

Trentside Parish

(The Parish of Branston and Burton All Saints' with Christchurch)



One parish, one vision: the love of Jesus transforming lives

We have a great deal to offer in our Parish: it's very welcoming, and a good place to live, with dedicated and gifted servants of God, and we can't wait to meet the person who will steer our ship for the next few years.

Above all, we are looking for someone who is kind, supportive, cheerful, approachable, and enthusiastic, who will help us sort out our vision and help us get there.

In return, we'd offer you an excellent package: protected days off, time to study and go on retreat, encouragement to take annual leave, and proper payment of expenses.

Could you be the person?

About us

We're a brand new parish, joined together only in February 2017, but we've been working together for a while, and we are beginning to be excited about the possibilities rather than fretting about the difficulties. The former parishes are adjacent, and have always worked together occasionally, but this coming together, has enabled us to see the bigger picture and use our resources, human and otherwise, in new and creative ways. We already are beginning to feel a sense of family together, and a recent pantomime, based loosely on the story of Esther by one of our congregation and performed by a cast ranging in age from 7 to 70 drawn from both churches was a good illustration of this.



Our Mission Statement is really important, and our worship, our outreach and our learning is all centred on trying to make sure that the love of Jesus really can transform as many lives as possible.

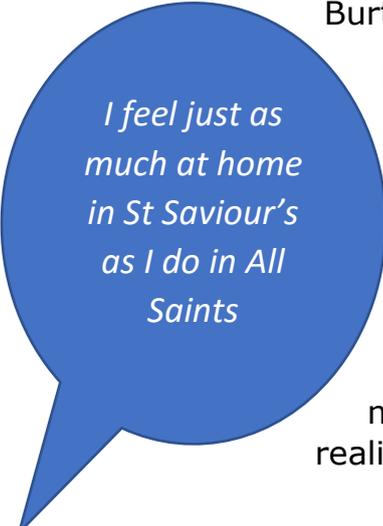
About You

Our mission statement is

*'The Love of Jesus,
transforming lives'*

The hard work of bringing our two evangelical churches together has been largely done: for more than 3 years our PCC has been a joint one, every Sunday evening service has been combined, and social events, study sessions and special occasions have been held together.

We know that there are a lot of lives which need to be transformed, and to do this, we need to be a real Christian presence in the south side of Burton.



*I feel just as
much at home
in St Saviour's
as I do in All
Saints*

Now we are ready to explore the vision for our new Parish, and work to equip ourselves to make it into a reality.

Strategic thinking

We need a joined-up (in all senses) vision for how our Parish could be a Christian presence on the South side of Burton, and a strategy for making it so.

Leadership

We need a strong and collaborative leader. Collaboration will need to be:

- within the parish (we have a total of 9 Licensed Lay Ministers and a Curate, entering her third year in July 2017)
- with our friendly and supportive Chapter – there are some possible boundary changes afoot which could affect us - as well as Burton Churches Together
- with local organisations which work to help the disadvantaged in our parish.

Teaching

- A gift for inspiring and biblical teaching in the Evangelical tradition is a must.
- We are excited by our increasing presence in the local schools, and really would like to work with someone who is inspired by this ministry.
- Our small groups could probably do with more coherence and organisation. Could you help us with this?

Management

A lot goes on in our churches. Our new incumbent will need to be a wise and insightful manager, to encourage everyone's gifts and time to be used to their best advantage, and to build on and continue the process of coming together which is firmly and happily underway.

Pastoral Ability

- All Saints' has had some difficult times in the fairly recent past, and needs some care and healing.
- St Saviour's has a tendency to become collectively complacent, and needs some help to ensure that 'every member ministry' becomes a reality.
- Our pastoral care team needs support to help it to make the best use of its members gifts.

Worship

As our patrons are CPAS, Church Society Trust and Simeon's Trust, we are seeking an incumbent who

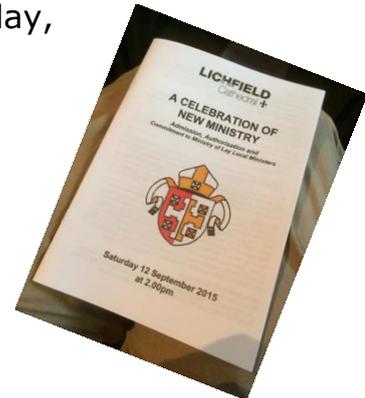
- identifies with the open evangelical/charismatic wing of the church
- but who would also be keen to help us to develop a variety of styles of worship: perhaps occasionally with more formality, or more reflective.
- We would love someone to encourage us to develop the use of spiritual gifts in worship.

Our church children would like you to 'be able to do magic' and 'be able to be silly', as well as to 'be a normal person', 'be helpful', 'not have favourites' and 'to be tiny': we think they meant they wanted you to be approachable and humble!

The team

As well as the vicar and our Curate (The Revd Sharon Lord), who generally alternate between the churches each Sunday, we are fortunate to have

- six Readers (and one in training)
- one Reader Emeritus who keeps her hand in
- one Local Lay Minister who leads worship
- one Pastoral Minister
- a retired member of the clergy who lives in the Parish



and all are happy to operate in both churches.

We also have a Duty House, and it is likely that one of our new vicar's first tasks will be to help us appoint someone to live in it and join the Trentside family.

Worship

This is the general pattern for Sundays:

Sunday	All Saints at 8.30	St Saviour's at 10 am	All Saints at 10.30 am	Sunday at 6
1	Holy Communion	*Morning worship, sometimes with baptism	All Age worship: ASLAN	Healing Service (St Saviour's)
2	Holy Communion	*Holy Communion	*Holy Communion	Open to God (All Saints')
3	Holy Communion	All Age worship: SPLAT	*Morning worship sometimes with baptism	Café church with Holy Communion (St Saviour's)
4	Holy Communion	*Holy Communion	*Morning worship	Open to God, with Holy Communion (All Saints')
5	Holy Communion	*Morning worship	*Morning worship	Celebration Praise

**indicates children's groups meet during this service*

Worship is right at the heart of what we do, and we have been pleased with how its coming together is developing.

Our worship is in the Evangelical and gently Charismatic tradition: Worship is lively, with the participation on Sundays of a band at each church (which have started to begin to work to together from time to time). It is very similar in each church; All Saints' is perhaps slightly more Charismatic in feel than St Saviour's, but, as much of our worship is joint, this is somewhat blurred. It often aims to leave room for open prayer and the ministrations of the Holy Spirit, within the framework of the Church of England Common Worship liturgy. Ministry is unrobed, except for Holy Communion at Wednesday at 10 and Sunday at 8.30, though celebrants sometimes wear an alb at other services of Holy Communion.

Both churches use SongPro on screens.





Café church is a monthly informal service of Holy Communion, seated around tables.

Once a month in each church we have our own version of **Messy Church: SPLAT** (Sunday People Learning All Together) at St Saviour's, and All Saints' Learning and Nurturing (ASLAN).



These provide an inclusive and enjoyable style of worship for families, though many older people seem to find the activities as much fun as the children.



Weekdays

There is Morning Prayer most mornings in one or other (and often both) of the churches, at 8.30.

We hold a well-attended informal but traditional (hymns not songs) Common Worship service of Holy Communion at St Saviour's on **Wednesday** morning at 10. Before that there is a café which aims to attract parents who have dropped their children off at school as well as early arrivals for the 10 o'clock service.

We believe in **every member ministry**, and so the congregations are very much part of our worship – Scripture readings, administration of the chalice, intercessions, as well as operating the laptop and sound desk; children sometimes collect the offerings and bring them to the front.

All services are followed by tea/coffee and cake, with a rota for the preparation and serving of the refreshments.

Average Sunday attendance at the principal Sunday services is 61 at All Saints' and 43 at St Saviour's. The average for Wednesdays is 20, with around 8 adults at the 8.30 on Sundays.

Special times

On Easter Day we climb the hill which rises up the valley side at sunrise – with bacon sandwiches on our return to ground level!



Mothering Sunday, Father's Day, Harvest and Remembrance Day, and Christingle are all times when St Saviour's is full of Rainbows, Beavers, Cubs, Brownies and Scouts.

During Advent our travelling Holy Families make their way around the two ends of the parish, staying in a different home each night – the *posada*.



Our Christmas morning service alternates between the churches, but each church has a Midnight communion and a Traditional Carol Service. St Saviour's enjoys its Christmas Eve crib service.

Children and Young People



One of the highlights of each year is the annual Children's Holiday Club, which regularly attracts 30 plus children, and a band of willing volunteers who have plenty of fun too. We hold this in our marquee at St Saviour's- we also have a team of people who are quite good at erecting and dismantling the marquee.

But week by week there are groups of children in each church learning about God in their Sunday schools, using the Roots material so that we can all learn about the same things.

Schools' ministry is becoming increasingly important: Rykneld Primary School has weekly assemblies taken by the clergy team (with Youth For Christ), and also hosts the Posada figures each Advent. Our last vicar was a Governor there. Anglesey Primary school visit All Saints', and they have termly assemblies: this is quite a breakthrough as there is a large Muslim contingent in this school. We do not yet go into

Paget High School (though Youth For Christ do) nor Christchurch Infants (but they have links with Elim Pentecostals). A new secondary school is being built just beyond our current parish boundary, but this may end up being in our parish following possible boundary changes.

We have a small but active Youth Group, and several members are booked to attend Soul Survivor in 2017. The Bishop is booked for a Confirmation service on October 15th 2017.

Discipling

Home groups operate throughout the year, often with members drawn from both churches. These could probably do with a more coherent and co-ordinated approach, maybe all using the same material. A Lent course is held in the Parish, and Alpha courses run from time to time.

We have been very blessed by the number of people who have completed the Bishop's Certificate and gone on to other training, and are very keen that people's giftings be drawn out and used in God's service.

Outreach

All Saints' has long had a heart for the vulnerable adults in our midst, and the outreach activities give opportunities for the Gospel to be shared as well as fill many social needs. Now we are one Parish, members of St Saviour's have also become involved.

Members of the church have for many years run a weekly **Open House** for small children and their responsible adults.



There is a weekly informal **Drop-in** for anyone who would welcome company and a hot lunch.

A **craft group** provides a weekly source of companionship and creativity.

A Christmas Day meal is served each year for any who would like it, especially those who would otherwise be on their own.



A monthly **Ladies' Tea Outing** is enjoyed by many, including those who are on the margins of church involvement; an occasional Men's Curry night serves a similar purpose.

Members of the parish visit local **care homes** and provide worship or Communion for those who would like.

The **Wednesday morning café** at St Saviour's is popular, as are the teas served (for free) in support of the Branston Village show in August, sometimes in conjunction with a Flower Festival.



We support the Samaritan's Purse Shoebox appeal, and raise money to buy virtual gifts such as goats by not sending Christmas cards to one another, as well as supporting various Christian charities and causes.

We have an active Facebook presence and a brand-new website (trentsideparish.church); we are conscious of the need to improve our online presence.

The Journey of Life

Each church has **baptisms** most months, during the main morning service. Baptism families are asked to attend eight times before the baptism, and undertake a preparation course. We have seen people come to faith through this.



Marriage couples are generally offered the START course; each church averages around 5 weddings a year.



Funerals take place in the churches or in the local Crematorium, approximately one a month in each church.

Housing

St Saviour's Vicarage, a modern (1985) four bedroomed house with a well-placed study, a garage and a large garden, is available for our new incumbent. It is adjacent to St Saviour's Church, and built in part of the enormous garden of the old vicarage, which is now a highly thought of restaurant. It is 1.3 miles away from All Saints'



church, almost opposite Rykneld Primary School, a

short walk from a new Co-op and a ten minute walk from Branston Water Park.

Organisation

There is one PCC with members drawn from each church, with a Secretary who ably deals with minutes and agendas.

A Parish Administrator works 16 hours a week and produces rotas and other documentation, as well as helping the members of the clergy with the administration of the occasional offices.

The Leadership Team meets monthly, and consists of all who hold a Licence for Authorized Ministry and those in training. These meetings are used to ensure coverage of all services by completion of the rotas, as well as to refresh our skills and ideas.

The parish

The two parts of the parish are joined by the road which starts as Burton Road, Branston by the A38, and then becomes Branston Road, Burton as it approaches the town centre, and which is lined with a mixture of terraced housing, large Victorian villas and between-the-wars semidetached housing.

The All Saints' end of Trentside parish is urban, with a great deal of affordable terraced housing, as well as including part of the town centre with its commerce.

Traditionally, these houses were occupied by brewery workers, but as mechanisation has led to far fewer manual workers being required, these streets have been occupied by first the Bangladeshi/Pakistani community, and more recently by the eastern European one: 24.5% are Muslim.

Many brownfield sites on former industrial areas have been developed to provide mostly apartments and starter homes: many of these are rented, and there is considerable mobility.

Socially, there is a certain amount of material deprivation: many of the terraced houses are rented and overcrowded: the former All Saints' parish was A1 with 34% deprivation.

The parish extends right into the town, including two large shopping centres, two small retail

parks and a number of small shops and businesses.

The St Saviour's end of things has a great deal of modern housing, built from the 80s onwards, around an older area still referred to by older residents as 'the village'. Branston incorporates a small out of town retail park, as well as a new Co-op, takeaways, pubs, corner shops and golf course. A large depot, now occupied by B and Q distribution centre, has had many functions over the years and is allegedly where Branston Pickle was first made. It, like the golf course, is now surrounded by houses dating from the 90s. There is an expanse of water, formerly a gravel pit and now a Water Park popular with dog walkers and infant cyclists.



In Branston there is a certain amount of material prosperity. However, we are well aware that many of the superficially prosperous areas conceal the 21st century plague of loneliness, family break-up and materialism despite the two cars on the drive.

Just outside the current parish boundary a new secondary school, 2500 new homes, and

other buildings are currently rising from the ground. At the moment these are in Tatenhill parish, but the matter is under consideration by the Deanery. In any case it is likely that the residents at the Branston end of the development will look towards it for spiritual provision.

The population of the parish is approximately 15440 (2011 census figures: population has increased since): roughly 40% in the former St Saviour's parish with the remaining 60% in All Saints'.

Burton upon Trent



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Burton upon Trent (latest census population figure 72,299) is well known as a brewing town, and indeed the smell of the brewing process, and the allied production of Marmite, wafts through our parish from time to time. Other than that, Burton is a middle-sized market town with a still fairly prosperous town centre and with its fair share of distribution centres around the edge. The River Trent is the boundary of our

parishes, and indeed the diocese, and is now a cleaned-up river with plenty of fish, with extremely pleasant Washlands on its flood plain, which will never be built upon. We have (for the moment) a Championship Football team: Burton Albion were promoted in 2016 and at the time of writing are hanging on!

We have good transport links to Birmingham, Stoke-on-Trent, Derby, Lichfield and Nottingham via the arterial A38 and A50 roads, and a number of Burton residents commute to one of these. East Midlands and Birmingham Airports are within 45 minutes drive, and the rail links are good.



Burton is not without its social problems, but the rate of unemployment is low, and there is considerable new building taking place in the St Saviour's end of the parish as well as in other parts of Burton. Burton is surrounded on all sides by attractive farmland and villages.

History

Trentside Parish was formed from St Saviour's, Branston, and All Saints with Christchurch, Burton upon Trent, starting in July 2014 when the vicar of St Saviour's was also licensed as vicar of All Saints, and concluding in February 2017 with the official formation of a single parish with two worship centres. The historical name for All Saints' parish includes Christchurch, which is no longer a Church of England church but now belongs to the Elim Pentecostals.

Finance

The two churches operate fees and the salary for the administrator jointly. We do not fundraise, but rely on planned giving and Gift Days. All Saints' tithes its income.

The Vicar's and Curate's expenses are paid in full (to an agreed limit).

FIGURES FOR 2016	Parish Share	Income (fees)	Income (giving)	Expenditure in running the church
St Saviour's	£24,967	£6409	£32,635	£23,365
All Saints'	£33,167	£2195	£56,395	£32,458

Why should you come to Trentside?

Our churches are very welcoming, and raring to go, and you'd hit the ground running – lots to do, many challenges, some willing and gifted people who'd love your support and leadership.

Burton is a good place to live, with excellent communications. It's on the up, with lots of new housing and good schools.

The water park is really close and great for dog-walking, prayer-walking and wildlife.

Staffordshire is a well-kept secret! The countryside is lovely, Lichfield is a gem, the Peak District is half an hour away. There are National Trust properties, two theme parks and a Snowdome within half an hour's drive.

