



St Cuthberts Ormesby

Building the Church ***Building the Kingdom***

Parish Profile 2020



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Middlesbrough Deanery

Middlesbrough Deanery comprises 17 parishes serving 176,000 people south of the Tees in the historic North Riding of Yorkshire. The Deanery of Middlesbrough stretches over three Local Authority Areas, most of the Borough of Middlesbrough, Thornaby in the Borough of Stockton on Tees and part of the Borough of Redcar and Cleveland. A Victorian iron and heavy industry boom town Middlesbrough is set at the edge of the stunning North York Moors and Yorkshire Coast. The Yorkshire Dales, Northumbria and the Lake District are within easy reach, Durham and Ripon are 45 minutes away and York and Leeds an hours drive.

The clergy chapter, which meets monthly for prayer, lunch and learning, is a diverse, warm and supportive group. The deanery is diverse in tradition including five 'Anglo-Catholic' parishes, under the episcopal care the Bishop of Beverley, and two Evangelical parishes, anyone joining the deanery would need to be committed to mutual flourishing, Clergy coming to Middlesbrough have commented that the deanery is the most missionary focused they have ever been involved with. The deanery embraces and supports a mixed economy of traditional parochial ministry and new expressions of church. As well as parish clergy and hospital chaplaincies, we have two pioneer ministers as part of the Diocesan Multiply initiative based in the parish of St Thomas, Brambles Farm and in Coulby Newham.

Churches are supported in their ministry by the Deanery Leadership Team (DLT) which enables collaboration between parishes and ecumenical partners on behalf of the Deanery Synod. Over the last few years the DLT has improved communication across the deanery through the use of social media and a regular newsletter, and has supported the development of Open the Book teams and played a leading role in the development of mission initiatives. Our parishes are committed to supporting local people and helping them to flourish. All but two of the deanery's parishes serve areas of significant deprivation, 64% of the population living in areas in the top 10% most deprived communities in England. Middlesbrough Deanery has been at the forefront of supporting local people, playing a central role in the development of Middleborough Foodbank and Together Middlesbrough and Cleveland, a joint venture between CUF and the Diocese of York. Through the Diocesan Mustard Seed programme people from our poorer parishes are being supported through Stepping Up to be missionaries in their own community.

Revd. Dominic Black

Vicar of North Ormesby & Area Dean of Middlesbrough

Introduction

Welcome to St Cuthbert's Church Ormesby. St Cuthbert's Parish straddles the borders of two unitary authorities, it is a suburban community, mainly in the Borough of Redcar & Cleveland but also encompasses part of the Borough of Middlesbrough and is part of the Deanery of Middlesbrough.

We are an Anglican Parish Church of the mainstream tradition.

Our beautiful church is a fine example of Victorian architecture and is widely used by the community especially for weddings and christenings.

We are frequently commended for the strength and warmth of our welcome.

We find inspiration in the life and teachings of Jesus Christ and at the same time, recognise the truths we share with other faith traditions.

We have built up very good links with our 4 local schools. As well as our ministry team attending individually, we perform open the book on a monthly basis with 3 of the schools.

Our Church has a bell tower housing a peal of 8 bells and currently a band of six experienced bell ringers. The bells with their magnificent sound are widely rung by visiting bell ringers too.

St Cuthbert's is adjacent to the National Trusts 'Ormesby Hall', formerly the seat of the Pennyman family. Over the centuries, the church has had great links with the Pennymans and the wider community.

Website: <https://stcuthbertsormesby.org.uk>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stcuthbertsormesby>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/CuthbertOrmesby>



Our Aim

Our aim is to reach out to the 11 thousand strong community of Ormesby and spread the word and teachings of Christ in new ways to enable our church to grow and flourish in God's name.

Our Mission

Our mission is to grow in numbers by reaching out into the wider community spreading the word and teachings of Christ using varied methods of worship allowing us to enable and include all people.

Our new Priest

St Cuthbert's Ormesby is looking for a priest who is approachable, practices hospitality, is dedicated to their calling through following word and sacrament, and can walk people through change and support our diverse community. We look to our priest to

- respect and uphold the traditions of the church and its liturgy
- have a strong commitment and dedication to the leadership of pastoral care and to build and guide our outreach teams
- have a vision for growing the church
- be a builder of a collaborative team
- be someone who can recognise the many talents and gifts of the laity, able to listen, trust and delegate
- strengthen ecumenical links and our partnerships with other Anglican churches in the Deanery, charities, and goodwill services

Our priest would face challenges in our parish which has patches of poverty amongst its outstanding beauty. It is 460 on the church urban funds poverty scale. However, it has a wealth of kindness amongst its people.

People have recognised that for the church to grow, new ways of worship need to be explored and a different menu of in-house activity introduced. New ways of serving our community are constantly being sought.

Our pastoral team consists of a Deacon and a reader in training. We are fortunate to have help from a retired vicar on occasions. We have a supportive and proactive PCC and a good team of people who support our groups as well as our church socially within the community

The pastoral team support 2 local care homes very well which is greatly appreciated by them.

We have dementia friendly status and take a lead in Together Middlesbrough and Cleveland which supports our mission.

Our Parish

Our Parish straddles the borders of two unitary authorities, the Church and most of the Parish is in the Borough of Redcar & Cleveland but it also encompasses part of the Borough of Middlesbrough, and is part of the Tees valley basin. We are close to the River Tees and its beauty and to local industry which is ever changing. The parish sits on the edge of the North York Moors with its stunning scenery and coastline. Our famous local people are reflected well here in Bolckow and Vaughan, magnificent men of our mining and iron and steel industrial past and Captain James Cook of our seafaring heritage.

The village of Ormesby is a suburban area with a population of 10964 according to the church urban funds latest statistics and we lie 460 out of 12382 on their poverty scale.

Our parish population is static and is predominantly made up of elderly or young families. We have a varied ethnic mix.

Our nearest town is Middlesbrough but there is a good commuting service by road, rail and now the newly energised Tees Valley airport.

We have 4 primary schools in our parish and 2 secondary schools. One is a special needs school caring for some profoundly disabled children.

The church itself is adjacent to Ormesby Hall home of the Pennyman family since 1599 and having an ecclesiastical link since 1772. It was finally handed over to the national trust in 1961.

The local park Stewart Park is the home of a museum dedicated to captain James Cook and has wonderful parkland and a children's zoo.

The Northern skyline is of the river Tees and shows the famous transporter bridge, a working Gondola bridge connecting the North and South of the river, and the Riverside Cellnet football stadium. The internationally renowned Tees Barrage is a few miles along the river.

Our southern boundary is close to the North Yorkshire moors with its beauty, steam railway and its stunning coastline.



Our Church and its People

Our beautiful church is a grade 2 listed building and currently has a 10am Holy Communion service for all ages, except on the last Sunday of the month, when we have a fresh expression service, 'Café Church', with a service of Holy Communion being held in the evening

Our regular communicants like dignified worship in accordance with the Church of England liturgy and expect clergy to be a prayerful expert, teach us through the scriptures, enrich our understanding and wear vestments.



Our ministry team consists of a Deacon and a reader in training. We have 2 regular organists, laity involvement in the preparation of intercession and readings, and leading services and a band of 6 bell ringers.

Our congregation average is 60 worshippers with 45 communicants. We have a predominantly elderly worship group with a slow but steady growth in the 30 to 60 age group coming from wedding and baptism couples choosing to stay and worship.

Within the church as part of our family worship we have a children's group called 'Cuthbert Bear Club'. Here the children leave the service where they creatively work on the lessons of the day with the leaders of the group then return to feed back their learning's to the congregation. This is excellent inter-generational work and is well received by our parishioners. Decisions need to be made about the future development of this group and the training of its leaders.

We want to attract younger worshippers and we are most certainly a child friendly church.

Our teams have developed several groups in bible study, prayer group, open the book where a regular team go into 3 of our local schools to perform stories from the bible. These are received very well. The schools attend church for special services such as Christmas and Harvest Festival.



We have 2 local care homes where we hold weekly services in one and monthly in the other. Both services are greatly appreciated.

Being a dementia friendly church, we also have an outreach group for people living with dementia and their loved ones. This is weekly comprising of a cafe, and mindful music and movement on the alternate week. This is held in adjacent Thorntree which we support as a parish and is in an area of great need. The group is inclusive of anyone who is lonely or at risk of social isolation. This group are pivotal in the annual Dementia friendly carol service held on behalf of Together Middlesbrough and Cleveland.



The craft group was created with reduction of social isolation in mind and uses the community communal spaces to operate.

Our church has a monthly film club which meet as a social in the church. We do not have a parish hall anymore and resources from its sale covered the cost of our recently replaced church roof which was approximately £250,000. The upkeep of our building meant our plans developed by the Diocesan architects for a new hall have been put on hold for the time being.

The shelving of these plans has meant that our groups are held within the local community. This makes them accessible to anyone wishing to be involved and helped us to forge new links with local churches and groups thus sharing community resources.

Our Deacon and Reader are involved greatly with all the groups at varying degrees and our Deacon is working very closely with the local 20-40 link worker as well as supporting their youth clubs and children's groups, something we would love to see flourish as this is in its infancy.

We do follow the 12 steps to Lead our church into growth which helped form our aim and mission.

The people involved in this church have a lot to offer and will support our new priest to lead our church into growth.

The Church and the Community

Our church is quite isolated from the main population of the village, is not on a bus route, so the community work we do is of the utmost importance.

As stated in the previous section, our groups are all based within the community and in areas of need too where people are limited with transport, finance.

Each group offers fellowship comfort and refreshments and are all well attended. Each group has an expert in its field involved so signposting to areas of need can be done if needed.

St Cuthbert's also has a counselling service which is run by a qualified counsellor on an appointment basis with cost not preventing anyone access to this service.

The leader also holds a group for mental health and well-being held currently in the church.

Our schools and care homes links have been mentioned previously and an area that has great benefit to the community. This also supports our building as schools do attend for some services.

Our church has a link with the local food bank and support this on a monthly basis in the provision of goods.

Our church supports a local women's refuge by providing supplies. We annually support local seafarers' mission.

Our priest has always been a representative on the board of governors at one of our schools.

Our priest forged good relationships with the Roman Catholic and Methodist community within Ormesby and very often we share social events and join in liturgical events such as the walk of witness at Eastertide.

With a major hospital a college and a university in Middlesbrough, there are great opportunities for a priest to work collaboratively.

Our social activities range from concerts and bands within our church due to the wonderful acoustics to community-based activities using local venues such as coffee morning



The Church and its Buildings

Our church has no paid staff. Our deacon and Reader in training are on a voluntary basis. We have 2 experienced churchwardens and 2 deputy churchwardens. We always work closely with other churches and of differing denominations.

Our PCC is a strong collaborative team and have worked hard to maintain the Church. Like all old churches it is a challenging and expensive building to maintain. Recently we had to commit the bulk of our reserves to have the roof replaced. There is still some outstanding work on the tower for which we must raise money.

Plans which were drawn up for a new Church Hall are now longer-term goals as we concentrate on fundraising activities to maintain our financial commitments and raise money for our activities in the community and mission. Developing a Stewardship Scheme is seen as an important step in this process

The church is a popular venue for marriages, which adds a significant boost to the Churches income.

The balance of our beautiful Church and its maintenance is constantly being assessed and reviewed to enable the church to grow and the community to continue to have this wonderful Church building

