Benefice Profile
House for Duty Post
Christ Church Heaton & St Margaret’s Halliwell
Deanery of Bolton, Archdeanery of Bolton, Diocese of Manchester

We look forward to welcoming an Associate Minister to the Benefice.
Bolton

The town is on the edge of the West Pennine Moors, providing very ready access to a huge area of open countryside. Access to the motorway system is excellent, the M61 provides easy routes to the north, and the M60 links with the M62 and M6 provide access to the rest of the country. Within easy reach are the Lake District, Liverpool, Chester, the Peak District and the whole of the Lancashire and North Wales coasts. Bolton has good bus and rail links with Manchester city centre and Salford Quays, with their many retail, leisure and cultural attractions. There are excellent road and rail links to Manchester and the surrounding towns, and proximity to the Moors provides excellent opportunities for enjoying the countryside. Easy access to the M60 and M61, and thus to the whole motorway network puts Bolton close to the centre of the British road system.

Bolton itself has a thriving produce market, museum, aquarium and library, and the Octagon Theatre. There are several local amateur theatrical and music groups, and the Albert Halls present professional music, dance and comedy entertainment.

Other nearby attractions include the following:

- Country parks in Farnworth and Bury
- The Manchester Bury & Bolton Canal, linking the country parks and providing walking, cycling and waterborne activities.
- Many museums in Manchester and the surrounding areas including the Imperial War Museum (North) at The Quays, Salford and the Museum of Science & Industry, Manchester.

Boltonians are the friendliest people in Britain

According to a survey of the British Association for the Advancement of Science
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bolton
• Renowned libraries including John Rylands Library and Chetham’s Library.

• In addition to the Octagon in Bolton, there are the Manchester theatres which provide West End style entertainment, and the Bridgewater Hall, home to the Halle Orchestra.
• Sport is well catered for; the Bolton Arena and the Reebok Stadium are just to the north of the parish alongside the Middlebrook retail complex. Bolton University has a student body of around 11,000. Their teaching quality has consistently won the highest ratings possible from the Government’s quality control agency and they have professional accreditation for more than 30 of their teaching programmes.

Bolton is a large town situated in Greater Manchester, between the West Pennine Moors and the urban areas of Manchester and its surroundings. It has a long history, but, like most Lancashire towns, it owes its major characteristics to the Industrial Revolution and the development of the cotton industry. Samuel Crompton, inventor of the Spinning Mule was born in the town, and most of the early models were manufactured here. Thus, Bolton was never just a cotton town, but an engineering town also, and this continues to the present day. Dr Fred Dibnah MBE was born in Bolton.

The new £34-million Bolton One, (now known as the Jason Kenny centre) boasts a 70 station fitness suite, 8 lane 25-metre swimming pool, hydrotherapy pool and workout studio. The flagship health and fitness facility — a joint project between Bolton Council, Bolton University and the NHS — boasts a competition standard, eight-lane, 25-metre swimming pool, with a moveable floor to accommodate swimming lessons and aqua aerobics, and 250 spectators for gala events. A community gym, dance studio and fitness suite also form part of the leisure complex.

Bolton’s population is 262,000 and it is growing slightly, about 0.2% per annum.

Approximately 11% of the population identify as part of the non-White ethnic groups, 8% are of Indian or Pakistani origin. The town retains much of its Victorian and Edwardian housing stock, but there has been
substantial rebuilding mostly on brown field sites, so that now the town’s 111,000 households live in a mixture of mostly terraced and semi-detached houses with smaller numbers of detached houses and apartments. Bolton is a busy town with a varied cultural life, there is a professional theatre, The Octagon, and many varied amateur musical, theatrical and dance organisations.

Christ Church Heaton is situated in the west of the town and has a rising population of about 7,500. It is a large, traditional, suburban middle class parish. St Margaret’s is approximately a mile closer to town.

See also http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bolton  http://www.bolton.ac.uk
ttps://www.boltonleisure.com/bolton_one/HOME
Location & Description of Area & Parishes

**St. Margaret’s Church**, Halliwell is situated only one mile away from Christ Church, Heaton, along Chorley New Rd in the direction of Bolton Town Centre. It is situated just up Mornington Rd from Bolton School at the Lonsdale Road junction. The two wards, Heaton and Halliwell adjoin each other.

St Margaret’s is somewhat smaller having a population of around 4,500. The general culture of the parish is less affluent and results in more rented accommodation, although the majority is owner occupied, and unlike Heaton we have council housing within our boundaries. The area mainly consists of many terraced properties and some semi detached covering a population which varies from working class to middle class. The population is fairly stable. The area is mainly residential with a number of small shops. Most of the shops some of which advertise in the church magazine are on Chorley Old Road, a five-minute walk away.

A website for St Margaret’s is http://homepage.ntlworld.com/roy.caswell1/St_Margarets.html
There is also a Facebook Page https://www.facebook.com/pages/St-Margarets-Halliwell-Bolton-UK/141907502550946
http://www.achurchnearyou.com/halliwell-st-margaret/
Though we acknowledge that all could be updated

**St Margaret’s Building**

The church building as it now stands was consecrated in 1913 as a replacement for a much smaller mission building, which had been built at the turn of the century. Originally coming under the umbrella of the parish of St. Luke, Halliwell, it gained independence in 1907. The great east window was added in the 1930’s and the front porch in 1955.

The present internal layout took shape in the early 1980s with the selling off of the external Sunday school buildings. The church was partitioned off at the rear to incorporate its own church hall within the existing church building.
Christ Church Heaton parish itself has a population around 7,500, the population of Bolton being around 270,000. There is great ethnic and cultural diversity within the town and this is reflected somewhat in the parish population also. The people of the parish are mainly owner-occupier families, there is little rented and no Council owned accommodation. A considerable number of professional, entrepreneurial and managerial people of ability and influence in the town and the region live in the parish.

The website for Christ Church is www.christchurchheaton.org.uk

There are also a Facebook pages
https://www.facebook.com/ChristChurchHeatonBolton
https://www.facebook.com/pages/Christ-Church-Parish-Centre/351224881568944
https://www.facebook.com/ChristChurchHeatonMothesUnionBolton

And details on A Church Near You
http://www.achurchnearyou.com/heaton-christ-church/

Though we acknowledge that all could be updated.

The Benefice is situated within the Local Authority of Bolton, approximately fifteen miles North West of Manchester city centre and close to the M60 Manchester orbital motorway.
St Margaret’s Halliwell

Prayer, Worship & Fellowship

Sundays 10am Holy Communion (CW) with hymns, optional sung parts, organist, small choir. There are separate activities for the children during part of the service. Currently, on the third Sunday of the month this is a Family Communion with the children staying in for the whole service.

If there are any non-church members requesting Baptism, these usually take place separately at 12 Noon on a Sunday.

Thursdays 9.45am Holy Communion (currently BCP, said, short sermon, in the Morning Chapel)

Tuesdays (monthly) 7pm Holy Communion with Prayers for Healing (CW, said, short sermon) (suspended during vacancy)

Bible Study. (suspended during vacancy)

Monthly Ladies’ Fellowship (Tuesdays)

There are several social / fundraising events concerts & coffee mornings throughout the year eg spring fair, Christmas fair, quiz nights, harvest lunch etc.

Annually:
Harvest
Service of Commemoration for Shaw’s funeral directors
All Souls Service
Remembrance Day
Patronal Festival
Christingle
Crib Service (Christmas eve afternoon)
Midnight Christmas Eve
Good Friday
Maundy Thursday service – followed by Watch (which can be lay led)
Ash Wednesday & Ascension are Benefice services.

St Margaret’s interior
Music
SMH use ‘Complete Anglican Hymns Old & New’ hymnbook with some more modern additions. There is an Organ and a grand piano, a small choir and an accomplished organist. St Margaret’s has had various traditions and has previously described itself as Liberal Catholic. We exemplify the breadth of the Church of England with aspects of most kinds of churchmanship to be found in our worship and spiritual life. In catholic style, vestments are worn and there is a Gospel procession but we do not use incense and we are not Marian in our liturgy which is standard Common Worship on Sundays with BCP currently used on Thursdays. Some of our liturgy has been composed by our current organist. Liturgical parts are said or sung on celebrant’s preference.

Occasional Offices SMH

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*3 in 2016

Attendance Halliwell, St Margaret Population – 4,736

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<td>2006</td>
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Electoral Roll

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<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>71</td>
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Christmas communicants (all services)
St. Margaret’s: 74
Easter communicants (all services)
St. Margaret’s: 104
St Margaret’s

**Mission**
35% members are resident in the parish. There is contact with the community through groups hiring the hall and there has been an increase in the number of occasional offices – marriages, baptisms and funerals and through these contacts some newcomers in Sunday attendance. New Sunday attendance has also occurred recently through newcomers just arriving. The overall growth, though, has been adversely affected by the loss of some stalwarts over recent years.

The Parish Magazine has a circulation of approx 150.

Current Hall booking include 3 sessions with Rhythm Time (parents & children’s music), Line Dancing, Yoga (2 sessions) & Ladies Fellowship; some birthday parties, occasional use by local history society.

St Margaret’s also run a varied programme of social / fundraising events throughout the year.

**Schools**
St Margaret’s has some small links to Devonshire Road Primary & Bolton Independent schools.

**Building**
The church is well maintained and viable. There is a well maintained organ. Approx Seating capacity 250

The hall is used through the week. Some significant renovation of the fabric commenced in 2013 including works to the drains, roof and gutters and paths. The heating system has been upgraded.

*SMH hall at rear of church*
### Parish Share SMH

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Requested</th>
<th>Paid</th>
<th>%</th>
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<td>17,600</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>27,519</td>
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St Margaret’s has paid its Parish Share in full throughout its known history, sometimes using ‘reserves’, until recently. The previous House for Duty Associate Minister was an NSM who did not live in the Vicarage – saving the Diocese a considerable sum over three years. Since 2013 there has been a reduction in ability to pay the parish share because of significant building works undertaken. A stewardship campaign has been undertaken. The parish was visited by the Diocesan Stewardship advisor. Recently, St Margaret’s has been bereaved of some strong financial supporters. St Margaret’s appealed against its Parish Share in 2013. The appeal was not upheld.

*St Margaret’s interior facing East*  
*SMH East Window*
Christ Church Heaton
Prayer, Worship & Fellowship - our Usual Service Pattern

First Sunday of the Month
8am  Holy Communion *(BCP, said)*
9:30am Holy Communion *(CW with hymns)*
   *with separate activities for children in term time*
6:30pm ReFresh!
   *an informal time of worship and teaching in the Parish Centre*

Second Sunday of the Month
8am  Holy Communion *(BCP, said)*
9:30am Family Communion & Parade* service
11:15am Sung Eucharist *with robed choir, optional sung parts*
6:30pm Evensong *with robed choir & short sermon*

Third Sunday of the Month
8am  Holy Communion *(BCP, said)*
9:30am Holy Communion *(CW with hymns)*
   *with separate activities for children in term time*
6:30pm Evensong *with robed choir & short sermon*

Fourth Sunday of the Month
8am  Holy Communion *(BCP, said)*
9:30am Holy Communion *(CW with hymns)*
   *with separate activities for children in term time*
11:15am Baptism *(pre-booked)*
6:30pm Evensong *with robed choir & short sermon*

Fifth Sunday of the Month
8am  Holy Communion *(BCP, said)*
9:30am Holy Communion *(CW with hymns)*
   *with separate activities for children in term time*
6:30pm Sung Eucharist *with robed choir & short sermon*

* *(Rainbows), Brownies, Guides, Beavers, Cubs, Scouts*
** there is a crèche and groups for 3-7’s & 8-11’s in termtime

Weekdays
Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays  9am  Morning Prayer *in choir vestry*

Wednesdays  10.30am Holy Communion (CW)
in Parish Centre adjacent to church, short sermon

*Weekdays*

Adult & Toddlers group
Luncheon Club
Theology Book Club
Bible study led by one of our retired clergy
Annually:
Harvest
Service of Commemoration (usually last Sun in October at 6.30pm)
Service of Remembrance
Christingle (Advent3 evening)
Service of 9 lessons & Carols (Advent4 evening)
Crib Service (Christmas eve afternoon)
Midnight Christmas Eve
Maundy Thursday
Good Friday
Ash Wednesday & Ascension are joint services.
Our choir & congregation usually joins Bolton Parish Church for their
Advent Carols (Advent1 evening)
4 times a year (approx) Messy Church
There are various social / fundraising activities throughout the year.
Christ Church Players have performed a Play over a few evenings each
year. In 2016 we celebrate our 120th year with a Flower Festival in July.

Music
We have a well maintained Willis Organ, an accomplished organist &
choirmaster and, for 6.30 Evensong & 11.15 Sung Eucharist, a 4-part
choir.
We use ‘Common Praise’ & ‘Mission Praise Combined’ hymnbooks.
The monthly ReFresh service may use some more modern additions
usually to a keyboard or guitar and sometimes utilises a screen and
projector. We are beginning to form a music group. Likewise, Messy
Church usually has a guitarist.
The 9.30am Family Communion is attended by a cross section of local
society, all ages from infants to our oldest worshippers, and all social and
ethnic groups.
The other services are attended generally by an older congregation.
Worshippers live mainly within the parish boundaries, although Christ
Church also draws in other people who appreciate our traditional forms of
worship. The tradition of the church is ‘central’
Occasional Offices  CCH

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CCH St George Window

CCH Lazarus window
## Attendance CCH

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Adjusted AWA</th>
<th>AllAge ASA</th>
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## Current Average Attendance CCH

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<th>Children</th>
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<td>9.30 HC CW</td>
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<td>9.30 Parade</td>
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<td>6.30 evensong</td>
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## Electoral Roll

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<td>497</td>
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<td>2010</td>
<td>494</td>
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<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>481</td>
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**Christmas communicants (all services)**
Christ Church: 360

**Easter communicants (all services)**
Christ Church: 420
Christ Church

Mission
The percentage of members resident in the parish is 65%. The parish strategy for increasing links with those living in the parish includes local advertising in newspapers and shops, posters, social events, use of the centre by the local community, uniformed organisations, children's groups, and circulation of the church magazine. The following mission initiatives have been undertaken in the last three years, Back to church Sunday 2012, links with the local community, monthly youth evening. There is a strategy in place to make links with occupants of new homes in the parish. A Facebook page is also kept up to date with events. A Christmas card, which details all the events and services taking place over the Christmas period is post through as many doors in the parish as possible. In addition in recent years we have advertised our Christmas services in local free magazines delivered to every home. We have a regular ‘Open Doors’ days when the church is open for visitors. The Parish Magazine has a circulation of approx 450. Current centre use includes zumba, Irish dancing, Opera 74, art group, Glee club (kids), Glee Club (adults), aerobics, the Wednesday Communion service, Brownies, Luncheon Club, MU, Toddler group, Women’s Guild & Men’s group and a Play. We are a Fair Trade parish and regularly have stalls.

Schools
Christ Church has links with Clevelands Independent Primary, Markland Hill Primary as well as Devonshire Road Primary and Bolton Independent schools.

Buildings
The church is well maintained and viable. The church was built in 1896 to replace the earlier “iron church” which stood originally on the site. The church centre was built as an addition in 1988. Approx Seating capacity 450

There is an excellent Parish Centre which is a home to both church and community groups. Some groups also meet in the choir vestry. The church groups include a luncheon club for the retired once a month, a weekly adults and toddlers group as well as Women’s Guild, Mothers’ Union and Men’s Fellowship.

There are also the full range of guiding and scouting organisations.
The scouts have a hut on church land on Markland Hill adjacent to the Guide hut.

The centre includes a fully equipped Parish Office staffed by the Parish Secretary and volunteers. The office is generally open two mornings and one afternoon each week and takes care of most of the routine tasks of running the parish. Centre. In addition the centre is generally open each Friday morning for maintenance.

Parish Share CCH

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Parish Share</th>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>145,896</td>
<td>145,896</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The calculation of Christ Church’s parish share regularly results in the amount requested being more than our annual income leaving us with an impossible target. Fundraising events have increased and a stewardship appeal was run in 2014/5. The parish was visited by the Diocesan Stewardship advisor recently.

2004 Patronage Scheme launched
2009 Stewardship Campaign based on Diocesan Jigsaw concept
2015 Trio campaign
Every effort is made to maximise income from Gift Aid tax.

inside CCH Centre
ready for Jubilee Fayre
2011 Combined Benefice
Christ Church Heaton (CCH) & St Margaret’s Halliwell (SMH) became a Combined Benefice in 2011 with the appointment of the current Vicar, the Rev Janet French, and the Associate Minister (NSM) (HfD) who both commenced at the same time (March 2011). The Associate Minister has since retired. The HfD post is part of the 2010 Deanery Plan.

The 2010 Bolton Deanery Plan
‘The Deanery would expect Christ Church and St Margaret’s to move towards a joint/united benefice with a full time stipendiary based at Christ Church being supported by an NSM/House for Duty Minister at St Margaret’s’ 2010 Deanery Plan MPC

Previously CCH & SMH each had an incumbent; CCH has also had a curate & 3 Readers & could call upon 3 Retired clergy in the congregation.

Clergy Allocation in the Benefice
The Current Deanery Plan allocates:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clergy</th>
<th>St Margaret’s</th>
<th>Christ Church</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stipendiary</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>0.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Supported by a HfD Associate Priest

The Parishes Worshipping Together
The current practice is to have a joint evening service on Ash Wednesday and Ascension each with combined choirs. The location alternates each year. Joint Admission of Children to Communion courses have been offered. Social events are always promoted in each parish and several members enjoy attending at either church. During the vacancy we have offered joint Baptism preparation; wedding preparation, confirmation classes & admission to communion course.
Lay Ministry
There are lay Eucharistic Assistants in each parish, some of whom also assist in Home Communions. Christ Church also has a Reader Emeritus who assists with Home Communions and leads weekday Morning Prayers. We are taking lay vocations seriously but many members of CCH are already working long hours & commuting and would find committing to a year or more of regular study/meetings impossible. Others have second homes elsewhere so likewise would find attending the study impossible.

Ecumenical Links with other churches & denominations
Heaton & Halliwell Minister’s Fraternal
St Thomas of Canterbury (RC)– in SMH parish, no formal links
Grace family church (NFI) - in SMH parish, no formal links
though both the above are currently represented at the fraternal.
There are no other churches in CCH parish.

PRIESTS (ORDINATION OF WOMEN) MEASURE 1993
St. Margaret’s Halliwell:
The church supports the ordination of women and has no objection to women priests presiding at communion. At the PCC meeting dated 26th October 2002, the motion was passed that resolution A & B be rescinded with 15 for and 6 against.

Christ Church:
The PCC resolved on 22nd March 2010 to confirm the parish’s policy of accepting the ministry of women and not putting resolution A&B to a formal vote but appointing an incumbent on the basis of merit. This was passed by 17 votes in favour to 0 against. The parish has a positive attitude to the ministry of women, including women priests and previously has had female curates.

Currently, we have a female Vicar of the Benefice. The Associate Priest must be in favour & supportive of the Ordination of women.

House for Duty Associate Priest

Housing
St Margaret’s Vicarage 1 Somerset Road Bolton BL1 4NE

Comprising:
Front and rear garden
Four bedrooms (3 doubles)
Three good sized reception rooms or 2 and a large study - One is very large
Kitchen
bathroom
Downstairs toilet and Utility room
Garage with another room and off street parking at rear
Double glazed with relatively new boiler

Expenses
Associate Priest’s expenses paid in full through SMH PCC

Ministry

Role of Associate Priest - Services
The Associate Priest generally leads & preaches at the main Sunday service at St Margaret’s. Approximately once a quarter, the Associate Priest might lead the 9.30am service at Christ Church whilst the Vicar celebrates at St Margaret’s.
In addition, the Associate Minister may take either the 8am or the 6.30pm service at Christ Church weekly.
The Associate Minister takes a share in the Benefice of the midweek services and of the occasional offices.
In addition, we currently have 3 retired priests helping in the Benefice & a Reader Emeritus.
Role of Associate Priest – Ministry Specialism

We are keen to enable our new Associate Priest to develop a specialism ministry within the Benefice. Whilst we would be open to other suggestions of a ‘specialism’, our thoughts have centered around an enabling presence in our Wedding Ministry. Over recent years, Christ Church & St Margaret’s have averaged approximately 14 weddings per year (actual figures are given elsewhere in this document). The preparations and follow-up can be revised to suit the ministry of our new Associate Priest as we are offering a leadership role, in consultation with the Incumbent, in shaping the way this ministry is carried out in the benefice.

Preparation currently takes place as a benefice evening offered to all couples getting married at either church that year. This also offers a good opportunity to encourage further involvement with our parishes. Individuals are also seen to help with the paperwork and ID checks. Couples have a rehearsal near the wedding date. There is some Admin help at Christ Church but not currently at St Margaret’s. Follow-up to wedding couples has been pretty much in abeyance over recent years though previously at Christ Church were invited to a cheese & wine evening the following year. We would be open to the Associate Minister, in consultation with the Incumbent, opening up new ways of preparation & follow-up.

After consultation with the Archdeacon, we recognise that any clergy not in receipt of a stipend can receive 2/3 of the DBF fee for occasional offices which, we hope, makes this specialism attractive. However, the Associate Priest need not feel that they must perform each ceremony as the Incumbent and 2 of the retired clergy are willing to take marriage services.

We recognise that the role is part-time. If the Associate Priest is involved in a wedding in a particular weekend, then whilst we have the help of the retired clergy, the Associate Priest may not need to take an early morning or evening service at Christ Church.

Further info & resources:
http://www.christchurchheaton.org.uk/church-services/weddings/
https://www.yourchurchwedding.org/
https://churchsupporthub.org/weddings/
**Role**
To lead and preach at various services on Sundays and during the week at both Christ Church Heaton and St Margaret’s.

To create and lead a 5 year plan for St Margaret’s

To provide or arrange provision of pastoral care at St Margaret’s.

To motivate, inspire, challenge and develop others in their Christian service.

To encourage and support various fund raising events

To chair PCC meetings at St Margaret’s

To visit and build up further links with local schools, working with children and nurture the faith of the young.

To support and take an active part in the various church groups.
To have a lead role in wedding (or other) ministry.

**Essential**
Experience of leading and preaching at family communion and various other services.
Previous experience of dealing with a diverse Parish and working collaboratively with them.
In favour of women’s ordained ministry.

**Preferred**
To be willing to conduct possible second marriages after divorce services.

The congregations take preaching seriously  The next associate priest should be someone willing to continue and enhance this quality of public ministry.

Someone who readily recognises and is willing to encourage the value of occasional offices as a means of providing pastoral care and as a means of reaching others with the gospel (we have a number of people/families now worshipping regularly at both churches who have come to us through baptism, marriage or funerals)

A priest who thrives on diversity within the congregations. - The joint benefice includes a large proportion of professional people and the new
incumbent must be comfortable relating to these people alongside a more traditional working class population.

**What we offer**
St Margaret’s is a friendly and welcoming congregation who will offer their support to their Associate Minister.

Christ Church offers the experience of serving in a large congregation with diverse services.

**We look forward to welcoming you.**

*St Margaret’s Morning Chapel*  
*St Margaret’s interior facing West*

*St Margaret’s*  
*Christ Church Pulpit*
Who’s Who

Vicar Christ Church Heaton & St Margaret’s Halliwell

The Rev Janet French

Christ Church Vicarage,
2 Towncroft Lane, Heaton,
Bolton BL1 5EW
Tel 01204 840430
vicar@christchurchheaton.org.uk
vicarstmargarets@btinternet.com

We look forward to welcoming you.