

JULY 2019

PARISH PROFILE

St James' Church, Clitheroe



CONNECTING

CHANGING

TRANSFORMING

St James' Church is the largest church in Clitheroe, and has been designated a Resource Church by the Diocese of Blackburn.

We currently have 225 adults on the electoral roll, and we attract people from all over the Ribble Valley, although the majority of our congregation is local.

We are a well-resourced church, and currently employ 5 members of staff, including a full time children and families worker, an operations manager and a part time CAP worker. Our current youth pastor is part time.

On a Sunday morning, we regularly have around 160 adults worshipping in two services, and a steady core of young adults and children. We are currently discipling around 40 young people, and have 100 children (under 11) engaged with the church in various forms.

Our 10.30am service is the best attended. It is a lively worship service and we offer a full range of children and youth programmes. We have an all age worship service once every two months, and the children and young people follow the same curriculum as the adults, which helps families to develop how they do faith together.

We also run a variety of programmes for young adults, children and adults throughout the week, including a mid week services, small groups, Friday Superheroes (similar to Messy Church) and sports activities.

Our Rector, Mark, has been with us for 15 years and is a very proactive leader. He is currently developing our role as a resourcing church, supporting and mentoring clergy and has developed a core leadership team within the church.



Our Purpose: Knowing Jesus better and making Jesus known

Our Vision:

Connecting with God:

Focusing on welcoming others, encouraging new worshipping communities, planting a new worshipping community, giving a greater variety of worship styles and connecting through digital media.

Changing in response to God: enabling people to deepen their relationship with God through prayer and spiritual growth, nurturing disciples, mentoring and developing leaders.

Transforming for God: developing initiatives that respond to the needs of our community, working closely with other churches, becoming a resourcing church and developing our links with St James' School

Our Values:

- Relationships
- Service
- Generosity
- Growth
- Community
- Kingdom

THE TOWN

St James has a long history of youth ministry which has gone through a number of evolutions.

Due to time pressures, our current Youth Pastor's commitment has been on modelling, teaching and discipling those young people already connected to the Church. However, we believe that the foundations are in place for a new Youth Minister to have a new mission and outreach focus.

These foundations include:

- Excellent relationships with the other Churches in the town and a desire to do mission together.
- Existing work in local secondary schools that is welcomed by those schools and a willingness to build on this.
- The local council's desire to work with Christian agencies in order to transform the town.
- A strong partnership with the Grand, a local youth and arts organisation, and a commitment to work together in mission and outreach to young people in the town.

We believe that with these foundations, the person appointed as Youth Minister, with the right character and gifting, has a tremendous opportunity to build this youth ministry so that young people connect to God, are changed by God and become transformers for God in this town and beyond.

