

Vision & Priorities

Our vision for the Benefice of Haworth and Cross Roads with Stanbury is to develop churches with Healthy Roots that enable Fruitful Lives.

St Michael's, Haworth

'A light on the hill'



St James's, Cross Roads

'Open doors and a warm welcome'



St Gabriel's, Stanbury

'A table in the wilderness'



Healthy Roots

Deeply rooted in Jesus' Way: Love of God and Neighbour

We will be a community that stays connected with God through regular habits of prayer, worship, reading and unpacking the Bible. Living in the love of God, centred on Jesus and filled with the Holy Spirit.

Knowing who we are and why we are here

We will have a clear and well-known statement of our identity and values - centred around the key statements and images for each of our church centres. This will inform our decision making and shared life, helping us to have a shared sense of identity and purpose.

Healthy Structures

Secure finances: our parishes will be financially solvent, including paying our full parish share. We will be a community of faithful generosity and will responsibly manage our shared finances.

Buildings in good repair and fit for purpose: we will work together to keep our buildings in good repair and fit for purpose as resources for ministry and mission in our villages.

Healthy safeguarding culture: we will continue to develop a healthy safeguarding culture in our Benefice, so that everyone can be welcome and we can all thrive together.

Fruitful Lives

Growing

We will be a community that is growing to maturity in love, growing deeper in our love for God and for others, and growing in numbers as more people are able to find home and community here. As we follow Jesus together, we will grow in our understanding of Him and His Way, and in our faithfulness as His disciples.

Caring

We will be a community of loving care. Caring for one another, especially for those in need. Caring for our villages and wider community, showing God's love in action. Caring for Creation - for our shared home - through being responsible caretakers of the Earth.

Sharing

We are all called by God to play a role, and we will share responsibility for the life and worship of our Benefice. We will be active in seeking ways for everyone to participate and contribute - in our services, in day-to-day tasks of maintenance and care, and in how we share our faith with those around us. We have wonderful buildings and a heritage of faith and goodness that we want to make available to our neighbours and visitors to our villages.

Everybody is welcome

We want everybody to know that they are welcome, and to feel welcome. We will celebrate our differences, learning from one another and living well together. We will make sure that our buildings, worship, and the life of our community are accessible and welcoming to everybody regardless of ability or difference of any kind.

Visible and easy to connect with

We will be visible as part of our local communities - occupying the public square - and will be easy to find and connect with. We will reach out and engage with our communities where they are at (in schools, pubs, Main Street and other community third-spaces) and will be warm and available.