Reports & Financial statements

for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting

to be held on Sunday, 7 April 2019

1 January 2018 – 31 December 2018

The Parochial Church Council

of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Keighley

Registered Charity No. 1130301

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THE PARISH OF KEIGHLEY

Registered Charity Number 1130301

Office Address	64 Greenhead Road Utley, Keighley West Yorkshire BD20 6ED
Accounts Examiner	Hart Wright Accounting 7 Henry Street Keighley BD21 3DR
Bankers	CAF Bank King's Hill West Malling ME19 4TA
Insurers	Ecclesiastical Insurance Beaufort House Brunswick Road Gloucester GL1 1JZ

Legal and administrative information

The Parish of Keighley is a United Parish made up of four parish churches:

All Saints, Keighley
St Andrew's (Keighley Shared Church)
St Barnabas, Thwaites Brow
St Mark's, Utley

The Parish of Keighley is in the Aire and Worth Deanery and the Bradford Episcopal Area of the Diocese of Leeds.

Structure, governance and management

The Parochial Church Council (hereafter referred to as the PCC) is a corporate body established by the Church of England. The PCC operates under the PCC Powers Measure. The Charity registration number is 1130301.

Trustees

The Managing Trustees are the members of The Parochial Church Council

The composition of the election of members to The PCC is set out in SCHEME PURSUANT TO RULE 18, CHURCH REPRESENTATION RULES (2017) THE PARISH OF KEIGHLEY**,** which was passed at an Extraordinary Parochial Church Meeting on 16 February 2017 and subsequently approved by the Bishop's Council of the Diocese of Leeds ahead of the APCM. The Wardens and PCC members of the Parish became Trustees of the Charity.

The governance document defined the establishment of Local Church Councils (LCC's) for each church and the relative representation of each of the four churches on the PCC. It also defined the relevant powers and responsibilities held by the LCC's and PCC.

After the APCM on 22 April 2018 the membership of the Local Church Councils was as follows:
*nominated to PCC or ex-Officio

All Saints, Keighley

Ex-Officio Members:		
Team Vicar:	Revd Dr Jonathan Pritchard *	Chair
Associate Priest:	Revd Malcolm Foy *	
Readers:	Anthea Foy *	(Reader Rep on PCC) Deanery Synod Rep
Churchwarden:	Catherine Craven *	Treasurer
Elected Members:	Tony Heidari	from April 2018
	Charmaine Gombera	from April 2018
	Stephen Sabourinia	from April 2018
	Doreen Viney	from April 2018
	Denise Raby	Secretary until June 2018

	Dorothy Grant *	Churchwarden until April 2018
	Lynne Hutchinson	
	Judith Brooksbank	Deanery Synod Rep until April 2018 Secretary from June 2018

St Barnabas, Thwaites Brow

Ex-Officio Members:		
Team Vicar:	Revd Graham Potter *	Chair
Churchwardens:	Margaret Anstey *	
	Ian Dodsworth	until March 2018
Elected Members:	Jill Dodsworth	Secretary
	Brenda Astin *	
	Susan Kenealy	until June 2018
	Michael Anstey	until April 2018
	Doreen Godfrey	from April 2018
	Doreen Tetley	from April 2018
	Sue Blackwell	from April 2018
	Bob Mulcock	from April 2018

St Andrew's (Keighley Shared Church)

Ex-Officio Members:		
Team Rector	Revd Mike Cansdale *	Chair
Town Chaplain	Revd Dr Jonathan Pritchard *	
Estates Minister	Revd Graham Potter *	
Curate	Revd Dr Tracey Raistrick *	
Curate	Rev Natasha Thomas*	from July 2018
Churchwardens:	Howard Carter *	
	Michael McNicoll	
Elected Members:	Jane Carter *	Treasurer and Deanery Synod
	Sheila Robinson	Reader
	Andrew Hardeman	
	Andrew Parfitt	
	Lesley Parfitt*	
	Anji Thomson*	
	Chris Hudson *	Secretary and Deanery Synod Rep

St Mark's, Utley

Ex-Officio Members:		
Team Rector	Revd Mike Cansdale *	Chair
Associate Priest	Revd John Long *	until October 2018
Associate Priest	Revd John Ineson *	
Curate	Revd Dr Tracey Raistrick *	

Curate	Revd Natasha Thomas*	from July 2018
Churchwardens:	Margaret Anthony	Secretary and Reader
	Geoff Crabtree *	
Elected Members	Dorothy Long	Electoral Roll Officer *until April 2018
	Jennifer Linton	until July 2018
	Chris Young*	*from April 2018
	Janet Booth	
	Sue Wilkinson	until April 2018
	Colin Meredith	from April 2018

Objectives and activities

Keighley Parish PCC and the local Church Councils have the responsibility of co-operating with the Clergy of Keighley Parish led by Team Rector, Revd Mike Cansdale in promoting in the ecclesiastical parish, the whole mission of the Church, pastoral, evangelical, social and ecumenical

.

Electoral roll

For the second year, we have had a combined Electoral Roll for the whole parish; each member has primary membership of one church. The total number of electors for the APCM and the Local Church Annual Meetings of 2018 was as follows

All Saints	58
Keighley Shared Church	139
St Barnabas	36
St Mark's	82
TOTAL	315

Although 22 people from the four different churches were removed from the roll since April 2017, there have been roughly the same number of new members, keeping the numbers for each church almost constant. Out of the total of 315, 174 people were resident in the Parish of Keighley.
16 people from Keighley Shared Church were Joint members with the Methodist congregation.

Deanery Synod Meetings

At the meeting held on 1 February 2018 Synod was made aware of elections later in the year to select members for the next Diocesan Synod which would be for a 3 year term from 1 August. We were advised that our Deanery is allocated places for 6 clergy and 5 lay representatives and we were encouraged to think about who would make suitable representatives.

Lenten leaflets were available to parish representatives. These included an invitation to join the Area Bishop in a day of prayer on 3 March together with useful questions to be used as an aid to reflection and prayer.

Mandy Watkins, trainer around mental health issues and previously Children's and Family worker at St Margaret's Frizinghall, presented a definition and series of statements regarding mental health generally and we discussed in groups just how in our churches and parishes we could help to support those affected within our congregations. Mandy also provides mental first aid training via the organization Training4life. Bradford District Care Trust also provides similar training if required.

At the meeting held on 18 June 2018 we received the results and details of those from Deanery Synod also now elected to Diocesan Synod.
We were advised that payment of the Diocesan Share within the Deanery had increased.
A number of members had attended the BEAF on 22 May and positive feedback had been received.

There was a presentation of "Keighley's Story" on DVD
Members then had the opportunity to share good ideas and practice and ways in which our churches and buildings could be used as assets for the wider community.

At the meeting on 29 October 2018 Rev. Graham Potter was elected to the Deanery Synod standing committee as a representative from the House of Clergy.

There was a report from the Area Leadership and Mission and Pastoral Committee – Ingrow Parish was in vacancy and it had been agreed to put in an interim minister – discussions were in progress.

Diocesan Synod and General Synod reports were presented
The Finance report was also presented – the Diocesan team was making plans to sort out financial problems in a realistic way. Various initiatives were to be launched to assist treasurers and help parishes to increase regular giving and reduce associated administration.

Bishop Toby spoke to Synod. He explained the Diocesan strategy document and then continued to discuss the strategic development funding bid and what the bid meant for the Bradford Area.
The SDF is a new way by which the Church Commissioners give core funding to dioceses
The SDF awards money to "stronger" churches to help them support others in growing their work.
He spoke of the 3 strands to the bid and progress particularly regarding development of buildings adjacent to the Alhambra Theatre where a new church is to be created

Missional communities to be set up in both outer estates and inner city areas
with the intention of creating missional communities. One such community has already been established in Manningham. Other areas considered included : Braithwaite, Laisterdyke, West Bowling and Lidget Green.

Chris Hudson
Deanery Synod Rep

Fabric Reports

All Saints

During the year there have been various small jobs to carry out, but our main job was the painting of the Cullingworth room & toilets which were done by members of the congregation. Our asylum seekers were enlisted to help with the main work with some 70 & 80 year olds also helping & we managed to get it done in two days. There is still the passageway to paint now that the plaster work has been done professionally.

Just before Christmas we had a break in through the the Emmaeus room. As a result of this the windows in the doors to the office & the toilets were broken & the fire extinguishers were used. There was also graffiti on the walls in the Emmaeus room which have yet to be painted. Richard organised for the fire extinguishers to be refilled & Nigel undertook to repair the windows, so we

did not have to resort to claiming on the insurance.

I would like to thank Richard & Nigel for their expertise & advice on all matters to do with the general maintenance of the church, without their help & advice the church would not be in such good order. With his engineering background Nigel has wonderful solutions to seemingly impossible problems & we are much indebted to him.

Catherine Craven
Churchwarden

St Andrews/KSC Church, Churchyard and Grounds:

Our quinquennial inspection that was due to be done during the year was in fact postponed until January 2019 due to the Architect not being able to fit it in during the latter part of the year. The Diocesan office agreed to the postponement. The fabric of the Church and all the property listed in the Church inventory appear to be in good condition. The inventory has been checked and following a visit from the Archdeacon the terrier will be amended and updated.

Maintenance work cleaning gutters, replacing loose tiles has been carried out and completed on the main Church roof and above the vestry kitchen. The alarm for the roof has been repaired. The organ motor has been repaired. The ceiling tiles in the Church entrance have continued to come off and the ECC has agreed to have the entire ceiling recovered with new white tiling. The appropriate approval was sought and approved from the diocese and the work will be carried out early in 2019. Work on repairing and restoring the lighting on all the external lamps, gate posts and uplighting is largely done, some of the uplighting on the North side of the main Church building is expected to be completed in early 2019. We are grateful to Andrew Parfitt who undertook the task of organising the upgrading and for the improvements. Clappers from 4 bells in the Church tower have been sent away to the company in Birmingham for restoration. The large external notice board at the front of the Church is still in the process of being updated. It was agreed by the EEC that The Old Contemptible Standard could to be displayed in the Church. Wifi is now available within the whole Church. The lock on the door from the entrance into the Hamer room has been replaced and the door now locks. The heating system throughout the whole of the Church is unsatisfactory, and is under review. PAT testing and maintenance of the fire extinguishers and equipment take place at the required intervals.

The Churchyard, whilst being closed and its maintenance now coming under the jurisdiction of the council, continues to be untidy despite two clean up days and in much need of improvements and security. A working party appointed by the ECC continues to meet with representatives from the Council, Police and other local bodies. The council carried out some tree crowning and thinning. The council also approved the funding to repair all the broken down walls. It is also hoped that the gravestones, some of which appear potentially hazardous could be relocated and made safe.

At the end of the year the ECC approved the formation of a group to look at significant improvements to the site of Keighey Shared Church. There is a growing desire to make sure that the buildings and grounds are fit for current needs and have the capacity for greater community resourcing and growth.

We are grateful as ever for all who volunteer and who help throughout the year with any number of jobs which keep the fabric and general condition of the Church in good, clean and attractive order.

Howard Carter and Michael McNicoll
Churchwardens

St Barnabas

We are continuing to work through the works specified in the quinquennial report and we have completed further repairs to the roof, which seems to have been water tight so far this winter. We have had the tree on the North West corner surveyed as there was a concern that it might fall, we have removed the shrubbery from around its base and will get a further report on its condition in the spring of 2019.

We have had one major piece of work where we installed a 65" flat screen TV and associated cabling into the worship area to bring a new dimension to some services. We were gifted a larger sound desk that is also being used in association with the TV. This solution was preferred to having a fixed screen and projector on cost and clarity of picture grounds. We have permission to install anti-glare film on the high windows, but at the moment we do not have a glare problem on the TV, so we will monitor the position and re think if it becomes necessary.
A high window on the south wall was replaced in November due to damage we believe was caused by a firework hitting it.

We will address further quinquennial works in 2019, particularly the need to replace the facias around the hall and to replace the church signage.

St Mark's

The Quinquennial work has continued to progress this year and all PAT testing, maintenance of fire extinguishers, boiler, cooker and gas equipment have been carried out.

The water heater situated in the Church entrance used for coffee and tea-making proved to be unreliable. It caused floods of water out onto the carpet. The heater was over 3 years old and was just out of warranty! Despite numerous attempts by different individuals, the problems continued. As a last resort the supplying firm was called in but they were also unable to correct the problems. A decision was made to buy a brand new replacement. Mr Trevor Partridge (a retired plumber) commissioned and installed the replacement. This is now functioning perfectly. As a consequence of the flooded carpet a 'Rug Doctor' carpet cleaner was hired and the carpets cleaned both in the entrance and in the Church hall premises.

In the early summer a leak of water was discovered above the entrance to the Church office. After swift action by the administrator, a qualified plumber was called in who replaced a deteriorated seal on a water tank situated in the roof space. When the ceiling had dried out it was considered that no further remedial structural work was required but that the ceiling will benefit from repainting at some point.

The printing system and two computers in the office were reaching the end of their useful life. After a parish- wide consultation and taking advice from experts in the field, a new IT system was purchased and installed at St Mark's Office. This is now a parish facility with all users having their own passwords and expenses codes. This seems to be a simple, cost-effective and popular purchase.
In autumn there was water running down the wall above one of the windows in the Church hall every time it rained. A local roofing contractor was consulted but due to other commitments could not attend for a period of time. However, on attending, the leak was quickly repaired and has been watertight since. Again the wall and ceiling adjacent to the window will benefit from repainting at some point .

Before Christmas the small room next to the office was cleared out and was reinstated as an 'Archive' room. This will enable all relevant documents to be stored in one place and also make simpler the process of document removal and disposal according to the Church of England's Retention and Storage of Documents Policy.

After our full time caretaker had to reluctantly resign in June due to health problems, the wardens campaigned for a temporary replacement to work at least part time to cover the duties of keeping the hall clean and tidy following the Under 5s activities as well as some general maintenance work. A part time caretaker was appointed in July and took some of the pressure off the band of volunteers who had done this work up till then. Another group undertook the grass cutting and other grounds maintenance throughout the summer. In autumn a new path was created on the grass on top of the wall on the Skipton road side of the site. This path is now flat and even, having stone chippings as a base, and is much safer when changing the posters in the Wayside Pulpit. One task which the Wardens have undertaken is the writing of a Terrier of St. Mark's Church premises in the format required by the present Archdeacon following his Visitation. This lengthy document is now almost complete.
We are grateful as ever to the church staff and the team of volunteers, too numerous to mention by name, who have contributed so much in keeping our church in good condition and running smoothly.

Geoff Crabtree and Margaret Anthony
Churchwardens

Town Chaplain's Report

Much of what I do as Town Chaplain isn't seen in Church. That's because its not Church but town orientated. To hold that sense of our Anglican commitment to the spiritual wellbeing of Keighley as a town. Looking beyond church to the rhythms and structures of town life. An explicitly spiritual voice within secular conversation. A Christian voice recognised in a public space shared with Muslims. And mostly unsung, unglamorous, mundane. The ordinary and everyday that characterises most of our Christian engagement with life, really. I chair a number of town-wide meetings: United Keighley's working group on Child Sexual Exploitation, Keighley Place of Sanctuary and Remembrance Day Planning. I'm not quite sure how I ended up as Chair of this but this year had greater significance as we marked the Centenary of the Armistice. The build up in the weeks before, the parades, Church service, thousands filling Town Hall Square and the streets around it, and the Veterans in the Drill Hall afterwards. It's hugely significant for Keighley, and we have a distinctive Christian input. Thank you everyone who helped and welcomed the 800 who came to what is still our biggest act of worship in the year.

As Town Chaplain I work with the Town Mayor, Town Council, Town Clerk, the MPs Office, the Area Co-ordinators Office, and others committed to the well-being of Keighley and its people. Sometimes really interesting opportunities arise from this. So I've spoken about fasting and feasting at the Town's Eid celebrations last year. As Town Chaplain I was the first speaker. This meant my Christian voice wasn't an add-on but was picked up by the Muslim speakers that followed. That's quite significant. (And great conversations followed afterwards.) On Bonfire Night I'd been in a van going around troubleshooting with local Councillors: when we pulled up outside Church we talked about Pakistan's blasphemy law. Workers Memorial Day is extra-ordinary, working with Keighley TUC - blending sorrow, anger and and a shared commitment to justice in Town Hall Square. On Armed Forces Day in Marley Fields I led prayers replete with Cassock Alb, stole and sunglasses - and got photo-bombed by Eric Pollard from Emmerdale! And at the end of the year I also gave an annual Christmas Message to the Council. Spiritual counsel to those who serve the town - as well as thanking them for what they do. This annual Christmas Message is now clearly established as a tradition (it began last year.)

But my favourite Town Chaplain event this year was our Carol Service. To present the town to itself within such a joyful Christian act of worship: great singing, wonderful readings and diverse readers - and the Yorkshire Trombone quartet! Simply glorious!

Revd Dr Jonathan Pritchard

Estates Pioneer Report

As you know I spend half of my time working on the estates across Keighley. You will often find me in the Keith Thompson Centre on Braithwaite in the café, building contacts with local people. This has resulted in several occasional offices. I am now a governor at Merlin Top Academy where I have a whole year of visits and assemblies planned. There is now a group of three who take the faith assemblies in Parkwood school. In the autumn we ran our first CAP Life Skills course in the Keith Thompson Centre and a number of those attending are now helping to lead on the 2nd course. We also have a bible study group that meets on Tuesday lunchtime to explore faith, we have run the START course a number of times and looked at some of the parables Jesus told and the people Jesus met.

Revd Graham Potter

Statistics for Mission

The Church of England asks us to report each year on key statistics and here is a snapshot for the whole Parish:

24 Baptisms
3 Weddings
34 Funerals
12 Confirmations

Attendance measures generally show an upward trend on the year before. Christmas eve in 2017 was a Sunday so that distorts the comparison with attendance at Christmas this year. However there were 52 more people attending at Easter in 2018 and during the month of October the average week attendance was 110 higher than 2017, which takes midweek services into account as well.

We need to sit lightly with these statistics as attendance fluctuates but for me the more important measure is that of our worshipping community. This is a relatively new element (since 2012) where we are asked to list those who would class themselves as worshipping members of our churches and who demonstrate this by regular attendance (i.e. at least twelve times a year). In 2018 we recorded 35 new people joining across the parish, although offset against 25 leavers, but still showing net growth.

A new question for 2018 related to discipleship and nurture and asked how many people attended an enquiry course. Across the four churches there were 74 adults and 17 young people. Some of these may be existing members revisiting Christian basics but many will be people considering these questions for a first time. As a result we had 12 people confirmed and look forward to more fruit of this sort.

PCC review of the year

The PCC met seven times in 2018 and made significant progress on a number of important areas:

- GDPR stands for General Data Protection Regulation and was new legislation that came into being in May 2018, outlining the rules around how we gather, store and use personal information. Not very exciting, you may say, but actually very important and helpful in making good decisions about our approach to people on the fringes of church.

- Once again the PCC took the decision that the Parish should be part of 'Thy Kingdom Come' setting out the primary importance of prayer in all that we seek to do. This enabled a wider experience of prayer from different traditions and brought people together from across the different congregations.

- Finance continued to be a major item as we seek to ensure good foundations for the developments that we want to make. As we move forward we are taking on additional costs, which have been financially challenging but with the generosity of our members we have met our obligations. The progress is significant as we now hold much more in common and seek to set priorities for the whole parish. Archdeacon Andy Jolley recently asked me to express thanks to everyone in Keighley since in 2018 Keighley Parish contributed the highest level of share across the Bradford Episcopal Area. Questions have been raised with the Diocese as to the justice of this but PCC affirmed a decision to contribute generously to the wider church in this area.

- A major piece of work authorised by the PCC has been a review of job roles and the remit of paid staff. We are grateful for the time given by a consultant Mark Rance from York Diocese as we seek to reshape things considering the whole parish. The first impact of this is the move to employing an Operations Manager in place of an Administrator but similar consideration needs to be given to other areas of parish life. Many thanks to the delegated team who have worked with me on the Ops Manager job description etc.

- In June 2018 the Diocese organised a Lay Conference in Harrogate to which nine representatives went from the Parish. We are very grateful to those who went for the learning and ideas that they have brought back and we are challenged to see how we can enable people to grow in faith and in their gifting, and develop the partnership in ministry between clergy and lay people.

- The question of whole parish identity has continued with plans for new signage outside all of our buildings and better communication through a new website etc.

- The Diocese has been developing its strategic thinking and as part of this has designated Keighley as one of five 'Resourcing Parishes' in the Bradford area and is seeking to offer additional funding to enable us to resource mission and ministry in the wider town. PCC has spent time praying and discussing what this might look like and how we can contribute to the strategy of the wider area. It had been hoped that this additional 'Strategic Development Funding' (SDF) would be announced in December but the timeline has been delayed by about six months. This is an exciting new piece of work to be part of.

And just picking out a few notable developments of the year:

- Launch of CAP Life Skills
- Team formed at All Saints to take forward the questions arising from support for Asylum Seekers and the work of tying this into Place of Sanctuary
- The Poppies – need I say more 😊
- New Youth Drop-in session on a Monday afternoon
- 8-10 North Street has been vacated by the Volunteer Centre and we are seeking to find a new tenant or clarity for another way forward.
- Another fabulous Festival of Life on the Green
- Youth Alpha running with up to twenty young people
- A new headteacher for St Andrew's CE Primary School
- Our 100th CAP referral came this year, offering practical help to many living with debt
- Highfield Film Cooperative going from strength to strength
- Launch of Prayer Spaces in Schools

Team Rector's Report

People

We are richly blessed in Keighley to have so many amazing people in our churches, congregations and communities. As with many organisations we only exist because of the generosity and commitment of our members, most of whom give freely of their time, energy and resources. Therefore the first thing I want to say is a big thank you to you all, for who you are and what you bring to the life of the parish.

There are however, some individuals to mention. We are grateful for those staff employed by the parish and I want to mark some of the changes of this year; Many thanks to Andrew Parfitt who retired as caretaker in August; to Shirley Cunningham who left as Administrator in September; In the light of the new 'whole parish' thinking these posts were not replaced immediately and we are grateful to Trevor Partridge and Anji Thomson who have stepped in to cover some of these tasks in a temporary capacity. We marked a change of status for a number of key people – Mrs Anthea Foy, Mr Rod Tickner and Revd John Long each moved into the category of ministers with 'Permission to Officiate.'

We have also gladly welcomed Revd Natasha Thomas, ordained Deacon in June and now Curate in the Parish of Keighley (and a welcome to her family, Chris, Beth and Maz). With the arrival of one Curate we also announced the move of Revd Dr Tracey Raistrick to becoming Interim Priest-in-charge of Ingrow in December. We also received the news that Anthony Bennett will be serving his Curacy up the road in Haworth and Crossroads.

Purpose

In thinking about our parish I keep coming back to Ephesians 4 and the priority given to unity and maturity in the body of Christ. The Apostle Paul exhorts his readers to:

'3 Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace. 4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to one hope when you were called; 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.'

When I was with Anthony Bennett at St Mellitus College, Liverpool in September, I was told by one of the College staff that people around the country are watching the 'Keighley Model' carefully! We have done quite a radical thing by joining such diverse churches into one parish and we need to attend carefully to our unity, being quick to always strengthen that bond of peace. I believe that unity comes with a blessing (Psalm 133) and that we are already seeing the fruit of this as we pursue peace and all that builds up our common life.

St Paul then explains the purpose of being united in Christ that:

'we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of him who is the head, that is, Christ. [16] From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.'

Our leaders are important and give a focus for ministry but here is a picture of every member contributing to building up the whole; every member using their particular gifts; every member doing the work to which they are called. If there is a calling on leaders then Paul expresses it like this:

'to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up [13] until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ'

And this is where our 'whole parish' thinking really matters. It's not just about the local congregation that we each belong to but also about how we work out that bigger picture together. We are greater than the sum of all our parts.

Vision

In this last year we have worked carefully at formulating our parish vision statement and from that we are starting to develop a strategic plan. The narrative of how we got to where we now are is very important and forms part of the vision statement.

Four churches, seven Sunday congregations, many gatherings, one Parish

Four churches:
open to the transforming love of God
united in responding to the call to follow Jesus
inspired by the Holy Spirit to generously share our resources
for the sake of Keighley and its people.

Seven Sunday Congregations:
drawing people into a deeper relationship with Jesus,
sustained by God's life-giving presence.
welcoming and including all

Many different gatherings for Christian community:
sharing stories of faith, brokenness and hope
affirming and celebrating our rich diversity
serving God through serving others.

One Parish longing to see our town thrive:
seeking the Kingdom of God for Keighley
sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ in word and action
All ages and backgrounds growing in discipleship together

Are we nearly there yet?

Last summer we climbed Ingleborough. After about an hour we found ourselves walking into low cloud, not sure how much further to the top nor with any view of what lay behind. However as we carried on the wind picked up and the cloud started to lift. We stopped and looked back with awe at the view of how far we had come. But a while later the top of the mountain appeared, still seeming quite a long way off!

If I'm honest I think that's a picture of where we find ourselves in this process of bringing things together for Keighley. This past year has seen significant steps forward but with plenty more still to be done. We should be encouraged by what we have achieved and the impact we are starting to see but at the same time have a realistic appraisal of what is still to be done.

Thank you once again for being willing to come on this adventure with us. Praying for God's guidance and grace in all we do in 2019.

Revd Canon Mike Cansdale
Team Rector

Approved by the Parochial Church Council and signed on their behalf

Revd Canon Mike Cansdale

Chairperson of the Parochial Church Council.....

Date