The background of the entire page is a faded, light-colored photograph of a large, ornate dome, likely the dome of St Anne's Church. The dome is the central focus, with its intricate architectural details visible. The sky above is a pale, clear blue. The overall tone is bright and airy.

St Anne's with Holy Trinity Brondesbury

London NW6

Parish Profile

March 2025

Contents:

	Page
1. Welcome	2
2. Letter from Bishop Lusa	3
3. Letter from Archdeacon Catherine	4
4. Our new Vicar	5
5. Our Views	6
6. Our Congregation	8
7. Our Worship	10
8. Our Parish	12
9. Our Church	15
10. Our Ambitions	18
11. Additional information	19



1. Welcome to St Anne's

This **Parish Profile** is about finding our new Vicar to lead our Parish forward. It is based on the views from our Parish consultations and contains information about our active Church, our community and our local context, our opportunities and ambitions. It also describes the qualities we are seeking in our new Vicar.



The Bishop of Willesden

A Letter from the Bishop of Willesden

Thank you for your interest in the role of vicar of St Anne's, Brondesbury, in the Diocese of London. This is an inclusive praying community in the liberal catholic tradition, seeking to grow in faith and discipleship. I am delighted that you are exploring the possibility of applying for this role and I want you to know that there are many of us here in the Willesden Episcopal Area who are praying for those seeking to discern God's calling in this area.



As a Diocese, London has an audacious and ambitious vision to see every Londoner able to encounter the love of God in Christ. To serve this vision, we have committed ourselves to be churches that engender leadership that will nurture people of all ages and backgrounds to live out their faith among those with whom they do life Sunday to Saturday. We want to foster the emergence of a church that is visibly and meaningfully loving her neighbours. We wish to see a church landscape of ever-increasing varied configuration with new worshipping communities emerging in new and different ways alongside inherited ministry within parishes. We also hold to the aspiration of building church communities that will reflect the rich diversity of our city, welcoming all people across ethnic, cultural, and linguistic heritages, and safe places where we enable younger generations to flourish alongside others.

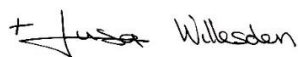
As an Episcopal Area we aspire to enable innovative expressions of ministry, actively partnering with our schools, chaplaincies and Fresh Expressions of Church. We pray for these church communities to be intentionally intergenerational, intercultural, and missional. It has been encouraging to explore and develop new opportunities for the resourcing and revitalisation of mission and ministry across the Area. As you discern whether you are called to minister in Willesden, you will need a healthy dose of enthusiasm about being part of this fluid landscape.

Here in the Willesden Episcopal Area, we have been blessed with a rich diversity in theological and liturgical traditions. These have come with some remarkable examples of partnership and mutual support in mission and ministry across church traditions.

For the right candidate, there is the possibility that I will also invite them to take on additional responsibility across the Episcopal Area. This is part of our commitment to better resource our shared mission and ministry, and release particular gifts brought by those God sends to us in Willesden.

If this is something that you find exciting and daunting, then perhaps God is calling you to this role. Please keep reading on, and if you need more insight into this parish and the Episcopal Area, do get in touch for an informal chat.

Yours in Christ's service,



Lusa Nsenga-Ngoy
Bishop of Willesden

Archdeacon of Northolt

A Letter from the Archdeacon

I am delighted to be able to commend to you the role of Priest in Charge of St Anne's Brondesbury.

The parish of St Anne's is a diverse and exciting place to live and work. It is extremely well connected by public transport, which contributes to the sense of it being a place where many cultures meet. I have met with the PCC and been involved with leading worship and have found them to be an engaged and motivated congregation, willing to listen to one another and provide active leadership. Many in the congregation and on the PCC are time poor and one of the challenges of ministry at St Anne's will be to encourage new lay leaders to work alongside those who are already giving of their time and talents.

There are two complexities to this role, which are also opportunities. The first is that there is a consultation process taking place on the closure of the place of worship in the neighbouring parish of Christ Church Brondesbury. If that goes ahead, then roughly half of Christ Church Parish, which includes the Church of England Primary school, will become part of the parish of St Anne's. It is for this reason that this role is Priest in Charge rather than Incumbent. The patrons will be involved in the interview process to ensure that we choose a candidate whom the relevant patron will be happy to present as Incumbent when the boundaries are settled.

The second complexity is that St Anne's used to be in a Local Ecumenical Partnership with St Andrew's United Reformed Church, but there is no longer a URC congregation meeting at St Anne's, or any other involvement of the URC in the building. We are in the process of regularising the situation and bringing the building fully under Church of England ownership. This is an ongoing process, which the London Diocesan Fund is leading on.

Brent Deanery is one of the most ethnically and culturally diverse Deaneries in the country and holds within it a wide variety of Church traditions. The chapter meets regularly and is ably led by Sophie Schuil-Brewer, the Area Dean and James Yeates, assistant Area Dean.

The vicarage is next to the church, on a separate piece of land. It will be available to view inside and out on the day.

If you would value an informal conversation about this post, please do not hesitate to be in touch with me at archdeacon.northolt@london.anglican.org.

With every blessing for your discernment journey



Catherine Pickford

Catherine Pickford
Archdeacon of Northolt



4. Our next Vicar

St Anne's is at a very significant point in its journey as a church community and invites applications from clergy who feel called to engage with the great opportunities and future challenges which the parish presents, as set out in this Parish Profile. The parish is engaged with a process of prayerful discernment about its future leadership and has thought collectively and carefully about the person we hope will help us and lead us forward.

We anticipate that our Vicar will be prayerful and theologically both intelligent and intelligible. We hope they will be creative, purposeful and innovative with a preparedness to engage in positive and realistic future planning.

The role may be attractive to clergy who have already had experience as an associate vicar or to someone who has recently completed their curacy. They are likely to need to draw on experience of managing change and development in order to maximise the assets of St Anne's and embrace our future potential.

When asked to summarise, the PCC agreed the attributes sought in our new Vicar as:

- Leadership and strategist
- Natural networker
- Approachable and nurturer of our congregation
- Good with children and young people
- Sincere, caring and empathetic
- Broad-minded (supportive of an 'inclusive' Church)
- Energetic and dynamic
- Proactive seizer of opportunities
- Entrepreneurial and Innovative
- Patient, but determined
- Committed to continuing our all-inclusive ethos
- Eager to engage in the potential of our building and its finances



Our Sunday School's visioning of our future Vicar - key attributes: 'Kind & Happy'!

5. Our Views

In developing this Parish Profile, we have held consultation workshops with our congregation, Sunday School and PCC, inviting comments from our parishioners and building users.

The views expressed were widely held and are captured here in parishioners' own words:

What we love

- Peaceful 'anchor' part of life, welcome spiritual routine in our week.
- Not a driven Church, easy-going (but perhaps should be more driven?)
- Relaxed atmosphere, peaceful place.
- The building's modern unadorned ambience
- Life, light, pleasant – has a lively 'DNA'
- Mix of congregation, friendly and diverse
- Both welcoming and intimate
- Tolerant, mutual support
- Taking care of each other
- Not pompous in our liturgical approach
- Attractive community for teenagers



Our congregation values and relishes its strengths and opportunities but recognises there are challenges for us too.

Our Views continued

Strengths:

- Diverse, friendly and tolerant congregation.
- History of interfaith centre and local 'Anglican brokerage' with other faiths.
- Inclusive and intellectual approach to worship, supportive of using the prayers of Living in Love and Faith (LLF).
- Community engagement with local schools and resident groups.
- Local Church of England School and connections with six other multi-faith local schools.
- Dynamic attractive area of NW London, close to City Centre, with good transport links.



Challenges:

- Diminishing and aging congregation.
- Diminishing proportion of locals identifying as active Christians or having an active faith.
- New Churches becoming established in the area, such as recent arrivals of evangelical and charismatic style of worship, which could be more attractive to younger people.
- Increasing local property values, forcing some growing families to move out of the area to somewhere more affordable.



Opportunities:

- Growing our attending congregation and income generation.
- Improving our Finances – increasing the current payment of 50% of our costs to the Common Fund.
- Developing our presence and profile in our local community.
- Addressing the lack of social media presence, particularly to attract and be relevant to younger people.
- Realising our good intentions so they move beyond wishful thinking.

Section 10 of this Parish Profile summarises how we would like the parish to develop with the leadership and guidance of our new Vicar.





6. Our Congregation

We are a warm and welcoming worshipping community in London NW6 covering Brondesbury and Queen's Park. We are eager to embrace opportunities. We are outward looking and open minded. We have relished a range of purposeful projects since the new church was built in the 1990s, which have challenged us to engage creatively and closely with other faiths and other denominations, as well as becoming a centre for our local community. We pray committedly for the future of the parish and its relationship with the local area and look forward to working alongside a new Vicar who can help lead us with creativity and vision in our next steps.

Our congregation is diverse and engaged, with a wide age range and a positive and upbeat attitude. Many of us take on different responsibilities for our Church mission and are appreciative of each other's efforts. We undertake outreach spanning from toddlers' groups and tea & chat sessions for adults, to support for the local food bank and charities. Our members are active with our local residents' association and engage with our many local schools. We are a home to a Montessori nursery, local choirs and music groups, and host cultural events. Whilst our community spaces are busy and well used, there are many who value the church as a quiet and calm space for prayer and reflection, an anchor and safe space.



Our Congregation continued

Our modern building is designed to enable us to engage actively with the local community, through the use of our spaces by local groups and by groups which we run ourselves.

We are pragmatic too, conscious that the congregation and therefore its capacity for income generation is relatively small. We wish to grow and are prepared to think creatively and to embrace purposeful change in order to do this.

We seek to grow younger. We have a small core of younger families who appreciate the supportive and inclusive character of the worship and Sunday school. There are opportunities in our relationships with local schools (there is a church primary school with whom we have had close links through our previous Incumbent) as well as three other state and faith schools which are even nearer neighbours.

We are facing changes. As will be seen from the letter from Archdeacon Catherine, the appointment of a new Vicar comes at an important time for our local Church of England parishes. There is an ongoing consultation regarding parish re-organisation in the neighbouring parish, with whom we have developed close links over time.

The current context offers an exciting challenge to a person of imagination, energy and courage to lead St Anne's. We know that the new Vicar will have the full support of the Bishop, Archdeacon and Area Dean in helping us prioritise astutely so that our next steps for the parish can be taken confidently. We are equally keen to use our gifts as a congregation to give that person our full support.





7. Our Worship

We are an inclusive church who seek to be confident, compassionate and creative as we share the love of Christ in this community. We are a welcoming, diverse and friendly community. Our worship is both traditional and relaxed, within the 'liberal catholic' tradition, meaning the Gospel of Christ and the Eucharist are central to our worship, and we value the traditions and doctrines of the church. At the same time, we are open to progressive interpretations of scripture and use a diversity of music and symbols in our worship. We have a lively Sunday School, encouraging our young people routinely to take an active part in leading our worship.

Our faith is expressed:

- **spiritually** through worship, faith and the support of life-long discipleship
- **socially** through fellowship, community outreach, events and activities
- **faithfully** though active engagement with adjoining CofE parish churches and neighbours of other faiths
- **educationally** by networking with a range of local schools of different faiths and support of our CofE primary school
- **physically** through the utilisation of buildings for hire by local groups and events, and
- **practically** with links, activities and information on local support networks and our website.



Our Worship continued

We are liberal in our theology. We are keen to embrace the strengths of more charismatic and evangelical traditions. The congregation values a range of services and styles of worship and is secure in its core Anglican practice.

Our liturgy involves a significant number of lay people in welcoming, reading, leading intercessions, offertory procession, helping in the sanctuary and leading our children's programme. Our music does much to help lift our hearts to God and offer our praise, and there is interest from our young people in playing a more active part in this. The congregation values the nourishment of reflective sermons on the gospel readings, strengthening our faith and engagement with the issues of the day.

Our current weekly programme of worship includes:

- Sunday 9am: Morning prayer in our Trinity Chapel and online.
- Sunday 10am: Sung Parish Eucharist, with Sunday School during term time.
- Tuesday 8:30am: Morning prayer in our Trinity Chapel and online.
- Daily: The Angelus is rung each day at 12 noon.

Special Services include:

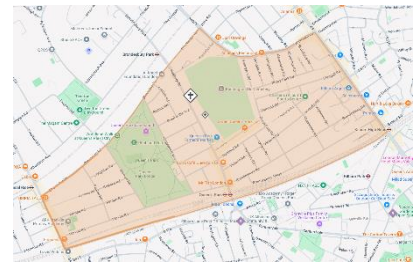
- Programme of varied services and activities for the holy festivals of Advent, Christmas, Lent, Holy Week, Easter, Pentecost, All Saints' Day and others.
- Remembrance service with our local schools, of all faiths, at the war memorial in Paddington Cemetery, immediately adjacent to the church.
- School 'end-of-year' and Christmas services for Christ Church CofE Primary school and other local schools.
- Baptisms take place during the Sunday Eucharist service - there are a number of these each year.
- Weddings are less frequent, but always relished.
- Regular parish pilgrimages to events or services at St Paul's Cathedral, notably for Advent Carols.





8. Our Parish

St Anne's Parish is within the Episcopal Area of Willesden within the Diocese of London. It is located geographically within London NW6, in the south-east tip of the London Borough of Brent. The Parish boundaries extend from Kilburn High Road in the East across Queen's Park to Kensal Rise in the West, and from Brondesbury Park in the north down to the main Euston railway line in the south. Within these parish boundaries there are about 17,000 residents.



Our Church of England Parish was created at the end of the 19th century, from the original Willesden parish, to serve the newly developed community and rising population of Queen's Park and Brondesbury, with the establishment of new local railway and underground lines, arterial roads and park for a rapidly enlarging Victorian London.



The current St Anne's Parish centre was rebuilt in 1996-7 with a bold vision of becoming a church in a new way within the local community. An overly large traditional Victorian red-brick building and conventional church hall were demolished, to be replaced with a building that could be used much more flexibly for and by the community.



This vision was developed through close working with the Bishop of London and the Bishop of Willesden. This led to the establishment of two exciting contemporary initiatives,

Our Parish continued

namely the 'London Interfaith Centre' (LIFC) promoting dialogue with other World Faiths and a Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) with the local United Reformed congregation of St Andrews, with whom we shared the building. Whilst these projects have now been superseded, they each have left a motivational legacy to work with other Churches and Faiths.

Our local area is similar to many other inner London areas, with an eclectic mix of people, ethnicities, cultures, faiths and economic profiles. It is predominantly a residential area, contained within two railway/tube lines and two arterial roads, with two 'high streets' (Salisbury and Chamberlayne Roads) around the central focus of the much loved green space of Queen's Park.

Our local population is culturally, ethnically and financially wide ranging, encompassing established working class residents and those with prosperous professional backgrounds. Due to the area's proximity and connections to central London, and its attractive balance of architecture, open-space, schools, shops and local amenities, it has become an increasingly popular and expensive place to live. The downside is the unaffordability of higher property prices for the upcoming generation of locals, driving away younger families seeking more space to grow.

Our congregation at St Anne's is directly affected by our local demographic and economic change. We have always attracted the full spectrum of our local residents, but find recently that many younger people and families have tended to move away from our area. This means our congregation needs to be continuously replenished, although we are pleased that some of our congregation continue to engage with St Anne's even after they move out of our Parish.

Local Engagement has been at the core of St Anne's outreach.

We enjoy established relationships with a wide variety of local and community groups. These include business, cultural, educational and community organisations, such as the active Queen's Park Area Residents' Association (QPARA), Queen's Park Singers, Institute of Contemporary Music Performance (ICMP), Al-Khoei Foundation, and numerous others. These all add to the richness of local life.



Our Parish continued

As the local Parish Church, St Anne's actively engages with and hosts activities with many of these organisations. For example, St Anne's typically has the largest stall at the late summer Queen's Park Day festival held each year in Queen's Park, which attracts about 14,000 people.

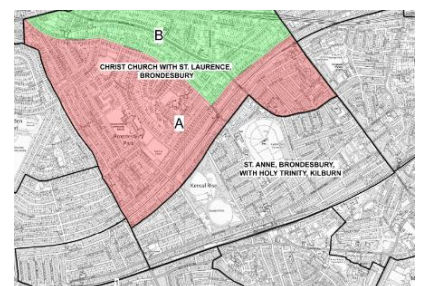
Social Outreach is a core activity at St Annes, which we are able to host thanks to our modern buildings. Our weekly activities include:

- My Moves toddler group (currently paused)
- Tea & Chat aimed at locals seeking social interaction
- Yoga Classes
- Queens Park Singers rehearsals
- Mini-Mozart pre-school music classes
- Kumon Maths classes

Christ Church School: The Vicar at St Anne's is an ex-officio member of the governing body at the local CofE primary Christchurch School. This is a one form entry school, geographically close to both St Anne's and Christchurch. A number of school services and activities take place at St Anne's. The active involvement of our previous Incumbent has been highly valued by the school and we hope this will continue to be an area of development for our new Vicar.

Our neighbouring parish of Christ Church Brondesbury has a consultation process taking place on the closure of its place of worship. If that goes ahead, then roughly half of Christ Church Parish, which includes the Church of England Primary school, will become part of the parish of St Anne's. Over many years we have enjoyed joint events with Christ Church and continue to support its community food hub 'Laurence's Larder'.

We look forward to engaging wholeheartedly with our neighbouring parishes and the new arrangement, however it is finalised. The new vicar at St Anne's will need to be open to the opportunity which this development offers, as well as being sensitive to the challenges.





9. Our Church

Our Parish history and local context, as described in Section 8, combine to make St Anne's congregation very locally engaged, interested and outward-looking. For example, our relationships with the two Islamic schools immediately next door and the nearby Mosque are strong and positive. Students from all the local primary schools attend our Remembrance Day celebration. The earlier relationships with the URC and the London Inter Faith Centre made an impact on the deliberately simple and uncluttered design of our worshipping space. This enables our style of worship to be relaxed and unpretentious.

New visitors coming to our morning service would experience us as a traditional Anglican Church which has moved with the times. We are not fazed by future change and further development and welcome the input of our new minister to our services. Our mission is to make the love of Jesus Christ real to all who may be called to worship.

Our Parish Church has been flexibly designed to support a congregation of varying size. The church easily accommodates 120, but feels respectably full with just 25-40, as is often the case on a Sunday morning.

Our Church continued

The Church space, unusually, is on the upper floor (with lift and stair access), to give inspirational views over the adjoining parkland of Paddington Cemetery. There is an integrated hall, designed to be suitable for a nursery let, and has been fully tenanted as such since opening. There are a number of other significant and smaller spaces for the church and community. The most special of these is the 'Rotunda', an open, dual height circular space under the Dome, with large windows facing the main road. This is well used by both the church and the community, for social activities, celebrations and exhibitions. The Rotunda is surrounded on two levels by meeting rooms, office spaces and kitchens.

Our Church buildings are relatively new (28 years old) and in good condition, with a regular maintenance programme in place. We are aware that maintenance and refurbishment costs may rise in future years so we plan to increase our building maintenance fund accordingly.

The Vicarage is next to the main Church building. It is a modern detached 4 bedroomed house, with its own office, garage and front and rear gardens.

Finances: St Anne's is currently supported by the Diocese of London. We have offered a reduced common fund payment and currently pay just over half of our annual Church costs of c. £100k. Our annual income of £112k is currently made up of regular giving by our congregation (35%), income from rental of our building (60%), and other fund-raising activities (5%). We are conscious that we are fortunate in having the privilege of a full-time vicar and we are keen to make the most of the next phase in our parish development so as to improve our income generation and congregation growth.

Electoral Roll: There are 105 people currently on our Parish electoral roll. Our average attendance at our weekly Sunday Eucharist is in the mid-30s, with up to 120 attending our special services such as Christmas Carols. Our ambition is to double the number on our electoral roll and regular service attendance over the next few years. By increasing the income from our building rental and fund-raising activities, we hope to be able to sustain our full Common Fund share.





Our Church continued

Our Team: our church buildings do bring some challenges as each user group brings its own requests. We therefore employ a parish administrator part-time (9 hrs/wk) to oversee systems for bookings, invoicing, etc. We engage a paid cleaner. On top of these, numerous members of the congregation undertake significant voluntary work in keeping the church centre functioning. These include the Church wardens and deputies (who also oversee safeguarding as a priority), our treasurer, secretary and our PCC. Others also contribute, via an organised rota, as welcomers, readers, intercessors, gardeners, tea & coffee makers and Sunday school helpers. We also have parishioners committed to running the Toddlers' and Adults' groups.

Music: we enjoy the services of two musicians who play piano or organ for the main Sunday service on a twice per month basis. On other Sundays we use recorded music to support worship.

Communications are centred around the website and a weekly bulletin integrated into the service sheet. We produce an attractive postcard-style seasonal mailshot to the parish twice a year for Christmas and Easter, and we aim to ensure our profile is raised in other local communications such as articles in the QPARA (residents association) newsletter.



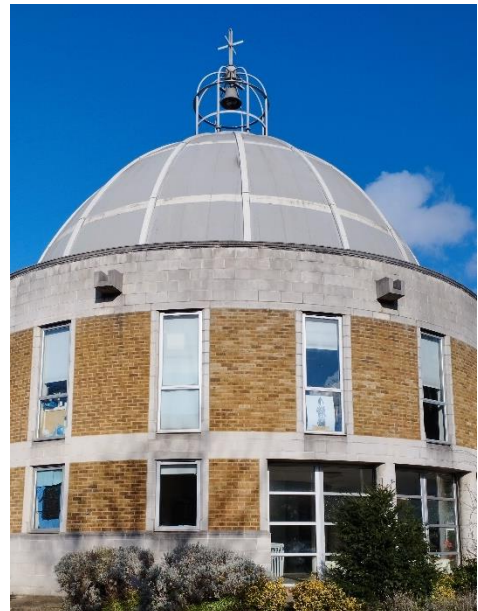


10. Our Ambitions

The PCC looks forward to engaging with a new Vicar over the priorities for our 5-year plan.

We currently summarise these as:

- Need to focus on growth.
- Be ambitious in our aim to double in size, from 40 to 80 regularly attending services.
- Increased missional engagement with the wider community
- Raise our profile locally.
- Able to pay full Common Fund.



11. Additional Information:

Accompanying documents available at: <https://st-annes-brondesbury.org.uk/vacancy>

- Mission Action Plan 2020-2024
- Parish Annual Report and Accounts 2023*
*(*The 2024 Annual Report & Accounts will be available before the APCM, which will be held on 11/5/25)*

Local Transport Links (TfL Zone 2):

- Bakerloo Line and Lioness overground Line (Queens Park Station)
- Mildmay overground line (Brondesbury Park & Kensal Rise Stations)
- Bus Routes: 6, 36, 187, 206.

Online information about our local Diocese, Parish and Area is available at:

- Diocese of London website: <https://www.london.anglican.org/episcopal-areas/willesden/>
- Our Church website: <https://st-annes-brondesbury.org.uk/>
- Queen's Park Residents Association website: <https://www.qpark.org.uk/>
- Brent Council Website: <https://www.brent.gov.uk/> search' Queens Park'
- Local History: <https://www.brent.gov.uk/libraries-arts-and-heritage/brent-museum-and-archives/your-local-area/history-of-kilburn-and-queens-park>
- Wikipedia site: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Queen%27s_Park,_London

Book about the history of our local area

- 'Queen's Park A History' by Steve Crabb (St Anne's Parishioner & Local Councillor):
<https://thehistorypress.co.uk/publication/queens-park/>

Address: St Anne's Brondesbury, 125 Salusbury Road, London NW6 6RG Tel: 020 7604 3053