

The Parish of Bardsey
with East Keswick

**FIVE YEAR PLAN
2021 - 2026**



Your Church in Your Village

Helping to extend
the love of God
throughout our
village communities

Feedback from the Parochial Church Council, April 2021

Worship: *We've got a bit 'stuck' in our worship style and now need to create slightly more diverse styles of worship. Having only Eucharistic services, every Sunday, doesn't work for everyone. We may need to explore services at other times of the day (afternoon) and during the week.*

Children's Work: *We need to develop our children and families' work to build stronger relationships with local families.*

Communications: *Our online presence needs to be maintained since it has had great impact during Covid, and we've made great improvements (Parish Magazine, website, etc). However, we also need to return to our buildings and redevelop our signage and communications since it now feels dated.*

Space: *We need to look at our church spaces with fresh eyes to see how to use it more creatively during the week.*

Keeping going: *We need to maintain the new things we've done in lockdown e.g., building up the Food Share team, bible studies online, partnership with St Aidan's.*

Our overall aims

- Grow in our Christian faith together by making it relevant and alive to our communities.
- Provide welcoming places to worship and grow together.
- Offer more varied styles of worship to suit modern day living.
- Develop our inside and outside spaces to better serve our communities.
- Reposition the Church at the heart of village life by building strong links between church and community.
- Be a leader in the fight against climate change and in caring for the environment.

Grow in our Christian faith together by making it relevant and alive to our communities

- Ensure good Christian foundational teaching is available through services, baptisms, funerals, weddings.
- Provide a 'Parish Bible Study', three times a year, linked to appropriate points in the Christian calendar.
- Develop our lay leadership team to lead services and use their gifts on Sundays and through the week.
- Grow our parish team, to help support our growth ambitions.
- Expand our 'Churches Together' work with those in the parish.

Provide welcoming places to worship and grow together

- Create outside seasonal displays (e.g., Christmas, Easter, Remembrance, etc.) and involve local residents, children and talented people in their implementation.
- Explore the options for creating a more suitable meeting place at All Hallows church.
- Ensure both churches have good heating and are accessible to all.
- Update external signage and noticeboards at both churches.
- Ensure that our buildings have visual markers and displays relating to our discipleship.

Offer more varied styles of worship to suit modern living

- Make our 'Family Service' more distinct in style.
- Have a regular 'Service of the Word' with different service leaders.
- Formalise and develop the Children's Church programme.
- Explore other occasional types of services through the week, including options such as 'Healing', 'Evensong', 'Café Church' and 'Bring a Friend'.

Develop our facilities so as to better serve our communities

- Ensure our churches can offer basic hospitality for services and events (e.g., hot water, toilets with good signage).
- Explore ways to make our churches more accessible and welcoming for visitors (e.g., providing access to wi-fi)
- Put on at least one event per year, related to the history of the building, with refreshments.
- Open up our church spaces for lectures, talks, events and music concerts for all tastes.
- Ensure our churches can also be a sanctuary for those who need it.
- Develop a 'community orchard' at Saint Mary Magdalene and continue the development of 'The Glade' at All Hallows.

Reposition the Church at the heart of village life by building strong links between it and the community

- Engage with village communities beyond the church building via activities such as 'Carols in the Pub', at The Old Star and The Bingley Arms.
- Liaise with local people to develop our eco policy.
- Explore the use of a 'history trail', inside and outside our churches.
- Open up each church for an agreed period for walkers/ramblers, with refreshments available, for perhaps a day a week over the summer months.
- Maintain a strong presence at Bardsey Primary School through assemblies, etc. and encourage school visits in church.
- Develop our St Aidan's Food Share links
 - Develop a lay Parish Coordinator role to liaise with St Aidan's in support of the vicar.
 - Hold an annual 'thank you' event for all those in the parish who are involved
 - Invite Andi Hofbauer (vicar) to speak at our services annually

Be a leader in the fight against climate change and in caring for the environment

- Strive to achieve the A Rocha Eco Church Gold award.
- Ensure we take steps to minimise the carbon emissions linked to the running of our churches and the provision of our services.
- Develop the church grounds to increase biodiversity and assist in offsetting carbon emissions through carbon sequestration.
- Create an awareness in our village communities of the need to care for God's creation and take actions to address climate change.
- Provide opportunities and facilities to assist others in caring for the environment (e.g. Recycling hub)
- Support and encourage other organisations in their work to achieve an equitable, accessible and flourishing global environment.

Our Five Diocesan Strategic Objectives

1. Thriving as a distinctive diocese whose culture is shaped by a shared vision and values
2. Reimagining Ministry
3. Nurturing Lay Discipleship
4. Building Leadership Pathways
5. Growing Young People as Christians