the course and becoming active members of our church community. More recently we have used Christianity Explored as a shorter alternative and have found it to be an effective tool for evangelism. Consideration was given to running an on-line Alpha during the autumn of 2020; unfortunately, this did not happen but the groundwork has been done for the future.

Werrington Parish Village Centre consists of a large playing field, car park and three buildings (Main Centre & Halls, the Lighthouse Centre & the Scouts and Guides Building), all owned by the Church. Until 2019 the Centre had been on a long lease to



the Peterborough City Council which they did not renew. As a Church, we had a choice either to see this as a difficult facility to support in both a practical and financial sense, or as a God given opportunity to provide further outreach and evangelism to our local community. We chose to see it as the latter and, through the faithful volunteering of people within the Church, we have continued to provide the facility for around 15 regular users from playgroup to whist clubs. Our youth team base has moved to the Lighthouse Centre. The

Village Centre is one of the Church's main frontlines in reaching out to the community. Our vision is to be a beacon of light in the community through our developing relationships with the community we serve.

Hope into Action houses have been prayerfully and practically supported for the past 10 years by our church; first through one of our church discipleship groups called Courtyard. We have a Service Level Agreement with Hope into Action and have developed a Friendship and Support group with church members who visit the tenants. Hope into Action is one of our UK Mission partners.

One church member is a trustee and two others are employed by the charity, which provides homes for a wide range of homeless people. <https://www.hopeintoaction.org.uk/>

UK and Overseas Mission We tithe 10% of our regular giving to financially supporting mission activities locally, nationally, and internationally. Recently a Mission Committee has been established by PCC and has taken on the role of recommending to the PCC the outward mission and giving strategy for the church.

We have regularly supported a total of 14 missions and projects over recent years:

- Local support: Hope into Action, CROPS, Bibles to pupils at William Law CE Primary School
- Overseas Mission support: Aurora Christian Association working in Romania, Church Mission Society in Peru (Revd. Pat Blanchard), Dalitso Trust in Malawi (Tom and Ali Husbands), Friends for Neighbours in India (John and Lily Abu-Bakker), Great Lakes Outreach in Burundi (Simon Guillebaud), Operation Mobilisation (Phil Slade)
- Other Mission Partner support: Barnabas Trust, The Bible Society, FEBA (Far Eastern Broadcasting Associates), Scripture Union, Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child shoebox appeal

Mothers' Union The Werrington branch celebrated 100 years of service in 2020. Their latest venture (Story Birds for pre-school children, parents and carers) is held in St John's chancel on Tuesday mornings during term time. Mothers Union members continue to give practical, as well as, spiritual support to families, providing Cards and Bibles for children being baptised, organising annual outings and providing hospitality for one-off occasions.

Other community activities

- Christmas Tree Festival (2019)
- Christmas Tree Challenge (2020) – well supported by the local community (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9oeUl1g1n1c>)
- Christmas Event 2022 in Werrington shopping centre; in collaboration with Tesco Community Champion our church's musicians and singers, we sang Carols to shoppers and in collaboration with The Lounge coffee shop we led Carol Singing outside The Lounge, sharing chocolates, mulled apple juice, favourite Carols and invitations with passers by
- Prison visiting and support
- Stewarding the annual Great Eastern Run (which comes through Werrington)
- Volunteering for the Peterborough Foodbank, Light Project and Night Shelter (including hosting this in the Lighthouse in March 2020)
- Werrington Scout and Guide Carnival and associated Church Flower Festival

Prayer

“In the same way, prayer is essential in this ongoing warfare. Pray hard and long. Pray for your brothers and sisters. Keep your eyes open. Keep each other’s spirits up so that no one falls behind or drops out.”
Ephesians 6 v 18 (The Message)

Jesus is the firm foundation on which our church stands and prayer undergirds all that we do.

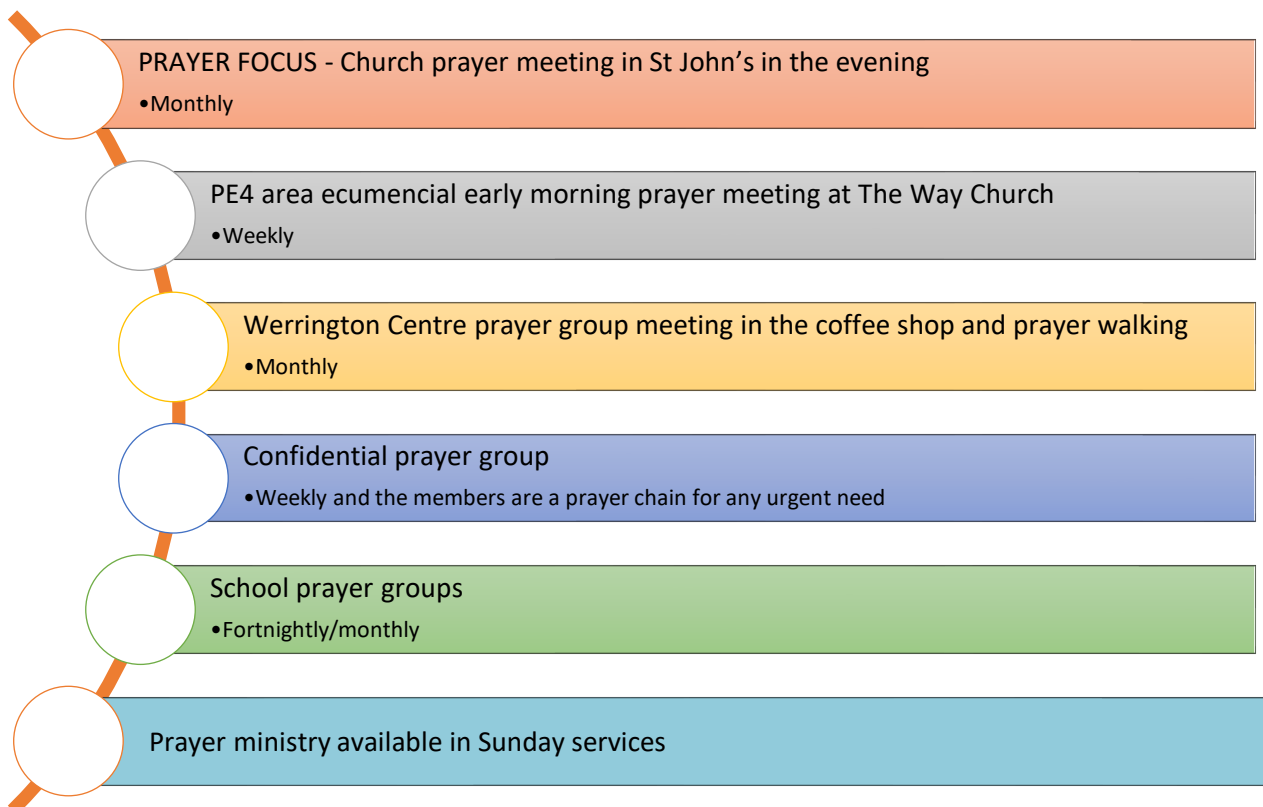
Our vision is of every member of the church being actively involved in the prayer life of the church, so that we have an all-embracing network of prayer surrounding and enabling all we do. Prayer is not the exclusive preserve of a few individuals, nor of the church prayer meeting. Prayer is a conversation with our loving Father God who longs for us to connect with Him, talk to Him and listen to Him in whatever way works for us and Him together. Just as we cannot expect our earthly relationships to function and flourish without taking time to communicate with our spouses, partners, colleagues, friends, children or parents, so we cannot expect our relationship with God to function or flourish, if we do not spend time communicating with Him – i.e., praying.

As well as, encouraging each other in our personal prayer life, prayer takes place before each worship service and meeting.

Prayer Focus on the first Wednesday of each month is at 7.30pm in St John’s church.

Discipleship Group meetings include time praying together and each church member is encouraged to pray on and for their own personal front lines.

We are blessed to have a trained group of prayers ministers and as we look to the future, a new prayer ministry leadership team is developing. We will continue to embrace the new worship service at Emmanuel, embedding the opportunity for prayer ministry within the service in response to the sermon message. We also have some members of the congregation who are familiar with and use the Northumbria Community’s Celtic Daily Prayer and other resources for Quiet days.



Worship

‘Yet a time is coming and has now come when the true worshippers will worship the Father in the Spirit and in truth, for they are the kind of worshippers the Father seeks. God is spirit, and his worshippers must worship in the Spirit and in truth.’

John 4: 23-24

Werrington Parish offers a breadth of worship styles to engage with the different needs of our church family and wider community.

Sunday services

Sunday	8 am St John’s	10 am Emmanuel	10:30 am St John’s	Other Sunday Services
First		Morning Worship <i>live streamed</i>	Holy Communion	Connect 6.45pm for 7pm Emmanuel <i>live streamed</i>
Second	Holy Communion (Said service)	Holy Communion <i>live streamed</i>	Morning Worship	Messy Church 4pm – 6pm WPVC
Third	Holy Communion (Said service)	GIFT (Growing in faith Together)	REFRESH <i>live streamed</i>	Compline 6:30 pm (Online recorded)
Fourth	Holy Communion (Said service)	Morning Worship <i>live streamed</i>	Morning worship	Taizé 6:30 pm St John’s Sept-March
Fifth	Holy Communion (Said service)	Parish Wide Morning Service <i>live streamed</i> (or at St John’s)	Parish Wide Morning Service <i>live streamed</i> (or at Emmanuel)	Compline 6:30 pm (Online recorded)
Average Attendance	8	83	64	28

Weekly services are based on Common Worship; robes are only worn for sacramental services at St John’s.

Weekday services

Thursday	10 am St John’s Twice a month	Holy Communion (Said BCP Service)	Average Attendance 12
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Service Styles

Sunday 10am at Emmanuel is a contemporary Spirit-filled time of worship; seeker and family friendly, providing children’s ministry and youth groups.

Sunday 10:30am at St John’s uses Common Worship liturgy, with modern worship songs and hymns, generally supported by an older age group with a children’s ministry group.

GIFT at Emmanuel has an All-Age family focus

Refresh at St John's is a time of praise and fellowship sometimes with a visiting speaker.

Taizé services (during autumn and winter) offer a meditative style of worship, involving a cross section of people from both St John's and Emmanuel, attracting all ages (candles, visuals, songs and quiet time).

CONNECT is a relaxed (cakes and refreshments), spirit filled, seeker friendly fresh expressions service and specifically ensures that new people, who are not familiar with church, feel included and that the service is relevant to them. An extended time of modern worship is often followed by a guest speaker and space to listen/respond to the promptings of the Holy Spirit. The people attending range from seekers through to committed members of our church with an age range from 10/11 years through to people in their 80's (and beyond) and our average attendance is 49.

Click on link for further details:

[Werrington Parish - YouTube](#)

<https://www.facebook.com/Werrington.Refresh>

Messy Church was founded in May 2014, since then we have welcomed, nurtured and encouraged many families to learn more about Jesus, to celebrate and develop friendships together. Our Messy Church family was well established up to the CoVid-19 pandemic when we moved to Messy Church Online. We regularly welcomed a mix of families, some connected with us through Baptism, some the community house or Love Werrington, some are church families who bring friends, while others are families who are just finding out about our church. Messy Church values are about being Christ-centred, for all ages, based on creativity, hospitality and celebration. Since our return to meeting in person a typical Messy Church afternoon will include a time of craft, creativity and conversation based on a Bible story; a time of refreshments with drinks, food and fellowship, followed by a time of celebration with songs, an interactive Bible story, prayers and concluding with the Messy Action Grace. The average attendance is 39. Click link for further information: <https://www.messychurch.org.uk/church/messy-church-werrington-parish-church>

Seasonal services

Christmas

- Messy Church Christingle service (Village Centre and St John's)
- Parish wide All-Age Christmas service (Emmanuel)
- Carols and Lesson, a candle lit service (St John's)
- "Blue Christmas" a quiet reflective evening service, for people who find Christmas a difficult time of the year (St John's)
- Christmas Eve crib service (St John's)
- Christmas Eve Midnight Communion (St John's)
- Christmas Day Celebration (Emmanuel)

Lent and Easter

- Holy Communion service on Ash Wednesday evening (St John's)
- During Holy Week there is a meditation each evening and an evening Maundy Thursday Communion with foot washing (St John's)
- Good Friday, in 2022 church members spent time in the Werrington Shopping Centre giving out chocolate hearts and chatting to people, this was followed by a walk of witness to St John's church where a service of quiet reflection takes place from 1pm-3pm (St John's)
- Easter Sunday communion and praise services (Emmanuel and St John's)

Harvest, All Saints and Remembrance

- Harvest Services in both church buildings; William Law CE Primary School's harvest collection combines with Emmanuel

- “A Time to Remember, A Time to give Thanks” is held on the first Sunday of November. This pastoral service followed by afternoon tea in the Village Centre is especially appreciated by those who have been bereaved in the preceding year (St John’s)
- An Armistice Day Remembrance Service at the Memorial (in St John’s churchyard) is held on 11th November at 11am
- An Outdoor Remembrance Sunday Service has been introduced (since Covid) and has proved to be popular with the church family and our community

Occasional Offices

- Weddings: Marriage preparation, based on HTB's Marriage Preparation Course, is offered to couples preparing to be married in our church (usually St John’s)
- Funerals: the clergy take most funeral services in St John’s and at Peterborough Crematorium
- Baptisms take place during the main morning services at both St John’s and Emmanuel
- Adults are prepared for Baptism (including full immersion) and/or Confirmation using the interactive resource Faith Confirmed by Peter Jackson and Chris Wright
- In recent years Confirmation services have been held in Emmanuel; candidates can also join a Confirmation service across the deanery or at the Easter vigil in the Cathedral

Other worship events

WPC members regularly attend events such as Spring Harvest, New Wine, Greenbelt and the Global Leadership Summit. We have also hosted events such as a prophetic weekend and Spring Harvest Local.

People

“Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it”. 1 Corinthians 12: 27

Clergy In addition to the Incumbent and the full-time Associate Vicar, there are two retired Honorary Associate Ministers and an Assistant Priest.

Paid staff

- Parish Administrator 30 hours per week (9am -5pm Mon, Tues, Thurs, Friday)
- Youth Minister (Licensed) - currently in vacancy
- Community Outreach Manager – 25 hours per week
- A part-time youth work administrator 4 hours per week
- A Love Werrington Assistant, 10 hours per week working as a mentor in Ken Stimpson

Readers There are five Readers in the parish

Lay Pastoral Minister (Licensed) Serves under the authority of the ordained clergy to co-ordinate pastoral care, in addition to personally ministering to anyone requesting help.

A Pastoral Team of volunteers is led, trained and supported by the LPM, Community Outreach Manager and Vicar. There is a group of Christian Listeners (trained in line with Acorn Christian Healing) who are experienced in active reflective listening and available to help with any sort of need, including those who are bereaved.

Deanery Synod Members There are four church members who act as Deanery Synod representatives.

PCC Members Vicar, Associate Vicar, Church Wardens, Treasurer, Safeguarding Officer and Health and Safety officer, Deanery Synod representatives, a PCC Secretary plus 11 church members.

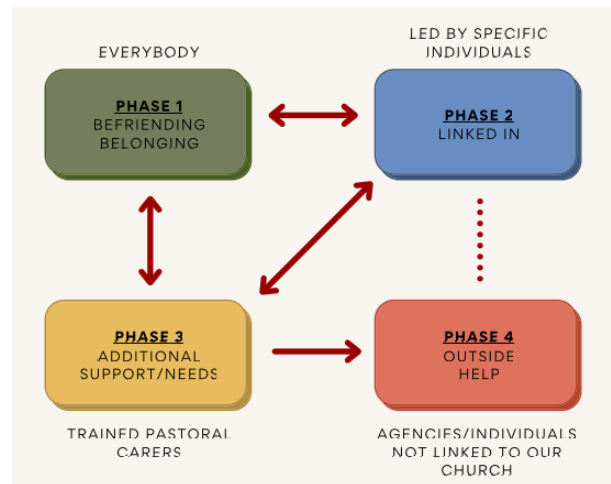
Service Support

- All Readers and members of the congregation take part in reading the lessons and leading prayers in both churches.
- The **Technical Team** supports us in offering Online Recorded Services and the Live Streaming of at least one main morning service or special Seasonal Service each Sunday. Sound and multimedia are used at all Sunday services except 8 am. Online services are available on the Church Website, Facebook page and YouTube. All Sermons on Sunday are recorded and some sermons are live streamed and available on the church website. Songs, liturgy, and PowerPoint illustrated sermons are displayed using Easy Worship software.
- **Drama** is performed by a small group, occasionally supporting services with short sketches.
- **Music** is led by experienced worship leaders incorporating a range of instruments. We draw our songs from a wide variety of sources, from contemporary songs to traditional hymns. Our services offer a diversity of musical styles. Our young people are encouraged to lead us in the youth band and to join in our mixed-aged worship groups too. In 2023, two of our Worship leaders are developing an opportunity for musicians and singers of all abilities, to gather and worship together, learn new songs and develop together ways of leading the church family in songs of praise and worship, that bring Glory to our awesome God.
- **Prayer ministry** is offered (in pairs) and has become part of our response time to sermons in services at Emmanuel. Prayer ministry is offered at St John’s church.
- **Support for those with deafness or hearing impairment** is sometimes available for special services. Two members of the congregation are BSL trained. An induction loop operates for those with a hearing impairment.

- **Church members volunteer to** organise tea and coffee after services; pre and post service setting up and dismantling; flower arranging and cleaning.
- **Welcome** is recognised as an important ministry in Werrington Parish. Welcomers are on the door at all services to greet everyone, help people feel at home, introduce them to other church members, provide information and offer any help needed. The aim is that everybody feels they are befriended and belong.

Pastoral Care

The Pastoral Care Framework was developed and introduced by the former Associate Vicar and Lay Pastoral Minister. The focus has been on ensuring we all understand our part in caring for each other and that any pastoral need is both recognised and handled sensitively and appropriately. We believe that pastoral care erupts from God’s love for us and that it is an expectation on all His children; it is Christ’s love passed on. Our aim is that we come alongside another person and enfold them in God’s love by showing compassion and practical support of signposting as well as real concern for another’s spiritual, mental, emotional physical health expressed in the obvious, the less obvious and in private.



Parish Office The Parish Administrator assists and supports the Vicar and Associate Vicar in their roles. The office is the focus and conduit of communication for the parish, both for church members and for people in the parish seeking advice and support, including baptisms, funerals, and weddings. Responsibility includes planning the office tasks for the smooth running of parish ministry and mission, co-ordinating rotas, managing the parish diary, updating the website, Facebook and all notice boards, liaising with all staff members and coordinating with the admin staff at William Law CE Primary School on a regular basis. In addition, support is given to the Treasurer, looking after day-to-day finances.

The Parish Administrator maintains the electoral roll, keeps the church member database up to date in accordance with GDPR, looks after the safeguarding administration, submission of annual returns to the Charity Commission, copyright records, churchyard records, stewardship information, Gift Aid claims, pension administration, PCC and AGM Agendas, utilities and consumables for all buildings, and provides administrative support for events and courses.

At present we have two Facebook pages, the Werrington Parish Church page (public) and a WPC church chat page (for members only). We have a YouTube channel for hosting and posting our online services. Connect also has its own Facebook and Instagram pages. We have a number of zoom accounts for hosting PCC meetings, prayer meetings.

Safeguarding Jesus came to give us life in all its fullness, and so one of our responsibilities is to ensure that nobody is put at risk or harmed in our activities. We take the safeguarding of children, young people, and vulnerable adults very seriously. We follow diocesan guidelines on policies, procedures and training. We have a designated Safeguarding Officer and our Safeguarding policy is reviewed annually and approved by the PCC.

Health and Safety The PCC ensures that the Church and church buildings comply with all relevant Health and Safety legislation and seeks to employ best practice. It has appointed a health and safety officer/team.

Finance

God has always provided for our financial needs through the generous response of his people. The largest proportion of our income is derived from giving and gift aid from our parishioners (90%)

In 2021 our total unrestricted income was £202,147 with total expenditure of £222,439. Over the last few years, we have seen a number of our more generous givers move away from the area which has given rise to a number of challenges financially, but as the opening sentence states God has provided in different ways resulting in our reserves having not diminished as fast as we forecast at the beginning of the year. Our aim is to have between 3 and 6 months of expenditure in our general reserves.

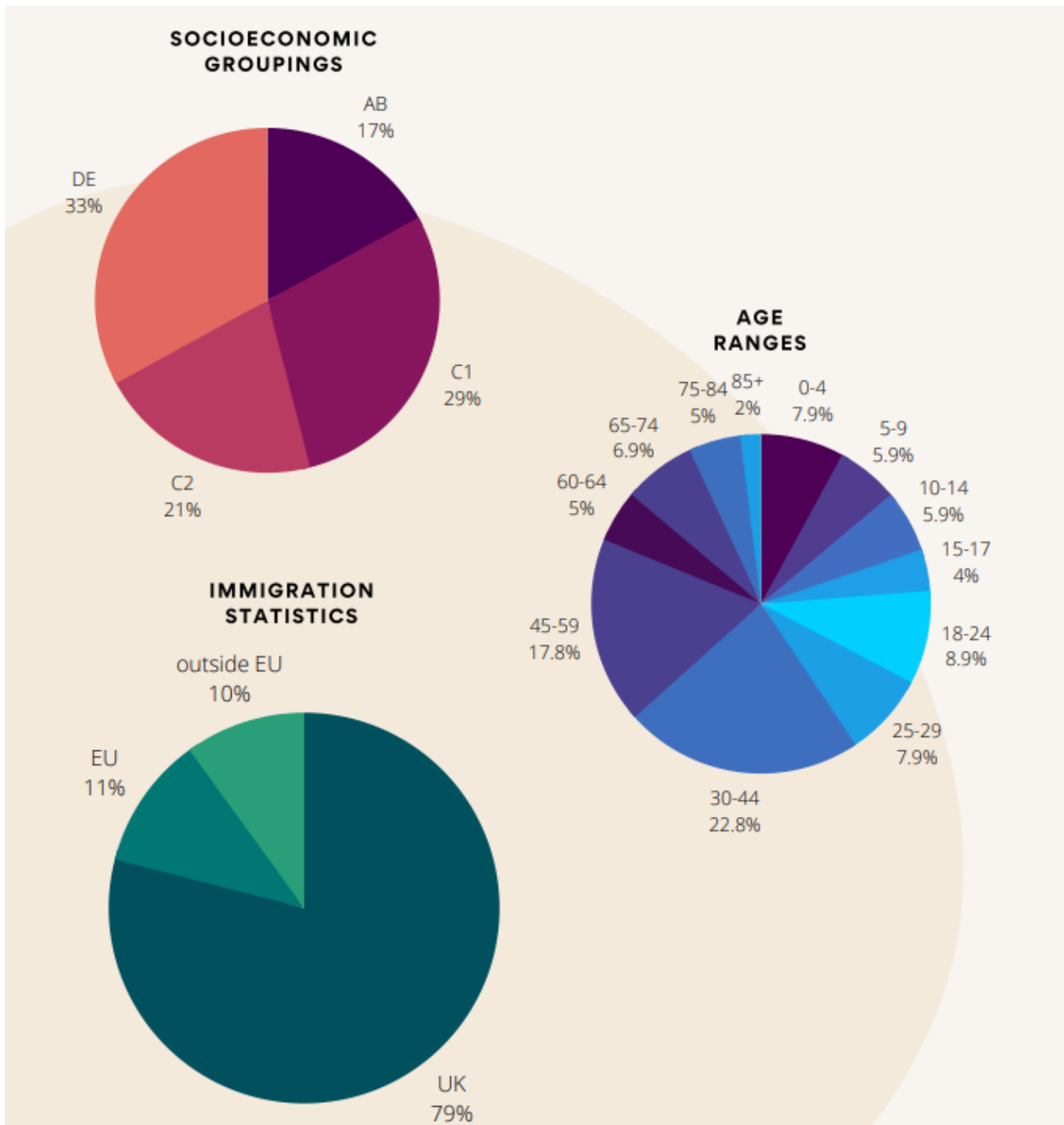
Specific points of note:

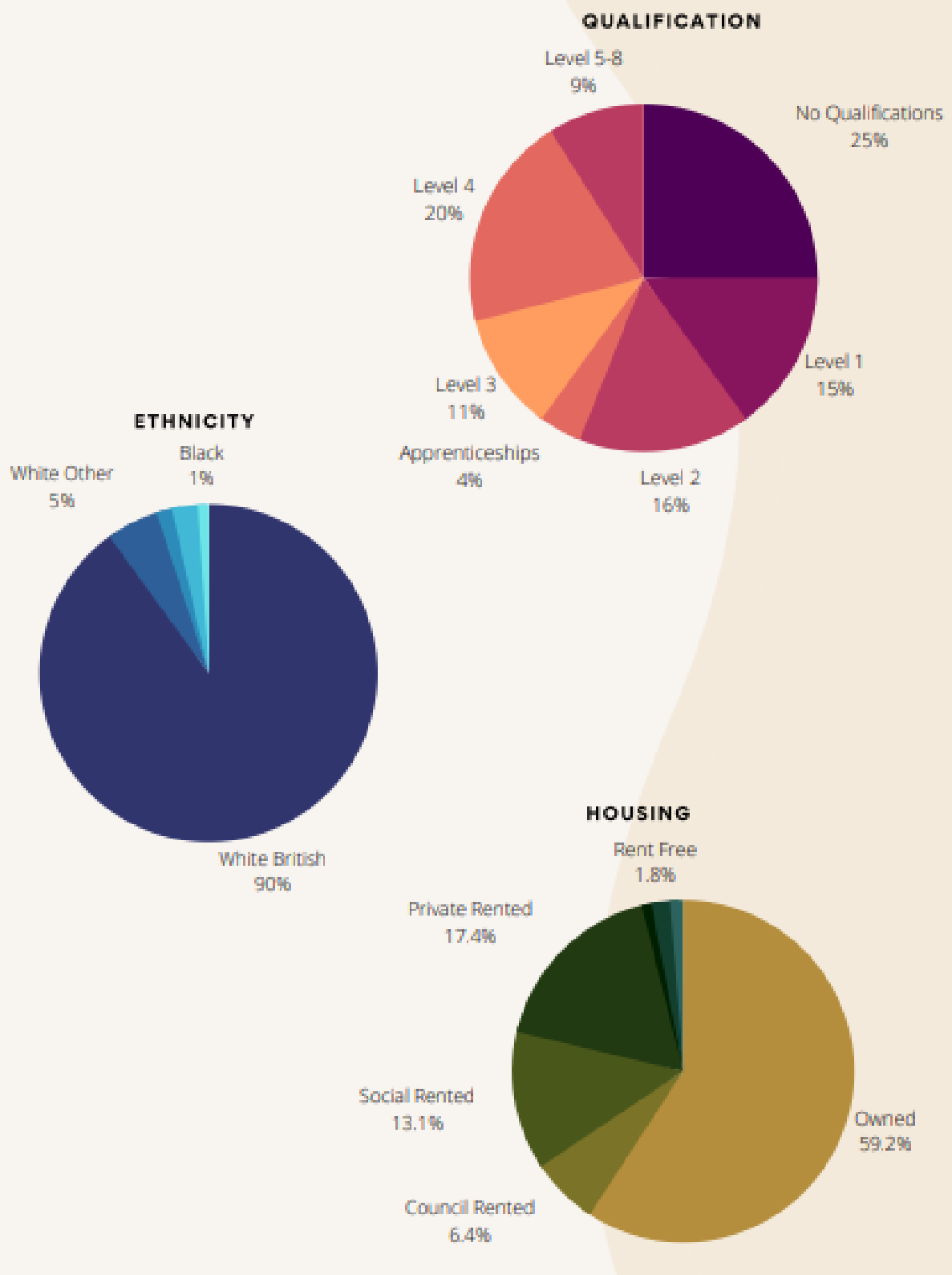
- The PCC Stewardship task group has been tasked to develop a new approach to Stewardship in 2023
- The Parish Share for 2022 was £148,596 and was paid in full; the share for 2023 will be the same and it is our intention to pay that in full too (we have always paid our share in full)
- We spend 10% of our planned giving and cash collections on Mission (both home and overseas)
- There is an endowment fund donated by previous parishioners from which we can only spend the interest income on the upkeep of the St John's building; the annual income from this fund is circa £5k per annum
- The youth ministry is paid for by a separate restricted fund from parishioners, in addition to their general giving for the benefit of the parish
- The PCC agreed to the sale of The Way In building and have earmarked some of the proceeds to refurbish the Lighthouse Centre building to create a community hub for pastoral care and a place which local councillors and others can hold their face-to-face surgeries
- Clergy expenses are paid in full

Draft annual accounts are available for the parish on request.

Appendix 1: Werrington Data

Data shown are from the 2011 census for the two Werrington electoral wards, which cover a slightly different area from the parish, but they are broadly representative of the parish.





Appendix 2: Key Links

Name	Web location
Church website	https://www.werringtonparish.org.uk/
Church Facebook page	Werrington Parish Church
Youth Facebook page	WPCyouth
Peterborough Diocese	https://www.peterborough-diocese.org.uk/
Werrington Wikipedia entry	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Werrington, Peterborough
Local primary schools	https://www.williamlawceschool.co.uk/ https://www.wel.education/ https://www.werringtonprimaryschool.co.uk/
Local secondary schools	https://www.kscs.org.uk/ https://www.kings.peterborough.sch.uk/ https://www.arthurmellows.org
Visit Peterborough	https://www.visitpeterborough.com/
Peterborough Wikipedia entry and local attractions	Wikipedia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Peterborough Ferry Meadows: https://www.nenepark.org.uk/about-us/locations/ferry-meadows Burghley House: https://www.burghley.co.uk/ Flag Fen: https://vivacity.org/heritage-venues/flag-fen/

Thank you for your interest in our Church and for reading our Parish Profile. We trust that from this profile you have gained an all-round picture of our Parish life and mission.

Jesus, in this new season of our church life, open our hearts to listen to Your call and guide us with Your Holy Spirit as we seek a new Associate Vicar.

Be with those who use this profile and help them to discern whether this is where you are calling them to serve alongside us.

Heavenly Father, we pray, Your kingdom come Your will be done. Amen

