

# **Strood: St Francis**

## **Parish Profile for an Interim Minister**





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## Introduction

Welcome to the Parish Profile for St. Francis of Assisi, Strood. We hope that this will give you an insight into our parish and help you in discerning whether God is calling you to minister to our patch of South Strood.

We are looking for an Interim Minister to be appointed for a period of three years. Like many other churches, we are starting to wrestle with the issues of how we re-imagine our mission and ministry in a world which has been forever changed by Covid-19, and we pray in hope and expectation that whoever is called to our parish will help us to discern where God is leading us, and build on our good foundations so that a permanent incumbent can, in due time, be appointed.

We offer the Interim Minister a church which has a growing lay ministry team, a community which has a spiritual thirst unquenched by the Gospel and a congregation who are faithful, prayerful and wish to engage more fully with their faith.

We know we are not perfect, so we do not seek perfection either – but we hope that our Interim Minister will be the following:

- A person with an authentic faith which is lived out realistically, faithfully and practically, 24/7.
- Is rooted in prayer and scripture.
- Someone with a heart for the least and the lost from within our community.
- Is committed to and honours lay ministry in all its forms, and willing to nurture the ongoing development, formation and training of the Ministry Team. Will also identify new candidates for local, and authorised lay ministries, as well as those who may also be called to ordination.
- Leads with the Wardens and PCC in the management of parish resources and finances.
- Can commit to the oversight and local management of our Estates Pioneer, and willing to engage with the Diocese in aligning the objectives of this SDF project with the needs of the parish community.
- Works with the Estates Pioneer, Ministry Team, PCC and volunteer teams in prioritising, planning and delivering projects for the community.
- Willing to work with neighbouring parishes and ministers within Strood Deanery where necessary, and to engage with other church denominations represented within Strood.
- Leads the PCC, Ministry Team and congregation prayerfully.
- Is approachable with good interpersonal skills and is a listening ear to all, whether a church member or not.
- Equips, encourages and supports individuals in their everyday faith.
- Encourages worship which enables the congregation to grow spiritually.

- Will encourage the development of ministries of Healing and Wholeness as part of the pastoral care of the congregation and community.
- Able to spot opportunities for the funding of projects through appropriate grants and sponsorships.
- Will develop the vision of the parish so that it re-imagines its mission and ministry in the post-Covid era, and work with the Ministry Team and PCC to discern the qualities of a permanent incumbent.

In addition to this we expect our Minister to:

- Be willing to say “No” to some things in order to say “Yes” to that which matters most.
- Take all their annual leave, and understandable exceptions permitting, takes a day off each week (or in lieu).
- Step back from ministry for appropriate time spent on retreat, in spiritual direction and for personal development time.
- Place the needs of their family as paramount. There are no expectations placed upon the Interim Minister’s spouse (if married) or their family whatsoever.
- Have and use their sense of humour.

## **The Parish Vision**

Under the previous incumbent, the Ministry Team and PCC developed a vision for our parish having spent much time in prayer, discernment and conversation with the congregation and the community with whom we interact. We hope that this will act as a foundation on which we can move forward into the future.

- We seek to create and grow disciples of Jesus so that together we build the Kingdom of God in South Strood.
- We believe that God is at work transforming lives and communities through the power of his Holy Spirit.
- We are committed to **Real Faith, Real Lives, Real People**.
- We are all about bringing the Good News of Jesus to everyone, sharing together, and seeking God in all we do so that, empowered by the Spirit, together we will work to build the Kingdom of God here in our lifetime.

### **Real Faith: trusting in God, empowered by the Holy Spirit**

We are committed to seeking God first in all that we do. We hope for a community where everyone is equipped to pursue a life in the Spirit. We long to see people come to discover a real faith in Jesus.

### **Real Lives: renewed lives that we share with one another**

We are committed to sharing life's journey with one another, seeking renewal, forgiving and being forgiven. We seek to practise hospitality with everyone in the same way that God offers to us. God has a special heart for the poor and marginalised, and so we work for justice in our lives and in our world.

### **Real People: bringing the Good News of the Kingdom of God to everyone**

We desire to see South Strood transformed by the news of God's Kingdom. We believe that having fun together is a serious part of being a follower of Jesus. We value authenticity as a mark of God's Kingdom on earth.

## **Strood**

Strood is part of the Medway Towns, a Unitary Authority, which also includes Rochester, Chatham, Gillingham and Rainham. Strood occupies the area within the Medway Towns which is to the west of the River Medway.

It is largely a residential area, with some industrial estates along the banks of the river. However many people travel out of the area to work, including a significant number who commute to London by train or coach; there is a high-speed train service to St Pancras station. For those who work locally, the Local Authority, NHS and retail tend to be the main employers.

Ebbsfleet International train station is not far away, providing Eurostar train links through the channel tunnel to continental Europe and the Kent coastline is easily accessible, with Dover providing regular ferry services.

The parish of St Francis in Strood is bordered by the River Medway, the M2 motorway and the old A2 main road. The 2011 census placed the population of the parish slightly above 15,000 people with more housing developments raising this further.

The most prominent issues which affect St Francis Parish as well as the wider Medway area include high levels of social isolation, people with disabilities which make them unable to work and disproportionate levels of deprivation and poverty for children and older people.

The parish is home to an out-of-town retail leisure area (Medway Valley Park), which includes a private gym, Premier Inn, Cineworld multiplex cinema and a small number of chain restaurants which attracts a high number of visitors from the surrounding areas in comparison from within the parish itself.

Shopping facilities for the local area include a large Morrisons with petrol station, a medium-sized Tesco and small Aldi and Asda supermarkets in Strood Town Centre. There are also several high-street banks and building societies, and a small shopping centre with a M&S Food Hall, Argos, Matalan and some pound shops. Further afield there is Bluewater which is around a 20 minute drive north on the A2 which has three department stores and outlets for most national chains along with a multi-screen cinema and restaurants.

For those living within the parish who do not have access to a car, shopping is mostly restricted to Strood Town Centre or the small local shops dotted within housing developments. There are bus services, but they are limited and expensive – particularly to those on very low incomes – and it isn't uncommon for local people to carry out their main food shop in the Tesco Metro which is less than a five minute walk

from the church site. This constrains social mobility, and is a significant factor in making local people feel isolated. There is a municipal sports centre in the parish and a leisure park (cinema, bingo, ten pin bowling, restaurants and health club) next to the river on the outskirts of the town. Despite the built-up nature of the Medway towns you do not have to look far to find green spaces to relax in.

Most church denominations are represented in Strood.

## **The Parish of St. Francis of Assisi**

### **Overall Geography**

We are part of Strood Deanery, which forms part of the Archdeaconry of Rochester and, of course, the Diocese of Rochester. The adjacent parishes within the Deanery are *Strood: St Nicholas*; *Frindsbury: All Saints with Upnor St Philip and St. James*; and *Cuxton & Halling: St Michael and All Angels*. The parish borders with Cobham Deanery to its North West quadrant.

Of the three Anglican parishes in Strood, St. Francis is the newest, and was planted out of St. Nicholas Strood. The church building formally opened for worship in 1962, and this October celebrates its 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Broadly speaking, it occupies the triangle bounded by the A2, the M2 and the River Medway. Because some older boundaries are not aligned with the modern roads there are small areas at two corners of the triangle, which are part of neighbouring parishes.

The parish is largely residential, According to the 2018 estimates from the C of E Research & Stats Team, there were approximately 14,945 residents within 5574 households. The age distribution was:

0-17 – 25%  
18-44 – 39%  
45-64 – 23%  
65+ - 13%

The 2019 IMD rank is 1725 (out of 12,382 parishes) most deprived in England.

The population is generally fairly settled with a number of families moving down from the London area.



There are three primary schools and a secondary school within the parish boundaries. The neighbouring towns of Rochester and Chatham have several grammar schools for boys and girls, and a Church of England infant school is in Strood town centre, although that is outside of the parish. The nearest Church of England secondary school is St. George's in Gravesend.

There are two doctor's surgeries within the parish, with the nearest large hospital being Medway Maritime hospital, located approximately 5 miles away on the border of Chatham and Gillingham. There is one public house, a working-men's club and a community centre. Some local shopping facilities exist in the form of small parades of shops, with a large Tesco Metro five minutes walk away in Darnley Road. The nearest major supermarkets are located within Strood Town centre. The housing developments within the parish were There is no obvious centre to the parish. It was built as a number of unrelated housing developments with no overall plan or links between them. The lack of a coherent structure means that there can sometimes be little sense of community. It is essentially a dormitory area. Some of the areas within the parish are owned and rented by Medway Housing Society.

We have two sheltered housing units for the elderly, and the church has links with both; there are some care in the community facilities for adults with learning disabilities.

## **St Francis Church**

The church is a relatively modern building, some 60 years old. Also located on the church site is the hall and vicarage.

The design of the church provides for a very open interior layout with seating for over 200. The original wooden pews were replaced with chairs a little under 10 years ago, enabling flexible and comfortable seating arrangements. The layout is normally east facing, although two 55" flat TV screens which are used to display liturgy are stand mounted to enable appropriate seasonal variations, if required.



A major project to refurbish the toilets and move the vestry was completed in 2020. This was financed by grant applications.

Further plans to remove the tea bar from the south-west corner of the church and replace it with a purpose-built enclosed kitchen with a servery hatch have been drawn up, and require grant funding applications to enable this to come to fruition. This is a significant project which the PCC would like to see completed, which will greatly improve and increase our ability to be a resource to our local community.

## **The Hall**

The church hall is situated behind the church and is detached from it. The original construction is of the same age as the church, but has a newer annexe which gives a small separate meeting room and houses the church office. There is presently space for one row of cars to be parked, although the PCC are keen for the bushes and bramble on the east side of the car park to be cleared to enable additional parking as this becomes congested for larger services or events in the hall.



The church, office and vicar's study share a 300Mbps Virgin Media internet connection. Both the church and hall are fitted with burglar alarms.

## **The Vicarage**

The vicarage also dates from the 1960's. The main entrance to the property is via a large entrance hall with separate entrances to the study and house proper. Inside the front door is a cloakroom, storage cupboard and entrance to the kitchen which was fully refitted and extended seven years ago and remains in excellent condition.

There is a spacious lounge with doors to the rear patio and a second, slightly smaller reception room. Attached to the west side of the property is a single garage, with an electric charging point outside.



The driveway at the front of the property is of hard surface and allows

for parking on either side. The side of the driveway nearest the church forms part of the church grounds. There is a large rear garden, which also adjoins, but is fenced off, from a small area of glebe land which is accessed from the hall.

Between the vicarage and church is a small memorial garden, which was constructed and dedicated as part of the church's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations in 2012. There is also a Millennium yew tree planted on the church site.

## **Congregation and Services**

There are 46 people on the electoral roll and the PCC currently has five members. The present pattern of worship consists of an 8am said CW communion service on each Sunday, followed by the principal service at 10am. Currently this is a CW service of the Word, with CW family communion on the fourth Sunday of the month. The current average attendance is around 30-35 including around 5 children. The congregation reflects the wide diversity of the parish demographics, although the average age of worshippers is, like much of the C of E, higher than that of the local population. The churchmanship is gently charismatic and open evangelical, and the ministry team and PCC are committed to making St. Francis an inclusive and diverse church, where all are made welcome.

As is to be expected in the current climate, the attendance and pattern of ministry being offered is not the same as it was prior to the arrival of Covid-19. With an interregnum, it has not been possible to see a phased return to some of that previous pattern. The ministry team and PCC are keen to see a return of some of the worship, study, social and other activities which took place outside of Sunday mornings, and a review of the pattern of Sunday morning ministry to reflect the current needs of the church family and local community. We are clear that the shape of what we offer into the future will not be the same as in the past, but to give an idea of what things looked like pre-Covid, here is a list of the main activities which took place, and which have fulfilled needs within the community:

- A monthly Sunday afternoon service with accessible liturgy for adults and children with additional needs.
- A monthly Sunday evening gathering for charismatic worship and teaching
- A regular programme of bible studies
- Annual memorial service
- Remembrance Service with linked Scout and Guide groups
- Café-style worship
- Diverse Christmas Worship

Looking at the present time, Giovanni, our Estates Pioneer has been working hard to



minimise the effect of these understandable changes both during and in the exit from the pandemic, the Messy Church which now runs being a particular case in point.

Messy Church runs on a regular Saturday morning slot in the church hall, and even a few months in is already having a significant impact on those attending. There is some flexibility in timing and location, and the Good Friday 2022 Messy Church was held in the church building, which gave a good context for the event. We had an attendance of around 60, which included Messy Church regulars as well as those who had attended the holiday club run in conjunction with Medway Council in the preceding week.

During the interregnum we have been asked, as is usual, not to change the pattern of worship. A clear desire has been expressed by the congregation that it would be preferable to move to a communion service at the main 10am service on more than one Sunday each month. The previous incumbent had been considering, along with the Wardens and PCC, of a change to the two Sunday service times. Whilst making drastic changes early on in an appointment is generally not recommended, there is an expectation that the new Interim Minister will review the pattern of worship at an early stage for pastoral reasons.



## **Occasional Offices**

### **Weddings**

St Francis has never had a large number of weddings, but in recent years there have been very few of them – 2018 saw just one. This is likely due to the competition offered by more picturesque churches or secular venues.

### **Baptisms and Confirmations**

The previous incumbent agreed, with the PCC, to a policy of baptism within the context of a worship service; usually at a family service of the word at 10am. During the pandemic, understandably, baptisms were held at separate and socially distanced services. Pre-pandemic, there were around 8-10 baptisms a year.

Confirmation services are usually shared with other churches across the Medway Towns. This is often arranged between the three Strood churches, but occasionally it is at a Rochester parish.

### **Funerals**

Very few funerals are held directly in the church, with the majority being at the local crematoria or occasionally at Strood Cemetery which is within the parish. These have tended to average 15-20 funerals each year.

## **Ministry Team**

The Ministry Team at St. Francis is thriving, and we are grateful for the generous movement of the Holy Spirit in enabling this to happen!

There is currently one Reader licensed to the parish, but there are others in training for licensed and authorised Lay Ministries. They are all working within the ministry team to provide the parish's ministry alongside local clergy who are assisting with sacramental ministries. The Reader will transfer to LLM in 2022, and is being licensed along with the Estates Pioneer. Another member has just completed their Bishop's Certificate course and is hoping to be selected to train for LLM in September 2022. Another is considering studying for the Bishop's Certificate in September 2022, and is exploring whether they are being called to LLM ministry.

We have had two ordinands-in-training in the last two years; both have moved to other parishes as a result of the present vacancy leaving them without the priestly supervision they require. Another member of the congregation is in the early stages of considering a call to ordained ministry.

## **Church Administrator**

St Francis has a paid part-time Church Administrator who manages part of the parish admin. There is a commitment from the PCC to continue to fund this post, as we recognise that administrative tasks can often displace important pastoral and missional activities.

## **Church Groups and Social Events**

The pandemic has quite understandably limited the social activities of the church family.

Regular bring and share lunches, games nights and quizzes were the mainstay of the social scene.

There is a very active Mothers' Union Branch with around 10-15 members which meets monthly, usually in the church hall meeting room. Before the Pandemic a men's group met for informal meetings once a month, sometimes getting together for a bowling night or informal games evening.

## **Finances**

We receive annual support from the Diocese towards the cost of a full time priest.

The demographics of St Francis' parish is such that raising funds is challenging. We are therefore cautious about our financial commitments.

A copy of the latest audited accounts is available for inspection, and from that it will be seen that we are reliant on the generosity of the Diocese for our priestly provision, as we are unable to meet the full cost of a priest from our income. Due to a consolidation of our financial position over the last six years, we have seen an increase in our contribution to the Parish Share, but there is a considerable distance to travel to meet the full amount.

The church hall offers significant potential for income. A pre-school which had been a tenant for many years sadly had to close their business during early 2021, which has led to the loss of a major source of revenue. Replacement lessees have, sadly, not come to full fruition yet, although we are hopeful that will not be a permanent outcome.

The church has solar panels installed on the roof which generate a modest income, providing some offset to the cost of energy for the church and hall.

## Community Outreach

St Francis has been blessed to receive SDF monies from the Church Commissioners in order to employ a Pioneer Evangelist on a 5-year fixed contract. Giovanni Perrales took up this post in the middle of the pandemic, and has made good links to the local community, building well on initiatives already in place and leveraging opportunities to get local people involved in their local church community, and build relationships based on trust between the community and local agencies, schools, the Local Authority and our PCSO Neighbourhood Team.

Giovanni is working with the Community Engagement Lead in the Diocese to grow a volunteer network to support the projects already running and those we would like to run. There are no shortage of people waiting to be asked to be proactive in supporting their community, and we have a vision that, as church, we can act as a catalyst for this.

Tuesday morning sees St Francis host our *Place of Welcome*, our weekly social cafe. This is open to anyone who wishes to come, but has a particular focus on those who are socially isolated or vulnerable, and gives a valuable opportunity for the church to welcome in support agencies and organisations with whom we are delighted to partner, some of whom can offer funded services within a variety of community contexts, not just Place of Welcome. These contexts are not limited, but currently are extending to Toddler Group, Messy Church and the work we are doing within local schools.

Examples of those we are currently working with are Medway Council, Medway Public Health, Community Faith Forum, Medway Volunteer Action and the Medway Food and Hygiene banks.



Fridays at St. Francis are *Funky Fridays*, and around 35 children and their carers enjoy messy play, crafts and music at our Toddler Group. This is one feed in to our Messy Church project.

Messy Church, as mentioned earlier, takes place in either the church hall or church on a Saturday, and is successfully forging relationships with families who would probably not come to St. Francis on a Sunday morning. Whilst this is a relatively new project it is

already proving to be popular and successful and is clearly meeting the needs of one section of the community. We are excited about where this will lead, and the potential relationships that these families will have with God.

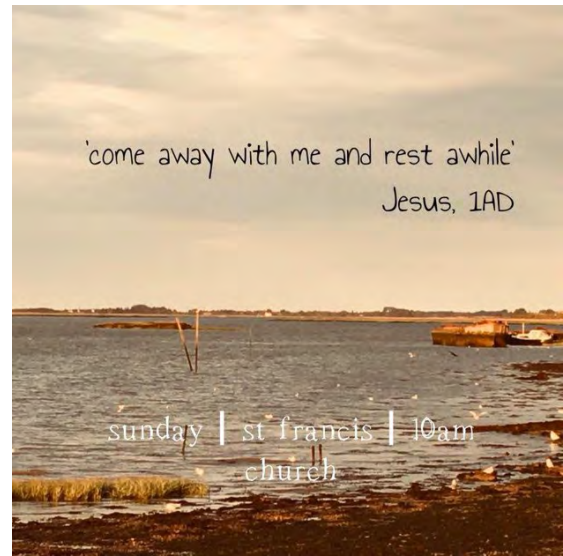
St Francis was the initial driving partner of the now ceased Strood Community Project which ran for over 10 years. One of the legacies that has been further shaped and extended has been the Christmas Hamper Project which provides Christmas treats and gifts to some 60-70 households in the parish. This project gains momentum each year and is carried out with our partner church of St George's Weald (Sevenoaks) along with contributions from Rochester Cathedral and other local churches. Referrals to the project come from local schools and agencies. The church wishes to see this project continue to run, and is committed to it.

The church hall was used until recently by a pre-school playgroup during weekdays and is currently used by Rainbow/Brownie/Guide groups in the evenings. Some community groups also use the hall. It can be let for receptions and parties at weekends. We are keen to encourage greater use of the hall as a resource, not least because it also brings a badly needed income stream to the parish finances.

Given the parish demographics, social media has considerably greater impact locally than a website so we predominantly use Facebook and occasionally Twitter to publicize our activities. St Francis does have a presence on [achurchnearyou.com](http://achurchnearyou.com), although we get very few enquiries through it.

In the past, St Francis has run several successful social media campaigns to link the church and our faith with those in the community. The *St Francis Rocks!* Campaign, where we placed pebbles painted with a swaddled baby Jesus and a Twitter hashtag on the bottom in random locations around the parish. Our annual *Christmas Jumper Sunday* event has also been encouraging when it has been advertised on social media.





## Restarting Tuesday June 29th 10am



St Francis of Assisi  
Real faith - Real lives - Real people

## **Children and Young People**

St Francis has a Sunday School which meets during term time either at the back of the church or in the Assisi Room in the Church Hall depending on numbers. The attendance varies between one and five children, with the occasional Sunday without children.

The teaching is tailored to the ages of the children and keeps with the liturgical season. The children are also encouraged to play an active part within all-age worship, and once a month they are “apprenticed” to members of the congregation who are manning the sound desk, acting as sidespersons, and so on. This is to demonstrate that the Body of Christ has many parts, with members of the congregation playing their part in living that out.

At present there are no school-age teenagers within our church family. In previous years activities were run for those who were attending, and we are hopeful that our growth into the community will reach into this demographic so that we can run events for them once more.

We presently have links with Cedar and Elaine Primary Schools, and Giovanni is working hard to generate more formal work with those schools.

During Lockdown, Giovanni ran *Cooking up a Zoom* with the school cook from Elaine Primary who was on Furlough. This was a Zoom-delivered weekly event, which taught scratch cooking skills to both children and parents/carers. The emphasis was on using basic ingredients to create a nutritional and satisfying dish, enabling parents and carers to learn the recipe and repeat it.

Giovanni has also linked with Medway Council’s public health department in running holiday projects with them. The council have their *HAF Programme* (Holiday Activity Food) which, during the Summer, Christmas and Easter holidays seeks to provide sports, music and drama activities whilst ensuring that each child receives a hot meal. St Francis delivered one last Summer and, has delivered an Easter programme in 2022.

As mentioned earlier, these projects have successfully fed into Messy Church activities which immediately follow them, and we hope and pray that more permanent relationships with those families will ensue.





## Ecumenical Links

Whilst there is no formal “Churches Together” group in Strood, there has been a good working relationship between St Francis and the ministers of other denominations in Strood. In past years, public services of witness have taken place in Strood Town Centre on Good Friday and in the run up to Christmas.

A London-based Pentecostal church, New Covenant Church, lease the church hall on a Sunday afternoon for the main service of their Medway branch. We have a very good relationship with them and have held occasional joint services and fellowship lunches together.

There are also opportunities for St Francis to work together with other denominations on projects. Messy Church and HAF projects we have had volunteers from the local Baptist Church, Salvation Army and Strood Gospel Church.

## Looking to the Future...

All parish profiles understandably have to paint a picture of where a parish has come from and where it is currently – those are our “known knowns” and are valuable in telling the story of what has been possible.

The future is, of course, something which each parish seeks to shape as best it can – so what are our aspirations?

As with any parish of our size, there is a natural tension between the resources we have and the missional priorities that are in place. In a post-Covid landscape we need to re-evaluate what mission and ministry in our parish looks like. That will mean keeping some things we have done, ceasing others, and doing new things which are different. “To everything there is a season” says the writer of Ecclesiastes – and we are praying that there will be a season of outreach, growth and working out of God’s plans for his Kingdom here at St. Francis.



Our Parish Vision is summed up as Real Faith, Real Lives, Real People. Ultimately, we want to see this come to fruition in our own everyday lives, our Sunday and Weekday

worship and mirrored in our community when those we seek to reach respond to the Gospel message to become friends and followers of Jesus. We hope that you will feel led by God to undertake Interim Ministry in the parish, to work with the Ministry Team, Staff, PCC and congregation to discern where God is calling us, and to help us identify the right permanent minister to lead us beyond this interim period.

We hope that you will prayerfully consider if the Lord is calling you to serve our Parish.

## **Contact details:**

### **Churchwardens:**

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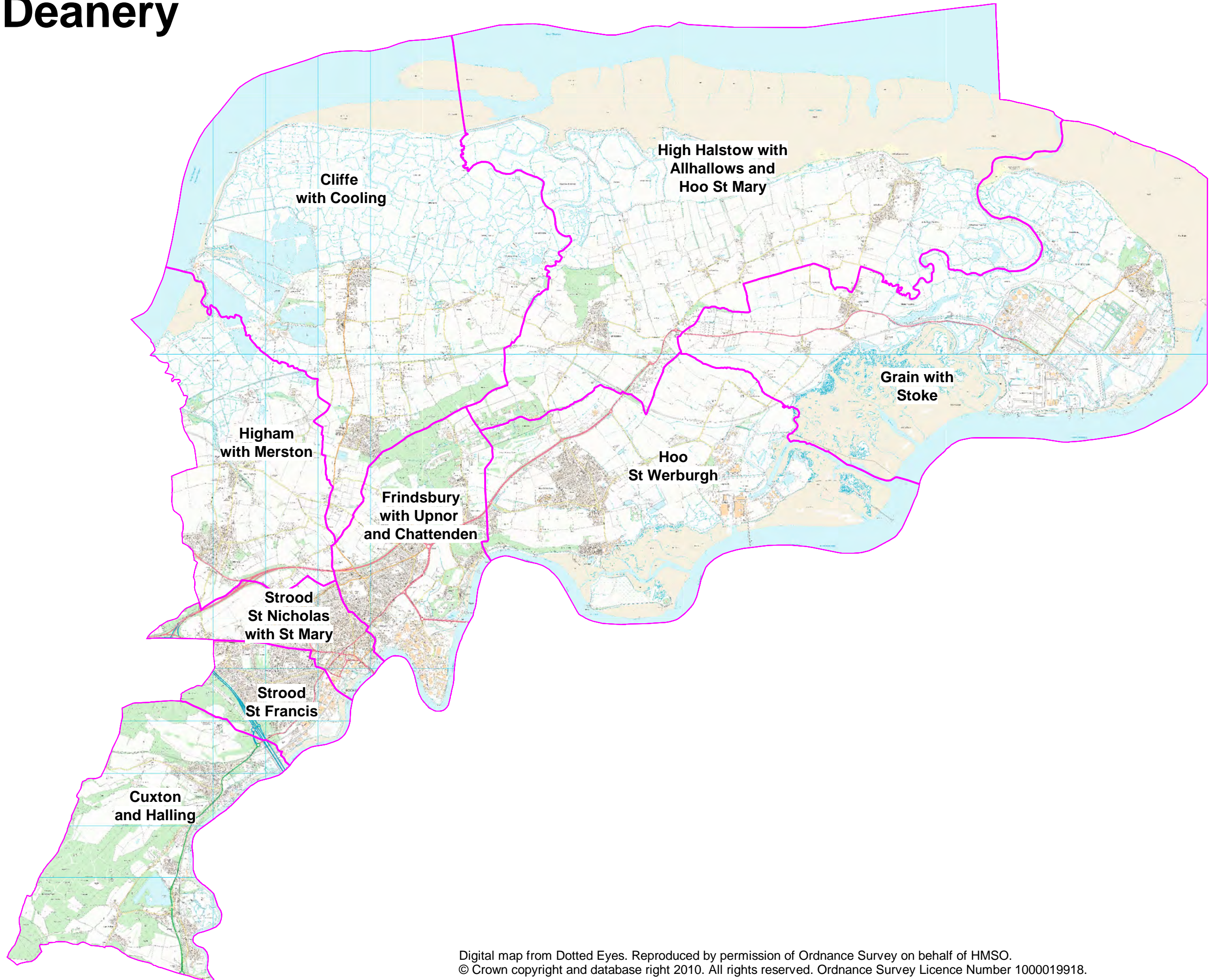




# Stood St Francis



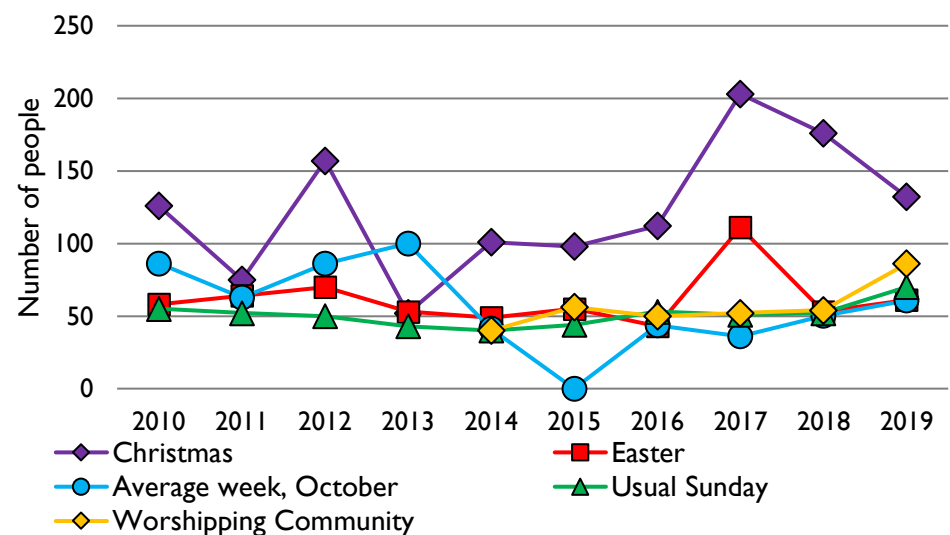
# Strood Deanery



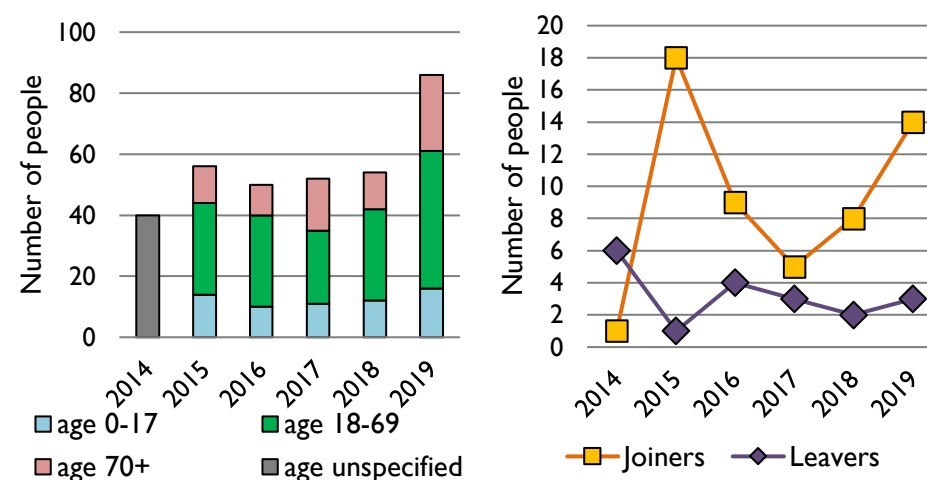


# Dashboard for the parish of Strood: St Francis in the Deanery of STROOD

### 1. Attendance summary, 2010-19



### 2. Worshipping Community, 2014-19



## Parish census and deprivation summary

Parish population (2018): 14945

	Parish	Diocese	National
% aged 0-17	25%	23%	21%
% aged 18-44	39%	35%	37%
% aged 45-64	23%	26%	25%
% aged 65 & over	13%	16%	16%
% Christian	58%	61%	59%
% non-Christian religion	3%	5%	9%

Parish deprivation rank (IMD, 2019): 1725

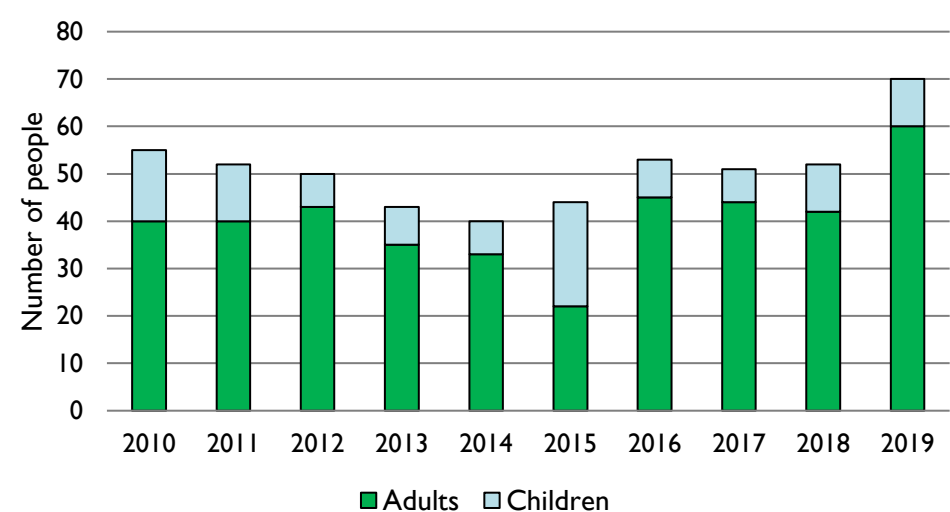
(1=most deprived parish in the Church of England, 12,382=least deprived)

For more detailed census & deprivation info: see <http://arcg.is/1RaS4CS>  
<https://www.churchofengland.org/researchandstats>  
 and <http://www2.cuf.org.uk/poverty-england/poverty-map>

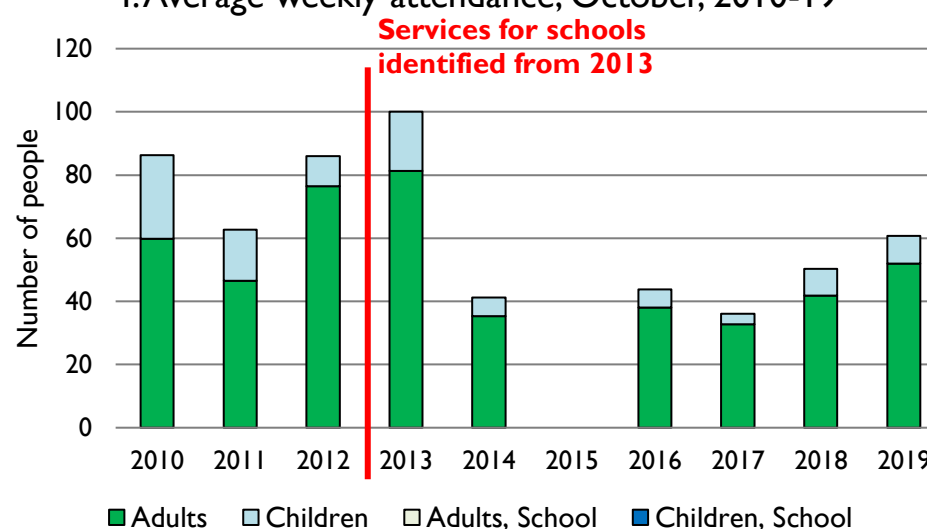
Number of churches in parish (2020): 1

Parish code: 310155

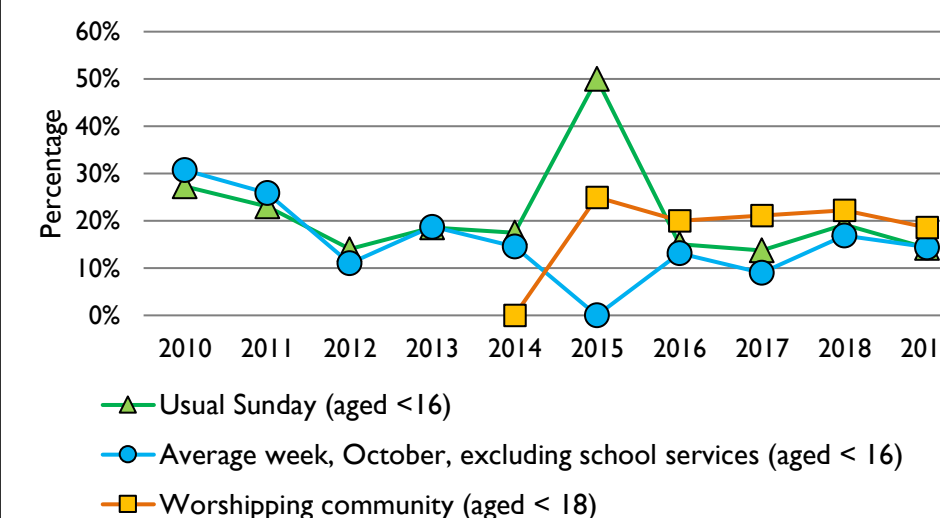
### 3. Usual Sunday attendance, 2010-19



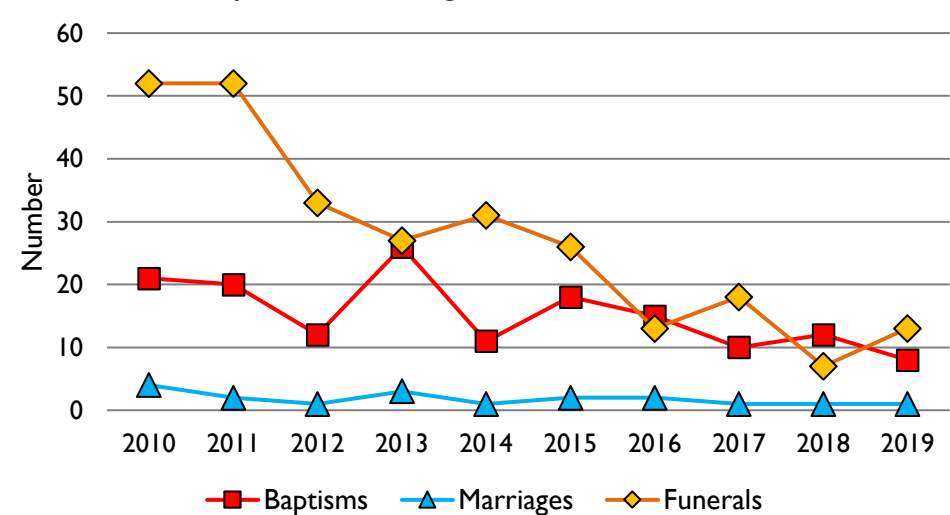
### 4. Average weekly attendance, October, 2010-19



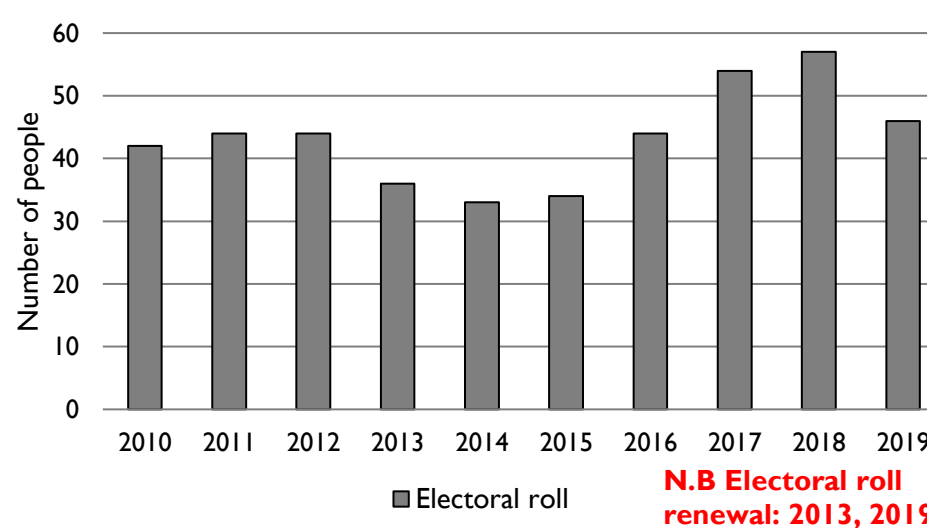
### 5. Percentage children, 2010-19



### 6. Baptisms, marriages, & funerals, 2010-19



### 7. Electoral roll, 2010-19



This dashboard contains figures as submitted by churches currently in the parish

**Attendance statistics:** taken from annual Statistics for Mission returns.

Average weekly attendance: attendance at Sunday and midweek church services & fresh expressions in October; Figs 1 & 5 do not include attendance at services for schools.

Easter: Easter Eve & Easter Day; Christmas: Christmas Eve & Christmas Day.

Baptisms: all baptisms & thanksgivings.

Marriages: marriages and services of prayer & dedication after civil marriages.

Funerals: those held in church & at crematoria/cemeteries.

Worshipping Community information has been collected from 2012 onwards.

**Census data:** taken from the 2011 national Census and the 2018 population update.

**Deprivation statistics:** IMD taken from the English Indices of Deprivation, published by the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government, Sept 2019.

The above statistics have been mapped onto parish boundaries so are approximations.

For more information, see: <https://www.churchofengland.org/researchandstats>

Variations in attendance from year to year may be the result of changes in the number of churches that submitted returns, or changes in parish/benefice structure.

Number of churches included in returns: 2010 1; 2011 1; 2012 1; 2013 1; 2014 1; 2015 1; 2016 1; 2017 1; 2018 1; 2019 1.

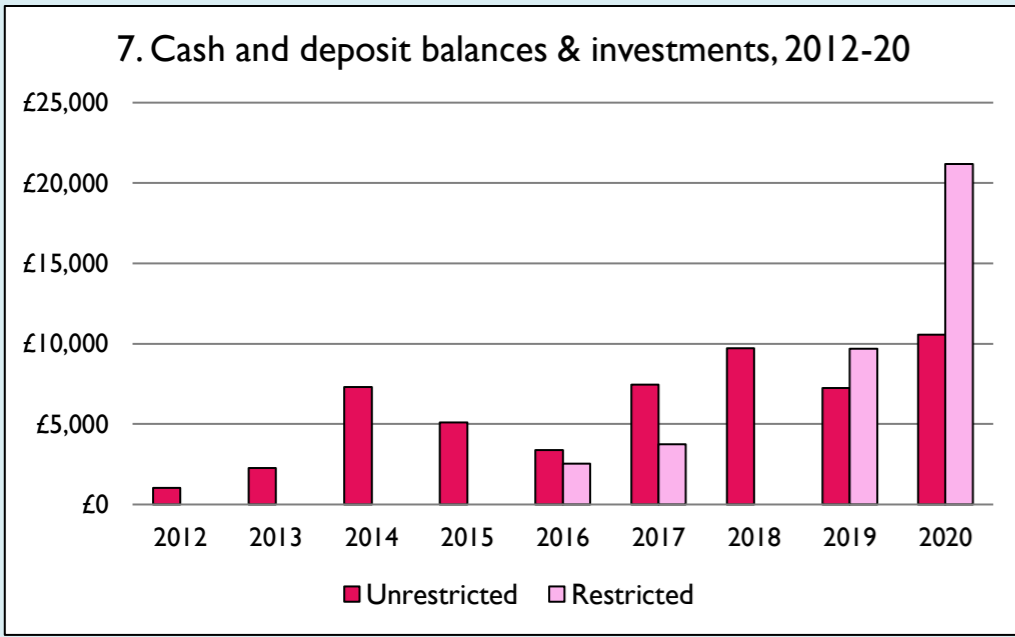
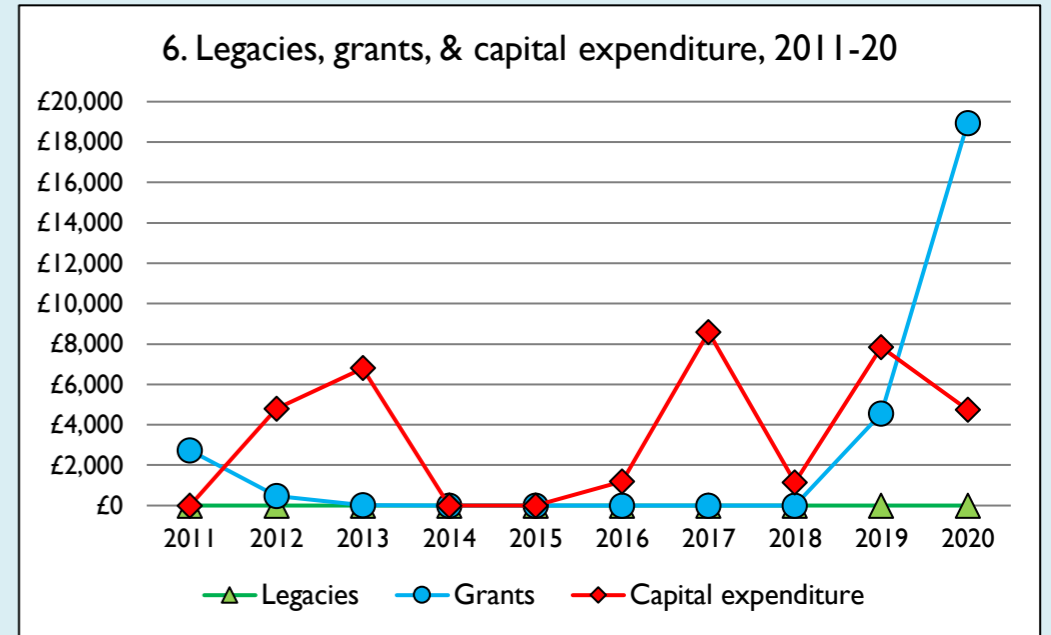
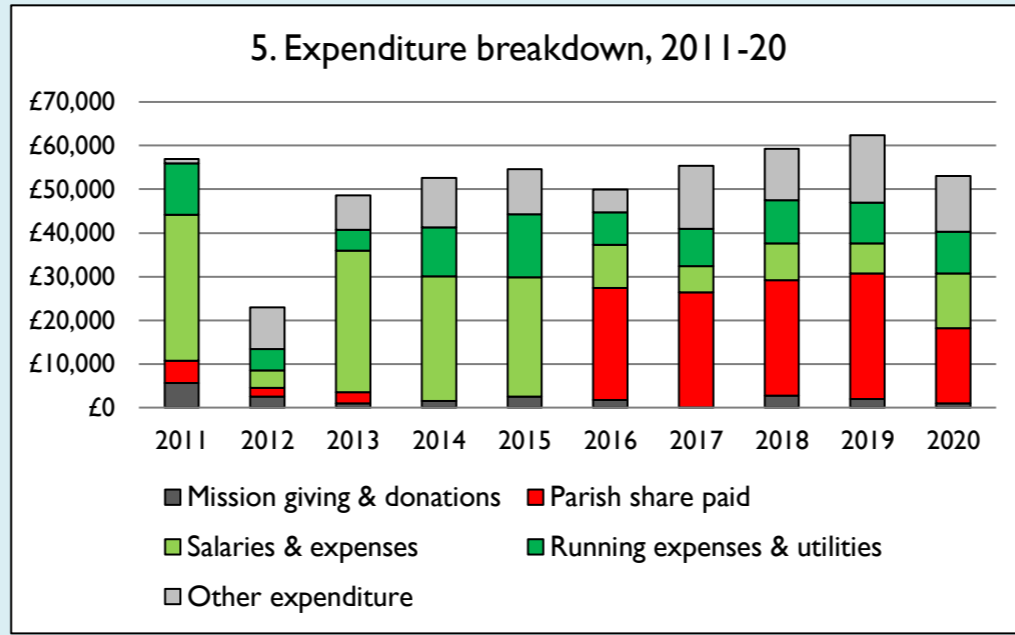
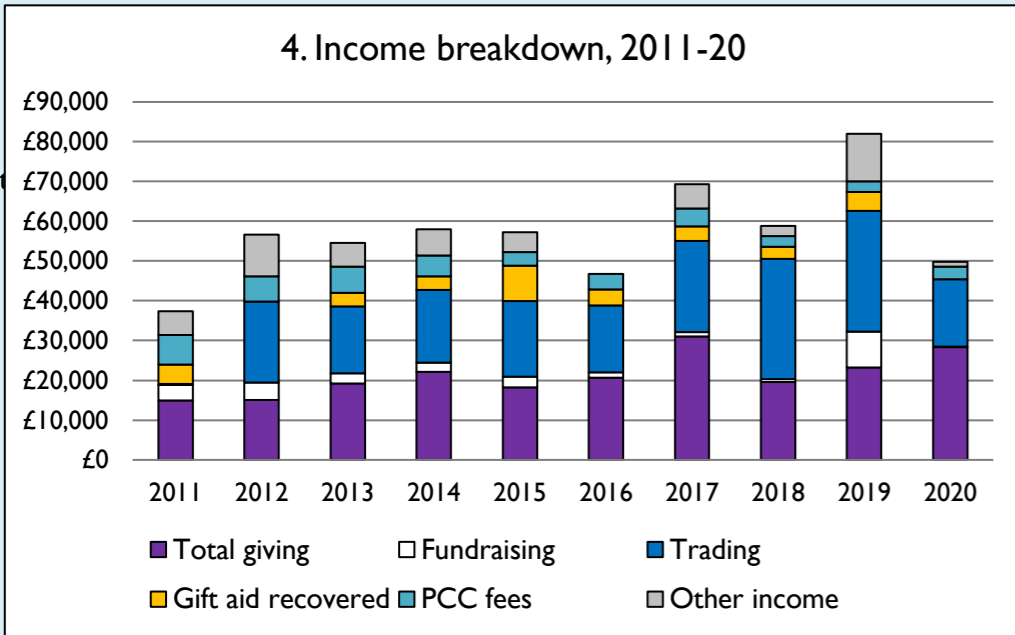
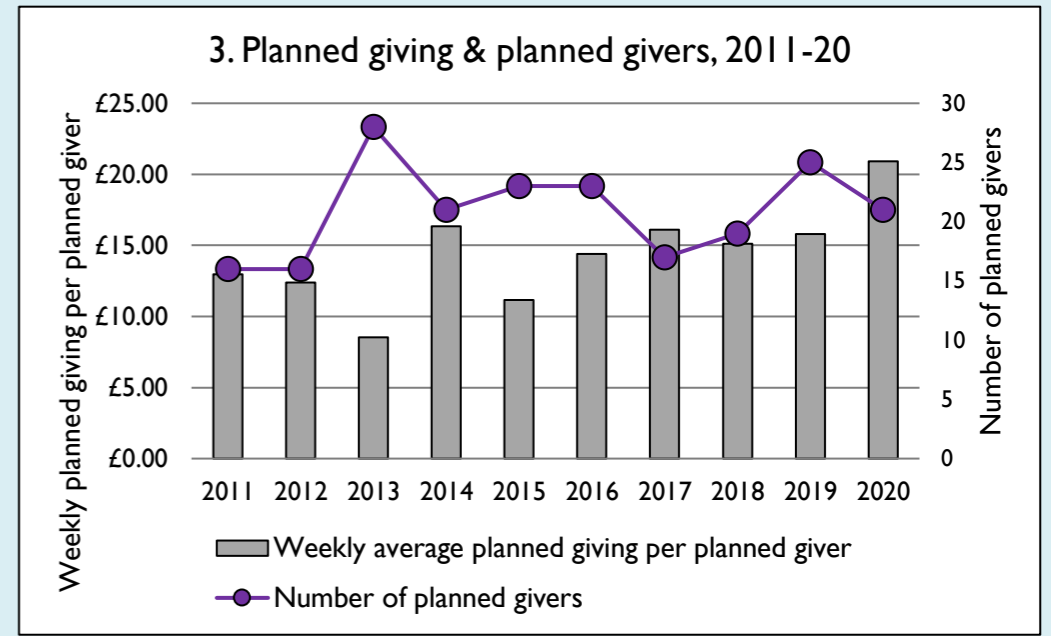
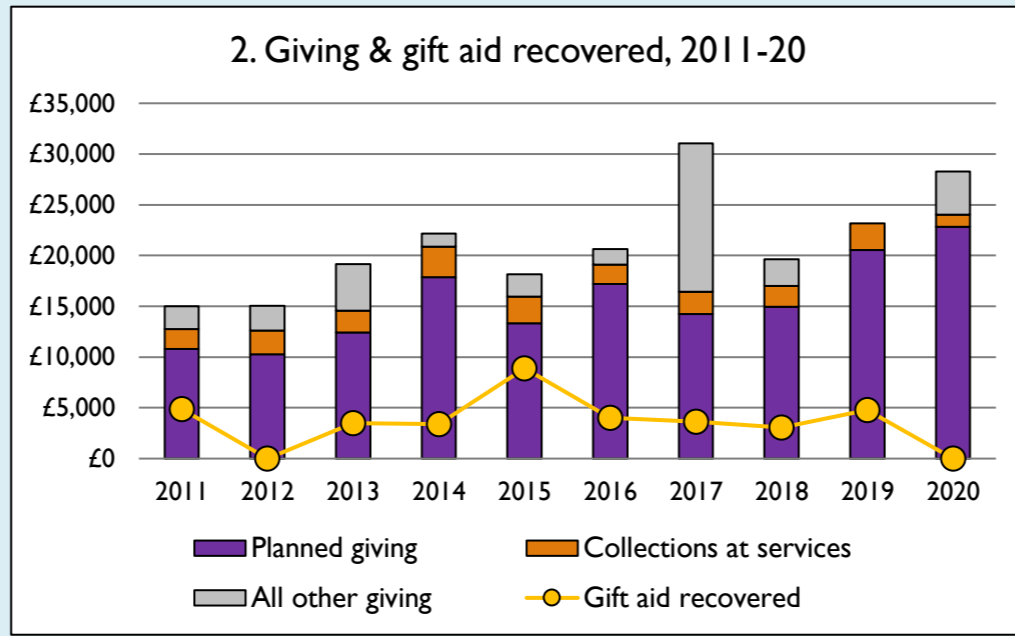
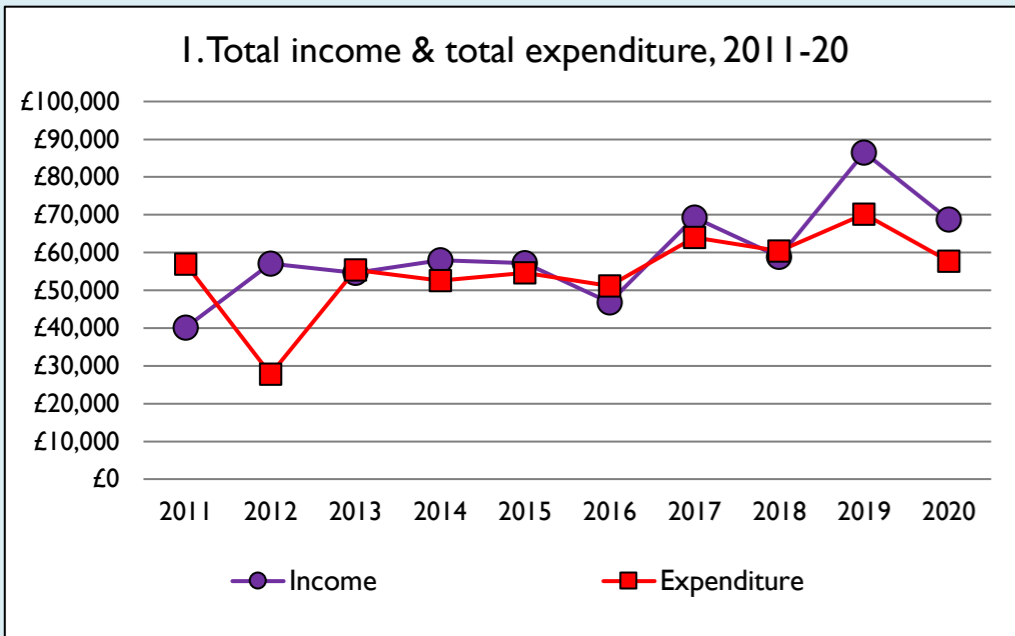
Produced by the Research and Statistics Unit, Church House, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3AZ. Date of production: 23/9/20.

Every effort has been made to ensure that data are reliable. We would be pleased to be notified of any significant errors or omissions by email to [statistics.unit@churchofengland.org](mailto:statistics.unit@churchofengland.org)

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# Finance dashboard for the parish of Strood: St Francis in the Deanery of STROOD



#### Weekly average planned giving per planned giver (2020)

Parish: £20.92  
Diocese: £16.90

#### Number of churches in parish (2021): 1

Parish code: 310155

#### Notes & definitions

This dashboard contains figures as submitted by churches currently in the parish; gaps may be the result of missing returns.  
 Graph 2 shows a detailed breakdown of the **Total giving** figure in graph 4.  
 Graph 3: **Planned giving** = Tax efficient planned giving + Other planned giving; **Planned givers** = Tax efficient planned givers + Other planned givers.  
 Graph 4 shows income other than grants and legacies.  
 Graph 4: **Total giving** = Tax efficient planned giving + Other planned giving + Collections at services + All other giving, including Special Appeals.  
 Graph 4: **Other income** = Dividends, interest, income from property + Any other income.  
 Graph 5 shows expenditure other than capital expenditure.  
 Graph 5: **Other expenditure** = Fund-raising activities + Mission and evangelism costs + Cost of trading + Other expenses.  
 Graph 5: **Running expenses & utilities** also includes governance costs.  
 Graphs 1-6: Unrestricted and Restricted amounts have been combined.  
 For further definitions please see the guidance notes attached to the Return of Parish Finance: <https://parishreturns.churchofengland.org/>

Variations from year to year may be the result of changes in the number of churches that submitted returns, or changes in parish/benefice structure.

**Number of churches included in returns: 2011 1; 2012 1; 2013 1; 2014 1; 2015 1; 2016 1; 2017 1; 2018 1; 2019 1; 2020 1.**

Produced by the Research and Statistics Unit, Church House, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3AZ. Date of production: 14/2/22.

Every effort has been made to ensure that data are reliable. We would be grateful to be notified of any significant errors or omissions by email to [statistics.unit@churchofengland.org](mailto:statistics.unit@churchofengland.org)



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