

DIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK

CHRIST CHURCH, SOUTHWARK



PARISH PROFILE

JANUARY 2014

Introduction

We are a small faithful congregation seeking a leader who will help us to grow the ministry and mission of the church. Blackfriars Road is undergoing massive redevelopment and there are increasing numbers of residents, tourists and businesses coming into our parish. We hope that our new Rector will engage with these communities and help the church to become a place that is relevant to this area at this time. We have had discussions with our patron and our archdeacon about possible collaboration with our neighbouring parishes for these purposes. This could involve discussions about a graft from Southwark Cathedral to the east, and/or looking west to St John's, Waterloo to work together relating to the arts institutions along the south bank. We are fortunate to be supported financially by the patrons, the Trustees of Marshall's Charity. However, as a currently small congregation, we are presently only able to offer limited practical support to our Rector.

Job description:

Christ Church has multiple areas of potential mission and ministry. We are looking for a new Rector who

- Is outward looking and wishes to engage with the communities in the parish who do not currently have contact with the church.
- Will seek to find ways to engage in partnership with the developments on the South Bank;
- Will work in partnership with neighbouring churches to realise mission to the arts and/or business and/or new residential communities in the area;
- Will actively seek out new ways to put Christ Church on the map, in collaboration with the diocese and the patron;
- Will nurture and grow the current congregation so that we can grow in knowledge and confidence in our faith. We would welcome occasional Bible studies and discussion groups.
- Will work with and encourage the Sunday School leaders, in the hope that together we can grow the number of families and young people in our church.
- Is able to work without much practical support from the PCC and congregation

The Parish

Christ Church is situated in a rapidly developing area of north Southwark. It is a small parish with a population of approximately 2,000 (ONS Census Data 2011). The river Thames runs along the northern boundary of the parish. It's a busy area with many workers and tourists passing through every day. There are at least five hotels, nine pubs and a variety of cafes in the parish. It's a culturally rich parish hosting the Tate Modern, the Bankside Gallery and the Gallery at Oxo. While tourists and workers are well served by local shops and cafes there are not many amenities for residents. The housing stock in the parish has traditionally been social and sheltered housing, including two alms-houses run by local charities. However recent developments are adding a large number of high end apartments to the mix. The parish has good transport links including Blackfriars train station, Southwark tube station, various bus routes and two bridges into the city (Blackfriars Bridge and the Millennium Bridge). Waterloo and London Bridge mainline train stations are also within a short walk.

There are no schools in the parish, although Southwark College is just within the boundary. There are also a large number of students living in the area around the church. London South Bank University, some departments of Kings College London, and KGT Medical and Dental Schools are located in neighbouring parishes.

The relentless pace of change in the area has vitalised various local groups including the Bankside Residents' Forum and a new Neighbourhood Forum. Previously the Rector of Christ Church has been invited to sit on these committees to represent the views of local residents. It is hoped that a new Rector will also engage with these groups in the future.

The Church Building



The first church on the site, paid for by a legacy from John Marshall, was built in 1670. The church, serving the rapidly increasing population on the south side of the Thames, sank into the Lambeth Marsh and had to be demolished. The second church survived for 200 years until bombed in 1941. The current building was erected in 1959. Marshall's Charity

paid for the church and continue to own it. The Trustees of Marshall's Charity support the maintenance of the building and make a contribution towards some of the costs of the on-going ministry. The Trustees would be glad to work with the new Rector in effecting some internal improvements to the buildings.

The church has a strong heritage. It was the home of the South London Industrial Mission (SLIM) and the Dedication Stone in the front porch records the opening of the building as an Industrial Mission Centre in 1960 by The Duke of Edinburgh. The church is particularly well known for its Stained Glass Windows. The windows at ground floor level were installed in 1984 to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the opening of the building, illustrating local companies and organisations. The high windows, dating from 1959, show Southwark working life, old and new. The Altar Frontal was made by local unemployed people in 1984. It shows the world, factories and offices and the ship symbol of the World Council of Churches. The Mural behind the altar is of Wall Street in New York, originally made for a National Theatre production.

The church windows in their location in the building have recently been awarded grade II listed status.

The church building hosts a range of facilities. There is a parish office, a vestry with its own toilet, a meeting room with kitchenette, a large hall, a large kitchen and a refectory. There are also offices which are let to local organisations.

These include:

- Sesame Institute – an organisation providing therapy through music and drama
- In SE1 – a local publishing enterprise
- Confraternity of St James – supporting and encouraging pilgrimages
- Southbank Alexander Technique



The PCC employ an administrator, a caretaker and a cleaner to help look after the building during the week. We are fortunate that Marshall's Charity contributes financially to the running costs of the church. Their support covers the Rector's stipend, and 50% of the costs of employing the three part time members of staff.



The Churchyard is owned by Southwark Council and is a public garden incorporating a fountain erected in 1900 to mark the opening of the first garden. The gardens are maintained by the Bankside Open Spaces Trust (BOST).

Worship

The pattern of worship is:

- Sunday 9.30am Common Worship Communion Service
- Thursday 1.10pm Common Worship Communion Service



The style of worship is central, with a relaxed feel. Cassock alb and stole are worn for Communion Services, and the congregation follow the liturgy using Church House published service books. On four Sundays each year there is a particular emphasis on healing when prayer and anointing with oils is offered within the service. This has been

especially supported by a retired American priest who has been taking one service a month for the past few years.

The electoral roll is 29 and average attendance on a Sunday is about 20 people. Currently the average attendance on Thursday is about 8 people, attracting both local residents and people who work in the area. As such there is minimal participation of lay people within worship. There are chalice assistants and people are willing to read in services. There is usually a pianist at the Sunday and Thursday services.



In October 2013 the Sunday School was re-instated after a nine month break. The Sunday School meets once a month during the main service.

Currently there are fewer than five children attending, but it is hoped that a new Rector will encourage and help the leaders grow the ministry to children and families at the church.



The church has a good relationship with St John's Waterloo. The two churches celebrate Palm Sunday together, processing from one church to the other as a walk of witness.

The Portcullis Singers, a local choir, use the church for rehearsals and sometimes perform at special weekday services during the year.

Policies

The church has an open baptism policy. The PCC is happy for the marriages of divorced people to be solemnised and would hope that a new Rector officiate at such marriages.

It has been the church's custom to admit children to communion before confirmation.

Other Information

The congregation do not run any outreach projects themselves. However the church is used to host other projects including:

- The ROBES Project (providing shelter for the homeless during the winter months.)
- Oasis Retreat Days.

The Rector is an ex-officio trustee of Southwark charities. Southwark charities run the Edward Edwards Alms-houses which are opposite Christ Church on Blackfriars Road.

Parish Information:

There are currently 29 people on the electoral role, and the agreed membership figure is 35. On average there are 18 communicants at the Sunday morning service.

Over the past four years there have been 4 baptisms, 2 children admitted to communion, 3 weddings and 2 funerals at the church. There has been one ordinand from the parish in the past five years.

Housing

A four bedroomed flat is available for use by the Rector. The flat is situated within the parish and is a short walk from the church. The flat comprises four bedrooms, two bathrooms and an open plan living area.

Alternative housing may be available if required. Candidates are welcome to discuss their situation with the Archdeacon of Southwark and agree which accommodation would be most suitable for their needs.

Christ Church Southwark
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2012

General Fund Receipts and Payments Accounts

	2012		2011	
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
<i>Voluntary Receipts: Regular Giving</i>				
Planned Giving	2,524.65		1,875.00	
Collections and other giving	4,590.12		4,523.10	
Income Tax Recovered	<u>1,009.03</u>		<u>1,122.89</u>	
		8,123.80		7,520.99
<i>Other voluntary receipts</i>				
Donations	<u>5,453.53</u>		<u>3,831.22</u>	
		5,453.53		3,831.22
<i>Receipts from Church activities</i>				
Fees	<u>184.00</u>		<u>371.00</u>	
		184.00		371.00
<i>Receipts from Investments</i>				
Interest and Dividends	<u>704.56</u>		<u>667.58</u>	
		704.56		667.58
<i>Other receipts</i>				
Insurance claims	<u>926.40</u>		<u>-</u>	
		926.40		-
Total Receipts		<u><u>15,392.29</u></u>		<u><u>12,390.79</u></u>
Payments				
<i>Charitable Activities</i>				
Charitable giving	1,229.14		1,362.02	
Diocesan Quota	8,102.62		7,956.06	
Salaries & staff costs	5,876.05		5,876.46	
Church running expenses	16,929.82		6,557.38	
Church maintenance	1,962.30		1,408.25	
Organist	2,065.00		2,526.94	
Insurance	<u>1,951.83</u>		<u>1,861.16</u>	
		<u>38,116.76</u>		<u>27,548.27</u>
Excess of Receipts over Payments		<u><u>(22,724.47)</u></u>		<u><u>(15,157.48)</u></u>

Christ Church Southwark
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2012

Hall Fund Receipts and Payments Accounts

	2012		2011	
	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
<i>Receipts from activities for generating funds</i>				
Hall rents	21,487.39		21,804.83	
Hall lettings	19,711.70		25,674.80	
Contribution to overheads	815.65		121.67	
		<u>42,014.74</u>		<u>47,601.30</u>
Total Receipts		<u>42,014.74</u>		<u>47,601.30</u>
Payments				
<i>Charitable Activities</i>				
Salaries & staff costs	11,752.10		11,752.92	
Hall running costs	5,157.30		13,379.90	
Hall maintenance	3,924.59		1,252.52	
Insurance	3,903.66		3,722.33	
		<u>24,737.65</u>		<u>30,107.67</u>
Excess of Receipts over Payments		<u>17,277.09</u>		<u>17,493.63</u>

Christ Church Southwark
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2012

FUNDS	Total £	Church £	Hall £
Funds at 1 January 2012	24,612.43	-	24,612.43
Surplus for the year	(5,447.38)	(22,724.47)	17,277.09
Transfer from Hall to Church funds	-	22,724.47	(22,724.47)
Funds at 31 December 2012	<u>19,165.05</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>19,165.05</u>
Represented by:			
Bank account	2,343.19		
Diocesan Special Deposit account	<u>16,821.86</u>		
	<u>19,165.05</u>		