

Description of Parish/benefice

Crofton is a relatively affluent commuter suburb that is overwhelmingly residential. Orpington Station is 20 minutes by fast train to London Bridge and 25 minutes to Charing Cross. There is little by way of shopping, leisure, or employment opportunities within the parish boundaries but these are close by in Locksbottom, Orpington and Bromley. Benefiting from highly regarded primary schools (3) and secondary schools (2), the parish is increasingly a magnet for families with children/youth replacing the elderly generation from the 1950s and 1960s.

Leadership/Staffing

Vicar, 1 retired Clergy (PTO), 1 Licensed Lay Minister, 1 Youth and Children's Workers (full-time), 1 Youth and Children's Workers (full-time vacancy), 1 Pastoral Assistant
2 Churchwarden currently and other lay volunteers

Worship/Sunday

Usually Sunday Attendance (average October 2022)

8am (BCP)	8
1015 Adults	85
Children/Youth	28
1830 Adults	15

Community Engagement

School Assemblies – Open the Book
Alpha and Freedom in Christ courses
Toddler Group weekly
Football Academy for children (1 week annually)
Men's football outreach
Church jogging group
Wednesday Elderberry Café (plus Warm Space in Winter)
Tea and Chat
Children's Holiday Club – under 11s
Youth Club (Fridays)
Bereavement Tea
Occasional offices, primarily funerals

Challenges

Discipling / mentoring new or existing Christians
Reaching families and young
Reaching 18-30s generation demographically limited)
Reaching the lonely elderly
Elderly dementia
Middle class "complacency" / "self-sufficiency mindset"
Fostering expectation of experiential encounters with God
Fostering culture of honour

Contribution to Diocese

Parish Share £84000 2022 (tbc)
Vicar serves on Deanery Synod (previously on DBF)

Vision for Future

A place of God's transforming presence operating in the five-fold ministry **of the Holy Spirit** (as prophesied in 2005/2012) bringing the Kingdom to Orpington and beyond .