

St Michael and All Angels Southwick Parish Profile 2025



Proclaiming the Mystery of Faith

In 2025 this diocese celebrates the 950th anniversary of witness and evangelisation from a mission base in Chichester, building on the earlier mission founded by St Wilfrid at Selsey. 2025 also marks the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea with its reminder of the formative claim upon us of the catholic creeds.

These anniversaries are more than historical footnotes. They speak powerfully about the richness of faith and mission that is our inheritance locally and universally.

Inspired by that inheritance, we seek to be a household of faith that is endlessly curious about how the Holy Scriptures and the sacraments of the New Covenant enable us to know, love and follow Jesus Christ in today's noisy and distracted world.

If God is calling you to join us in the task of proclaiming the mystery of faith in some part of this diocese, we pray that the contribution of your gifts and experience will enrich our witness and deepen your own discipleship.

We take very seriously the call to diversity and radical inclusion as characteristic of the Church's mission. For this reason we welcome applications from ordained women and Global Majority Heritage clergy, who are under-represented in those who serve this diocese.

+Martin



Overview

The people of St Michael and All Angels, Southwick believe that God has a deep desire to transform people and communities and we want our next incumbent to lead us into a deeper encounter with God's loving presence so that, as people who know the love and power of God within us, we can offer profound hope and healing to all in Southwick. We are looking for a Parish Priest who:

- Has a genuine sense of being called to serve among us.
- Will minister to us and our pastoral needs with love and care.
- Will have grace to allow us to love and care for them.
- Has a passion for spreading the Gospel and energy to enthuse and lead the congregation in ministering to the whole community.

The Parish of St Michael and All Angels' Southwick is home to a moderately sized but active Christian family, working to discern and support God's mission in our local community and the wider world. It would be fair to say that the average age of those regularly attending worship is on the older side, but contact is maintained with any families and their young people who have had contact with the church through, for example, Baptism, Marriage or attendance at the All-Age Worship services or one of the seasonal workshops held twice a year.

Many church activities were curtailed during the COVID lockdown, and it has been a struggle to build these up again, particularly those involving children and young people. Nurturing and developing initiatives covering a range of activities to enable members of the community of all ages to explore and nurture a Christian faith is of prime importance to the parish. Currently activities include a fortnightly prayer and study group with 10-15 regular attendees and a monthly social gathering – 'Coffee and Company' – which is very popular and open to all who seek company and a friendly chat over a cup of coffee, providing social interaction and friendship. This is particularly valued by those who live alone as are various outings and activities organised by our 'Singles Circle'.

Southwick retains much of a village atmosphere and sense of identity at its heart, whilst being close to the bustling City of Brighton and Hove as well as the South Downs National Park.

Recently the congregation was asked what St Michael's meant to them. Responses were anonymous with 20 being received. The major themes arising from this exercise were a sense of family, welcoming and friendly congregation, a sense of community and belonging, kindness and loving support along with a desire to rejuvenate worship and develop discipleship and spiritual growth. A number of responses indicated the desire for a priest to work with laity to achieve spiritual growth as well as a growth in membership of our worshipping community.

"St Michael's welcomes ALL people"

"Friendship, love, support, family and kindness are all to be found at St. Michael's. My second family"

"I have found the church family to be a huge support"

"Tradition and a loving community, together with an outward-looking attitude, thinking of the poor and needy in alignment with the Gospel"

"Community feel with a wonderful culture of music"

"St Michael's needs to be rejuvenated with a nurturing, caring Rector who is approachable and can relate to the congregation"

Introduction

The home of our worship is a well-maintained Church with Saxon/Norman elements. Adjacent is a large recently modernised rectory and a parish hall. The hall went through a major renovation approximately 14 years ago and offers modern facilities and a kitchen suitable for catering. It is well used with a number of regular bookings, including a nursery school and is available for private hire at competitive rates.

Mission Action Plan

The Parish had previously developed a Mission Action Plan (MAP) for 2021-2024 to give a framework to our own spiritual development and outreach to our community. Unfortunately, due to the lockdown during the pandemic very little of this plan was realised but, under the leadership of a new priest, we would welcome a review and updating of the plan which would then be actioned over the next few years.

The 2021-24 Map was as follows

We aim to celebrate and share God's love for all people by offering a place of belonging, exploring faith honestly with an open mind, striving to live out Christ's care and compassion for everyone as together as a church family and faith community we explore the love of God made known to us in Jesus Christ.

Community links:

- Fliers through all doors in the Parish 3 times per year - Christmas, Easter, Remembrance and/or Summer. We should make sure this happens regularly to ensure consistency of communication. Within the flier we emphasise to those receiving them that as their local church we are praying for them. *(This was never achieved but special events and services have been advertised on the church website, local social media groups and community notice boards)*
- Workshops (aka Messy Church)- increase to 3-5 throughout the year. Christmas, Easter, Summer, Harvest, Remembrance as possible focuses. *(Currently we hold two workshops during the year – one just prior to Advent and one during Lent to prepare for Christmas and Easter respectively)*
- Links to schools - make links with Headteachers of all local schools - Glebe, Eastbrook, Holmbush, Shoreham Academy and Shoreham College. (All schools have to demonstrate aspects of collective worship and moral/spiritual education under Ofsted criteria). This will require some persistence and some schools will already have involvement from other churches/religious/faith groups. *(Currently most of these schools come into St Michael's for their Harvest and Carol services)*

St Michael's:

- Pastoral visitors - To develop provision map for vulnerable members of our congregation mapping out all the contact we have had and any support both from us and elsewhere that is in place (a system used in schools). *(A small team of people have been identified as potential pastoral carers. All have some experience and are DBS checked).*
- Pastoral links - names and contact details in pew sheet? This would need to be DBS checked. Or a message to say if you would like a member of the pastoral team to contact you please email Sam in the office with contact details - this will be treated in confidence.
- Eco Church - we can potentially tie in with group that meet at St Giles Church Hall - We will provide a list of all the recycling that can be collected and how it can be collected. We currently collect soft plastics for recycling as part of this. We also collect plastic milk bottle tops that go to a local resident for separate donation to a charity for recycling.
- Photo board of all members of the congregation visible in church where it can be seen by all. *(Currently, photos of key people are displayed in the church which was deemed more practical than all regular members of the congregation, some of whom were reluctant to have their photograph on display.)*

The parish seeks to embrace the concepts of equality, diversity and inclusivity and has always welcomed the ministry of women. The majority of parishioners are accepting of same-sex relationships.

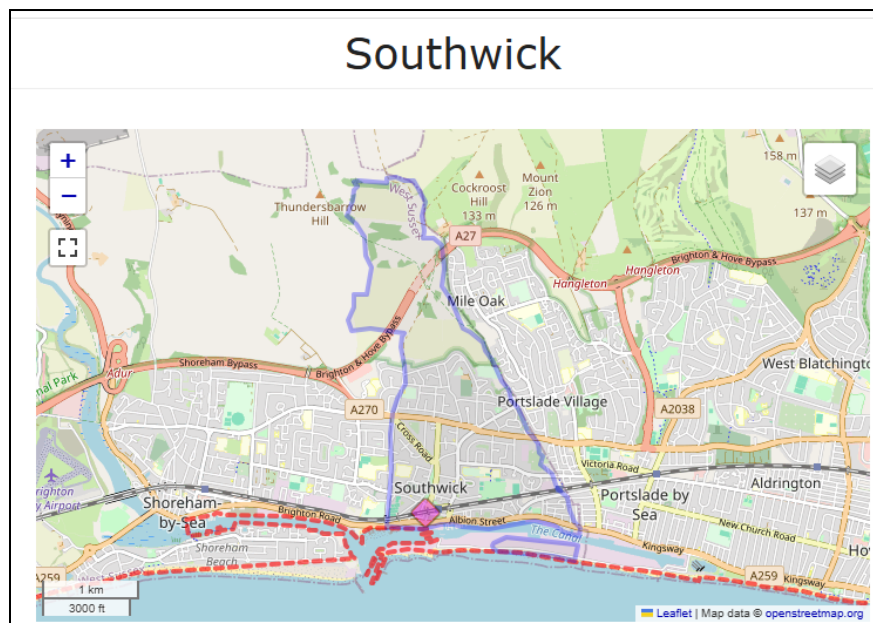
St Michael and All Angels has been fortunate to benefit from the sole attention of one priest (Rector) and the congregation sincerely hope that a priest will be appointed to only serve St Michael's. At present, there are no assistant or retired clergy helping out in the parish. In the past the parish has been a training parish for newly-ordained clergy to serve their title and the congregation benefitted from this ministry and would be open to the new incumbent taking on the role of training incumbent. There are retired clergy in nearby parishes who can help out with covering services to enable the incumbent to take leave from the parish for holidays or other necessary absences.

The PCC takes our social responsibilities seriously and operates the diocesan Child Protection Policy. We also have in place a Child Safeguarding Policy and a Health and Safety Policy. We have appointed a Parish Safeguarding Officer who sits on the PCC and ensures all policies relating to safeguarding are followed. These are regularly reviewed in line with current safeguarding policies and practice and are actively included in our preparations for regular activities and our planning for new initiatives.

To facilitate fully inclusive activities we promote consideration of both the letter and the spirit of the Equality Act 2010 at the heart of our planning and activities.

Location and Demographics of the Parish

Geographically our parish lies in the Deanery of Hove, in the Archdeaconry of Brighton and Lewes; located in the Adur District of West Sussex, between the City of Brighton & Hove to the east, Worthing to the west, the South Downs to the north, and Port of Shoreham to the south. Good road links are provided along the coastal A27 Trunk Road and to the north via the A23 to the national motorway network. Southwick Station has a regular local train service and there are good local bus links. There are good road and rail links to Gatwick Airport.



Parish Boundary

The South Downs and sea are within walking distance and provide ample opportunities for recreation.

St Michael and All Angels' church is to the west of the parish, the boundaries of which were revised under the Deaneries of Brighton & Hove Strategic Pastoral Review in 2003 to embrace the former parish of St Peter and St Mary, Fishersgate to the Southeast of the town. This area of the parish contains significant areas of social deprivation.

A map of the parish can be found at: <https://achurchnearyou.com/church/5153> The parish of St Michael and All Angels in Southwick contains a population of approximately 14,000 (2021 census). Whilst there are areas of social deprivation, there is a general feeling of comfortable well-being.

There are three broadly distinct areas in the parish separated by the east – west railway line and former east-west trunk road, the Old Shoreham Road.

- South of the railway line; a mixture of low-rise social flats and some private housing, together with an industrial area adjacent to Shoreham Harbour. This includes the former parish of St Peter's, Fishersgate amalgamated with St Michael and All Angels' in 2003.
- Between the Railway line and Old Shoreham Road; centred on the ancient Green and 1960's shopping centre; a village ambience, relatively prosperous, with middle class largely housed in between-war suburban development around the older village centre. St Michael and All Angels' church is close to The Green.
- North of the Old Shoreham Road; an area of 1930's and 1950's suburban development, built as a mixture of private and council development, but now with a significant retired population.
- Most of the population live in a house or bungalow (70.1%); 29.7% live in a flat or apartment although recent building and housing development since the last census consists mainly of apartments so this figure may now be higher than in 2021. A small proportion of the local population live in mobile homes/caravans and there is a transient homeless population for which no figures are readily available.

Although many of the working population work locally (deemed to include Brighton & Worthing), there is a significant number of commuters to London and other places in the south east.

Adur District Council (<https://adur-worthing.gov.uk>) absorbed the area of three former separate communities, Lancing, Shoreham-by-Sea and Southwick. It co-operates closely with Worthing district council to the west. The parish serves three electoral wards -Southwick Green (in which the church and Rectory are situated); Eastbrook which covers the Fishersgate area and Hillside which covers the area of Southwick north of the Old Shoreham Road (A270).

Details of schools, nursing homes, hospitals, local shopping, and centres of employment can be seen in Appendix A: Community Facilities

The age profile of Southwick is much in line with the national average for England according to the Census of 2021 although there is a slightly higher proportion of retired people than nationally. Unemployment is lower than the national average. Statistics from the 2021 census suggest that 25% of the population hold Level 4 qualifications or above which is lower than the national average for England whereas 45.2% hold level 1, 2 and 3 qualifications (national average for England 51%) and 5.8% hold qualifications gained through an apprenticeship which is in line with the rest of England. Those holding no qualifications amount to 20.5% which is 2% higher than the rest of England.

Whilst the average household size is the same as the national average (2.4), the proportion over 16 who are either married or have been married is higher than the national average (75% compared to 70% nationally, or 57% in nearby Brighton & Hove). Home ownership and car ownership are both higher than nationally. The 2021 Census statistics indicated that less than the national average considered they enjoyed good health.

In terms of ethnicity, 88.9% of the population is white which is 7% more than the national average for England (Census 2021) with the next largest group being Asian or British Asian. Religious affiliation as stated on the 2021 Census form was as follows (all approximate to nearest 0.5%):

Christian	41%	Average for England 46%
Muslim	2.5%	Average for England 6.5%
All others	< 1%	In line with English average
No declared affiliation	48.5%	Average for England 40.5%
Declined to answer question	6%	In line with English average

The responses to the religious affiliation question in the Census suggest 5% less of the population of Southwick are prepared to declare themselves as Christian, compared with the national average and that 8% more than the national average do not declare any religious affiliation. This suggests that there must be great opportunities to proclaim the Gospel to a local population who are possibly uninformed or ill-informed about the Christian faith. Four Christian denominations have churches within Southwick which provides opportunities for ecumenical working to spread the gospel message in our community.

Our Congregation

The Electoral Roll of the Parish of St Michael and All Angels, as reported at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) in March 2024, stands at 92 (in 2022 the number reported to the APCM was 110). The majority of those on the Electoral Roll are resident within the parish boundaries, the remainder mainly coming from adjoining parishes within Shoreham or Portslade.

The average age of the congregation is on the elderly side with 78 of those on the electoral roll aged 70+; 15 members are aged 18-69. Of the younger generation there are approximately 10 children aged 0-10 and about 3 aged 11-17 who attend services periodically, mainly the All-Age Worship Service held once a month.

Patterns of Worship and Attendance

The pattern of Worship is centred on the Eucharist, using Common Worship and the Common Lectionary. St Michael and All Angels would identify itself in the broad centre of Anglican traditions with worship being approached in ways that benefit from the careful use of the best of all traditions to communicate the Gospel. Vestments are worn at most services. There used to be a team of Servers but since the pandemic and as a result of the deteriorating health and some deaths, this is, sadly, not the case at present but maybe this can be built on in the future. This breadth of tradition is seen as a strength and it is essential that a future incumbent is happy to work with and encourage the rich diversity, evangelical and catholic, that this brings to the whole worshipping community. Consideration has been given to alternative form and timing of services most likely to be welcoming to those not familiar with traditional Eucharistic services in the past but have not been followed through since the pandemic. New forms of Eucharistic service had been introduced in the past prior to the pandemic, and perhaps would be worth re-visiting. St Michael's enjoys good standing within the local community which is demonstrated by large attendance at special services such as the Crib Service and Midnight Mass at Christmas. This could provide an opportunity for some attendees to move from a 'fringe' congregation to more regular attendance with the right encouragement from church leaders, both ordained and lay.

The average Sunday attendance across all services at St Michael and All Angels' is around 55 (including an average of 2 children). Sadly, in the last few years several longstanding, committed and generous members of the congregation have passed away and there are several of our congregation who, through age and long-term ill-health are no longer able to attend and are in receipt of full-time care.

Sunday Worship

First Sunday each month at 8:00am - said Eucharist, a quiet reflective service without music. Currently suspended during vacancy as local clergy not always available to cover and numbers were very low (3-6 attending).

First Sunday each month at 10.00am – 'All Age Worship' a less formal Parish Eucharist for the young of all ages.

All other Sundays at 10.00am – Sung Eucharist.

A robed choir is present at Sung Eucharist Services. The choir is capable of four part harmonies (SATB) and is directed by a former music teacher, alongside the organist. The choir is also present at All Age Worship services but does not robe on these occasions.

Certain Festivals are kept by an evening Eucharist (usually sung) at St Michael and All Angels.

Weekday Services

St Michael's hosts the weekly 'Churches Together' services on Wednesday mornings.

Prior to the current vacancy, a Eucharist was held on Thursday morning; occasionally the focus of this would be healing.

Note: The above pattern of services for Sundays and weekdays reflects that adopted during the period of the previous incumbency. This is open to further review following consultation with the appointed new incumbent.

Occasional Offices

Weddings: In 2023 there was one wedding at St Michael's and one in 2024. There are 2 weddings booked in for 2025 and one for 2026. The parish practice is to offer re-marriage to those who have a previous partner alive, in line with the guidelines laid down by the House of Bishops.

Baptisms: In 2023, two adults were baptised at St Michael's with both adults subsequently going forward for confirmation. Baptisms are generally held in separate services at 12.00am on Sundays, but on occasion are incorporated into the 10.00am St Michael's Eucharist. The families of baptism candidates are invited to attend the All-Age service the following month so that the congregation can welcome them. All children who are baptised at St Michael's are contacted and parents informed of All-Age worship services, particularly Mothering Sunday, Harvest, the annual Toy Service and the Blessing of the Backpacks service in September. Invitations to our occasional workshops are also sent.



Funerals: There were seven funerals held in church in 2023 with several others being held at local Crematoria in Brighton or Worthing. St Michael and All Angels' churchyard is closed to burials and is maintained by the local authority, but a garden of remembrance is provided for the interment of ashes.

These occasional offices, whilst providing opportunities to spread the gospel at the time of the event, also provide contact information and the opportunity to follow up the event with pastoral care from the church. To this end, a pastoral team needs to be built up to assist the incumbent in this important work.

Parish Ministry Team

The ministry team consists of the incumbent, supported by members of the laity serving as Churchwardens, Deputy Wardens, PCC treasurer and assistants, PCC Secretary, Safeguarding Officer and a number of teams with highly committed members of the congregation who look after the fabric of the church and hall, organise a number of social and fundraising efforts throughout the year, children's activities at the All Age Worship service each month and occasional children's workshops.

The Parish employs a part-time administrator to assist the incumbent who is the first port of contact for any seeking information or help regarding St Michael's.

Parish Lay Ministry

Six Eucharistic Ministers participate in services on a rota basis and some assist in taking the sacrament to the elderly and housebound. A prayer and study group, led by lay members, meets regularly in the church. A Pastoral Care Scheme was in operation until the pandemic and the previous incumbent did start to reform the Pastoral Team but little progress was made. It is hoped that the new incumbent would be keen to start up a pastoral scheme once more. In 2008, a member of the congregation who is experienced in Adult and Higher Education co-wrote a course with a member of the Diocesan Adult Education team and the then Rector of Southwick. This has evolved into the current diocesan training for the laity in pastoral care.

Members of the laity read lessons and lead intercessions at most Sunday services.

A team of seven deputy wardens supports the two Churchwardens and there is an established team of 10 individual "welcomers" at Sunday services.

Youth and Children

St Michael and All Angels' church accepts children to communion before confirmation. Children and their families are invited to the monthly 'All Age Worship' service. This is slightly shorter, less formal service than the parish Eucharists and the young people are invited to engage in an activity related to the theme of the service and to participate in the prayers, ringing the bell and, recently, contributing by playing instruments to accompany the congregational singing.

Although there are no Church schools within the Parish, strong links exist with local schools. Previous incumbents have served as school governors and St Michael and All Angels' Church is made available for use by nearby schools for Harvest, Christmas and other occasions.

It has been our practice to hold workshops for children at key festivals including Advent and Easter. This affords the opportunity to reach out to families who have had occasional contact with the church, such as through baptisms or weddings.

Musical Tradition

Music is an important and vibrant part of worship at St Michael's. Worship benefits from a four part SATB choir ably led by a professional musician and a paid organist. The range of musical expression is extremely broad and extends from classical to contemporary and from Celtic to jazz.

A traditional pipe organ and baby grand piano are the primary instrumental support for the music, although additional instruments (played by adults and young people) are used in support where appropriate to the service and selection of hymns and songs.

Social and Community Activities

St Michael's benefits from an active social and fundraising committee which supports regular social events and groups:

Coffee and Co. meets on the first Saturday of the month from 10.00-12.00 and is open to all. This is a well-established regular event which allows people from all walks of life to enjoy coffee and other refreshments in a friendly, social environment. It is highly valued by those who attend, providing welcome social interaction and friendship, particularly for those who live alone.

The Singles Circle (although not exclusively for those who find themselves living a single life!) provides the opportunity for outings, day trips and meals out throughout the year. Its dedicated organisers work hard to ensure that events are organised, publicised and run smoothly. Outings this year have included a trip to the D-Day museum at Portsmouth and a visit to Sheffield Park, a nearby National Trust property renowned for its lake and gardens which are especially beautiful in the autumn. Future events are planned before Christmas to a retail park for shopping and Christmas markets as well as a Christmas meal at a local pub.

Less frequent and annual events have previously included an Advent Fair, Parish Fete, Quiz night, Cream Tea, film afternoons, a car boot sale and parish shared lunches, in particular at Harvest time. Occasional events in aid of outside charities are also held.

The Social and Fundraising Committee work extremely hard to bring all these events together but, over the last year or so, aging and health issues have constrained several committee members in the time and commitment they are able to offer.



Ecumenical Relationships

There are Roman Catholic, Methodist, and Community (Baptist/Congregational) churches within the parish that form "Southwick Churches Together". Relationships between ministers have previously been good with periodic meetings providing fellowship and joint planning opportunities. Joint events such as lent courses, carol singing in the local community, Good Friday 'Walk of Witness' and Women's World Day of Prayer have been held in the past. Occasional ecumenical social events are held such as 'women's breakfasts', usually with a guest speaker.

PCC Structure

The St Michaels PCC meets regularly up to 10 times a year and is supported by a number of teams responsible for various aspects of Parish Life. These teams consist of PCC members and others from the congregation. At present teams include:

- Standing Committee
- Hall Committee
- Finance Committee
- Safeguarding Team
- Youth & Children's Work
- Social Activities and Fund Raising
- Fabric
- Pastoral Team

Finance

Registered charity no. 1130870

In the past, the Parish has been able to fulfil at least 100% of its parish contribution to the Diocese but recent reduction in numbers since the pandemic and the loss of some generous givers have meant that we have had to reduce our parish share. It is the PCC's intention to look to increasing the amount we can pay and at the last meeting the council voted to increase the amount we pay by 3%.

Costs are still exceeding income, most of the congregation give regularly through a planned giving scheme, either through an envelope system or online through bank transfer, or via the cashless giving machine, which is the preferred way due to banking costs for cash transactions and the lack of banking facilities within Southwick and the surrounding communities. Over the last few years, parish income has ranged from £127,210 in 2021 to £109,820 at the end of 2023. Around half the income is raised through planned giving and tax refund and rent from property (Church Hall and 1 Church House Close) and the rest is realised through fundraising events and collection from services. Income is considerably below the level needed for comfort and has reduced over the years partly through, sadly, the deaths of some generous givers. A generous legacy has been received from a late parishioner which has eased the financial burden a little and enabled the parish to commit to paying its full parish share for at least two years and to address some of the priorities in maintaining the fabric of the church and church hall.

A significant proportion of the regular giving is by means of planned giving and bankers orders. A Stewardship campaign was conducted in 2022 with some members increasing their monthly contributions but many opting to maintain their giving at the same level. The PCC have recently discussed holding another stewardship campaign early in 2025.

St Michael' and All Angels' Church Hall is self-supporting financially with several regular bookings and it is also a popular venue for children's parties

In addition to meeting its responsibilities regarding Parish Contribution, the Parish has always given a proportion of its annual income to outside charities. The list of recipients is kept under review and usually considers giving to Family Support Work (FSW), local schools and charities as well as a selection of Christian charities working at home and overseas. Further fund raising for specific charitable needs occurs during the year, particularly during Lent.

Income from fees for Weddings and Funerals have been falling, but the charges for weddings are kept under review and have been increased in line with secular venues in order to partly offset the drop in the number of bookings.

Office Administration

The parish office, located within St Michael and All Angels' Church, is open 5 mornings a week staffed by a paid parish administrator assisted by volunteers. It has computer, Internet, copying and reprographic equipment. It produces weekly service sheets and booklets, alongside printed notice sheets and other publicity information as required. The administrator provides support for baptism and wedding bookings, alongside managing bookings of the parish hall.

The parish administrator and many (although not all) parishioners are computer literate and have access to e-mail facilities. Most of the parish correspondence and minutes of meetings are generated and circulated electronically with hard copies being available on request.

Publicity

Websites: The parish has its own website hosted on a community service at <https://www.stmichaelsouthwick.org.uk> . This lists not only information about the church but also has a schedule of services, meetings and social events listed. The parish is also listed on "a church near you" <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/5153/> and on Wikipedia: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/St_Michael_and_All_Angels_Church_Southwick . At present the parish does not have a presence on social media although this is something that has been discussed and could be taken forward in the near future. Notice boards: External and internal notice boards are provided in the Church and Church Hall. External notice boards were renewed 14 years ago.

A weekly pew sheet is prepared by the office to list upcoming events and notices alongside other parish information. Special events are also publicised on the community notice board in Southwick Square and on the local Southwick Facebook page.

St Michael and All Angels' Parish Church

A church has existed on this site since Saxon times, but little remains to be seen of the earliest structures except the Norman chancel and parts of the Saxon/Norman tower. Much re-building and extending has been undertaken, primarily during the early and late 19th Century, whilst the Tower and adjoining vestries were rebuilt in the 1950s following wartime damage. The interior was re-ordered in 1974 with the main altar positioned under the chancel arch.

The building is generally in good repair, the last Quinquennial Inspection having been undertaken in 2023. Seven items were identified as needing immediate attention all of which are being addressed by the Fabric Committee. There are six items to be addressed in the next 12 months and a further 8 in the next 12-24 months. A good number of these can be dealt with 'in-house' and of the remainder, none would appear at this stage to be likely to incur major expense.

A small team of flower arrangers from the congregation decorate the church with displays of flowers to a high standard throughout the year (except penitential seasons).



The fabric team monitor the state of the building and oversee or perform routine maintenance activities to the fixtures and fittings and PA system. At present, cleaning the church happens on an ad-hoc basis but it is hoped to establish a regular rota for cleaning once again.

Specialist contractors maintain the heating system and the church lighting.



St Michael's Church Hall

Across the road from St Michael's Church is the Church Hall built in the early 1960's and refurbished in 2010. It is used for many parish functions and can seat around 100 at tables for meals etc, which can be prepared in the adjoining kitchen. The kitchen is equipped to modern catering standards.

The amenities provided in the hall meet the OFSTED requirements for a pre-school nursery, which is a major source of income towards the maintenance of the hall. A number of other groups have regular bookings to use the Hall and it is also available for hire for 'one-off' events such as children's parties (except Halloween) and baptism celebrations, for example.

Hall bookings are managed by the Parish Administrator.

A cleaner is retained for the hall. Specialist contractors maintain the heating and electric system. A team of volunteers perform routine maintenance activities to the fixtures and fittings as able.



Clergy Expenses

Approved expenses are met in full by monthly standing order and reimbursement of the balance. A telephone is provided with the incumbent being responsible for private calls.

Housing

The Rectory is a large 1930's 6-bedroom house opposite the church. It has a large lounge, dining room, study/office and large kitchen / breakfast room. It is generally well maintained, the central heating system having been thoroughly overhauled and a new boiler installed during the last incumbency, although there are some issues that need addressing which the Diocese have undertaken responsibility for. All the rooms are in reasonable decorative order and a new kitchen was installed in 2004. The Parish would be willing to assist in some of the redecoration of the Rectory, subject to negotiations between the PCC, the incoming incumbent and the Diocese.



There is a large south facing secluded walled garden that the recent incumbent maintained. In addition there is a large front garden that contains a detached garage. A broadband Internet access and telephone service is installed.

The Church Hall and car park are located adjacent to the front garden.

Some previous incumbents have generously supported the use of the rectory and its grounds on a regular basis for parish meetings, fairs and fetes which was much appreciated by the congregation.

St Michael and All Angels, Southwick – Parish Life in Pictures



Queen's Jubilee Celebrations



Parish Picnic



Toy Service Donations
in aid of Family Support Work



Harvest Donations



Singles' Circle trip to Durham



Easter Flowers



Shared Lunch



Advent Fayre