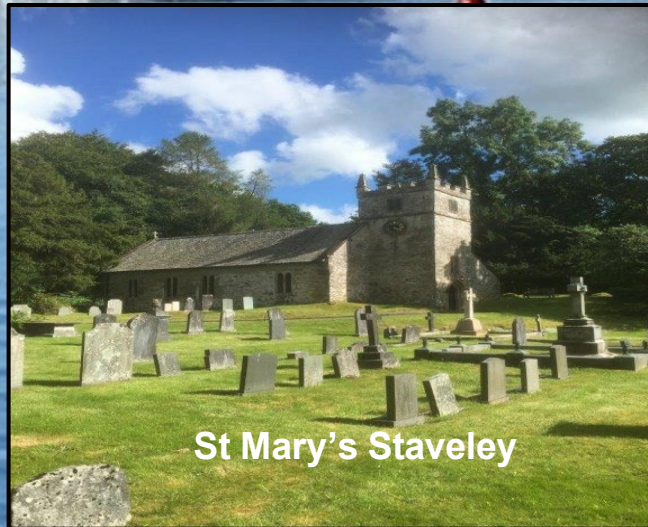


# Welcome to the Leven Valley Parishes



**St Anne's Haverthwaite**



**St Mary's Staveley**



**St Peter's Finsthwaite**



# Welcome, to the Leven Valley Parishes of St Anne, St Mary and St Peter

This is an exciting opportunity to join a long-established group of rural churches who have a passion and vision to see God's kingdom grow in this beautiful part of the Lake District situated at the foot of Windermere and within easy reach of the M6 motorway.

**We are hoping that you will be able to bring...**

- The ability to work and lead collaboratively and enable the laity to exercise their own ministry based on their recent experience and identifying lay leadership of worship as a valuable resource.
- The ability to maintain and expand the Christian presence within the various communities of the Leven Valley – amongst both the current congregation and beyond.
- The willingness and commitment to develop the establishment and growth of the Mission Community across the Cartmel Peninsula.
- To demonstrate an ability and understanding of the opportunities and issues relating to life in a predominantly rural and dispersed setting of the community with a significant ageing population.
- Being comfortable with a diverse range of faith and liturgy within the three parishes.



# An Outline of Role Description

**This is a Part-time (2.5 days a week) House for Duty post as Vicar of the Benefice of the Leven Valley.**

**The core elements of the practicalities of the new role are perceived to be:**

- Leading our churches to grow in worship, leadership, and mission.
- Leadership of the three PCCs (though not necessarily chairing each meeting of them all!).
- Developing and coordinating a system of pastoral care across the Leven Valley Churches.
- Coordination of the activities of the already established Worship Group and PCCs in the planning of the Services Rota
- Working with colleagues across the Cartmel Peninsula Mission Community to develop effective networks of mission and outreach.
- Being out and about in the community being visible and approachable
- Average Working hours : Sundays and two days per week.
- A clear sense of faith and vision
- Obvious confidence in the Christian faith and gospel and an ability to preach with clarity and conviction.
- An ability to identify, inspire and harness the goodwill, abilities and skills of the laity.
- A commitment to growth.

## The Vicarage



The vicarage (in Haverthwaite) is a detached two-storied dwelling built in 1977 with two garages attached.

There are the usual appointments. Oil fired central heating also provides domestic hot water. There is also a wood burning stove, and two garages.

Full Details from Diocesan Property Office and Parsonage Committee.

## Personal Qualities

- Obvious confidence in the Christian faith and gospel and an ability to preach with clarity and conviction.
- An ability to identify, inspire and harness the goodwill, abilities and skills of the laity.
- Energy and a sense of humour!

### Where do we hope the Leven Valley Churches will be in ten years' time?

It is clear that we need a period of stability to achieve these objectives and the new incumbent will play a leading role in coordinating widespread laity support to achieve this with the backing of the three PCCs.

- The three churches will be bigger and more lively.
- The spiritual life of the community will be healthier, more important and more active.
- There will be a much wider age profile in the congregations across the Benefice.
- There will be an expansion of the collaborative activity across the churches of the peninsula – to include all the churches.
- There will be an expansion of the 'pool' of laity willing and able to take services.
- There will be a comprehensive programme of mutual assistance across the parishes to deal with the practical matters of running a Church and PCC

## Leven Valley C of E School



**The Leven Valley School** would welcome an incumbent eager to build strong links between the church and school.

This would include regular leading of Collective Worship, participation in the termly 'Everyone Together' afternoon, building relationships with children, staff and parents and assisting with the leadership of the school as a Governor.

We would like to have someone who recognises the important part Leven Valley School already plays in the rural community and who sees a church school as strategic in the mission of the church.

<https://www.levenfalley.cumbria.sch.uk>



# The Parish of St Anne, Haverthwaite



## Statistics:

Normal Sunday Attendance	15/25
Easter Day	30
Christmas Eve	65
Christmas Day	30
Electoral Roll	20
Weddings 2023	1
Funerals 2023	0
Cremated Remains 2023	3
Parishioners Confirmed 2023	0
Churchwardens (2 posts)	1
Deputy Churchwardens (2 posts)	1
Population (approx.)	875
Parish Offer 2023	£ 4000

Although the average weekly Sunday morning service pulls in around 15 to 25 parishioners, we do hold additional services in the parish for outreach and at the church on weekdays and on Sundays throughout the year (such as Remembrance Sunday which is an afternoon service following the United Service at Staveley in the morning) and at the local Primary school.

We also tend to get visitors with passing interests or from the local caravan sites, the Time Share Holiday homes at Backbarrow and the hotels/guest houses. St Anne's is known as a very friendly church with a welcoming attitude to strangers or those who we see from time to time but do not live here. We are a happy church.

St Anne's Church Haverthwaite (SD 347841) lies within The Lake District National Park in the County of Cumbria (Lancashire prior to 1974). It was built in 1824-5 as a chapel of ease within the parish of Colton and consecrated in 1825.

Much modification took place through the succeeding years. In 1844 a district from the parish of Colton was legally assigned to this chapel and in 1858 a district from the Parish of Cartmel was added constituting Haverthwaite a consolidated district. In 1866 the chapel became a parish church, and the consolidated district became a new parish for all ecclesiastical purposes.

At present, 200 people can be seated in the church. The adult population the parish is just over 879 approx., who live in the parish then we have those who work here. There are 20 on the church electoral roll. The churchyard is closed for burials. A second churchyard has only 22 plots left before it is full.

Currently our 3 parishes have no incumbent but are serviced by other clergy from the Peninsula and Deanery. The Patrons are John Chaplin Esq. and The Bishop of Carlisle.

**The Church Hall:** The hall seats 40 theatre style and 35 café style, it has kitchen and toilets.

### **Community Focused Projects Existing and in Planning**

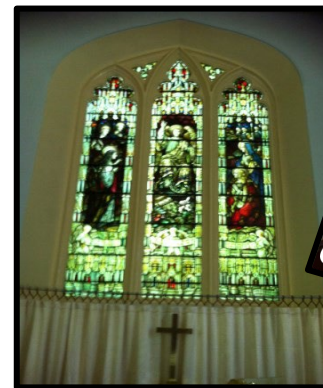
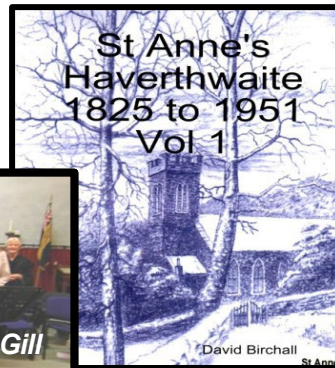
#### **The Music Group...**

We have featured local talent like **Jess Gillam saxophonist, Daniel Louise Thomas, Mezzo Soprano, Michael Carroll, Baritone and Julia Carol, Mezzo Soprano** plus a community choir.



**Gardening Club...** The Gardening Club is RHS Affiliated – it has a small number of members and is ready to grow soon...

**The People and Community:** The congregation ranges from a more modern traditional Church of England to somewhat evangelical and in some respect could be described as “middle of the road” but open to something different. There is a preference for those presiding at Holy Communion to be robed, not so much at less formal services. Lay led services have ‘opened up’ the style of service delivery with a more laid-back approach but maintaining the favourite hymns and music. As we don’t always have an organist, we have used contemplative music on opening which tends to quieten attendees and get them ready for worship. We’ve also introduced recorded anthems in-between the reading and the Gospel which has been well accepted. Those who do attend services are keen to grow the church and are open to alternative formats providing they are allowed to have them eased in rather than thrust upon them.



**Reordering..** We are working with Richard Passmore of Northern Missions Centre on Generating Fresh Expressions etc. A plan is in progress to reorder the church to allow better community use and interaction. Full details available from David Birchall Churchwarden [david@amhost.co.uk](mailto:david@amhost.co.uk)

## *The Parish of St Peter Finsthwaite*



The attractive parish of Finsthwaite and Lakeside sits alongside Lake Windermere in the Lake District National Park, a world Heritage site.

St Peter's Church stands at the centre of the beautiful hamlet of Finsthwaite. Finsthwaite attracts many tourists, drawn by the attraction of the Stott Park Bobbin Mill museum, and the walks to the fells and local tarn: the very popular High Dam pictured above.

The recently opened south Windermere Way passes St Peter's which is open every day. There is a regular flow of visitors throughout the year, who tell us that they come to enjoy the peace and tranquility they find in the church.

The original church of St Peter, built in 1724, was replaced by the present larger one in 1874. It was designed by Paley and Austin, the well-known Lancaster firm of architects, and won a prize in a competition to design a church suitable for an alpine area. It is graded as a 2\* building. A lych gate was added in 1914.



St Peter's has a dedicated, hardworking congregation with attendance averaging about 15 from an electoral roll of 36.

The congregation currently enjoy both BCP and CW services. We have a United Service with Haverthwaite and Staveley on the fifth Sunday of the month. The PCC meets regularly.





The social life of the village revolves around church and the adjacent village hall activities. Some of these include a monthly book swap, occasional cinema evenings and talks on a variety of topics.

The fabric of the church is in good condition. There is an ongoing schedule of care for our building and in recent years we have refurbished the parish clock, the rare set of tubular bells and redecorated internally and externally.



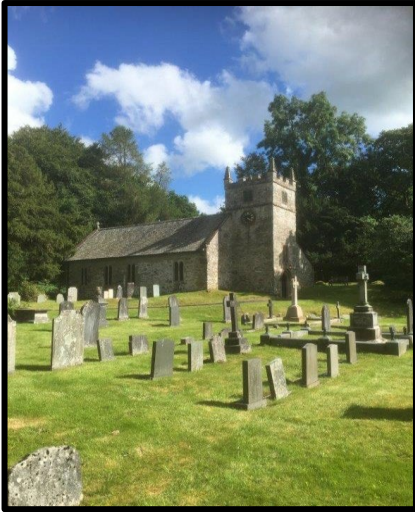
## Statistics

Church Attendance Average 2022/3:	16
Christmas Eve 2022:	18
Easter 2023:	25
Baptisms 2022-3:	1
Weddings 2022-3:	3
Funerals 2022-3:	1
Burial of Cremated remains 2022-23:	1





# The Parish of St Mary, Staveley in Cartmel.



**St. Mary's Church** - is located in idyllic surroundings to the south end of the village. Close by is the National Trust owned Fell Foot Park with lake access and excellent facilities.

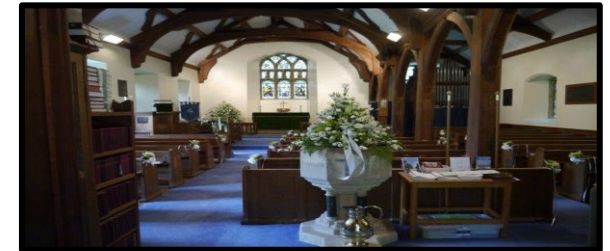
In common with many Lakeland villages, Staveley contains a number of holiday homes and Airbnbs and whilst the church endeavours to play an important role in the promotion of community, the relatively small number of full-time residents presents its own challenges.

The majority of the population could be described as being 'retired' though in the past twelve months a number of new residents with families have purchased properties in the village. Which affords the prospect of some expansion of activity.

There are a number of adjacent locations close to Staveley – such as Newby Bridge, Canny Hill, and Ayside from which there is some irregular participation in church life.

## The Present Day

Services using Common Worship in the main are held regularly on Sundays. It has been possible to maintain regular worship each Sunday within the rota planned with other parishes. These have normally been timed to take place at 11.00 a.m. to facilitate clergy involvement with other local parishes at 9.30 a.m. This has included a joint Service on the fifth Sunday of any month.



Over the last two decades, laity participation in services has been well established and has enjoyed the support of the congregation. A rota of lesson Readers operates well, and three congregation members are currently administering the chalice. One member of the laity has been taking Communion by Extension regularly which is fully accepted. Other members take a Service of the Word when required.

One member of the PCC plays the organ regularly and from time to time this is augmented by the organist from Finsthwaite. We have had some success in recruiting the support of ordained clergy from other areas to lead worship.



## The History

A church was first established on this site in the aftermath of the Dissolution of the Monasteries when Cartmel Priory was dissolved as part of the Henrician Reformation. The first documented mention of the church is 1618 when Henry Longman is recorded as curate and schoolmaster.

In 1678 the Church underwent its first restoration when more windows were added. A second in 1793, included the new south aisle and the Tower. In 1841 further land was purchased to extend the churchyard. The organ built by Wilkinsons of Kendal was installed in 1889 a part of which led to the installation of the pulpit which retains its original style. A third restoration took place between 1896-7. The church was reopened by the Bishop of Carlisle on May 29<sup>th</sup> 1897 and dedicated to St. Mary the Virgin. 1897. The substantial Lych Gate was added in 1927 as a War Memorial. The PCC has nine members and meets quarterly, after a few difficult years in which administration and a number of matters, including the role of Treasurer, things are operating on a more even keel

## Statistics

Population Civic Parish 2011	405
Electoral Roll	25
Church Attendance Average 2022/3:	
Jan – June 2022:	15
Jan 22 – July 23:	20
Christmas 2022	16
Easter 2023	27
Baptisms 2022-3	2
Weddings 2022-3	0
Funerals 2022-3	7



## The Church Hall

The Village Hall is used as a centre for local and church activities as well as being available for public lettings to groups wishing to use it as a base in the area. It was formerly the village school which was closed in 1962 and then purchased by the PCC.

The Hall is quite large and incorporates a small kitchen with cooking facilities and as a result of extensive work a decade ago now has internal w.c. and showering facilities and toilet. Whilst not fully DDA compliant in terms of access to the building the sanitary facilities are compliant. A large playground area provides both adequate parking and a recreational area, the building has full central heating.