

## What do we need?

A growing Church



A building with a sustainable future



A building for the community to use



A building that is accessible for all



A building that is versatile and that can be used for a variety of activities



A building that is economical and efficient to run



## Worship at Christ Church

*A warm welcome is extended to all, whether you live locally or are just visiting the area. Our church family includes people of all ages and from a wide variety of backgrounds. Services are very varied and during each month, many styles of worship are offered both at Christ Church and St John's Church in Newsholme.*

## Further Information

Visit [www.oakworthchurch.org.uk](http://www.oakworthchurch.org.uk) to:

- ◆ Learn more about the history of Christ Church and about our benefactors, including local mill owners, the Haggas family.
- ◆ Find out about up coming events.
- ◆ Find out how to make a donation to the development fund.
- ◆ Keep up to date with the progress of our fund-raising activities and the phases of our development.

## Contact Us

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[www.oakworthchurch.org.uk](http://www.oakworthchurch.org.uk)



Oakworth Parish Churches

Christ Church  
Knowing  
Showing  
Sharing  
God's Love  
Oakworth



Building a future  
Exciting times for Christ Church  
Please read on to find out more...



## Brief History of our Grade II listed building

1846

The church was built for the people of Oakworth with the help of generous local benefactors contributing to the original cost. The original church had no pews!

1865

The clock was added and a cast iron bell hung in the tower. The first set of pews were installed.

1875

The East Window was installed.

1885

The pews were replaced.

1886

A small choir vestry extension was added to the base of the tower, which is now a kitchen.

1889

The chancel arch was widened and remodelled.

1925

The beautiful oak carved Reredos featuring the 'Northern Saints' was installed and was the work of renowned local artist and craftsman Alex Smith.

1987

The church was modernised with the formation of the current meeting room, toilets and kitchen.

Whilst the exterior of the building has seen little change the interior of the Church has undergone a steady evolution from the very beginning. All of this history is very important to the heritage of Oakworth Village, although it is very costly for us to maintain.

[More about the history of our building on our web site!](#)

## What about now?

These are **challenging times** for Churches, communities and local services, but we believe the future is bright.

We have established strong links with our community, schools and local families by holding regular events such as Friday Film Night, Children's Holiday Clubs, Easter and Christmas Crafts, Art Exhibitions, Food Festivals and Wine and Beer Tasting Evenings.

The church is a large building which could be used by the whole village, but we need to make it more accessible and suitable for multi-use.

The building at present has its difficulties including access, inflexible interior space, inadequate toilet facilities and lack of car parking.

The Parochial Church Council in consultation with the congregation, specialist architects and diocesan experts, have a **vision and plan** to make the Church building a more usable, accessible and efficient space. This will provide essential community space, improve our worship experience and develop the building to support growth in the years to come.



## What are we going to do?

### Phase 1 breakdown:

- ◆ Improve the lighting - already completed!
- ◆ Remove the pews and replace with chairs to create an adaptable space suitable for a wide range of activities and styles of worship.
- ◆ Repair the heating, making it more efficient.
- ◆ Install new flooring.
- ◆ Decorate the interior.

### Phase 2 will develop:

- ◆ Car parking and a new Church entrance.

### Phase 3 will:

- ◆ Develop the upstairs rooms.
- ◆ Provide new kitchen and toilet facilities.
- ◆ Expand meeting and worship spaces.

## Raising Funds

We are not a large congregation and we don't have huge reserves so we will be applying for grants in order to fulfil some of our vision. In addition though, we will need the **collective help of our community and all those who have a link with Christ Church.**

Were you were baptised or married here? Did you attend Sunday school or worship here in the past? Maybe you attended the funeral of a loved one at Christ Church? Perhaps you have a love of church heritage? Or do you live in our community and recognise that you might need us sometime?

**We are asking all of you to think about how you can help us, by one-off or regular donations, or by organising a money-raising venture to support us.**