

Alrewas with Wychnor, and Fradley Churches

Parish Profile 2025



All Saints, Alrewas



St Stephen's, Fradley

Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us.

2 Corinthians 5:20-21

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*Welcome to the Parish Profile for Alrewas with Wychnor, and
Fradley Parish Churches.*

Our prayer for a new incumbent

"Heavenly Father,

*We come before you with grateful hearts, seeking your guidance
and wisdom.*

*As we search for a new vicar to lead and serve our churches, help us
to trust in your plan and to listen carefully for your direction.*

*Guide those who are part of this process,
granting them clarity, patience, and unity in their decisions.*

*Bless the person you are calling to this role,
preparing their heart and mind to respond to your call with
faith and joy.*

*May our new vicar be a faithful shepherd,
who will guide us with wisdom, inspire us with their teaching, and
walk alongside us in love and humility.*

*Help us to be a welcoming and supportive community, ready to
work together for your kingdom.*

*May this season of transition strengthen our faith and draw us
closer to you.*

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour.

Amen."

This prayer was written by a member of the congregation of the Benefice and is being used throughout the period of the interregnum to guide our work in finding a new incumbent.



A word of welcome to the Benefice

We are delighted that you are exploring the opportunity to join us as our new Priest in Charge (Vicar Designate). Our welcoming churches nestled in the beautiful villages of Alrewas and Fradley are very much part of our communities. We are very much looking forward and excited to the next chapter of our shared Christian journey building on the foundations established in the past. With a strong sense of heritage and history, we are places of worship, fellowship, and service—here for all and fully inclusive. We value our partnerships with one another and with other churches, and we look forward to continuing to grow together in faith and mission.

We are seeking a prayerful and spiritual leader who will inspire and nurture us in our Christian journey. We are seeking to deepen our prayerful life, strengthen biblical teaching and learning, and reach out to those in our villages and beyond with God's love. Our church family hopes to be guided in serving the wider community, supporting individuals in their personal faith, and encouraging the involvement of young people and families.

Both All Saints and St Stephen's have close ties with our local schools and community groups, and we hope for a Priest in Charge (Vicar Designate) who will enjoy strengthening these relationships, engaging with all ages, and helping us grow as disciples of Christ.

Our new Priest in Charge (Vicar Designate) will be approachable and engaging, reflective and empathetic, and genuinely compassionate and caring. We seek someone who will cherish and nurture the spiritual life of our churches, while also embracing the wider community with warmth and enthusiasm. They will be a visible presence in our communities, welcoming to all, and unashamed in proclaiming Christ's love. While respecting tradition, they will not be afraid to explore new ways to engage people in worship and spiritual growth.

Looking to the future, we are excited to see our churches flourish—continuing to be places of prayer, worship, and community, with a rich musical tradition and a strong commitment to working together. We offer a supportive and committed church family eager to work alongside you in mission and ministry. If you feel called to journey with us in faith, mission, and service, we would love to welcome you.

We are praying for the right person to join us—could that be you?

With every blessing,

The Parishes of Alrewas with Wychnor, and Fradley



A word of welcome to the Diocese of Lichfield

Cradled at the intersection of the Midlands and the North, and the interface between England and Wales, the Diocese of Lichfield is the ancient centre of Christianity in what was the Kingdom of Mercia.

We are rightfully grateful for the inheritance we have from our first bishop St Chad that leads us to focus on Discipleship, Vocation and Evangelism as we live and serve among the communities of Staffordshire, northern Shropshire and the Black Country.

By answering God's call to minister in Lichfield Diocese you will benefit from being part of a wide family, mixing with people serving in a variety of contexts — from the grittiest inner-city neighbourhoods of Stoke and the Black Country, to the leafiest rural parishes of Staffordshire and Shropshire, to the sparsest upland communities of the Staffordshire Moorlands and Welsh Borders.

And we embrace the widest spectrum of church traditions — evangelical and catholic, liberal and conservative, choral and charismatic — as we journey together in mission. As a colleague recently put it, it is our goal to be a 'spacious and gracious diocese'.

It is my determination and that of my episcopal colleagues that your calling to minister with us in Lichfield Diocese will be a time of encouragement, fulfilment, challenge and joy. You will not be alone in your ministry; as part of the wider team our colleagues among the diocesan staff keenly bring their various specialisms both spiritual and practical to offer resource and support as you serve our parishes, fresh expressions, schools and chaplaincies.

+ Michael



Message from the Rural Dean

Welcome to Lichfield Deanery!

We are a mixture of semi-rural, suburban and city parishes, one parish is within Cannock Chase, an AONB in the west, we have suburban parishes with a coal mining heritage in the south, city centre parishes centrally within Lichfield City itself, and semi-rural parishes to the north and east of the deanery. We have 25 Church buildings, and in addition we also have a mission Church and a Chapel which is part of a Hospital Community in the City of Lichfield.

We have a large supportive Deanery Chapter, and meet six times a year, we hold lunch meetings, a summer social, we invite speakers, hold bible studies and end the year with a Christmas meal together.

This year our Deanery Synod will meet four times, two are in person meetings, the other two over the winter months are held on Zoom, this year we are focusing on the implementation of our Diocesan Shaping for Mission Agenda moving onto the recently adopted nine goals of our diocesan vision.

We hope to have a colleague who will be willing to engage with the deanery, our Shaping for Mission agenda and be happy to share or cascade any missional skills they have with the wider deanery.

God bless!

The Revd Lynn McKeon
Rural Dean for Lichfield Deanery

The Diocese

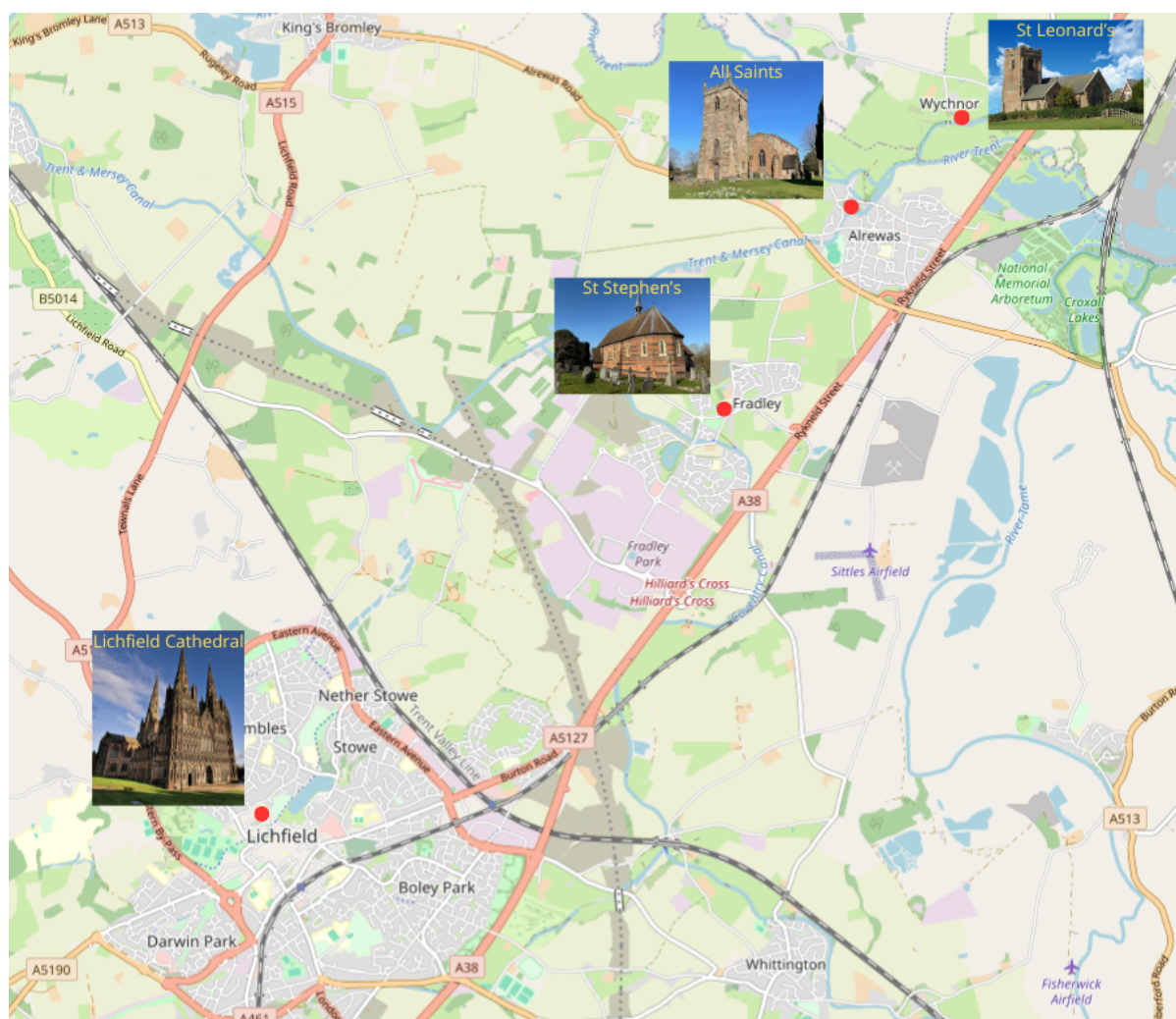
The Diocese of Lichfield is one of the largest in the Church of England, serving a population of over 2 million. It covers Staffordshire, the northern half of Shropshire and the Black Country Boroughs of Wolverhampton, Walsall, and half of Sandwell. Under the overall leadership of Bishop Michael Ipgrave, it is divided into three Episcopal areas: Wolverhampton, Shrewsbury, and Stafford. Lichfield is part of the Wolverhampton Area.



The Post and its Parishes and Churches

The post is for a full-time Priest in Charge (Vicar Designate) of Alrewas with Wychnor, and Fradley Parish Churches, comprising All Saints (Alrewas) and St Stephen's (Fradley). The parishes are situated within the Staffordshire DE13 and WS13 postcodes and lie within the Diocese of Lichfield.

Distance from Alrewas to:	
Fradley	1.3 miles
Lichfield	5 miles
Burton on Trent	7 miles
Tamworth	8 miles
Birmingham	20 miles
Derby	20 miles



Map data from [OpenStreetMap](https://www.openstreetmap.org/)



There has been a church on the site of All Saints, Alrewas since 822AD and there are reports that it was founded by St Chad himself in the 670s. The current building has evolved over the centuries with additions and alterations made to the original Norman structure during the Reformation, Civil War and 18th and 19th Centuries. It has Grade 1 listed status.

St Stephen's in Fradley was built in 1861 as a Chapel of Ease to serve the local community and it has developed as a thriving community.

The church at Wychnor, St Leonard's has applied for closure in October 2024 but there has been a building on this site since the 12th Century when it was a designated chapel of ease.

Following the closure of St Leonard's the parishes and benefice are being re-structured to form the parish of Alrewas with Fradley and the parish of Wychnor which together are one Benefice.

The combined population is now around 7,000 and the parish of Fradley is growing rapidly with many new housing developments emerging within the parish boundaries.

Accommodation is quite diverse; most housing is private, with many different designs and values, and also includes farms, housing association and supported care.

The Patron of All Saints and St Stephen's is The Bishop of Lichfield in his corporate capacity and the Patron of St Leonard's is the personal representative of W R Harrison.



The Challenge and Role Description

In preparing the Parish Profile extensive consultation was undertaken with our congregations and communities which explored what was important to them about our churches moving forward, what qualities they would like their new Priest in Charge (Vicar Designate) to have, what they like about our churches and what kind of spiritual and pastoral leadership could be developed. Their responses have informed the following sections

The Challenge

Facilitate the deepening of faith and of the increase of spirituality within the membership of both churches, ensuring they flourish based on God's love.

Align the demographic of our congregations with that of the two villages, encouraging the increased involvement of young people and their families.

Encourage active engagement with the village communities through outreach activity and the use of the church buildings for varied events and activities.

Evangelise the new developments in Fradley where there are over 2,000 homes many with young families and raising the ability of St Stephen's to contribute to 50% of the Common Fund (currently this stands at 70% All Saints, 30% St Stephen's).

Role Description

We are looking for a full time, prayerful and welcoming Priest in Charge (Vicar Designate) with the vision and energy to build on the powerful and inclusive work to date, someone who:

- can rise to the challenge of sharing the teachings of Jesus in a way that speaks to today's world
- has an appreciation of the values and merits of collaborative leadership, while possessing the ability to delegate
- has the understanding, compassion, and willingness to practise pastoral care
- is willing to engage with our local schools and grow our children's and youth ministry
- will strengthen our parish mission and outreach
- continue to work with other churches including joint services
- will work with the growing population in the new housing estate of Fradley to encourage them to become increasingly involved with the Church and its work along with the existing community.



1. Discipleship:

- An engaging, spirit-led preacher who will help us grow in our faith
- Collaborative and inclusive, a team player who enables, empowers, and encourages others
- Prayerful and open to leading a variety of styles of worship, whilst respecting the importance and dignity of traditional worship in each church
- Inspires and leads the growth of pastoral care for all
- Develop and strengthen a clear mission, vision and action plan for the Benefice

2. Vocation:

- Maintains a prayerful and spiritual life
- Considers their own emotional health and well-being and that of others

3. Evangelism:

- Eager for growth, has a vision and ideas for mission and ministry to help with continued growth of the church and further develop its social outreach working with other agencies where appropriate
- Relates well to young people and to families, and who will encourage and support the growth of children and youth work within the parishes
- Further develop links with All Saints Church of England Primary School, Alrewas and the two schools in Fradley - St Stephen's Primary and Fradley Park Primary and Nursery School
- Develop relationships with the communities and external organisations/partners such as the Methodist Church to develop a community-wide approach to ministry.

Person Specification

Essential Qualities

- Inspirational, prayerful and spiritual leader – unashamed of Christ
- Identify, nurture, and inspire others to use their gifts to serve God in the church and community.
- Demonstrate the drive and enthusiasm to develop existing links with the local schools and expand the ministry to young people and their families
- Approachable, engaging and easy to talk to
- Excellent listening and communication skills
- Strong organisational skills and the ability to delegate
- Community minded and spirited, regardless of religious beliefs
- A collaborative approach to ministry
- Committed to pastoral care showing genuine compassion and care
- Reflective and empathetic
- Experienced in advising and managing the PCCs, aiming for excellence in governance
- Comprehensive understanding of safeguarding.

Desirable Qualities

- Proven track record of evangelism
- Experience and skills in bringing churches together
- Familiarity with IT and social media
- Advocate of music in its varied forms in church

Church Leadership

The new incumbent will have sole responsibility for both churches.

Currently in place there is a non-stipendiary **Priest** who conducts services in both churches.

The role is supported by two lay readers, three churchwardens and a wider team of lay participants across both churches who participate in Bible readings, prayers of intercession and chalice assistants.

We are very blessed to have a wide and expanding group of people who willing give of their time and expertise to enable both churches to function both operationally and spiritually. Lay participation is welcomed and encouraged in both churches. (see Appendix 2 for a full list of our Ministry Teams)

There is a **Parochial Church Council (PCC)** in each church and meetings are held bi-monthly throughout the year.

The Reverend Elizabeth Wall is our **Associate Minister**.

The **Churchwardens** at All Saints are Mark Emly and Jen Matthewman and at St Stephen's it is Marian Derry.

Our **Licenced Readers** are Helen Mullins at All Saints and Dorothy Giles at St Stephen's.

The **Treasurers** are Nick Kilford at All Saints and Iris King at St Stephen's.

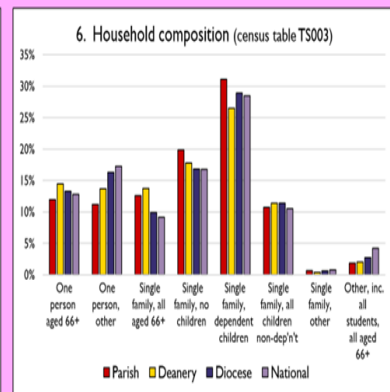
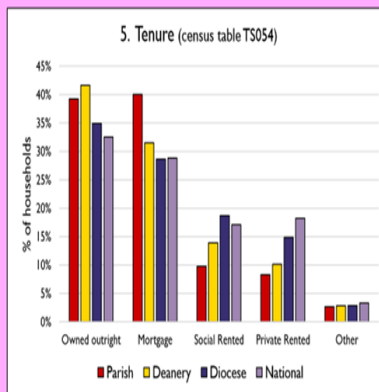
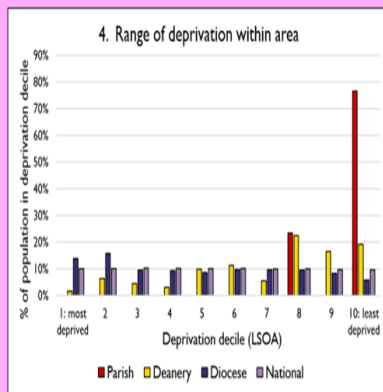
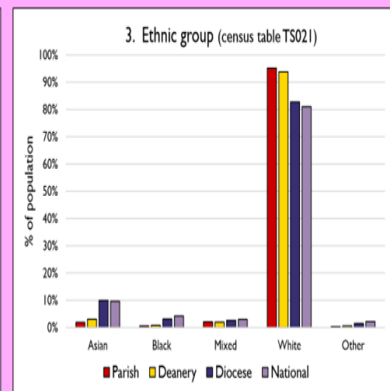
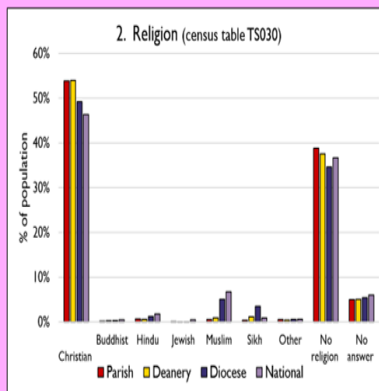
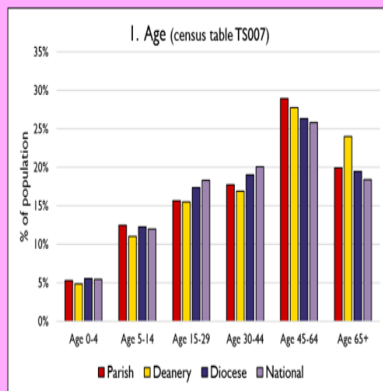
The **PCC secretary** at All Saints is to be confirmed and at St Stephen's it is Katie Levitt.

Our **Safeguarding Co-ordinators** are Jen Matthewman at All Saints and Dorothy Giles at St Stephen's.

The **Parish Administrators** are Sarah Fitzpatrick at All Saints (8 hours per week) and at St Stephen's it is Di Cooper (6 hours per week).

Benefice Statistics

National Census 2021 Dashboard for the Parish of Alrewas: All Saints in the deanery of LICHFIELD



7. 2019 Deprivation Statistics

Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD), domains, and subdomains

Domain	Value
IMD - overall deprivation	96%
Employment	69%
Crime	88%
Health	74%
Income	74%
Education	80%
Income: Children	76%
Children & Youth	86%
Income: Old people	59%
Adult Skills	70%
Housing & services	84%
Living Environ't	89%
Local services	63%
Indoors	90%
Affordability	78%
Outdoors	78%

Shading shows severity of deprivation compared to other parishes, colour-coded by decile. E.g., a figure of 25% means that 25% of parishes are more deprived than this parish.

	Parish	Deanery	Diocese	National
Population	6,642	108,146	2,201,178	56,506,784
Occupied households	2,720	46,079	914,206	23,444,438
Living in households	6,642	106,797	2,169,898	55,542,946
Average household size	2.44	2.32	2.37	2.37
Living in communal estab'ts	0	1,349	31,280	963,838

Parish, Deanery and Diocese codes

Parish	200021 Alrewas
Deanery	20102 LICHFIELD
Diocese	20 Lichfield

Notes & definitions

Census and deprivation statistics have been mapped onto parish boundaries, and are therefore approximations.

Census data as shown in figures 1-3.5, & 6 are derived from the National Census 2021 produced by the Office of National Statistics (ONS).

For details from ONS see: https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/sources/census_2021.

Deprivation statistics are derived from the English Indices of Deprivation 2019, produced by the Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government.

More details can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/english-indices-of-deprivation-2019>.

Deprivation statistics are published at LSOA level. Figure 4 shows how the population of each area is split across LSOAs, categorised by LSOA deprivation decile.

For more detailed parish census and deprivation information, see: <https://www.churchofengland.org/about/data-services/resources-publications-and-data#na>.

For an interactive map showing parish deprivation and census statistics, see: <http://arcgis/1RaS4CS>.

Parish deprivation statistics in figure 7 are colour-coded by parish deprivation decile:

<--Most deprived ----- Medium ----- Least deprived-->										
Coding	5%	15%	25%	35%	45%	55%	65%	75%	85%	95%

Produced by the Data Services Team, Church House, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3AZ. Date of production: 27/2/2024. Version 32; index: 2862

Every effort has been made to ensure that data are reliable. We would be grateful to be notified of errors and to receive comments/suggestions: please email statistics.unit@churchofengland.org



Patterns of Services

All Saints, Alrewas			
Day	Time	Current	Book/Rite
1 st Sunday	9.30	Relaxed Service	No set format
	4.00	Reflections	No set format
2 nd Sunday	10.00	Family Communion	Common Worship Eucharist
3 rd Sunday	10.00	Morning Praise	Morning Praise
4 th Sunday	10.00	Family Communion	Common Worship Eucharist
5 th Sunday	10.00	Family Communion	Common Worship Eucharist
Wednesday	10.00	Family Communion	Common Worship Eucharist
Festivals	Various	e.g. Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, Pentecost, Easter, Harvest, Christmas, etc.	Common Worship as appropriate

Historically, All Saints held an 8am Holy Communion service each Sunday following the Book of Common Prayer which was faithfully attended by around 10 worshippers. This has been unable to continue during the vacancy and is missed by those who attended.

All Saints' First Sunday services offer a variety of options to meet the needs of the congregation. The existing meditative Reflection service continues to be well-received, serving a meaningful purpose and attracting a growing group of people. The Relaxed Morning service is currently being trialled, with plans for its continuation depending on demand. Additionally, the Morning Praise service was introduced during the vacancy.

St Stephen's, Fradley			
Day	Time	Current	Book/Rite
1 st Sunday	9:00	Holy Communion	Book of Common Prayer
	10:30	All Age Worship	No set format
2 nd Sunday	10:30	Family Communion	Common Worship Eucharist
3 rd Sunday	10:30	Family Communion	Common Worship Eucharist
4 th Sunday	10:30	Family Communion	Common Worship Eucharist
5 th Sunday	10:30	Family Communion	Common Worship Eucharist
Festivals	Various	e.g. Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, Pentecost, Easter, Harvest, Christmas, etc.	Common Worship as appropriate

St Stephen's, Fradley, has offered a mix of services to cater to the diverse needs of its congregation. The 1st Sunday features a traditional Holy Communion service at 9:00 am using the Book of Common Prayer, which continues to be valued by those who appreciate its historic style. The 10:30 am service on 1st Sunday offers an informal All Age Worship, with a flexible format aimed at engaging all ages in the community.

In both churches throughout the rest of the month, the other services on are Family Communion, following the Common Worship Eucharist format. During special festivals, services such as Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, Pentecost, and others are celebrated using Common Worship as appropriate.

Music

All Saints, Alrewas has a beautiful, traditional church organ and a team of organists who play at most services, supporting us with the provision of CDs when no organist is available. The Community Choir supports the church choir in Alrewas, who sing at special services and on the second and fourth Sunday of the month. Music and a regular choir are things that the congregation really value, have enjoyed historically, and would very much like to continue and develop.

St Stephen's, Fradley has a traditional pipe organ which is in good working order and is played regularly at services by a committed organist. The worship at St Stephen's is supported by a Music Group consisting of several musicians and singers. This group leads the music at worship services twice a month and at special events. In addition, the Fradley Community Choir, open to church members and non-church members alike, hosts its own music events as well as offering supporting choral input for special services. An up-to-date sound system allows good quality playing of CD/downloaded music as needed.



Prayer and spirituality

We believe that prayer should underpin all that we are and do and have built into our pattern of prayer and worship several opportunities for corporate prayer. At All Saints a prayer group meet every two weeks in each other's homes for around an hour to spend time trying to listen to the Lord in scripture, silence, prayer and conversation. They pray for the needs of individuals, the Church, wider community and our world. Our offering of prayer comes together in the Sunday intercessions which are ably and sensitively led by a number of lay worshippers and Church leaders.

The commitment of having the churches open every day during the day, means that many visitors spend time in the churches and often find opportunity for quiet or spiritual reflection as evidenced in the comments in our visitors' book, many of which testify to the sense of peace and God's presence that is experienced.

Our Church Buildings

All Saints, Alrewas

The church is situated in the northwest of the village on the north side of the Trent & Mersey Canal. The church is a Grade I Listed Building. A church has stood on the current site since the 9th century. The current building was mainly built during the 13th, 14th, 16th and 19th centuries. It has been modified over the centuries to provide a large, welcoming space suitable for all types of worship. The nave roof has recently been replaced after an outstanding fundraising effort by the local community and the many generous personal gifts. There is a hospitality area which is used for after service refreshments, Souper Wednesday, Tea and cakes and a bar for our fundraising events. A children's area is allocated in the Lady Chapel and is always available for our young people (and their parents!). There is a large graveyard which has many spaces remaining for full burial and interment of ashes. It is well tended by Lichfield District Council (which is generously funded by Alrewas Parish Council) and a band of enthusiastic volunteers.

St Stephen's, Fradley

A Church has stood on the site in Fradley village from 1861 and worship has taken place here since then. St Stephen's was originally built as a Chapel of Ease so that local families did not have to travel to All Saints Church, Alrewas. Its unusual design and position at the corner of Old Hall Lane have made it a landmark feature in the village. Interesting architectural features include three stained glass windows at the east end, an impressive vaulted wooden roof and a pipe organ which is still played regularly in services.

Recent additions and improvements reflect St Stephen's expanding role in the local community. There is an additional meeting room with kitchen facilities, a disabled toilet and baby changing facility, a hearing loop and full wheelchair access. Further improvements currently being assessed include the re-ordering of the nave by removing the existing pews to allow greater flexibility of both worship and community use. The bell tower has been restored, and the church re-roofed in 2017, with some interior and exterior decorating completed.

St Stephen's Churchyard is home to thirty-three War Graves of Australian and British aircrew and one German Luftwaffe pilot who lost their lives during WW2. The Churchyard is maintained to a high standard and has won awards in the past.



Parish Activities and Programmes

Outside of regular worship, both churches maintain many links to our communities as part of our outreach. Some events/activities are supported by both churches, others are more specific. Those that are common across both include:

Trussell Trust food bank in Lichfield - A box is placed in church for anyone wishing to donate food items and contributions are made daily by members of the congregation and community both lovingly and unselfishly given, then they are regularly taken to the food bank. Monetary donations are also encouraged which are held in a designated fund and used to purchase food for the Foodbank. "It's more blessed to give than receive "(Acts 20:35)

Open Gardens - the PCCs work with their respective Civic Society to organise and run these very popular weekend events, with hospitality provided in both Churches.

Pilgrim Way Church Trail – provides set routes for walking groups, ramblers and individuals to visit and both Churches are on this historic trail.

Ride and Stride Event –this event is supported annually and provide refreshments for visitors on the day in church. The Ride and Stride event is an annual fundraising activity for churches, primarily organised by various Historic Churches Trusts throughout the UK. It involves participants cycling, walking, or even driving between churches while being sponsored for each visit. The funds raised go towards the repair, restoration, and improvement of churches and chapels.

All Saints, Alrewas

Fortnightly prayer group - an informal gathering for prayer and reflection

Lent Course has in recent years been created and delivered collaboratively with Ministers from the local Methodist church.

Souper Wednesday – from November to March each year, soup, rolls and cake are served to the local community, providing a warm space and companionship.

Community Choir – concerts take place several times a year in Church which are very popular and attract large audiences.

Music Nights and Quizzes - these are regular fundraisers for the Church.

Alrewas Arts Festival - with whom we have strong links providing a venue and hospitality for the many events throughout the week.



Christmas Carols are held in the Churchyard.

Christmas Tree Festivals have been held up until Covid and there is an appetite for these to restart.

Bellringing – well established teams are in place both for the main bells and handbells. There are regular visitors from other Churches who come to ring our main bells.

Supporter of the Alrewas Show with committee meetings held regularly in Church.

Knitwits a village group who designed and made a beautiful collage last year for Remembrance which is permanently displayed in church. Some of their members also contributed to the front covers of the church kneelers (along with many people from the community.) Members of the group also arrange items of their work as a tableau on the green around the War Memorial to represent special times throughout the year such as Easter and Christmas.

St Stephen's Church, Fradley

Aside from the work of our clergy in providing pastoral care and teaching, St Stephen's promotes small group activities such Alpha courses and bible study groups (The Pilgrim Way). We have an informal "read it, swap it" book resource in Church for anyone wishing to share or borrow books on faith.

Regular Activities:

Wednesday Welcome (Places of Welcome) – a weekly free drop in for cake, biscuits, tea, coffee and chat. This is a Community Project through Transforming Communities.

Events Committee – a small group of church members meet regularly to devise and promote events for both the congregation and visitors. Recent events have included a craft fair, a quiz night, harvest supper, Christmas lunch, Christmas tree festival, plant and bring-and-buy stalls and social evenings.

Embroiderers' Class – work on fine gold work and intricate embroidered designs for projects such as altar furnishings. Regular meetings are held in church and are open to all.

Craft Group – is open to all and meets weekly to work on themed projects to raise funds for both church and charitable causes.

Bowbrook Dementia Specialist Care Home – We give monthly services to the residents at Bowbrook and the Church participates in the Diocesan Dementia Friendly initiative which raises awareness of dementia within the church to make it as accessible as possible to those with dementia and their carers. The Church has achieved the 'Dementia Friendly Church Certificate' and has an ongoing commitment to improving awareness, provision and support for those with dementia.



Fradley Community Choir – hold weekly rehearsals and usually 3 concerts annually. The Choir is a non-church choir and welcomes all singers without audition.

Remembrance Events – Fradley was the site of RAF Lichfield Airfield and therefore commemorating the Battle of Britain is important to the community. Services and events for the community and Uniformed Organisations are held annually (St Stephen's has 33 Commonwealth War Graves in its churchyard and we welcome visitors from all over the globe).

Churchyard Working Group – this group provides care and maintenance of the Victorian church building, and the surrounding churchyard and is wonderfully supported by congregation members and community volunteers who maintain the burial areas, wildlife garden, trees, shrubs and hedges. The Church supports them by providing refreshments on "clear up" days. The 'Churchyard Gang' provides valuable pastoral care both to each other and visitors to the churchyard.

Heritage Group – informs the history of Fradley to the local and wider community.

Community Outreach – St Stephen's promotes church and community activities through advertising including a Church notice board, Facebook page, 'A Church Near You' website, the Parish News for the Benefice, a weekly bulletin, and distribution of Easter and Christmas Cards. Two thousand cards were distributed at Easter and Christmas to the ever-growing housing estates. We provide support for local charitable organisations such as the Lichfield Food bank (donated items collected in church), Alzheimer's Society, Pathway Project, Sense and Bowbrook Care Home.



Children and Young People

At both of our churches we aim to provide a safe, loving and fun environment for children to learn about Jesus, to know that He loves them and to share that love with others. The encouragement of young people to access church is a key and vital focus for the future.

Little Fishes is a successful group and is run as a 'church' toddler group in collaboration with the Methodist Church. It provides a Christian based safe environment for little ones to play and develop and for parents/carers to build lasting friendships. Just before Christmas Day the group run a lovely and very well attended nativity service and party in Church.

The uniformed groups of the village are encouraged to participate in special services held at All Saints Church, such as Mothering Sunday when they, with the aid of pictures they have drawn or made, talk about what all their mothers do for them. After the service they help distribute bunches of daffodils to the congregation.

On Remembrance Sunday the uniformed groups parade, along with members of the British Legion, from the British Legion Club through the village to the church to join the congregation. There they, along with British Legion members are an integrated part of the service. Members of the uniformed groups will, during the service, share facts they have learned about the wars in their weekly club sessions leading up to Remembrance Day. Last year they made an impressive poster about the poppy which is now displayed in church.

At Christmas, a benefice Christingle Service is held as well as Carols in the Churchyard.

St Stephen's Church has an ongoing relationship with Uniformed Organisations in the village. They have been involved in D Day 80 and VE 80 events, the annual Battle of Britain Service and Remembrance Services. The church has a good working relationship with Alrewas Royal British Legion who support many of our historic and commemorative events.

Work with Schools

All Saints, Alrewas

All Saints School, Alrewas is part of the John Taylor Multi Academy Trust and is Voluntary Controlled. As a result, the incumbent will automatically be part of the Local Academy Committees (LAC). In addition to the Incumbent there are two further Foundation Governor positions both of which are currently filled by members of the PCC.

Message from the Headteacher of All Saints School, Mrs Ellie Fussell.

Our School's Vision and Values



We aim to nurture a safe, loving and inclusive environment where every child is valued and celebrated as an individual. We encourage children to develop self-belief, resilience, a compassionate heart. By instilling our Christian Values, we empower children to love others, persevere through challenges, and carry their principles into their adult lives, making a positive impact on the world.

“We love because God first loved us”
1 John 4:19

All Saints’ CE Primary and Nursery School is a happy, inclusive and forward-thinking Primary School - it is the only school within the village of Alrewas. We currently have 209 children on role, including an over-subscribed Nursery and Pre-Nursery. Our school has strong links with All Saints’ Church and the Methodist Church within the village, with the children’s RE lessons regularly being enriched by visits to the churches. We celebrate key dates within the Christian calendar - such as Christingle, Easter and Christmas - at All Saints’ Church and welcome opportunities to invite parents to share in these celebrations. These links re-enforce our unbreakable relationship with the Church, as well as helping our children understand their connection to God and to the wider world.

Our children come from a range of economic backgrounds and there is a wide range in children’s life experiences. Our children are thoughtful and reflective and have an excellent understanding of our longstanding Christian Values: Love, Trust, Forgiveness, Thankfulness, Respect, Friendship and Koinonia. These values are demonstrated by children and adults at All Saints’ every day.

We joined the John Taylor Multi-Academy Trust in September 2023 as we knew academisation was right for our development, and we felt the JTMAT values of excellence and collegiality aligned with our own values as a C of E school. This has proven very successful for us as a school and we now work within a “mini-cluster” of fellow Church schools within the Trust, which the Trust are highly supportive of.

Our Worship Leaders are about to embark upon a Courageous Advocacy project which will see All Saints’ children enhancing the care and support for the elderly within the community; a project we are very excited about. Every day at All Saints’ is a learning day, and we are committed to instilling our Christian Values throughout all we do, ensuring our children will become lifelong learners and productive, ambitious and caring global citizens.

Link to the school’s website is here:

<https://www.allsaints-alrewas.staffs.sch.uk>



St Stephen's, Fradley

We have two schools in Fradley - St Stephen's School (next to the Church) which was first established in 1875) and a new school, Fradley Park School (part of the John Taylor MAT) has been open since September 2022. Neither are church schools, but we have been welcomed and the relationship with the church is growing.

We have worked closely with St Stephen's School over many years involving them in events such as remembrance services as well as Christingle services, Mothering Sunday and 'Church Detective' activities to familiarise them with the church and its history. Early Years Carol Services have been held in church and through 'Messy Church', Messy Olympics has been held in the churchyard. Church members have been invited into the school to talk about faith.

Fradley Park School has already shown a keen interest in working with the church and our Associate Minister was invited to speak at the school about community and the church and the role of a priest in church. Reception and Year One have been in church to learn about the building, faith and what we do in worship. Other church members have attended social and fund – raising events and have recently been commissioned to craft Christmas bunting for the school hall. This is a growing relationship which we hope to nurture and develop over time.

Given the growth in housing in Fradley, it will be of paramount importance to further strengthen our links with both schools and encourage greater involvement in church.

Links to the schools' websites are here:

<https://www.st-stephens.staffs.sch.uk/staffs/primary/st-stephens>

<https://fradleyparkschool.co.uk/>



Communication

We recognise the importance of effective communication within the parish and how we engage with the community. Like most benefices, during the Covid pandemic our social media presence was a lifeline to many as the church doors closed, for example through online services. Now we see social media as a window to connect to our community, invite people into our churches, share our faith, and showcase our services and events. It is an important tool to reach out to a diverse audience and bring them to God. Our administrators and social media officers manage the communication across the parishes. Announcements are made via social media, our websites and posters displayed around the villages. There is an online Parish Magazine which has 300 subscribers from across the parish and beyond. There are also weekly pew sheets which are shared with the congregations. We have a presence on Facebook and A Church Near You. We use social media to advertise and promote events such as seasonal fairs, special services, and social events. These channels are increasingly used as points of contact between the public and the churches.

Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals

Both All Saints and St Stephen's are popular places for baptisms, weddings and funerals. Children and adults from the parishes are baptised as well as those with a connection through family or history. Those wishing to explore baptism in our churches initially contact the Parish Administrator who, during the interregnum, liaises with the Non-Stipendiary Minister and other clergy.

Our weddings include services of prayers and dedication for couples acknowledging the commitment made between husband and wife during a civil ceremony. We welcome second marriages at the incumbent's discretion and within the Bishops' Guidelines.

We operate a funeral policy in line with Church of England doctrine. We have good links with local funeral directors. We also have strong links with the local Crematorium at Fradley.

In 2024 the following were held:

	Baptisms	Weddings	Funerals at Church	Funerals at Crematoria
All Saints	14	7	18	13
St Stephen's	6	1 plus 1 blessing	6	15

Church Finances

Each Parish manages their own finances, and each has a Treasurer. Regular givers use Gift Aid envelopes or pay by standing order. Our Treasurers claim tax rebates on our regular giving, and on our loose plate collections through the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme. To raise additional funds, both parishes organise fund-raising events throughout the year, such as social evenings, concerts, and quizzes.

Historically both PCC's have enjoyed a strong position financially, and neither was impacted materially in the Covid years of 2020 and 2021. However, both are now feeling the impact of rising costs with Alrewas achieving only a very small surplus in 2024, and Fradley a deficit of c£3.5K which was funded from reserves.

Further increases in costs this year, which are not matched by an increase in income, leads both PCCs to the belief that each will incur a material level of deficit in 2025, albeit at levels that can be funded from reserves. Strategies are currently being formulated to increase current incomes streams and identify / develop new ones.

2024 Income and expenditure accounts for both PCC's General Funds can be found in Appendix 1. A copy of the full Trustees Annual Report and Financial Statements is available on request via the Alrewas Treasurer who can be contacted at – treasurer@alrewasallsaints.church

In addition to General Funds, both parishes have several designated and restricted funds. Of these the only significant ones are two Fabric Funds at Alrewas, one restricted and one designated, with total balances held of c£46K following completion of the Nave Roof Project in February 2025.

Safeguarding

Both churches are committed to safeguarding children and vulnerable people and have adopted the national and diocesan safeguarding policies in all respects. Safeguarding policy and practice are regularly reviewed by the PCC. Presently Jen Matthewman is the Parish Safeguarding Officer for All Saints and Dorothy Giles for St Stephen's.



Vicarage

The post comes with a four bedroomed detached house with a lovely garden next to the Church. There is a new kitchen, large lounge overlooking the garden, dining room, study, four good sized double bedrooms, family bathroom and garage. It is close to all local amenities and has a picturesque view over the canal and millstream. It has undergone a Diocese review in 2025 and the required repairs, excepting the roof, should be completed prior to the new Priest in Charge (Vicar Designate) moving in.

The Local Area

These are rural parishes but are well provided to meet most needs. As well as the primary schools in Alrewas and Fradley, secondary age pupils attend either John Taylor High School in Barton under Needwood or one of the three secondary schools in Lichfield. There is a doctor's surgery in Alrewas and a private dental surgery. There is also a Co-Op, coffee shop, well renowned butcher, fish and chip shop, takeaway Chinese, Indian restaurant and several pubs. The Post Office is found in the butcher's shop in Fradley. There is also a Co-Op, pharmacy, gym, Indian restaurant, Greggs and coffee shop.

The parishes fall into the National Forest and the National Memorial Arboretum is situated just half a mile from Alrewas. Canals and rivers run through the parishes with teeming wildlife and delightful scenery.

Connectivity by road is very good with both Alrewas and Fradley sitting on the edge of the A38. Rail services from Lichfield Trent Valley (5 miles) provide a regular service into Birmingham and London. To the north are Derby and Nottingham, which are easily accessible. South takes you to Birmingham. Local buses provide services to Lichfield and Burton on Trent. The nearest hospitals are Samuel Johnson Minor Injuries in Lichfield and Queens Hospital, Burton on Trent.

Please see this link to 'Alrewas-A New Millennium' film which starts with aerial shots then goes on to talk about the development of the village:

https://youtu.be/vIS1mKcYGl4?si=__21dW0uhLwjSPS



Thank you!

Thank you for reading this profile to the end. We are thrilled that you are interested in our benefice and we are praying for all who read this. We hope that you feel this is the place for you to further your mission.

Appendix 1: Financial Statements

Alrewas All Saints Receipts and payments 01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

From 01 January 2024 01 January 2023
To 31 December 2024 31 December 2023

General - General Fund (Unrestricted) Fund

Receipts

Donations and legacies		
Gift Aid - Bank	£20,710	£21,695
Gift Aid - Envelopes	£3,360	£4,104
Other planned giving	£3,704	£5,069
Just Giving Receipts	£138	£513
Text Giving	£5	£5
Loose plate collections	£3,943	£3,594
Card Donations - GASDS Eligible	£100	£170
One-off Gift Aid gifts	£1,350	£450
Donations appeals etc	£1,029	£222
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid	£8,656	£8,375
Non-recurring one-off grants	0	£75
Other Income	0	£224
Total Donations and legacies	£42,995	£44,495
Income from charitable activities		
Fees for weddings and funerals	£13,329	£16,372
Other charges at Weddings and Funerals	£860	£1,216
Total Income from charitable activities	£14,189	£17,588
Other trading activities		
Fund Raising Events	£15,598	£14,572
Total Other trading activities	£15,598	£14,572
Investments		
Bank and building society interest	0	£133
Total Investments	0	£133
Total Receipts	£72,781	£76,788

Payments

Raising funds		
Events Expenses	£3,635	£2,797
Total Raising funds	£3,635	£2,797
Expenditure on charitable activities		
Community Pantry	£24	£44
Ministry Common Fund etc	£56,431	£39,767
Working expenses of incumbent	£574	£535
Vicar's telephone & broadband	£342	£423
Parish training and mission	£390	£240
Church running - insurance	£3,932	£3,720
Organ / piano tuning	£360	£314
Church maintenance	£1,977	£1,500
Cleaning	£2,496	£2,280
Upkeep of services	£2,121	£1,561
Administration	£3,336	£725
Church running - electric	£1,116	£898
Church running - gas	£2,504	£2,500
Church running - water	£131	£104
Governance costs examination/audit fee	£140	0
Total Expenditure on charitable activities	£75,875	£54,610
Other expenditure		
Other Gifts	£100	£1,575
Bank Charges	£184	£119
Total Other expenditure	£284	£1,694
Total Payments	£79,795	£59,101
Excess of Income and endowments over Expenditure	(£7,013)	£17,687
Brought forward balance	£12,688	£15,588
Transfers to/(from)	£7,449	(£20,587)
Total carried forward balance	£13,123	£12,688

Fradley St Stephen
Receipts and payments
01 January 2024 to 31 December 2024

	From To	01 January 2024 31 December 2024	01 January 2023 31 December 2023
General - General fund (Unrestricted) Fund			
Receipts			
Donations and legacies			
Gift Aid - Bank		£3,240	£3,22
Other planned giving		£1,653	£1,56
Just Giving Receipts		£10	£
Loose plate collections		£6,638	£5,48
Card Donations - GASDS Eligible		£15	£14
Other Donations - GASDS Eligible		0	£39
One-off Gift Aid gifts		£1,400	£5,73
Donations appeals etc		£1,226	£1,29
Tax recoverable on Gift Aid		£2,724	£5,52
Recurring grants		0	£2
Non-recurring one-off grants		£150	£4,38
Other funds generated		£524	
Wednesday Welcome		£408	£37
Total Donations and legacies		£17,987	£28,12
Income from charitable activities			
Statutory Fees for Weddings and Funerals		£3,767	£2,17
Other charges at Weddings and Funerals		£562	£9
Total Income from charitable activities		£4,329	£2,26
Other trading activities			
Harvest Supper		£605	
Christmas Fayre		£1,086	
Fundraising Activities		£2,786	£4,61
Craft Group Income		£194	
Open Gardens Proceeds		£12	
Total Other trading activities		£4,682	£4,61
Investments			
Bank and building society interest		£1,603	£58
Total Investments		£1,603	£58
Total Receipts		£28,601	£35,59
Payments			
Raising funds			
Harvest Supper Expenses		£285	
Fundraising Expenses		£500	£92
Craft Group Expenses		£143	
Costs of fetes & other events		£811	
Total Raising funds		£1,739	£92
Expenditure on charitable activities			
Wednesday Welcome Expenses		£321	£9
Secular charities		£545	£57
Ministry Common Fund etc		£15,534	£13,56
Parish training and mission		0	£33
Church running - insurance		£1,297	£1,15
Church office - telephone		£93	
Organ / piano tuning		£233	£21
Church maintenance		£2,665	£1,09
Cleaning		£81	£29
Upkeep of services		£229	£14
Upkeep of churchyard		£820	£16
Administration		£3,009	£20
Church running - electric		£5,213	£2,46
Church running - water		£105	£9
Total Expenditure on charitable activities		£30,145	£20,40
Other expenditure			
Bank Charges		£5	£1
Total Other expenditure		£5	£1
Total Payments		£31,889	£21,34
Excess of Income and endowments over Expenditure		(£3,288)	£14,25
Brought forward balance		£36,839	£22,60
Transfers to/(from)		0	(£23

Appendix 2 - Ministry Teams

All Saints, Alrewas:

- Licensed Lay Reader
- Churchwardens (2)
- Warden Support Team who carry out much of the preparation for and stewardship of services.
- Sacristan
- Congregational Readers
- Chalice Assistants
- Intercessors
- Refreshment Team
- Organists
- Fabric and Finance, Mission and Outreach, Fundraising and Fellowship Working Groups
- Safeguarding
- Brass cleaners
- Flower arrangers
- Souper Wednesday which serves soup and cake throughout the winter months
- Bellringers and handbell ringers
- Clock winders
- First Sunday Team who prepare and lead the Relaxed Service.
- Those who open and close church.
- Volunteers who maintain the churchyard.
- Pastoral care (mostly carried out privately by members of the PCC)

St Stephen's, Fradley:

- Licensed Lay Reader
- Churchwardens (1)
- Stewards (for all main services and occasional offices)
- Sacristan
- Congregational Readers for Bible readings in all Sunday services
- Chalice Assistants at Eucharistic Services
- Refreshment team
- Open/Close church volunteers
- Churchyard maintenance team
- Events working group
- Music group
- Organist support
- Flower team
- Places of Welcome hosts
- Dementia Friendly Church Champion
- Pastoral care (mostly carried out privately and often by the Licensed Reader)

