

PARISH PROFILE

www.stmarybarnes.org





PARISH PROFILE: ST MARY'S CHURCH, BARNES

The Barnes Team Ministry is a team of three parishes of St Mary's, St Michael & All Angels and Holy Trinity in the attractive and busy community of Barnes in South West London.

Each parish has a separate PCC and separate finances and is led by a Team Vicar, and at St Mary's by the Team Rector.

After a very successful and happy five years with us, James Hutchings, our Team Rector, has recently taken early retirement.

We are seeking to appoint a new Team Rector and Vicar of St Mary's Barnes who will

- Enable the Team to look for new ways of working together to serve the community and share the Gospel
- lead the congregation of St Mary's with vibrant worship and caring pastoral support
- inspire us to grow in our faith
- serve the wider community in Barnes
- nurture relationships with other churches and community organisations

We are looking for someone who:

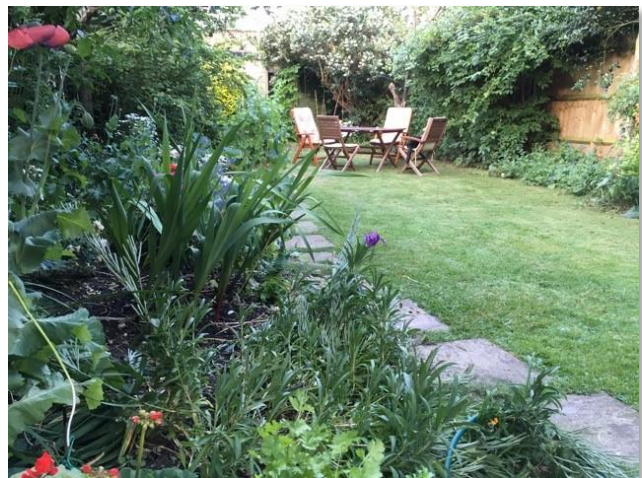
- embraces a central, inclusive tradition with an understanding of, and empathy for, other traditions, who will develop variety in worship, maintaining a Eucharistic emphasis and the vital role of music.
- has a strong personal faith and an ability to communicate that through lively and stimulating preaching and teaching.
- has strong pastoral skills and awareness
- has enthusiasm for families and young people and the experience and creativity to develop ways to nurture them in their faith
- will be keen to build productive relationships with other churches and across the local community and further afield
- will recognise people's talents and encourage involvement, discipleship and lay ministry
- will be forward-thinking, embracing new ways of working (including through social media) and with the skills and imagination to lead St Mary's in new missional challenges and opportunities
- manages efficiently, has an understanding of finances and is comfortable and able to delegate to clergy and lay people

If you are able to fulfil this demanding role, it is essential that you:

- maintain your own spiritual growth, particularly by giving time to prayer, study and training
- take proper care of yourself, allowing adequate time for rest, recreation, family life, and friends

We offer:

- a congregation of all ages who want to worship God, deepen their faith and serve the community
- a well-resourced parish office with an experienced administrator
- a part time Children and Young People's worker and a Director of Music
- a church in excellent structural repair which offers great flexibility for all sorts of church and community events
- sound finances and a number of volunteers to help manage the fabric, administration and worship of the church
- a well-equipped church hall containing two separate halls, a stage and modern kitchen
- a beautiful five-bedroomed Rectory with garden, centrally located and a five-minute walk from the church.



[St Mary's Barnes Rectory Google Maps](#)



ST MARY'S CHURCH

Our building

St Mary's Church is a distinctive building in the centre of Barnes village. With parts of the building dating back to the 1100s, the church was rebuilt after a fire in 1978 to an award-winning design which blends the contemporary with the mediaeval. It is a flexible space which is designed to be used both for uplifting worship and for a range of other activities.

Our church community

We aim to be a welcoming community which reaches out to people of all ages. We are a busy church, but we also recognise the need to build our spiritual lives, to learn more about our faith and to live it out in our daily lives. St Mary's is very much at the heart of the community in Barnes and aims to reach out to those beyond our congregation in many ways with a variety of activities.

The church is kept open in the daytime for visitors and for private prayer.

We are a member of Inclusive Church. Together with St Michael's we recently issued a statement (endorsed by our PCCs) welcoming and encouraging same-sex couples to get in touch about celebrating their relationship in church.

Our worship

Worship on Sunday is focused around Holy Communion (BCP) at 8am and Parish Communion at 10am (All Age once per month). There is also Evensong at 6pm, usually said, with Choral Evensong periodically. Every 6 weeks there is a lay led reflection service called Sunday@6.



At the Parish Communion, we had an average attendance in 2023 of about 100 with a choir (unrobed) and fine music. At the 8am more traditional Holy Communion service we had on average 20 people. Services at major festivals are busy - on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day last year we had 1091 people attending the five services, including a Nativity Service with 305 people, and on Easter Day we had 222 people at the four services. At the Remembrance Day Service (2023 congregation of over 300) we are joined by the Barnes Concert Band and the St Mary's Barnes Scout Group.

During the week we have daily Morning Prayer at 9 am and Holy Communion on Thursday at 12 noon.

Baptisms are usually at an 11.45am service once a month. In 2023 there were 33 baptisms, 5 weddings and 21 funerals, memorial or interment services.

We have periodic worship in the open air in our churchyard, including for Creation Sunday.

Music is an important part of our worship. We have an enthusiastic, unauditioned choir under the leadership of a Director of Music, which sings an anthem every Sunday and quarterly choral evensongs. We offer four choral scholarships and an organ scholarship to talented sixth formers. We seek to increase the choir membership. The Junior Choristers is a newly reformed and energetic group and sings at the monthly All Age Eucharist.

Children's ministry

St Mary's children's ministry is led by a part-time Children and Young People's worker. We run a group on Sunday mornings which provides an opportunity for pre-teen children to explore the Christian faith. Enabling children to participate on Sunday mornings has been a key success. We also run a very successful weekly toddler group in the church. Demand for these services is increasing again since Covid and growing leaders to meet this demand is seen as an area of great potential. We also had 5 children prepared for First Communion.

Bellringers

St Mary's has eight bells with an active group of bellringers who ring every Sunday as well as at weddings and other special services. Their lively Saturday morning practice with accredited teachers regularly attracts over 15 ringers from the wider area, including any children who are learning, and a quarter peal is attempted every Friday evening before the more advanced practice.



ST MARY'S CHURCH OFFICE, CHURCH RD, BARNES, LONDON SW13 9HL

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MISSION ACTION PLAN 2023-26

This focuses on three priorities

1. Growing our faith:
 - growing the involvement and number of children young people and families at St Mary's
 - enabling more adults to come to the Christian faith and grow in faith. We have continued an annual enquirers' course and started an informal Meet the Vicar event in a local pub
2. Serving the people of Barnes by widening use of the church and partnering local groups, including by widening access to church for those in particular need in Barnes
3. Promoting care for God's creation by
 - Seeking to achieve the Eco-Church silver award through improvements to the Hall and church
 - Develop the environmental message in our worship and teaching.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES

The Electoral Roll currently numbers 292 and in addition to worship we have a wide range of activities in which many people are involved. These include social groups such as the Saturday Coffee Shop (run in aid of different charities each week, generating £11k in 2023) and the Good Companions group, church care groups such as churchyard maintenance and flower arranging, study groups such as Lent Groups and Home Study Groups, and groups for Pastoral Support and Marriage Preparation.

We continually seek to improve our website. We use Instagram and currently have over 830 followers. We send out our Weekly News (pew sheet) by email to over 500 subscribers each week. We livestream the services on Sundays, and have a dozen people watching the 8am service, often 40 or so watching the 10am service and 70-80 joining us for festivals.

The Friends of St Mary's Barnes was formed to raise money to maintain the church and now contributes considerable sums. We have a series of major community events during the year which brings thousands of people into the church from Barnes and beyond.

Barnes Charity Ball in February held in the church and a major fundraiser for church, local and international charities



Barnes Music Festival in March with two full weeks of concerts at St Mary's and other venues in Barnes



St Mary's at Barnes Fair in July when the churchyard is a hive of activity



Barnes Charity Fashion Show in October, held in the church, supporting the local high street boutiques as well as local charities



There is a very popular bike sale in September, and a Christmas Fair



Kitson Hall is the church hall in the adjoining Kitson Road. It is used extensively during the week and weekend by a range of activities including classes, parties and wedding receptions.





We actively support 7 charities, some in Barnes, some regionally and some overseas. In a year-round programme we encourage the congregation to pray for them and offer financial support and their time where appropriate. We invite speakers from time to time to keep us up to date with their progress. We also have links with the local care home, Viera Gray House (named after a previous deacon at St Mary's).

PCC AND FINANCES

The PCC includes the clergy, churchwardens, treasurer and up to 15 elected members. Reporting to the PCC are a Standing Committee and committees for Fabric, Outreach, and the Kitson Hall, a Financial Advisory Group and the Advisory Council of the Friends of St Mary's. Total gross General Fund income in 2023 was £286,041. Capital works and the maintenance of the Church and churchyard are financed through the Friends' fund. Rentals of Kitson Hall also make an important net contribution to the church – £43,559 in 2023. We have five paid part time staff: the church administrator [30 hours per week], a Kitson Hall manager (14 hours per week), our Director of Music (14 hours per week), our Children and Young People's Worker (22 hours per week), and the parish bookkeeper (10 hours per week). Including the 50% share of the Associate Priest's costs, the total staff cost in 2023 was £128,745.

The largest area of expenditure is the Diocesan Parish Share which in 2023 was £187,272. Planned giving comes from 140 individuals and couples paying by Standing Order. Total giving including appeals, legacies and gift aid recovery in 2023 was £225,964 (£167,921 excluding gift aid, legacies and one-off grants); we have undertaken a stewardship campaign earlier this year.

St Mary's earned a net surplus in 2023 of £29,875 (2022: deficit of £77,597). Excluding valuation gains/losses on the investment portfolio, the church incurred an operating deficit in 2023 of £29,145 (2022: surplus of £6,351).

In 2023, we invested in a new audio-visual system in the church at a cost of £55,000. There are no further substantial capital works requiring early attention in the church. Work is being planned to improve insulation in the Hall.

At end 2023 the church had liquid resources of £217,445, plus an endowment fund of £629,920 providing an income to fund the costs of our associate priest.

RECTORY

The Rectory is a comfortable Edwardian house in Glebe Road, a five-minute walk from St Mary's. It has five bedrooms; three reception rooms including a large sitting room opening onto a garden; a study at the front of the house; and a separate garage.



BARNES COMMUNITY

Barnes is an attractive residential area of South West London within easy reach of Central London. It has a village-like atmosphere in a semi-rural setting bounded by a loop in the River Thames (part of the course of the annual Boat Race) with local landmarks including Barnes Pond, Barnes Common and the London Wetland Centre.

Housing is largely of Victorian and Edwardian stock and is much sought after especially by families. In North Barnes the Castelnau Estate, formerly a large council estate, is a more mixed area and nearby are the recent developments of Waterside and Harrods Village. Transport links into London are good with frequent trains from Barnes and Barnes Bridge stations to London Waterloo and a frequent bus service towards Hammersmith to connect with the Underground.

The population of Barnes is around 15,000. We estimate that about half of this number live in the parish of St Mary's. Many people work in London in professional, financial, media and similar occupations, though it is not homogeneous with the Castelnau Estate being recognised in the borough as relatively challenged by the impact of social deprivation.

Barnes has a strong sense of community and identity in which the churches play an important contributory role. Cultural and social groups abound including theatre, music and choir groups, literary society and history society, and sports clubs.

Barnes Community Association (<https://www.barnes-ca.org/>) sponsors a myriad of activities including the widely attended Barnes Fair held annually on the Green around the pond. The Castelnau Community Centre (<http://www.castelnaucentreproject.co.uk/>) supports community development in the North Barnes area. Barnes village has several good food shops, clothes boutiques, art gallery and a good number of cafes and restaurants. Main schools are St Osmund's primary school and Barnes and Lowther Primary Schools, St Paul's School and St Paul's Juniors, Harrodian School and Swedish School.

There are a high number of families in Barnes, and many have lived here all their adult lives. Most people live busy and pressurised lives with their jobs, their families and their leisure pursuits. The church has the challenge of helping them to find meaning in their lives, whether they are regular or occasional churchgoers, as well as helping them with the family, work and social problems they can often face.

BARNES TEAM MINISTRY STRUCTURE AND PEOPLE

The Barnes Team Ministry, part of the Diocese of Southwark, was created in 1997 as a collaboration between the parishes of St Mary's, St Michael & All Angels and Holy Trinity. Each church has its distinct tradition with its own Vicar and PCC and handles its own finances. Although each church operates separately, there are opportunities for friendship and working together in new ways to serve the people of Barnes and spread the good news of the gospel.

The Team Rector chairs the Team Council and enables the whole team as well as being the Vicar of St Mary's.

The other members of the team are:

The Rev'd Stephen Stavrou, Vicar of St Michael's & All Angels

The Rev'd David Cooke, Vicar of Holy Trinity Barnes

The Rt Rev'd Richard Harries, Assistant Bishop in the Diocese of Southwark

The Rev'd Judith Roberts, Assistant Priest at St Michael's & All Angels

The Rev'd James Marston, Associate Priest

The Rev'd Heinz Schultheiss, Ecumenical Minister

ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS

www.stmichaelbarnes.org





HISTORY

St Michael's was established as a mission under the auspices of St Mary's to the area then known as Westfield in 1867. The current church was opened in 1893, and the district became its own parish in 1920. We rejoice in a beautiful building that is open almost every day to the community for prayer and peace and is an act of mission and witness standing at the heart of the community.

TRADITION

Since its foundation, St Michael's has lived and worshipped in the Catholic tradition, seeking to combine the best of the historic faith with a progressive and inclusive approach that is open in both heart and mind. St Michael's is an expressly inclusive church in terms of gender and sexuality and, like St Mary's, is a member of Inclusive Church. Together with St Mary's, we recently issued a statement (endorsed by our PCC's) welcoming and encouraging same-sex couples to get in touch about holding services to celebrate their relationship in church.

WORSHIP

Worship celebrated with beauty, joy, drama and reverence is at the heart of our life as a church and we see 'worship in the beauty of holiness' as a particular charism of our life and ministry, reflecting our dedication to the angelic host. The usual Sunday pattern is Low Mass at 8am, 9am Morning Prayer, 10am Sung Mass (All Age once a month), Children's Mass at 11.30am, standalone Holy Baptism at 12.30pm and Evening Prayer 6pm (sometimes Choral Evensong). During the week there is Morning Prayer every day, Mass on Wednesday and Saturday, and Silent Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament on Mondays.

BUILDINGS

The church building itself is in good condition, having undergone extensive maintenance in recent years. The Parish Office is situated in the Vestry. The modern Community Centre and Cloister adjacent to the church was completed in 2006. The Church Hall and Vicarage are on Elm Bank Gardens and were built in 1920. We are currently renegotiating the lease for a new nursery in the Hall, which will be preceded by renovation work. Both Hall and Centre are extensively used by the local community for events and groups.

PARISH

The Vicar of Saint Michael's is Father Stephen Stavrou who arrived in 2016. Mother Judith Roberts is NSM Assistant Priest (who also ministers full-time as Chaplain at Kingston Hospital). Associate Priest, Father James Marston is parish-funded by St Michael's and St Mary's, and ministers equally between both churches. Geographically, the parish is small (both in area and in population – 2826 in the 2021 census), but draws its diverse, lively and creative congregation from near and far. The electoral roll stands at 208, with ASA of 104.

MINISTRY

St Michael's is a very social and faithful church with a full life of celebrations, activities, outreach and teaching. There are a large number of families with young children in the area and we have strong ministry among children and young people through our relationship with a number of local schools and nurseries, especially Barnes Primary School. Our children's ministry is supported by Gemma Curran, Children's Ministry Leader. Many people are also drawn to St Michael's because of its excellent musical tradition. We have recently appointed Owen Elsley as Director of Music, who oversees our adult choir, music scholars, and Children's Choir. The Children's Choir was launched in 2023 as an outreach initiative. Our current MAP looks forward to a range of initiatives, such as installing glass doors at the main entrance, developing further our Children's Choir, undertaking work on the organ, and engaging more with environmental issues.

In 2017, St Michael's adopted the following statements as a reflection of our essence and identity:

Mission – *declares our purpose*

St Michael's: A church for all ages. A faith for all people. A place for everyone

Vision – *expresses our objectives*

St Michael's is seeking to be the spiritual heart of the neighbourhood, creating a community of faith, of hope and of belief in the power of God's love. Come and join us.

Values – *shares our beliefs*

Holy - a celebration of worship in the beauty of holiness

Active - reaching out to our communities

Open - welcoming and engaging



HOLY TRINITY

holytrinitybarnes.org



Holy Trinity Barnes is a church community of approximately 60+. We are evangelical/charismatic in character, and our services have an informal style meeting at 10am on Sunday mornings.

OUR STORY

Holy Trinity Barnes has always been an active community church with a committed congregation. In 2011, its future direction was called into question because of difficulties with funding. A process of consultation started between the Diocese, Holy Trinity Richmond and Holy Trinity Barnes about the possibility of a church plant/graft which was facilitated by the Archdeacon of Wandsworth. This enabled the funding to be provided to allow the church to continue.

The graft/ plant was enabled by Holy Trinity Richmond's willingness to send people and to finance Rev'd David Cooke together with the buy-in of the PCC of Holy Trinity Barnes who agreed to the plan that was proposed to them. The team consisted of 20 people supported by the one-off giving of Holy Trinity Richmond and existing reserves of Holy Trinity Barnes, two families sent from St Barnabas Kensington and additional external gifts that raised over £50K. The Barnes Team Ministry agreed to receive this new initiative.

Theologically, the plant/graft was rightly perceived as evangelical/ charismatic in character so considerable time needed to be spent building trust and explaining what that meant and might look like. The personal challenge for David was a leadership one which faces any start-up demanding an ability to cast a vision such that a group of people would gather who were willing to resource and serve the church until it became viable and self-sustaining. Holy Trinity Barnes continues to receive no external funding and is entirely self-supporting. The Diocese provide a Vicarage, and the parish provides additional resources which were periodically needed for its upkeep.

A small number of people (20-35) began to attend faithfully on a Sunday. The worship style was (and is) informal, non-liturgical and charismatic. Sundays were planned with a relaxed start of coffee and croissants, a block of contemporary worship, bi-weekly communion and, for the first year, we preached through the gospel of Mark. We had one other meeting ("The Tuesday Gathering") which met in the Vicarage and was a time of hospitality, storytelling, worship, Bible study, discussion and prayer.

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OUR CURRENT PROFILE

Holy Trinity Barnes, like many churches across the Church of England, has been in a rebuilding phase since Covid. Our building was closed on and off for over a year. This impacted the church numerically, so this has required us to begin our work again in some areas. When it became possible to gather outside, 25-30 people met for worship, preaching and the sharing of communion on the Vicarage drive; and the weather was kind to us over that post-Covid summer. Since that time, we have continued with Alpha but now run it in partnership with St Osmund's Catholic church. The shape of our Sundays remains similar. These activities have been complemented by new things. Our new ministries include Open Church which runs on Wednesday mornings and we've recently begun to work with 'Grace Advocacy' assisting people via our Foodbank with help with benefits, housing and other related issues.

'There's Table' is a midweek group meeting on a Tuesday for food and fellowship. Bubble Church is a monthly 'puppet' service for young families and operates in tandem with our existing family ministry at our 10am service. We have also launched a community garden 'Growing together' which grows food for our Foodbank and also connects with local nurseries and other groups.



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We are landlord and financial supporters of the Castelneau Community Project and have run a Foodbank from this location for over 10 years. Some of our partners outside the parish include The Vineyard Community Centre and The Riverbank Trust.

CHURCHES TOGETHER

'Churches Together in Barnes' is a covenant between the six Christian churches in Barnes; St Mary's, St Michael & All Angels, Holy Trinity, Barnes Methodist Church, Barnes Baptist Church and St Osmund's Roman Catholic Church. The churches join together for services and events such as the Good Friday Procession of Witness and a joint Christmas Card to every household in Barnes.

**Churches
Together
in Barnes**



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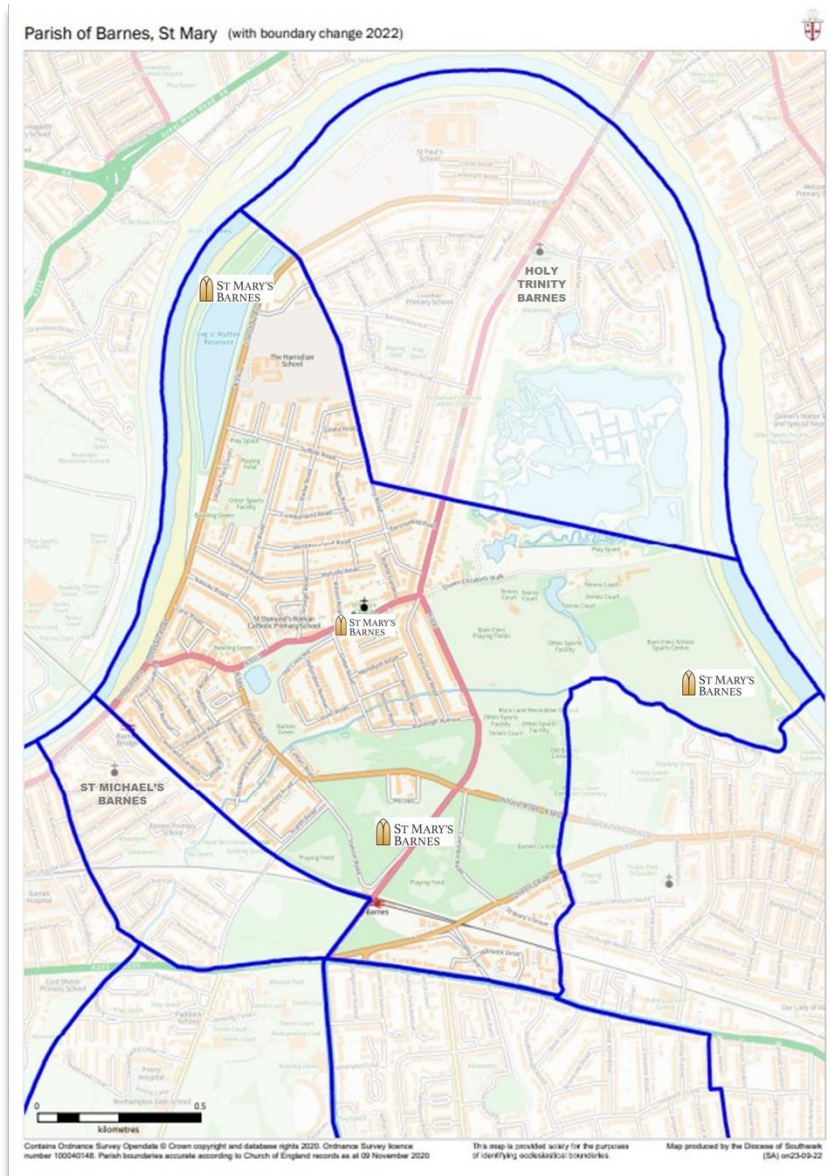


APPOINTMENT OF NEW TEAM RECTOR

The Special Board of Patronage in the appointment of the Team Rector comprises the Bishop of Southwark who is the Chair, the Archdeacon of Wandsworth, a representative of the Dean and Chapter of St Paul's Cathedral, the two team vicars of the Team and four lay representatives of the Barnes Team Council, including two members of St Mary's. A parish visit for shortlisted candidates will take place on Saturday 7 December 2024 with interviews on 10 December 2024.

If you are attracted by the opportunities we have to offer and would like to be our Rector, you should submit the Application Form by 5pm on 10 November 2024.

Parish Boundaries of St Mary's, St Michael's & Holy Trinity



<https://arcg.is/1j8SDz1>

[St Mary's Barnes Parish Map on ArcGIS Hub](#)