

Carntyne and Cranhill Parish Church



Parish Profile – February 2023

Carntyne and Cranhill Parish Church

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1. INTRODUCTION

Carntyne and Cranhill Church is a church at the heart of our community, excited about the possibilities a new union brings in an area which has been, and still is, changing and growing. We have activities every day of the week, both church and community and we enjoy being able to welcome these groups into the life of the church. We value our worship times, and also the opportunity for fellowship with one another. Growing together in faith is important to us and we seek a minister who can help us to engage more with the local community, especially with younger people. We recognise that the parish is beginning to change from being of an older demographic to one where young families are beginning to move to. Ideally, we would like to be led by someone who has an awareness of change management.

Carntyne and Cranhill Church has decided to depart from the historic and current practice in order to permit the ordination, induction or appointment of a minister or a deacon who is in a civil partnership or a same sex marriage.

This profile has been compiled to present a comprehensive view of Carntyne and Cranhill Church. This will provide the necessary information required when applying for this charge.

We are looking for a minister:-

- Who is compassionate and committed with a deep faith in Christ, with energy and enthusiasm to share what the bible means for us today.
- Who will open our minds to the challenges that are ahead of us in the church and in our world.
- Who will develop outreach to our local communities (Carntyne and Cranhill) and be proactive in encouraging children and young families to join us in worship.
- Who is a people person, a leader and a team player who can develop and build on initiatives started in recent years.

It is important that our new minister:-

- Helps us to be relevant and creative in our worship, mission and outreach.
- Continues to encourage the spiritual growth and prayer life of our congregation.
- Is involved in our local community, schools, and care providers.
- Continues to support and develop our pastoral care.
- To help us to meet the needs of people living in the Priority Areas of Carntyne and Cranhill.
- Has a vision of how our Church life and witness can be developed.
- Brings new ideas for developing our Worship services, in order to appeal to younger people in our community as we grow our Church.

We trust that you find this church profile to be informative and helpful, as you prayerfully consider potential application for the charge of Carntyne and Cranhill Parish Church.



2. HISTORY

The congregation of Carntyne and Cranhill is the result of a recent union in November 2022 between Carntyne Parish Church and Cranhill Parish Church. Carntyne Parish Church itself was the result of a union between High Carntyne and South Carntyne Churches in 2016.

The current church building was originally that of the former congregation of High Carntyne and was opened in 1932 when the area had recently been developed as a housing scheme. It sits in a prominent location with public transport and shops nearby.

South Carntyne Church was opened in 1937. Known as the Church at the crossroads, it was characterised throughout its history by challenging preaching and teaching, on Sundays and mid-week; happy times of fellowship across the generations; and various forms of outreach to the parish including clubs for children and contact with families, Summer Missions, Holiday Clubs, Alpha courses, singing Christmas Carols on the church steps and distributing Hot Cross buns on Good Friday. Over the years, a number from its ranks were called to serve God as ministers and missionaries at home and abroad.

The congregation at Cranhill was begun in 1953 in what was then a newly built area following the second world war. The Cranhill church building is in the process of being sold to Cranhill Development Trust (CDT). CDT grew out of a community project set up by Cranhill Parish church in 1997. The Church of Scotland provided a development worker in 2001 and this was the beginning of a community owned initiative (CDT) which has its roots in the congregation. In 2011 a lease agreement was formed between Cranhill Development Trust (CDT) and the General Trustees giving CDT responsibility for managing the building and protecting the use of the building for the congregation. CDT is separately constituted from the Church.



3. COMMUNITY

We are one of the Church of Scotland defined Priority Areas. We have several care homes in the parish, and we have had good contact with them. Over the years our ministers have enjoyed good relationships with the local schools. The main community centre is Cranhill Development Trust which serves the poorest people in a variety of ways. Being a Priority Area, we are working with a great number of vulnerable people. Carntyne has had an ageing population for some years but we are seeing signs that this is changing with many young families moving into homes which have been vacated by people too elderly to live alone. In Cranhill recent urban development programmes have seen many new homes built and these are being lived in by families, meaning this part of the parish is the younger part. There are some industrial units within the parish which may be open to workplace chaplaincy, and we would seek to develop further our relationship with local businesses.

In 2018 we engaged the services of a community profiler to help us better understand the needs of the community. This has helped to shape our vision for the future, both with the fabric of the buildings and what ways we can reach out to the parish. A copy of the report can be made available if so wished.

Within the parish are a number of schools, care homes, and community projects. Through our Ministry Development Staff member who works with older people we have good connections with these member groups, and through our continued partnership with Cranhill Development Trust we enjoy good relations with those most in need within the parish area. As a Priority Area we have a mission to those who are most vulnerable, and we consider this to be those on the margins of the socio-economic spectrum as well as older people who are often isolated. Our mission has focussed on these areas but we have active youth organisations too and have spoken of exploring Messy Church as a model.

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Our outreach is varied, including activities for older people such as a walking group, film club, lunch club, ageing well group, and plans for developing a permanent community café. We host Girls Brigade (in Cranhill in the CDT building), Boys Brigade and all Girlguiding sections for young people with leadership at all organisations provided by Church members. Church members also run a parent and toddlers' group 3 days per week. Various self-help groups use the space at Carntyne such as AA and Slimming World. We support Cranhill Development Trust who provide advice and practical support to the community, especially the least financially well off in the shape of a community shop, post office, help to find work or access benefits and lunch club among a range of other things.

We host a number of youth and adult community groups in our halls every week –

Carntyne & Cranhill Church Tots – a Carer and Toddler Group meets Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9.30-11.30 am during school term time

Boys Brigade – Carntyne & Cranhill Church is the home of the 162nd Glasgow Boys Brigade Company. Anchor Boys, Junior Section and Company Section meet on a Monday night.

Girlguiding – The 278th Glasgow Rainbows, Brownies, Guides and Rangers meet on Wednesday evenings

Girls Brigade – The 63rd Girls' Brigade - Cranhill meets on Tuesday evenings in the CDT building. They meet from 6.15pm to 7.15pm for our Explorers and from 7.15pm to 8.30pm for our Junior and Brigader sections.

Alcoholics Anonymous – Groups meet on Sunday evenings and Monday & Wednesday afternoons

Narcotics Anonymous – meets on Sunday nights from 7-9pm.

Sunshine Club (Senior Citizens) – Meets on Mondays from 1pm-3pm for a cuppa, a chat and some entertainment.

Growing Together - A chance to explore with others the relevance of faith in today's world. Often includes singing, Bible discussion, prayer time, tea, coffee and chat. Tuesdays 2-4pm

Choir – Our choir meets on Thursday evenings to rehearse for worship – new members are always welcome.

Ladies Recreation Club - Meets on Tuesdays from 7-9pm in the church hall for fun and friendship.

Health Walk - Meets at the Church at 11.00am on Wednesdays for about an hour's gentle exercise and company.

Men's Recreation Club - Meets on Wednesdays from 6.40pm – 9pm

Community Café and Warm Space - Thursdays 9.30-12.30 (Supported by Glasgow Care and Health Partnership)

Film Club - Thursdays at 1pm in the hall

Young At Heart Club (Ageing Well) - Meets Fridays 1.00-3.00 pm

Lunch Club (Senior Citizens) - Fridays at 12 noon

The halls are also used by Slimming World, a local dance school and YDance (Scottish Youth Dance)



Christmas Fayre 2022

4. WORSHIP LIFE

We meet for worship every Sunday morning at 11.00 am and we have followed the lectionary. Prior to the union the congregations had different styles of worship with Carntyne being more formal than Cranhill. Since July 2022 we have had a deacon working with us and he has tried to bring a balance of styles so that everyone feels comfortable with the style of worship. On Wednesday mornings there is a short prayer time in person, and a half hour worship opportunity on Zoom, led by our MDS worker Communion is celebrated 4 times per year on the second Sunday in March, June, September, and December and we welcome children to join with us. Each December we offer a 'Remembering Service' for those who have been bereaved. Our current communion roll is 233 with an average attendance at Sunday worship of around 50. There are a small number of children attending, with the majority of the congregation being 40-plus. We like to sing at Carntyne and Cranhill! To help us we have a small choir, and we would like to see the choir growing in number.

We currently provide a printed order of service and the congregation use hymn books – mainly CH4 and Mission Praise, with Junior Praise for the time with the children - as we do not have an audio visual system. However, as part of our refurbishment of the sanctuary space we plan to install this along with Wi-Fi access. The congregation enjoy singing hymns very much, led by our organist and a pianist, and are willing to take part in worship by reading the scriptures each week. In the past we have enjoyed good relationships with our neighbours in the local Roman Catholic congregations and we

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would be keen to develop these further. We would also be eager to develop more all age worship and have begun talking about Messy Church as a way of doing this.

As a newly formed union we are working hard to be inclusive. Fellowship is an important aspect of the life of the congregation as we seek to embrace one another in love, building on previously existing connections made through a parish grouping. We will continue to prioritise this work in the future, and together work on our vision for the fabric of our church buildings.



5. PASTORAL CARE

The congregation operates with a unitary constitution. The Kirk Session consists of 19 Elders, 5 male and 14 female. Three of our elders are currently inactive. The last ordination was in January 2022, when 4 elders were ordained.

Our elders are regular visitors to their districts, reporting back to the minister when they feel someone would need a visit. Members are encouraged to alert their elder or the minister if they know of a pastoral situation, and we are planning to have a prayer box available in the church so that people can bring forward names of people or situations they feel need prayer. Both our ministers and our MDS staff have been involved with local care homes offering worship and pastoral care to residents and staff.

6. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Explorers - our Sunday School for children and young people aged 3 to 12 meets every Sunday morning. The children start in church at 11.00am and after the opening hymn and a children's talk they leave together for the Crichton Hall where they enjoy a programme of Bible stories, games and crafts.

Growing Together – On Tuesdays (2pm – 4pm) a group meets to explore with others the relevance of faith in today's world. The sessions often include singing, Bible discussion, prayer time, tea, coffee and chat.

7. PRESBYTERY MISSION PLAN CLUSTER

We are working with Shettleston New Parish Church in a cluster and have elected to work towards a Parish Grouping to fulfil the Presbytery Plan requirements for our area. We see this as being an exciting challenge filled with opportunity

In past years there have been attempts to establish Parish Groupings and we have played our full part in these. This has included work with other denominations as well as neighbouring Church of Scotland congregations. There is, at present, no local clergy grouping mainly due to many changes taking place and the effects of the Covid pandemic, but we would be willing to engage with such a venture in the future.

8. WORLD CHURCH

We support a mission partner in Ghana, and she sends regular updates so that we can pray for her work. This is facilitated by Serving In Mission UK and as well as offering prayer support the congregation support financially. We support Christian Aid at various times of the year, most notably during Christian Aid week and at Harvest.

9. STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE

On an ongoing basis, the principal source of income is from donations given on a weekly or monthly basis from members and adherents and commercial lets and donations from users of our premises. Giving increased by 11% against 2021 and the income on use of the Halls more than doubled against 2021 as Organisations resumed normal operations post Covid. Our General Fund showed a surplus of £7,838 in 2022.

Carntyne and Cranhill contribute to the wider work of The Church of Scotland and pays its Ministry and Mission Contributions in full. In 2022 this figure was £33,555.

It is the Trustees' policy to hold reserves of between three- and four-months' expenditure including designated funds. We continue saving for our future building work whilst reviewing our Reserves Policy annually. At the year-end 2022 the Church held unrestricted funds of £22,894 and £71,612 of restricted funds.

We continue to raise funds for other charities such as the Lodging House Mission and Christian Aid and support our Missionary Partner, with special collections at various times of the year.

We have plans to refurbish the sanctuary building and this will mean selling our halls which are dated and in need of some repair. The funds realised from the sale will help us provide a purpose built space for modern worship and vibrant weekly activities. To achieve this we will need funds from other sources in the form of grants and/or loans, as well as a stewardship campaign. Our strength is in our people who have faithfully given generously over the years and in our relationships with our neighbours in the community.

10. STAFFING

Under the proposed Presbytery Mission Plan, we have been given an allocation of 2.9 ministries within the cluster and it is our wish to have a minister of word and sacrament for each congregation along with MDS roles. Shettleston New currently has a minister and one part-time MDS, and Carntyne and Cranhill has one part time MDS. We will be able to call a minister on the basis of unrestricted tenure.

11. CHURCH, MANSE AND HALLS

Completed in 1932, the church building was designed by James Taylor Thomson in a simplified Romanesque style and constructed using New Cumnock brick, with blonde sandstone ashlar dressings and slate roofs. Internally it is light and spacious with substantial nave and low south aisle, transepts and chancel.

Category B listed, the Church has played a significant role in the mission of the Church of Scotland and in the social, cultural and religious life of Carntyne. The church continues to be an important focal point for the congregation and wider community living in the parish.

A comprehensive programme of works to protect the building for the future was begun in 2021. And the first phase, which rectified issues with water ingress, re-slating; renewal of leadwork; renewal of roofing felt; rot treatment and repairs to rainwater, sarking, windows and roof timbers, was completed in 2022

Phase 2 , which it is hoped to start in 2023 , will cover internal upgrades and modifications to the building. Presently activities are hosted in the Church and adjacent church halls. The congregation intends to bring their activities under one roof in the Church, which will be sensitively adapted to provide space for community activity as well continuing as a place of worship.

Carntyne and Cranhill Church have a recently refurbished 5 bedroom detached manse with garden and garage at 163 Lethamhill Road, Riddrie Glasgow G33 2SQ. The ground floor includes a lounge / dining room , snug , toilet and family kitchen with separate utility room and the first floor has all bedrooms and a large family sized bathroom with separate shower and bath areas.





Manse front and kitchen

12. WEB LINKS

[Carntyne & Cranhill - Home \(carntynechurch.org\)](http://carntynechurch.org)

Link to building award