



# *St Michael & All Angels, Chetwynd*

## **Shaping for Mission - Strategic Framework 2024 – 2030**

 **DIOCESE OF LICHFIELD**  
Developing Discipleship,  
Encouraging Vocations  
Inspiring Evangelism  
since 669

**Shaping  
for Mission  
Strategic  
Framework  
2024 -2030**



***'Which 3 of the 9 goals fit most closely with the current priorities and activities in your parish?'***

### **1. Community engagement plans for every parish**

Within and across the parish and benefice, we regularly host and contribute to events and activities across the wider community, including Churches Together in Newport and Shropshire Historic Churches Trust (Annual *'Ride and Stride'* event). During the summer months, we actively promote our 'open church' at weekends. Local visitors and those from further afield are often drawn in because of the wealth of historical information about the church and parish which is available at the church and publicised via our newsletters and website. For many visitors, the location of the church, including the churchyard, also provides a welcome place of peace and solace.

As well as a local team of bellringers who regularly ring during weddings, funerals, etc, various groups of bellringers visit the church bell tower from time to time. Pastoral care across the local community is strong and helps to identify needs and opportunities to further strengthen engagement. We maintain a very strong and positive working relationship with St Nicholas Church, Newport.

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Whilst we consider our community engagement to be a strength of our worshipping community, a significant factor which limits our capacity is the lack of running water and toilet facilities. At present, bottled water has to be brought into the church to provide drinks and there is a very basic 'portaloo' adjacent to the church.

## **2. 34,000 new disciples**

On average, weekly attendance at Services represents 2% of the parish population, which is above that for the wider diocese. (0.9%) Through maintaining an informative and accessible website – where there is an average of 400 views per week – and an active and visible presence on social media, we look to reach out to raise the profile of our church and to celebrate and welcome new members to our worshipping congregation.

## **3. Connection with every primary and secondary school**

The majority of local primary and secondary schools are within the town of Newport so many of the activities are conducted on a benefice basis, rather than solely within the parish. We host services for pupils from Castle House School in Newport, the school in closest proximity to our church. We have started to forge links with Haberdashers' Adams Grammar school; a group of students visited the churchyard monumentals earlier this year as part of their geology studies.

***'Which 3 of the 9 goals will be most challenging for your parish?'***

### **1. Age profiles reflect community age profiles**

Over 50% of the parish population are aged 50 and above. The location of the church means that there is not a natural centre for the population, such as a village, where there may be more natural opportunities for family activities such as toddler groups, messy church, etc.

We look across the wider benefice and diocese to support us in developing creative outreach opportunities to reach the missing generations.

### **2. 30 young people trained per year in leadership**

Only 6% of the entire parish are aged between 18-30 and all members of our *regular* worshipping congregation are above this age.

### **3. 200 new worshipping communities**

With the profile of our local parish and worshipping community as described above, we would see contributing towards this goal as particularly challenging.

**St Michael and All Angels Parochial Church Council,  
November 2024**