

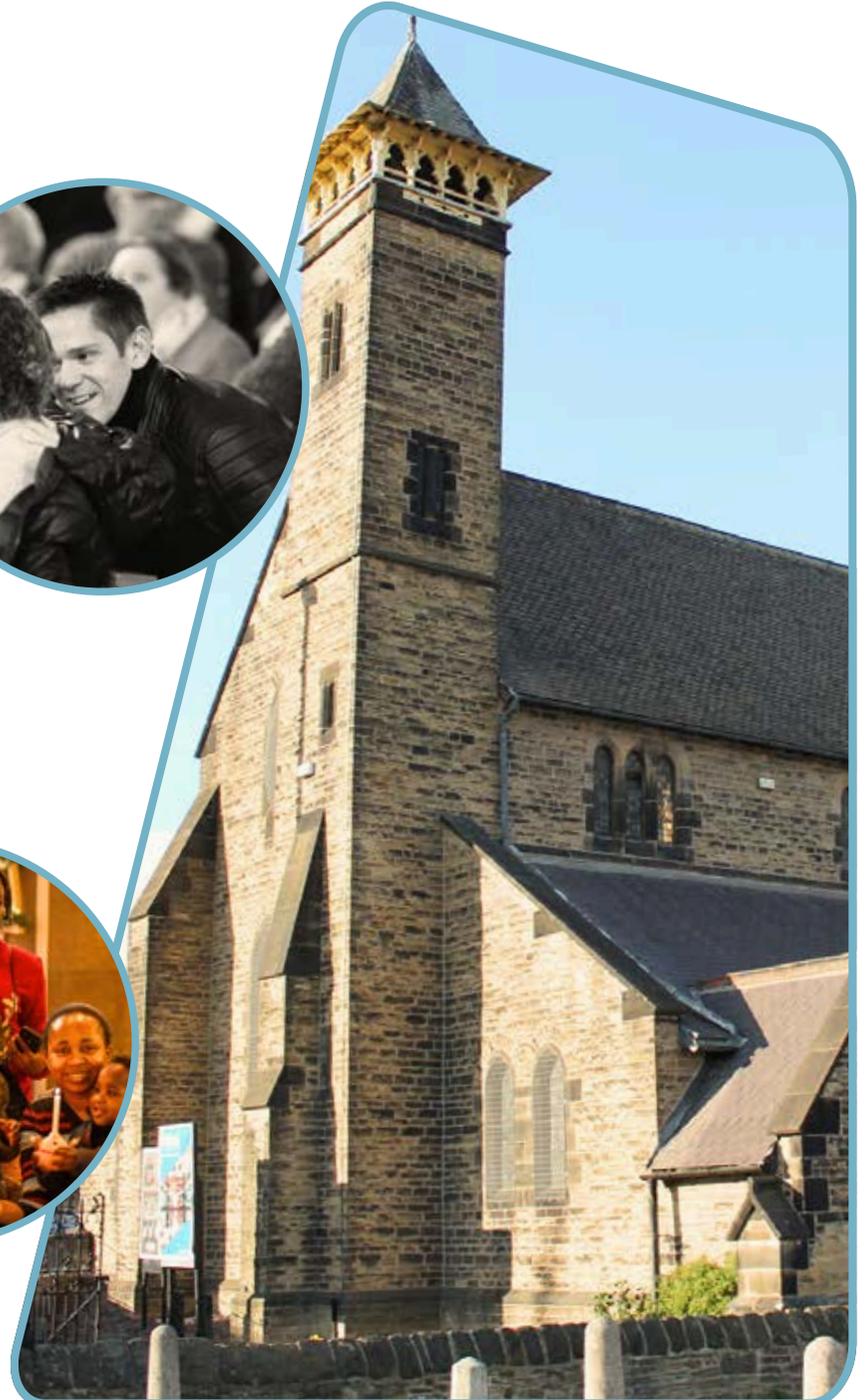
An aerial photograph of a city street at sunset. The street has tram tracks running down the center. Buildings line both sides, including a prominent curved building on the right. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a warm glow. The text 'st John's' is overlaid in large white letters, with 'OWLERTON' in smaller white letters below it.

st John's  
OWLERTON

PARISH  
PROFILE  
2025

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# 1. A MESSAGE FROM THE BISHOP OF SHEFFIELD

Dear friend,

For several reasons, 2025 feels like the start of a new chapter in the life of the Diocese of Sheffield.

First, it is the year in which we launch the refreshed version of our Diocesan Strategy, by which we seek to be 'renewed, released and rejuvenated, by God's grace and in Christ's service. The original seven-year strategy, launched in 2018, has served us well and (despite the very real ravages of the Covid-19 pandemic) there has been much fruitfulness in that time for which to give thanks to God: a new prayer community developed, new ministries begun, new congregations formed. A Diocesan-wide consultation over the refreshing of the strategy gave a clear message: increase the emphasis on seeking the welfare of local communities, of our neighbours and neighbourhoods, but retain the 3Rs and the Diocesan Vision Prayer. This we have sought to do.

Secondly, it is the year in which the Strategic Mission and Ministry Investment Board responded generously to our partnership funding request, committing £17.5 million for investment in the revitalisation of our Diocese with immediate effect and in principle committing a further £18.5 million for the period 2028-2031. We are hugely grateful for this resource and for all the exciting potential it brings, as we continue to seek to see the whole people of God mobilised in the whole mission of God, and every baptised person enabled to enter into the full dignity of their baptismal vocation to shine as a Light for Christ in the world to the glory of God the Father.

Thirdly, it is the year in which we will welcome a new Bishop of Doncaster and a new Archdeacon of Sheffield and Rotherham into post, to bring fresh energy and perspectives to the Bishop's Senior Staff Team.

In this context, the appointment of a new 'Oversight Minister' for St. John's Owlerton is all the more important. This is an exciting post in the heartland of Sheffield. The church is close to Hillsborough Stadium, the home of Sheffield Wednesday, adjacent to the Greyhound Stadium and the casino, and a stone's throw from Sheffield college campus and the Bassetts sweet factory. This remarkable church has a rich heritage of proclaiming the Gospel and serving the community which continues to the present day and, God willing, into the future.

In this Gospel adventure for the sake of the coming kingdom of God, the leadership of these church families is going to be vital. It will require someone who is able to exercise an enabling oversight, with a passion for teamwork, for developing leaders and for empowering the whole people of God for the whole mission of God. It will require someone able to raise up leaders to take on responsibilities as 'focal leaders' in every congregation and someone who understands that overseeing the ministry of the body of Christ does not mean doing everything personally, but releasing the gifts and ministries of others.

We are praying that the Lord will bring to us a person with a strong sense of vocation to this task at this time; a person of faith and hope and love in God; a person who laughs easily and has a zest for life in Christ; a person with a sense of adventure, unafraid of failure and reliant on the grace of the Holy Spirit. If that might be you, we would love to explore with you the possibility that the Lord is calling you to this role.

With every blessing

*+ Pete Sheffield*

The Rt Revd Dr Pete Wilcox

Bishop of Sheffield



## 2. WHO WE ARE

St John's vision is:

"To proclaim and demonstrate the love of God and to lead and support people in becoming wholehearted followers of Christ."

Our Church is blessed to be made up of lifelong Sheffields, as well as newcomers to the city and country. Our church is a melting pot of various backgrounds, ages and experiences welcoming people at every stage of faith's journey. We would love for a new Oversight Minister to equip us all to grow in our discipleship.

St John's is a bubbly community that values caring for one another through prayer and action but at times, we fail. Thankfully, we are a forgiving bunch who endeavour to show God's love to each other.

St John's is more than a group of people with a common belief... we are a family, full of energy and optimism with room to grow.

Last year, St John's celebrated its 150th Anniversary allowing us time to reminisce and reflect on all of God's blessings over the years. We are expectant and excited to see what God has planned for St John's, with a new Oversight Minister at the helm to drive us forward in; replenishing our faith, expanding our numbers and increasing the blessing we can be to the community around us.

We are so encouraged to have a thriving youth group and a significant church presence on the Winn Gardens estate. It is our fervent prayer that we will soon be bursting at the seams.



### 3. WHAT DOES A TYPICAL WEEK LOOK LIKE?

St John's has a broad range of activities happening throughout the week. Some are based in church and some in the nearby community of Winn Gardens (highlighted in yellow). Please see Section 6 for further information on Winn Gardens.

All activities are led by teams of dedicated volunteers and church staff.

	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>10am</b> Service		<b>7-8.30pm</b> Momentum Youth club
<b>Monday</b>	<b>10-11.30am</b> 2by2 Toddler group	<b>4.30-6.30pm</b> Steel City Choristers rehearsal	
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>9.30-11.30am</b> Baby group	<b>1-3pm</b> Me & Thee (monthly) <b>3.30-5pm</b> The Call Kids Club	<b>7.45pm onwards</b> PCC meeting (monthly)
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>10-11am</b> Staff prayers & team meeting <b>11am-12pm</b> Service and event planning	<b>12-3pm</b> Creative Café <b>2-2.30pm</b> Mid-week communion* <b>3-5pm</b> Foodbank referral session <b>3-5pm</b> Community Fridge (monthly)	<b>7.30-9.30pm</b> Prayer & Praise evening (once a term)
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>9.30am-1pm</b> Foodbank & Recycle Centre	<b>1-2pm</b> Post Foodbank Drop-In	<b>7.30-8.30pm</b> Encounter - girls youth group
<b>Friday</b>	<b>8.30-9.30am</b> Prayer & Worship - <b>10.30am-12.30pm</b> Community Cafe	<b>4-5pm</b> Youth Basketball <b>4.30-7.30pm</b> Steel City Choristers rehearsal	
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>9-10.30am</b> Men's Prayer Breakfast (monthly) <b>10-11.30am</b> Women's Prayer Breakfast (monthly)		

\*Mid-week communion held on 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month



# 4. WHAT DOES SUNDAY WORSHIP LOOK LIKE?

Our Sunday services are warm and welcoming and we are blessed with numerous musicians who accompany the congregation in our sung worship.

This ranges from youth band, choir and groups of musicians who have enriched our worship with different styles and opportunities to explore more intimate and gathered worship. We do have an organ which is sometimes played and other occasional instruments upon availability.

We have been led by different ministers both male and female, bringing their own particular attributes giving a balance to the total ministry of worship.

Our custom and practice is not to wear Anglican robes but to dress informally.

Sunday morning services rotate on a monthly basis comprising of:

<b>Sunday 10am</b> (1st Sunday of the month)	Morning Worship & Communion
<b>Sunday 10am</b> (2nd Sunday of the month)	Café' Church
<b>Sunday 10am</b> (3rd Sunday of the month)	Morning Worship & Communion
<b>Sunday 10am</b> (4th Sunday of the month)	Morning Worship & Baptism



## 5. OUTREACH MINISTRIES

### Mission Matters

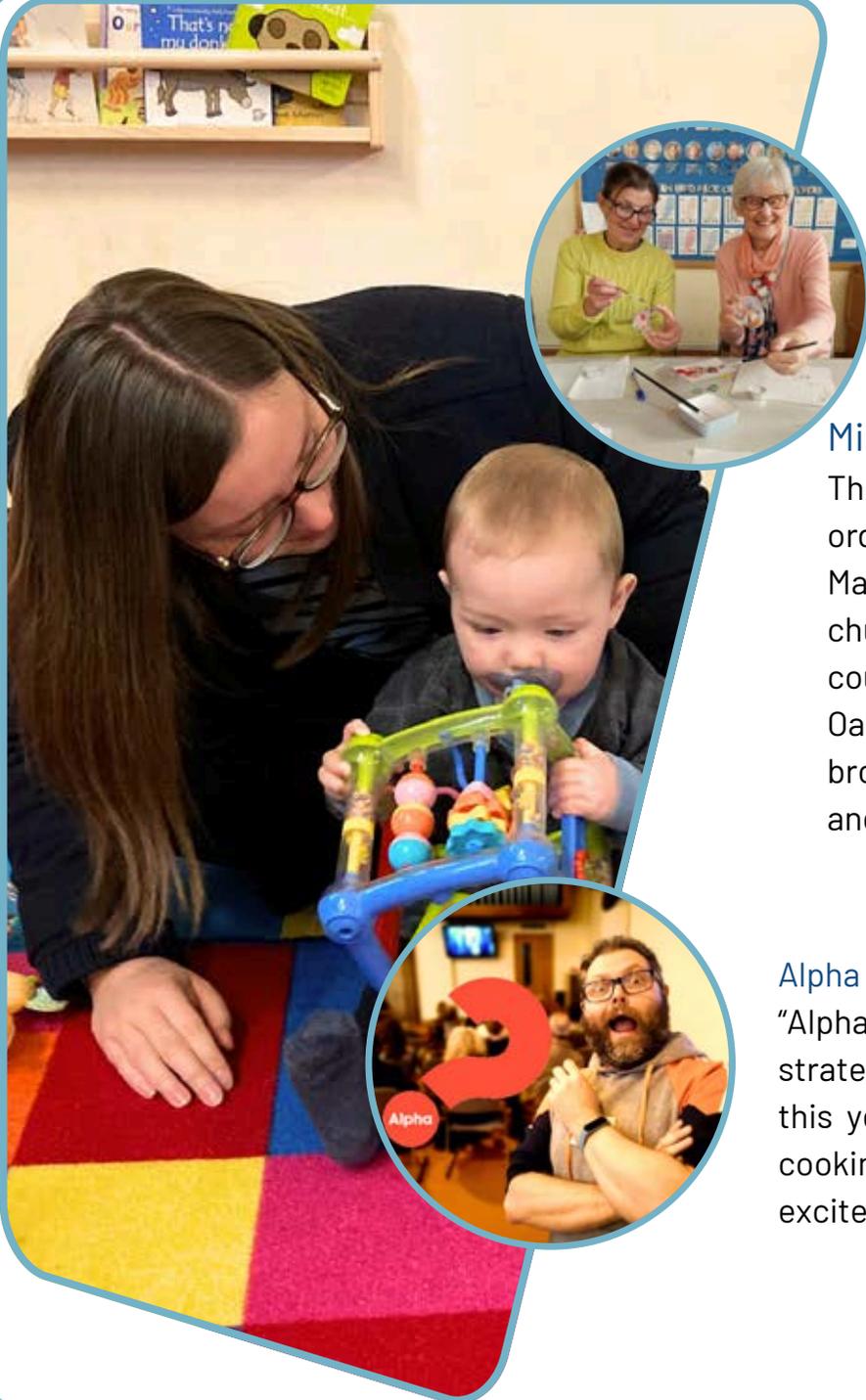
The Mission Matters Group (MMG) was established at the end of 2023 co-ordinated by members of St John's with the aim of keeping mission and Matthew 9 vs 38 at the forefront of our minds. "MMG seeks to encourage our church family to prioritise mission, whether this is through running local alpha courses, supporting further afield organisations like ARISE Sheffield and The Oakes holiday centre or away to the end of the earth supporting Christian brothers and sisters in India or organisations like Open Doors and Tear Fund, and in many other ways."

Jo Hopkins - Co-Leader of Mission Matters Group

### Alpha Course

"Alpha is running for the second consecutive year in 2025, as part of our evangelism strategy. We are encouraging those who attended last time to come and help run it this year. It is easier running it this time round as we have people to draw on for cooking, set up and prayer. As a team we are thankful for what God did last time and excited to see what he will do this time round."

Jude Cooper - Alpha Co-ordinator





### Loxley Court

A monthly Christian service in a Retirement Housing Community within the parish. Some residents are independent, some sheltered.

"It is an informal, light-hearted time generally including a quiz or activity of some sort. Reminiscences and heckling are encouraged! It always includes a Christian message and favourite hymns. Tea and biscuits follow.

We have been a presence there for the last 30+years, minus a COVID gap. It is a small group of about 6-8 residents plus a few supporters from St John's."

Sue Rae - Loxley Court Organiser

### Men's Prayer Breakfast

"An opportunity for men to meet together once a month to chat, share and pray together. We meet at the Rawson Spring in Hillsborough on the first Saturday in the month and all are welcome."

Ken Smith - Organiser

### Me and Thee

"A group formed during COVID, now providing friendship and fun. People enjoy having fun together, a cuppa (in proper cups and saucers) and eating amazing home-made cakes!!!"

Sally Smith, Tony Aldworth and Janice Wilson - Organisers

### Baby and Toddler Groups

Since the 1980's, St John's has hosted a thriving weekly Toddler Group. This provides local young families with a safe space for their preschool children to play and learn social skills. The continued popularity of this group highlighted the need for a separate Baby Group. The relationships built with church members, at both groups, have made church less daunting and brought families into the church for baptism, some of whom are longstanding members of the church.

"Both groups provide friendship and support for new parents in a safe and caring environment."

Marilyn Dunn - Baby Group Leader

# 6. WINN GARDENS ESTATE MINISTRY

The church has had a long-term commitment to Winn Gardens; its passion for serving the residents is such that a full-time Community Pioneer is employed to work there. This work is jointly funded by St John's, to plant and develop a church and share the gospel, and by the local authority People Keeping Well programme to deliver physical and emotional wellbeing-based interventions including running a foodbank. The work focusses both on crisis prevention and long-term development, with the ultimate aims that residents will experience whole life change, value themselves and others, and come to know Jesus.

Full details of the current range of activities can be accessed through this link <https://www.stjb.org.uk/winn>

St John's has had a vision to plant a church on Winn Gardens since we started working on the estate. In March 2025, the Diocese granted funding towards the set-up costs of establishing a worshipping community that will initially be led by the Community Pioneer and a planting team from St John's. The goal is to establish an expression of church that will, in time, be sustained and run by a local congregation and leaders.

This expression of church will serve the community by:

- sharing the gospel and discipling residents
- working with young people to change family narratives
- supporting the development of small businesses from the estate
- establishing a food pantry that allows for easy transition from foodbank towards independence
- creating a community hub

"We are praying that God uses this work to draw residents to Jesus, encourage them towards their God-given potential and value, bringing about whole life change and transforming the negative statistics of deprivation on the estate."

Joel Hamer - Winn Gardens Community Pioneer



# 7. YOUTH, CHILDREN AND FAMILIES' MINISTRIES

"We aim to create opportunities for children and young people to experience and grow in faith, become disciples of Jesus and feel valued as members of the church. St John's welcomes all people of all ages to play an active role in worship and leadership and is a safe place to bring friends."

Adam Woodhouse - Childrens' and Youth Team, Leader

## 5-11s

● There is Sunday School for children during the main church service, learning about a theme or book of the Bible along with games and activities. We would like to start an Under 5s group during the main Sunday Service, develop links with local primary schools and host holiday programmes to support the wider community.

## 11-18s

● Youth sessions during the service provide Bible teaching or themes. Once a month the youth go to 'Dunkin Donuts' to hear testimonies from different members of the congregation.

● Momentum is a Sunday evening youth club, for games and relevant Christian discussions. They also hold termly activities and social trips.

● Encounter is a mid-week evening group for youth to talk through their weeks, pray and support one another through friendship.

● We encourage our youth to have an active role in their church, receive communion and take part in Alpha courses and holiday camps.

● The young people also have the opportunity to lead and serve the church through delivering the Bible readings, lead us in worship and operating the AV system.

"Interested young people receive training in Audio and Visual equipment in church. Often this is linked to young people's Duke of Edinburgh awards at school. This involves learning how to use our video cameras, camera mixing desk, the sound desk and various software, to help with the smooth running of Sunday services and streaming to YouTube. We also encourage our young people to learn instruments and give opportunities to join the worship team when ready."

Mark Depledge - Digital Lead

See examples of youth AV work and other archived videos [www.stjb.org.uk/video](http://www.stjb.org.uk/video)



# 8. ST JOHN'S & ITS PEOPLE

St John's is an evangelical, family-orientated church that welcomes and celebrates diversity.

St John's Church building is a grade 2 listed property built in 1874. To bring the building up to more modern standards the church was substantially re-ordered in 1994, allowing the space to be flexible and reconfigured for different events, including youth work, baby group, toddlers, concerts, social events and Sunday services.

In recent years, the sound and visual system has been updated with state-of-the-art audio and visual technology giving the ability to live stream services, and keep people engaged from home. We would like our new Oversight Minister to help us to utilise this technology more effectively going forward and develop our online offering. This technology has been a fantastic gateway to our young people to serve the church and helped them to feel like a valued part of the St John's family.

The average weekly attendance for Sunday worship is 82 adults and 21 children under 16yrs.

We currently have 110 people on the electoral roll of St Johns, however this is currently in the process of being renewed.

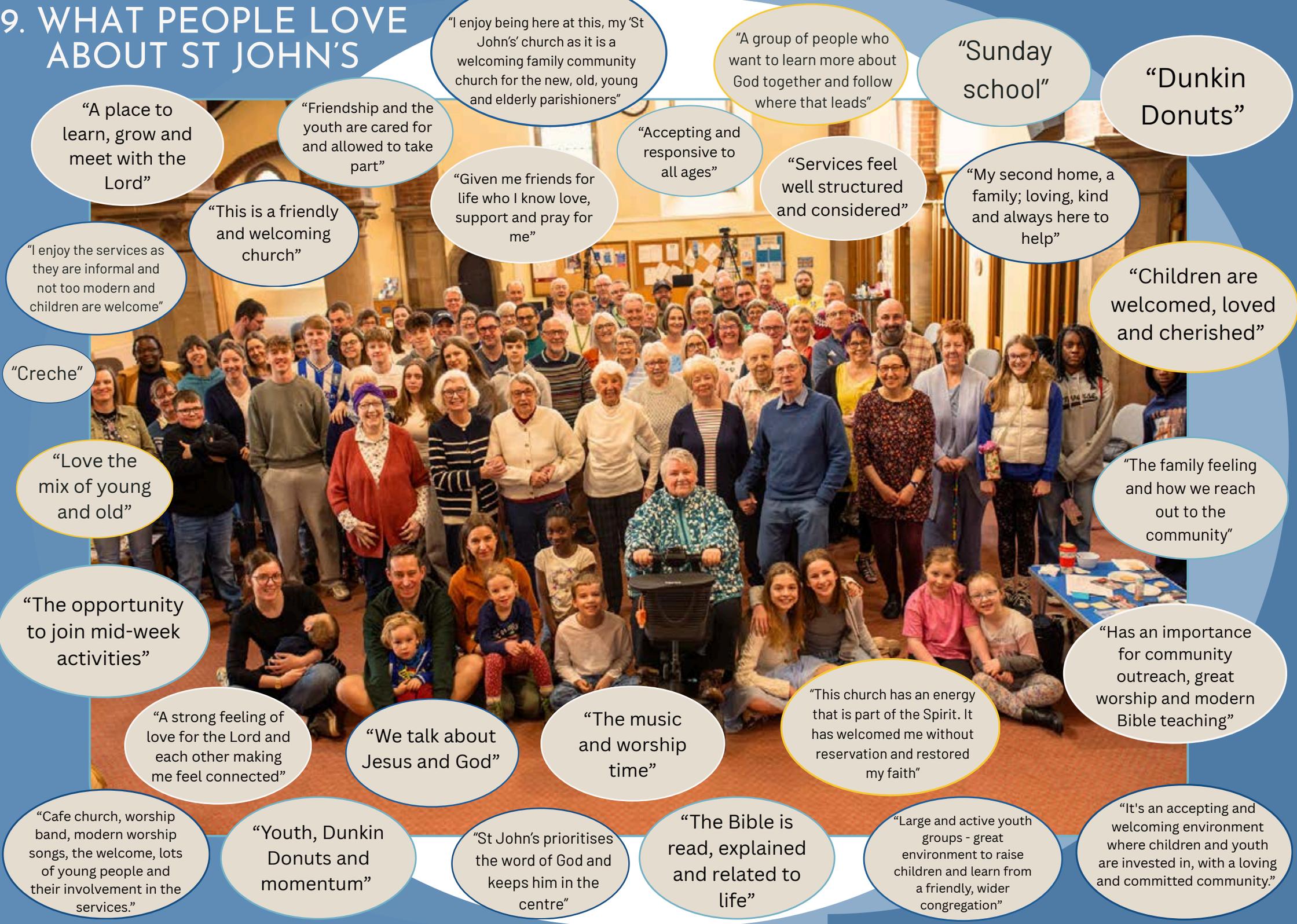
## Promoting a Safer Church

In accordance with the Church of England Safeguarding Policy, St John's is thoroughly committed to promoting a safer environment and culture, responding promptly to every safeguarding concern or allegation and caring pastorally for all those involved.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xAHdUj0-p8c>



# 9. WHAT PEOPLE LOVE ABOUT ST JOHN'S



"A place to learn, grow and meet with the Lord"

"Friendship and the youth are cared for and allowed to take part"

"I enjoy being here at this, my St John's church as it is a welcoming family community church for the new, old, young and elderly parishioners"

"A group of people who want to learn more about God together and follow where that leads"

"Sunday school"

"Dunkin Donuts"

"I enjoy the services as they are informal and not too modern and children are welcome"

"This is a friendly and welcoming church"

"Given me friends for life who I know love, support and pray for me"

"Accepting and responsive to all ages"

"Services feel well structured and considered"

"My second home, a family; loving, kind and always here to help"

"Children are welcomed, loved and cherished"

"Creche"

"Love the mix of young and old"

"The family feeling and how we reach out to the community"

"The opportunity to join mid-week activities"

"A strong feeling of love for the Lord and each other making me feel connected"

"We talk about Jesus and God"

"The music and worship time"

"This church has an energy that is part of the Spirit. It has welcomed me without reservation and restored my faith"

"Has an importance for community outreach, great worship and modern Bible teaching"

"Cafe church, worship band, modern worship songs, the welcome, lots of young people and their involvement in the services."

"Youth, Dunkin Donuts and momentum"

"St John's prioritises the word of God and keeps him in the centre"

"The Bible is read, explained and related to life"

"Large and active youth groups - great environment to raise children and learn from a friendly, wider congregation"

"It's an accepting and welcoming environment where children and youth are invested in, with a loving and committed community."



"A place where people learn and grow in faith together whilst caring for one another"

"Church family and small group"

"Cafe church, inclusivity, welcoming, toddler group, youth leaders and youth becoming leaders"

"The welcome team"

"Real - down to earth messages that I can relate to my life"

"Sense of belonging"

"Worshipping with my sisters and brothers"

"Warm welcome , good teaching, modern music and outlook. Everyone can be involved"

"Cafe church food"

"We are not stagnant or static but evolving"

"I am a visitor today, and have been greeted with a warm welcome to a happy and meaty service"

"Non-judgemental"

"A place of peace and worship"

"Friendship"

"Open, loving, friendly and responsible"

"Developing faith and challenging yourself"

"A wonderful, messy and diverse community who love and support one another in life and faith"

"The men's breakfast is a pub local to church where we discuss issues in our lives and pray for each other."

"The worship, welcome and teaching"

"Prayer is central to all we do and all we seek to do"

"We are one family together in Christ"

"St John's is like walking into a warm welcoming cuddle with God. I feel so at home"

"Supporting each other through prayer and practical help"

"As a recently divorced single mum who had left an abusive relationship, St Johns made me feel welcome and cared for instantly. In the last 25 years whilst being at St Johns I have experienced love and care, from finding a wonderful husband, who I shared 18 years of marriage with and became a mum again, before sadly he was lost to cancer. Throughout all of this, God's love is evident in the people of St Johns."

"Inclusive in regard to gender and sexuality"

"People who care and share God's Love"

"I feel the love of God here"

"How welcoming and inclusive the church is"



# 10. ST JOHN'S & THE COMMUNITY

St John's Church is located on one of the main arteries into and out of the city with thousands of people passing our building each day. The parish itself is home to light industry, leisure and residential properties, including the shops on Hillsborough 'high street'. Over recent years the area has seen an influx of independent cafés, bars, eateries and now the annual Tramlines music festival takes place inside the parish! We also have Sheffield Wednesday Football stadium just a stone's throw away outside our boundary. Hillsborough also has some of the best transport links in the city making it easy for commuters to travel anywhere in the region.

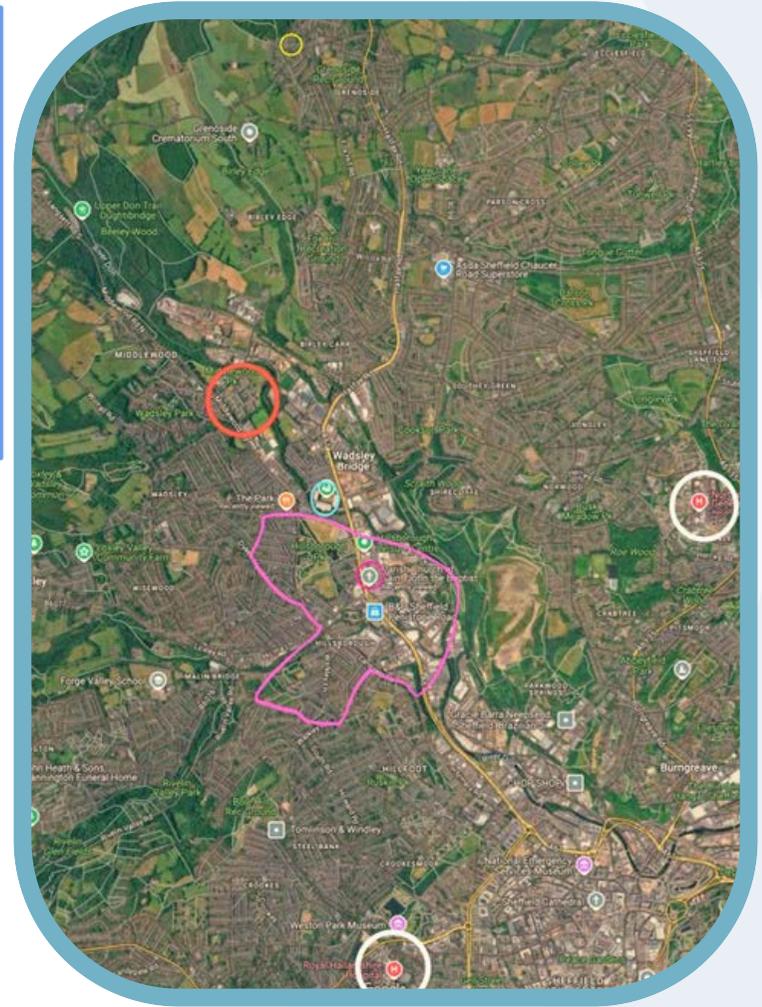
In recent years, St John's has proudly worked in partnership with Sheffield Children's Hospital Charity, which has used our church building as an outpost to display its charitable snowflake lights which many local businesses and celebrities have contributed towards. We plan to continue this in 2025 by again hosting a Christmas market switch-on event to welcome the local community inside the building and share the hope of Christmas.

The parish is also home to two primary schools and the students attending Hillsborough post-16 College walk close by the church every day. St John's has previously had some local school links, and is now starting to re-engage with this ministry area. Although we do not have a secondary school within our borders there are many 'Good' schools within easy reach.

The church family's prayer is that St John's would appoint an oversight minister who shares our heart for the community in which we are based, who can help lead us in building relationships with education, businesses and people through acts of service, mission and prayer.

**KEY for the map below:**

-  Church and parish boundary
-  Winn Gardens Estate
-  Vicarage in Grenoside
-  Sheffield Wednesday Football Club
-  Hospitals (NGH, Hallamshire, Childrens, Weston Park Cancer, & Dental)



# 11. STAFF TEAM

We have a small staff team, working alongside teams of dedicated volunteers, who facilitate a wide range of ministries across the life of the church. They are a forward-thinking team with a big heart that wants to make a difference in our community.

The staff team meet together every Wednesday to touch base, pray, support each other and plan services and events.

Our staff team is:

**Adam Woodhouse – Children & Youth Team Leader**

Adam is responsible for our weekly programme for children and young people. This includes our Under 5s community groups, Sunday School and Youth activities, and other events.

**Joel Hamer – Winn Gardens Community Pioneer**

Joel runs and co-ordinates a variety of groups and activities, both faith based and to meet the outcomes under the local authority's 'People Keeping Well Framework' including the Foodbank. Joel is the lead member of staff in developing and implementing the vision for a community church on the estate.

**Mark Depledge – Digital Media Lead & Music Worship co-ordinator**

Mark runs all things digital for church, such as our website and social media, advertising and artwork, as well as our Audio Visual provision for Sunday services and events. He also co-ordinates our music worship team.

**Claire Keppas – Parish Administrator**

Claire manages the church office, correspondence, financial transactions and church communication. She is also responsible for coordinating the use of church facilities for events, and supporting the staff/volunteer teams.

**Mike Taylor – Caretaker**

Mike ensures that the church is clean and ready for use. He also volunteers as our Buildings Manager, maintaining our church building and grounds, undertaking repairs, and working alongside the Buildings Committee.

<https://www.stjb.org.uk/team>



# 12. LAY LEADERSHIP



Over the years St John's has been blessed to have several active Lay Leaders from different backgrounds, including 2 Church Wardens and a Parish Safeguarding Officer, to support various ministries. The table shows that, we currently have:

Lay Leader Role	Number
Service Leader	5
PCC & Standing Committee	11 5
Preachers	3
Worship: Leader Team	7 15
Small Group Leaders	8
Children & Youth	12 5

During this time of vacancy, PCC members have worked closely with the wider church family to ensure we do not become static in proclaiming and demonstrating God's love.

Together we have developed working parties, who seek to drive forward our 7 identified priorities to continue God's work whilst waiting for the appointment of a new Oversight Minister.

These are:

- Developing the church's prayer life - all together, in groups and individually
- Enriching our worship and Bible-based teaching
- Strengthening fruitful connections across the church family
- Resourcing and revitalising the small group network
- Building our youth, children's and families ministries
- Attracting, welcoming and integrating those who are new to St John's
- Engaging missionally with the wider community (including the Winn Gardens community)

Whilst we continue to put these focus areas into action, we look forward to the prospect of a new Oversight Minister bringing fresh eyes and a new perspective to the work currently undertaken by our amazing working parties. Through partnership we hope the next Oversight Minister will help embed these working priorities into the daily life of our church whilst creating the opportunity for new ministry areas to be developed and for undiscovered leaders and volunteers to be inspired and raised up.

# 13. FINANCES

## 2023 Financial Report Summary

Area of Activity	Income	Expenditure	Surplus/Deficit
General (including Youth and Children's work - Note 1)	£189,000	£178,000	+£21,000
Winn Gardens Estate Ministry (note 2)	£45,000	£52,000	-£7,000
The Family Works (note 3)	£103,000	£103,000	Nil
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>£347,000</b>	<b>£333,000</b>	<b>+£14,000</b>

### Notes:

- 2 x part-time Children's Workers and 1 x full-time Youth Worker left St John's part way through 2023.
- Most income for the Winn Gardens Estate ministry is external grant income. An annual contribution is made from St John's general funds (i.e. £7,000 in 2023).
- The Family Works ministry amongst families was self-financing in 2023, although it did draw substantially on St John's funds in 2022. During 2022 and 2023, it grew very considerably, and the PCC decided that it should become an independent charity at the end of 2023.

## Net Surplus/Deficit annual financial results over recent years:

Year	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024 (estimated)
Net Surplus/Deficit	Break even	-£60,000	-£68,000	+£14,000	+£2,000

## St John's Balance Sheet as at December 2023:

Designated Reserves	Church Building Development Fund	£135,000
Restricted Reserves	Outstanding amounts from restricted grants and donations	£44,000
Operating Reserve	Reserves Policy: Equal to 3 months of 2024 expenditure	£49,000
Unrestricted / General Reserves	Free Reserves	£25,000
<b>Total Funds</b>		<b>£253,000</b>



The 2023 annual report is the most recent that has been finalised and independently examined:  
(figures rounded to nearest £,000)

o In recent years, St John's has maintained its Diocesan Common Fund contribution at £75,000.

o Whilst the total number of givers has reduced a little in recent years, by the end of 2024, the vast majority of the donation income was generously and regularly being given by 77 individuals or couples, most of which was donated through Standing Order and was Gift Aided wherever possible.

o The Finance Sub-Committee is made up of a team of 5 individuals who together manage the ongoing finances in a sustainable manner, each taking responsibility for an element of the overall Church Treasurer role:

- finance processing
- managing the Xero cloud-based finance system
- supporting donors, giving and Gift Aid
- budgets and forward projections/reporting to the PCC
- annual financial accounts and independent examination

o St John's has always had an encouraging focus on sacrificial giving as part of our ongoing discipleship and we hope that the new Oversight Minister will teach and encourage us all in remaining "cheerful givers" (2 Cor 9:7).



## 14. VICARAGE

The current property allocated for Owlerton Vicarage is outside the parish boundary (as seen on the map in section 10, in yellow), due to the original building now being unsuitable. It is the intention of the diocese to continue searching for a suitable Vicarage within the parish.

The new Oversight Minister will be housed in Grenoside Vicarage (S35 8QT) approximately 3 miles from the church. Grenoside is a village on the northern edge of Sheffield, surrounded by beautiful countryside, with a good primary school, local shops and several pubs within walking distance.

The house itself is situated on a cul-de-sac, comprising of four bedrooms, two reception rooms, a study, kitchen with separate utility room, bathroom and downstairs cloakroom. There is a large rear garden and parking for 3 or 4 cars on the front driveway.

# 15. WHAT VALUES AND ATTRIBUTES ARE WE HOPING FOR IN A NEW OVERSIGHT MINISTER?

St John's is excited to welcome a new Oversight Minister into our church family who will have a passionate love and deep relationship with Jesus as Lord and Saviour, walk in the strength of God's Spirit and have a real heart to see lives changed by the Lord.

Someone who will build on our strengths and will discern our direction of travel whilst nurturing and caring for the congregation, working collaboratively to build God's church in

"proclaiming and demonstrating the love of God, leading and supporting people in becoming wholehearted followers of Christ."

The inherited tradition of St John's for most of the last 60 years has involved inspiring, biblically-faithful teaching focussed on Jesus and the new life resulting from His unique saving work through the cross and resurrection. Flowing out from this, we have a heart for worship, prayer, discipleship, evangelism and reaching out in the service of others.

At a recent PCC away morning we agreed that we would be truly blessed to be able to appoint a woman or man with these key characteristics:

- Inspiring and can communicate vision
- An engaging Bible teacher and preacher
- Has an inner strength and sense of humour
- A good enabler and manager of people
- Outward looking and evangelistic
- A listening and sensitive pastor

The youth of St John's would love for our new Oversight Minister to be:

- Fun
- An engaging preacher with new interesting ideas relevant to the world they live in (doesn't drone on at the front!!).
- Someone who will listen to their voice and let the young people take responsibility in church life. For example, in leading services.

Although we value who we are as a church community, we are excited about new leadership building on our existing strengths and leading us in new ways. We enthusiastically recognise and welcome that the successful candidate will bring their own gifts, passions and vision. We are excited to support and walk alongside you on this journey that God has placed on your heart for the people and parish of St John's.

An Extra Word about PLF:

As a congregation we have not yet had the opportunity to explore issues surrounding human sexuality and Prayers of Love and Faith. However, with the likelihood of a range of views across the congregation; we are eager to understand more and are looking for an Oversight Minister who, through sensitive teaching and listening, can help us to engage well with these questions.

*"Then Christ will make his home in your hearts as you trust in him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong. And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God." Ephesians chapter 3 verses 17-19*



## Role Description

### Details of Post

<b>Role Title:</b>	<b>Priest in Charge and Oversight Minister for the</b>
<b>Mission Area of:</b>	<b>Hallam North</b>
<b>Name of Benefice:</b>	<b>St John's, Owlerton</b>
<b>Deanery:</b>	<b>Hallam</b>
<b>Archdeaconry:</b>	<b>Sheffield</b>

### Context

Owlerton is part of a Mission Area of four parishes including Wadsley, Malin Bridge and Bradfield. There are two Oversight Ministers within the Mission Area.

The parish of Owlerton has just over 6,000 residents plus a substantial amount of industry, commerce and leisure facilities. It is 92% white, with a national deprivation index of 4,544 out of 12,307.

The role of Oversight Minister is to work in partnership with the Bishop, fellow Clergy, Focal Ministers and Lay Leaders, and all the baptised members of the Diocese of Sheffield, to help realise the diocesan strategy to be a flourishing and generous Diocese of Sheffield by 2025:

Renewed, Released and Rejuvenated!

We seek to be a Diocese Renewed in the grace and power of God, by a constant reliance on the Holy Spirit. We seek to be a Diocese Released from the constraints which hold us back from mission, and released, as the whole people of God for the whole mission of God. We seek to be a Diocese Rejuvenated — partly through a dedicated and sustained programme of outreach to families, children and young people, and partly through the creation of 75 new congregations, including 25 in our church schools.

### Role Purpose

The role of the stipendiary incumbent is defined 'semi-episcopally' as an 'Oversight Minister', to grow healthy local churches by working collaboratively with others in four interrelated ways:

- 1) To oversee mission and ministry in the Mission Area.
- 2) To resource the whole people of God for the whole mission of God.
- 3) To ensure mission and ministry in the Mission Area reflects the Christian faith as understood in the Church of England.
- 4) To identify, nurture and develop leaders of the Mission Area.

***The General responsibilities for Oversight Ministers can be found on the Diocesan website and the Person Specification for Oversight Ministers are Found in Appendix 1.***

The aim of this role description is to clarify expectations and parameters, to ensure that the role holder has the best possible chance to flourish. The specific responsibilities will be reviewed and refreshed regularly as part of the MDR process.

### **Specific Responsibilities**

- 1) To oversee mission and ministry in the Mission Area.
  - To share in the cure of souls across the whole Mission Area, developing strategies for connecting with, serving and witnessing to those who are resident in the area.
  - To provide oversight, guidance and leadership, fostering a culture and practice of collaboration and teamwork and enabling the discernment, development and implementation of vision in the form of a Mission Action Plan.
  
- 2) To resource the whole people of God for the whole mission of God.
  - To enable every church member to discern, develop and grow in the exercise of the gifts given them by God;
  - To enable all God's people to grow in their understanding of the mission of God and in confidence in their own calling as full participants in the outworking of that mission;
  - To work with others to ensure a flourishing children and youth ministry within reach of every young person in the Mission Area;
  - To establish functional leadership structures which enable the flourishing of properly collaborative leadership and which give value to the contributions of all those holding responsibility.
  
- 3) To ensure mission and ministry in the Mission Area reflects the Christian faith as understood in the Church of England.
  - To foster a working understanding of Christian faith and practice in the Church of England.
  - To have regard to the calling and responsibilities of the clergy as described in the Canons, the Ordinal, the Guidelines for the Professional Conduct of Clergy, and other relevant legislation and guidance.
  - To be ministers of both word and sacrament.
  - To ensure excellence in safeguarding and care for all God's people, and full compliance with Diocesan and national safeguarding guidelines, policy and procedures.
  - To ensure the flourishing of all in their vocation and ministry, irrespective of theological tradition and gender.
  - To oversee the working of effective governance and procedures with regard to the Church Representation Rules and other relevant legislation and guidance.
  - To encourage and facilitate healthy and effective working relationships within and between the congregations, parishes, Mission Area, deanery and diocese.
  
- 4) To identify, nurture and develop leaders of the Mission Area.





**Appendix 1.**

**Person Specification**

**An Ordained Minister**

		essential	desirable
<b>Qualifications and personal attributes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommended by their Bishop as suitable for Common Tenure Primary Responsibility.</li> </ul>	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shows capacity to foster collaboration between lay and ordained ministers (licensed, commissioned and authorised) and lay leaders.</li> </ul>	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Committed to mutual flourishing envisaged in the Five Guiding Principles.</li> </ul>	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In Holy Orders for not less than three years.</li> </ul>	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Experienced in leadership.</li> </ul>	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Able to demonstrate the calling, character, gifts and skills to oversee a number of local churches and ecclesial communities in a range of parishes, institutions and networks.</li> </ul>		✓
<b>Character</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Models leadership on the example of Christ.</li> </ul>	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborative.</li> </ul>	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excited about mission and the diocesan vision and strategy.</li> </ul>	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Committed to the breadth of tradition in the Church of England and mutual flourishing.</li> </ul>	✓	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Strong and mature personal faith, nourished by well-established patterns of prayer, worship, reflection and study.</i></li> </ul>	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Accountable.</i></li> </ul>	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Open to lifelong learning and development.</i></li> </ul>	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Recognised as resilient, stable and trustworthy.</i></li> </ul>	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Self-aware and self-accepting.</i></li> </ul>	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Cares for self and for key personal relationships.</i></li> </ul>	✓	
<b>Experience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Building and facilitating teams, shared decision-making.</i></li> </ul>	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Energising and enabling others in forming vision and in strategic planning</i></li> </ul>	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Working collaboratively, exercising accountability and delegation.</i></li> </ul>	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Encouraging trust in God.</i></li> </ul>	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Discerning, nurturing and developing the skills of others.</i></li> </ul>	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Helping others shape and engage in mission and evangelism appropriate to the local context.</i></li> </ul>	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Knowledge, understanding and experience of diocesan and church structures, policies, and practices including Safeguarding, finance and governance</i></li> </ul>	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Taking responsibility for personal well-being and nurture.</i></li> </ul>	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Enabling others in their practice of self-care and personal development</i></li> </ul>	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Leading, managing and consolidating change.</i></li> </ul>		✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Conflict management.</i></li> </ul>		✓

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Entrepreneurial skills, including responsible risk-taking.</li> </ul>		✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Holding the big picture.</li> </ul>		✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enabling others in reflection, review and developing the mission and ministry of the church.</li> </ul>		✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building community through relationships of trust.</li> </ul>		✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inter-personal skills, including listening, communication, and exercising emotional intelligence.</li> </ul>	✓	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organisational skills and administration.</li> </ul>		✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working with different generations and inter-generationally.</li> </ul>		✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pastoral supervision and reflective practice.</li> </ul>		✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coaching and mentoring.</li> </ul>		✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working with different theological perspectives, church tradition, culture and life experience.</li> </ul>		✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initiating and enabling working relationships between church, Mission Area, deanery and diocese.</li> </ul>		✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Handling a complex workload, prioritising and balancing competing demands.</li> </ul>		✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making appropriate pastoral provision for leaders.</li> </ul>		✓