



# Parish Profile



## Our Context

St Thomas' is situated in Brampton at the edge of Chesterfield, Derbyshire with easy access to the beauty of the Peak District. Brampton (around 8,500) is a mostly residential area with a number of retail outlets including a host of independent businesses and a wide range of eateries using locally sourced produce. The parish is in the catchment area for many well-regarded schools: Westfield infants, Old Hall juniors, Brampton primary, St Mary's secondary and Brookfield secondary.

On the same site as our Church we also have a purpose built Parish Centre which has a large hall, two smaller meeting rooms, coffee bar and toilets. Since it opened in 2011 it has provided an amazing opportunity to engage with the local community with around a 1,000 visitors a week, many of whom come to visit the coffee bar. It is also where we run a number of different ministries including toddler groups, youth ministry, knit and natter and from September a new Kid's Club.

St Thomas' has a reputation as a lively evangelical church with good links into the community; our electoral roll is 234 adults however, like many Churches, the last few years has seen our regular attendance reduce to around 100 most Sundays including 20 children and young people. Since our new vicar joined us in April 2022, we have been focusing on re-establishing who we are, reaching our community and building on much of the positive work that was done during our recent vacancy.



We have recently begun a pastoral scheme which will see the neighbouring parish of St Mark's become part of the parish of St Thomas.

St Marks is a relatively small church with a regular congregation of around 20 people who are more mature in years but who are dedicated both to each other and the church. The area around St Mark's has more of an estate-church feel with a strong community sense and the church has had good links to the local junior school in the past. There is huge potential for mission and growth which the current congregation would fully support.

## **Worship and Ministry**

As part of re-establishing who we are, we have recently committed to do all we can to grow in every generation through offering a range of opportunities for people to deepen their relationship with God through differing worship styles.

When we come together to worship there will be a strong biblical focus which informs and equips us to live as Jesus has called us to, both as a Church and in our own lives.

We want to ensure that all those who come through the doors and do not know Jesus feel welcomed and are pointed to Him, making a concerted effort to reach and connect better with younger generations.

## **Services at St Thomas'**

9:15am – Traditional Service. A liturgically based service with hymns and communion most weeks.

10:45am – Contemporary Service. A less formal service with an opportunity for Worship, Teaching and Ministry where those who wish to learn inter-generationally have opportunity to go out part way through the service for specific teaching input.

6pm – Teaching and Equipping Service. A smaller, informal service providing the opportunity to go deeper in areas that equip us to live our lives as disciples.







### **Services at St Mark's**

10:30am – Traditional service of Communion or Morning prayer.

In addition to Sunday Ministry both Churches provide a number of activities during the week to help and support people, enabling members of the church and community to connect with each other and grow as disciples. These include toddler groups, mid-week small groups and social groups. We also have regular ministry through occasional offices and pastoral prayer.

### **Our Wider Ministry Team**

St Thomas and St Mark's has a dedicated team of leaders, both paid and voluntary, these include 0-18's Ministry Director (f/t), Parish Operations Manager (p/t), Parish Admin Assistant (p/t), Centre and Events Manager (p/t), a number of readers, an active but retired clergy person, as well as various members of the congregations who lead and support much of the ministry across the churches with two dedicated Wardens, all of whom play an essential part in the development and delivery of our mission and ministry.

### **The Incumbent**



Gary joined St Thomas and St Mark's in April 2022 having spent the previous 13 years in the Diocese of Leicester leading St John's in Hinckley, which was one of the Resourcing Churches for the Diocese.

Over the past 13 years he has worked with and supported a number of curates and ordinands. He has enjoyed both supporting those starting their ordained ministry as well as the opportunity to work with and learn from the curates he has worked with.

Before moving from the Leicester Diocese he was also involved in supporting and coaching those involved in Church Planting within the Diocese Resourcing Churches, including equipping and

working alongside a married Curate and Ordinand who planted into a neighbouring Parish.

Gary has also been involved with New Wine for a number of years locally, nationally and as part of the international team. He is currently part of the New Wine Regional Team for the Midlands.

He is also currently a mentor for the CPAS Arrow Leadership Programme.

## Who we are looking for

The context of the two Churches will provide a wide range of experiences and opportunities for training as well as the permission and freedom to try and experiment with your own ideas with the support of the wider team.

We are excited about all that the right person will bring to both the team and ministry of the two Churches.

If you would be interested in exploring this post further, please contact any of the below:

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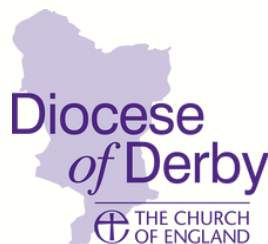
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Transformed lives

Growing church

Building community

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