



THE PARISH OF GLASCOTE AND STONYDELPH

PARISH PROFILE



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Bishop's Introduction

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**THE BISHOP
OF LICHFIELD**

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 Ipgrave



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The Parish of Glascote and Stonydelph

An introduction

Glascote and Stonydelph is a Parish with 25,000 people and 3 church families located in a 3 square mile rectangle, projecting to the east of Tamworth, Staffordshire.

You will be based at St George's church in Glascote, closest to Tamworth centre. Further east are St Peter's in Glascote Heath, and St Martin's in Stonydelph, an LEP with the Methodist church.

You will be full time Rector of a Team Ministry with a Team Vicar, four ordained people who have permission to officiate and four Lay Readers, with no pastoral re-organisation being considered. We would consider ourselves a low evangelical Parish with informal worship styles being open to the Spirit's direction, who are committed to loving our wider community. Each church has its own District Church Council which provides members for the PCC.

The Parish represents one-third of Tamworth's 76,800 people, is 20 miles north-east of Birmingham, and 10 miles from Lichfield Cathedral and the Diocesan office.

Tamworth

Once capital of Mercia, Tamworth is a town that grew rapidly in the post-war years as people moved into the area from the West Midlands conurbation to the southwest and the population again grew significantly in the 1970s and 1980s. 97% of the population classify themselves as White British and Glascote is no exception to that. The average age of the community is below the national norm because there are many young families

The town and its surrounding areas enjoy modern shopping areas, offer a variety of leisure-time pursuits, including our famous Snowdome, and has regular free family events based around its Norman Castle and extensive grounds, which hosts a weekly Parkrun. The large Ventura Park Shopping Centre contains major retailers such as M&S, B&Q, Next and GO Outdoors, while just a few miles away is Drayton Manor Theme Park. We're also the home to The Tamworth Tap (CAMRA National Pub of the Year 2022, 2023) and the viral sensation SpudMan.

Traditionally the town's major employers were found in light engineering, coal mining and associated industries. In common with much of Britain these declined, and the town experienced unemployment problems. Now these have been substantially reduced due to the growth in the service and especially distribution sectors owing to our proximity to the M42 and M6.

Rural Dean's Statement on the vacancy

Name of outgoing priest: The Reverend Gary Simmons

The Benefice within the Deanery: This parish's reputation is one of commitment, enthusiasm and evangelism, openly witnessing to God in their own contexts. They support the deanery with people who fill deanery posts, with parishioners who attend deanery joint worship and events and host their share of the latter too.

The Benefice and ecumenical affairs: Tamworth Christians work very ecumenically and have done so for many years. The Benefice works closely with Tamworth Christian Churches, attending and hosting meetings of leaders / clergy and, when there has been an extant Lay TCC Group, in supporting that too, helping to bring together our different denominations in discussion, worship and fellowship. St George's have traditionally worked well with the Elim church in the same street. They support the local Foodbank, as do all the Deanery.

The Benefice's strengths: are trusting in and witnessing to God through Jesus by the power of the Spirit. St George's is a thriving and faithful church with a gifted Permission to Officiate retired member, 4 Readers and other music/worship leaders. The congregation works well together and runs House Groups, Prayer Groups and regular mission focussed events for their local community such as monthly breakfasts and a weekly toddler group. They take their giving to Church, and charity, seriously. They welcome newcomers warmly and carefully. St Peter's and St Martin's have their own Team Vicar. St Peter's has a very good age range, and is popular in its community, which is a challenging one. There are two dedicated Self Supporting PtO's whose spouses are also key figures at St Peter's. They use the community centre in support of their mission. St Martin's has been active in social provision such as Make Lunch, Preschool etc. in the past, but has declined in numbers and activities since Covid. Both are welcoming places for newcomers. The three churches have traditionally 'worked' their own areas within a supportive team environment.

The Benefice's weaknesses: Glascote Heath (St Peter's) has high deprivation which brings its own challenges. Stonydelph (St Martin's) has some deprivation too and numbers have declined over the last 5 years. Glascote (St George's) is a better off area on the whole. The buildings are generally in a good state of repair and at St George's a small group is addressing current Quinquennial needs.

The Benefice's needs: Collaboration in leadership and ministry is a mark of this Benefice. These are churches with keen involvement in deciding what happens, why and how. Each of the churches has their own distinctiveness and works in slightly different ways due to their context. The parish is low Evangelical with relaxed worship traditions and a heart for mission and evangelism.

The Benefice's new priest would ideally be a leader gifted in collaborative ministry, affirmation, nurture and encouragement for others and with enthusiasm to help the Parish to continue to grow its mission and witness.

Revd Debra Dyson
Vicar & Ministry Team Leader
Wigginton, Tamworth B79 9DN

Parish overview

Our Parish

Our Parish comprises Glascote, Glascote Heath and Stonydelph; each area is served by its own District Church under the day-to-day leadership of their respective clergy, District Church Councils and Leadership Teams. Stonydelph is a Methodist LEP. The Parish has the highest attendance of all the Parishes in the Deanery.

Our churches operate independently and have diverse congregations. The clergy have developed a strong collaborative team ethic built around mutual accountability and trust and the leadership role of Team Rector within this team will be as first among equals.

Table 1 Parish information

Population:	25,000
Churches:	Three
DCCs:	Three
PCC:	One (formed by representatives of the three district councils)
Clergy and Readers:	<p>St George's, Glascote: Team Rector: Current vacancy Rev Mike Le Worthy (PtO) Mr Rob Ellor Mrs Karen Gopsill Prof Maggi Savin-Baden Mrs Pat West Rev Peter Smith (PtO): occasional preacher</p> <p>St Peter's, Glascote Heath: Team Vicar: Current Vacancy Rev Hugh Baker (PtO) Rev Pat Faultless (PtO)</p> <p>St Martin's, Stonydelph: Team Vicar: Current vacancy. (LEP with the Methodist church) Rev Richard Lockwood (PtO, leaving in Autumn 2025)</p>
Buildings:	<p>Three churches</p> <p>The buildings at St Martin's and St Peter's also function as community centres</p> <p>St George's has a traditional church hall</p>
Churchyards:	None except for a small consecrated area at St Martin's for the burial of ashes.

Table 2 Parish data

Year Ending Dec 2024	St George's	St Peter's	St Martin's
Baptisms	1	4	2 (1 adult, 1 child)
Weddings	0	0	0
Funerals	11 (7 in church, 4 not)	3	1 (1 in church 1 not)
Average Weekly Attendance	66	30	14
Common Fund	£41,774	£20,483	£13,223
Total Electoral Roll Membership	105	50	30

Our Strengths as a Parish

- 3 worshipping communities, distinct and diverse, eager to share the Gospel
- A cohesive and focussed PCC that encourages and supports each individual church
- 3 District Church Councils effectively managing the affairs and ministry of each church, reporting to the PCC
- An understanding that community action is a significant calling of the Parish
- Team clergy staff meetings which provide encouragement, fellowship and support whilst enjoying a simple meal

Our Challenges as a Parish

- develop our outreach activity and share the gospel more effectively
- develop, engage and support activity to reach out to children/young people and families
- improve the ways in which we communicate and demonstrate relevance to our community through local events and social media
- increase giving and income streams to fund these

Role Description

The role of Team Rector in the Parish

- to support your colleagues' callings in the Team Ministry and help them grow together in love, service and exploring the Bible in applicable and relevant ways
- to give a lead in collaborative working, discipleship and strategic thinking
- to have an overview, with the wardens and PCC, of the spiritual, financial and material capacity of the parish and to take a lead in developing these
- to be a supportive colleague to others in the Deanery, Diocese and ecumenically

The role of Team Rector at St George's

- develop our outreach activity and improve the ways we communicate and demonstrate relevance to our differing communities and schools through local events and social media
- develop, engage and support activities to reach out to children/young people and families, and to help the church to grow through our outreach activities including Sunbeams and our Pre-school
- sustain, grow and deepen the faith and discipleship of our congregations and have a clear vision to grow our congregations numerically
- challenge the norm, do what God wants and inspire the congregations
- train and encourage others and be willing to delegate

Person Specification

- strong in faith, spirit led, empowering leader and with a clear sense of purpose
- visionary and possess the ability to bring vision to life
- gifted in developing approaches to evangelism and worship appropriate for growth in our context
- able to preach and teach in ways that connect the doctrines of the Bible and the church to the current issues facing our congregations and society today
- committed to the power of transformational prayer in the life of our church and community
- able to discern gifts of ministry and talents within our congregations focussing on every member ministry
- competent in relating to all ages, showing warmth, compassion and respect

What we can offer you

- prayer support in your decisions and execution of the role
- a supportive clergy Team in the Parish, Deanery and Tamworth Christian Churches
- an experienced PtO, group of Lay Readers and others who lead, preach and teach
- a part-time administrator, 2 dedicated church wardens, a treasurer and a full complement of DCC and PCC members
- a vibrant laity that are skilled and enthusiastic
- a church maturing in faith who want to take the next step in doing God's work
- a welcoming and caring church family
- contemporary worship with skilled musicians
- respect for days off, holiday entitlement and training time
- full reimbursement of expenses



St George's Vicarage



St George's Church

Welcome to St George's Church . . . *serving the community of Glascote*

About Glascote, Tamworth

Glascote used to be a mining village. Now our district has a dense urban population of 8,300 living in around 2,500 homes with some green space.

St. George's is centrally placed between two private housing estates, Lakeside and Abbotsgate with further established housing that is about 100 years old. There are 3 local primary and a secondary school within walking distance of the Church, and the Church has good connections with the primary schools.

St George's has had an interesting history since its Consecration in 1880. It has moved from being a daughter Church of Tamworth Parish looked after by a Curate, to having its own Incumbent in the 1970s, then it had a brief period as a Conventional District and is now part of a Team Ministry.

The Church Building and The Church Hall

In 1997 we completed an extension to the Grade II Listed Building. The church can now flexibly accommodate up to 250 people seated on individual chairs.



Community Breakfast in the church hall

St George's church building



Our part-time paid church administrator is based in the church office which also serves as our vestry. We have a small tea and coffee making area and just one toilet in the church. The layout can be restrictive for how we would like to use the building.

A separate Chancel with a restored Altar and reredos, which has a glazed partition, allows parents with smaller children to still take part in the service through a PA system with an aural link for those who are hearing impaired. This area is also used for the Wednesday service, regular small groups and DCC meetings.

We have a recently installed sound system and a multi-media projection system, used at Sunday services, to project song lyrics, illustrate talks and play video clips.

Our church hall (built in 1992) is across the road from the church. The hall's ancillary accommodation includes a kitchen, meeting room, toilets and upstairs there are 2 smaller meeting/ work areas and storage.

The Hall hosts our successful Pre-School every term-time weekday. During evenings and weekends, it is used irregularly for other events.

The Vicarage

Our vicarage was built in 1990, is directly opposite the church and adjacent to the church hall. It is a spacious, well maintained, double glazed and centrally heated family house. Downstairs there is a lounge, dining room, large kitchen, utility room, wc, and a study next to the front door. Upstairs there are four bedrooms, an en-suite and a family bathroom. Outside is a linked garage, driveway for two cars and front lawn, and to the rear a large, easily maintained garden.

Our Leadership

St George's is led by the Team Rector, supported by four Lay Readers and a PtO, who provide the overall vision, direction and service themes of the Church.



The Lay Readers with Mike (PtO): Karen, Maggi, Mike, Pat and Rob

Our Services are at 10am on Sundays and 9.30am on Wednesdays. We have a substantial rota run by our Administrator, ensuring many different church members are involved in all

aspects of our services from being a welcomer beforehand through to serving refreshments afterwards. Additionally on the first Sunday each month our 10am All Age services are especially planned and led by a small team who ensure high levels of interaction with eager young and old volunteers, while delivering content in interesting and memorable ways. The Rector, PtO, Readers and All Age leaders form the 'Service Leaders and Preachers Team' who meet every 2 months with the music group leaders to review our services and themes and plan our worship in song. Our District Church Council oversees the fabric and practical aspects of church life.



District Church Council

Our strengths at St George's

- We are a church built upon bible teaching and application
- We are a spirit-led church that engages with and is open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit
- Our church has a prayer life that has developed greatly over recent years
- There is a desire to mature in discipleship and mission
- We have 4 Lay Readers and a PtO, with church members capable and willing to lead, preach, facilitate our All-Age service and host small groups
- We have varied involvement in a significant number of community projects
- Our gifted music group is able to lead our congregation in a variety of styles
- There is an aspiration to develop new Christians into leaders
- We have British Sign Language signing at about half of our 10am services (and are currently running a course teaching deaf awareness, BSL in church and sign worship)
- We employ a part time administrator (10 hours/week) and contract a cleaner
- We have 2 Wardens, Treasurer, Gift Aid Secretary, Safeguarding Officer and full complement of DCC members
- Our church is financially supported by our members, and we cover our Common Fund and the running costs from our giving income

Our challenges at St George's

- We need to focus on our strengths and choose carefully what fits into our mission
- We need to develop people's gifts and would like to look for ways to develop and encourage every member ministry
- We would like to grow beyond our current numbers, especially with the largely missing 20-40 generation
- We have a Sunbeams toddler group and strong links with our Preschool. Both these groups have the potential to be a strategic catalyst for church growth, but we need to be more effective in our ministry to young children and families
- Our buildings and resources require improvements and development and can restrict us. We want to be more creative/imaginative on how they might be used for the community

Mission Action Plan

Our MAP, a work in progress to which we would welcome your input, shows our vision to being a Christ Centred and Community Focused church. Our aims are to:

- Deepen our personal commitment to Jesus
- Desire to place Jesus in the centre of our lives
- Grow in faith
- Build relationships with each other
- Make a difference in our community
- Serve our community with passion in Jesus' name
- Grow in numbers and diversity

The focus of the MAP is to develop our:

- **Discipleship** through Inspiring Worship, being Passionate about Spirituality, and developing and sustaining Home Groups.
- **Vocation** through Gift-Oriented Ministry.
- **Evangelism** with a focus on Need-Oriented Outreach and sustained Loving Relationships; all supported by effective functional structures, as exemplified below:

Inspiring Worship

The Bible and the teaching of Jesus has a central place in our worship. The liturgy at each service has a broadly recognisable Anglican structure. We have a number of talented musicians playing at our 10.00am services and supporting across all of our occasional/seasonal activities. We have several worship leaders who take responsibility for preparing and leading the music and they are supported by a group of up to 8 individuals who sing or play instruments including guitar, bass, drums, keyboard, flute, percussion etc.



Talented musicians playing at our 10.00am service



An enthusiastic team run the sound and vision desk

Passionate Spirituality

As a church, prayer is at the centre of our Faith journey. St. George's has a trained and experienced team of 10 Prayer Ministers. Prayer Ministry is available during Communion and after the 10am Service.

If a deeper healing prayer ministry is required, this is arranged individually using selected Prayer Ministers who have been discerned and trained to minister in this way over a longer term. Our prayer ministers are trained using the HTB 'Sandy Millar' model and are safeguarding trained.

Our monthly Saturday prayer meeting is a focussed meeting that prays for world, local community and church needs.

Our Prayer Chain uses a WhatsApp group and sometimes confidential email to respond to prayer requests from church members.

We are a member of Tamworth Christian Churches, which is Tamworth's ecumenical gathering under which some significant social action projects take place. St George's also enjoys excellent relationships with the Elim Church, located on the same street. Glascote Methodist Church in the next street closed in 2023, and some former members are now an integral part of our 10am congregation.



Prayer ministry after the service

At St George's we work hard to be a welcoming church where the worship is vibrant and flexible, and the Bible is explored in applicable and relevant ways, to attract a diverse group of worshippers. We would describe our 'style' as Low Evangelical.

Table 3 Church services

Service	Frequency	Style / Worship Tradition	Average Attendance (Children)
Sunday 10.00	1 st - All Age Praise 2 nd - Communion 3 rd & 4 th - Praise 5 th – Café Church	A lively morning service of worship, prayer, praise and teaching	66 (4)
Wednesday 09.30	Weekly Communion	'Said' Holy Communion using Common Worship liturgies	10

Our traditional services around Christmas and Easter can often see the church filled to capacity, while our annual Memorial Service is for any who wish to remember their recent and longer term departed loved ones.

We need to make more effort in developing relationships with occasional attenders.

Small Groups

Our Home Groups, established for many years, play an integral part in the spiritual growth of our congregation by providing a small safe environment for bible study, prayer, fellowship and support. Some 60 members regularly attend 7 groups including two daytime groups and one youth group. Most groups meet fortnightly and usually follow an annual programme:

- **Autumn Term:** Home Groups choose their own material
- **Spring Term:** All Home Groups follow the same set material which is usually supported via a sermon series at our Sunday services
- **Summer Term:** Home Groups choose their own material based on an agreed topic

Our Home Group Co-ordinator ensures our leaders are supported and resourced and directs new people to the most appropriate group. We believe we need an injection of new creativity in relation to the life of our small groups.

Gift-Oriented Ministry

The church adopts a 'team approach mentality' when tackling tasks – large and small. We try to avoid individuals doing things on their own and want to help church members explore their gifts and skills within a safe and supportive environment. Within our team of lay volunteers, we have people who come from a wide range of careers/jobs. We do not expect our clergy to be experts at everything. We enjoy the levels of lay leadership and use of gifts within the church, and we look to our clergy to help us by offering those in various roles to have annual/periodic reviews of what they are contributing and how they are using their gifts.

Courses

A number of courses have been offered to the congregation to increase their knowledge and help them to develop a closer relationship with God. These have included:

- Living Faith – 1-year diocesan course that opens up opportunities for wider ministry
- Growing Leaders – 1-year CPAS training course for those in leadership roles in church
- Alpha
- Kintsugi Hope – 12-week course modelling different ways of improving mental health
- Exploring the Old Testament
- Approximately every 3 years a small team is put together to assist with organising a weekend away for all to attend – to learn more about discipleship, to worship and socialise together. Guests are usually invited to lead worship and preach.

Need-Oriented Outreach

Our vision is to involve the church in collective outreach that helps parishioners grow and can explore faith in Christ as a life fulfilling experience.

Sunbeams (weekly, termtime only)

Sunbeams is a stay and play session for babies and children aged 0-4, run by church members. Our lovely mix of around 40 parents, grandparents, foster carers, child minders, children and babies meet every term time Thursday morning 9.30-11am. The cost of £1 per family includes a drink and a snack. Our sessions finish with a song time lasting 10-15 minutes and the last session of each term includes maybe some soft play, a craft activity and some party food.

Community Breakfast (monthly)

We serve a free 'drop in' cooked and continental breakfast 9-11am on the first Saturday of each month in our Hall and regularly see 40 to 60 people attend.

Neville Street fellowship Group (fortnightly)

This group used to meet in the local Methodist church, but transferred to St George's when the church closed. Meetings begin with a time of worship, then members enjoy a talk given by a variety of speakers on topics of interest. Some meetings offer food and entertainment.

Annual Events

In August we host a free mid-week afternoon strawberry tea (120 attendees this year), whilst our winter Skittles night is rather noisier (attended by around 75 community members). Other annual events might include a Beetle Drive, parties and quiz nights.

Schools Work

Our church building lies in the middle of a triangle of 3 local primary schools (there are no CofE schools in the parish). While Woodlands and Lakeside primary schools lie within our district, the third school, William McGregor, has its catchment beyond and adjoining the western parish boundary. Our preschool leavers commonly go on to attend one of these 3 schools.

We have good relationships with all 3 schools and lead 1 termly Assembly in each. They all use our church for Harvest, Remembrance and Christmas assemblies, Messy Easter and various performances. We have no secondary schools within our district.

Our congregation has a significant number of members who work in education and others who are governors of local schools. Our previous Rector was Vice Chair of Governors at Lakeside Primary School.

Wider Outreach Projects

We provide volunteers at the local Foodbank, and gifts of produce through regular collections and our Harvest Service.

A congregation member is a Tamworth Street Angel, two other members serve as Street Chaplains and at the weekly Spring of Hope café in the town centre. A further two teach English as a Second Language to asylum seekers and foreign nationals, mostly of Hong Kong origin.

A small group of volunteers provide a monthly service to Park Farm Nursing Home which includes 3-4 hymns, bible readings, and time for prayer and reflection as well as dramatic enactment of the bible themes covering the major seasons of the Christian calendar

Loving Relationships

We believe we are a loving church. There are certainly many positive friendships and relationships, with an atmosphere of fun and laughter when we meet.

Home visits and Reserved Sacraments are also part of the church's way of showing love to those who are unable to attend church for one reason or another.

Pastoral Care

Our Pastoral care is headed up by a designated co-ordinator who works closely with our clergy. This work includes extended communion, hospital visits and any significant pastoral care issues.

Our Home Groups form the basis of our Pastoral Care and Home Group leaders will communicate any concern back to the Co-ordinator.

Children and Youth Work

Children are a much valued but sadly numerically declining part of our Church. We need to improve our relationships with our Sunbeams and Preschool families in order to change this. Our Sunday children leave part way through our 10am service to form their Junction group. We allow children to participate in Holy Communion prior to confirmation once they have attended a focussed day course.

There is also a Youth homegroup for those at 6th Form and University which meets irregularly throughout the year.

Pastoral Offices

Baptisms: Our DCC's agreed practice is to baptise anyone from within the Parish at their request once they have been appropriately prepared. The Rector or PtO visits to explain options of Baptism or Thanksgiving before undertaking the relevant preparation of family members and the service, which commonly occurs during our 10am Service. On occasions we have offered full immersion for adults and hired a portable baptistry.

We acknowledge every baptism by giving a candle and certificate to those baptised, and also a gift to a child in the developing world.

Weddings: Our policy is informal and at the Rector's discretion, as are requests for blessings, renewal of vows and marriage after divorce.

Funerals: Funerals are commonly officiated by the Rector or PtO with visits before and after. A Lay Reader is also licensed, and another is in training. All bereaved families are invited by letter to our annual Memorial Service. We do not have a Bereavement Team but know that this is an area of Ministry that can be improved.

Functional Structures

The PCC operates in accordance with the Team Ministry Pastoral Scheme by delegating much of its work to the DCCs (District Church Council) for each of the three churches. The PCC meets 4 times a year and tends to have a short agenda that focuses on overarching policy approvals. St George's DCC meets up to 8 times per year and is productive, good humoured and engaging, and encourages church members to be involved in the life, ministry and witness of the church.

Our Finances

Our Common Fund (£41,774 for 2024) is faithfully paid monthly.

Our Treasurer, with the Rector, manages a detailed annual budget. She provides a Financial Report before every DCC meeting, enabling the DCC to make effective decisions. Our giving has increased in 2024 and due to a planned savings effort, our finances are stabilising. In 2023 we improved the Church entrance with a ramp for wheelchair users via a church member giving appeal and external and Diocesan grants. Our latest financial accounts for year ending 31st December 2024 show:

Table 4 Financial accounts for year ending 31st December 2024

Income:	£105,325
Expenditure	£100,818

Table 5 Explanation of income

1. Covenanted Giving	£56,953
2. Tax refund	£14,626
3. Hall Hire	£14,172
4. Uncovenanted Giving	£800
5. Fees (weddings/funerals)	£2,960
6. Collections/Donations	£6,662
7. Restricted Income	£4,721
8. Other Income incl grants, bank interest	£4431

Gift Aid is a significant contribution to our income, due to our efficient Gift Aid secretary, who has a proven record in securing grant funding.

Our Hall Hire income is largely from our Preschool. We have occasional, although rare, hall hire by church members and the community. We are pleased to have the Glascote Girl Guides renting the Hall regularly during term-time. DCC policy is that hire income be used solely for Hall maintenance and modernisation. In 2024 the fencing was replaced and there are other repairs/upgrades being planned.

Each year we tithe 10% of our gift income to charities using the following principles:

- 6% of our income is given to three overseas Christian charities
- 3% to UK Christian charities
- 1% to UK secular charities

Specific events are hosted to support a charity (e.g. MacMillan tea, Salvation Army Christmas Toy Service). In 2025 we are tithing £7,904 from 2024 collections.

We believe our members should support our church financially, so we do not hold collections at our services. A discrete collection jar is available if guests ask.

There are significant building repairs which our Quinquennial has reported. The DCC have ring fenced £25,000 to contribute towards these costs and work began in Autumn 2025.

The Diocese has offered to assist with a 'soft' loan if required.

Overall, our members' faithful giving, mostly by standing order, enables us to keep our church running and pay our Common Fund, for which we are very thankful.

Communication

Our weekly church notice sheet is available at all services and emailed to church members.

During 2024 we have updated and expanded our website and moved it to a more secure and managed platform. Our 10am Service talks are uploaded as podcasts and downloads of these are popular.

We have a Facebook page (St George's Church, Glascote) with nearly 500 followers. We wish to develop this further and encourage our occasional visitors to 'like' us so that they receive updates. We recognise that we need to post more regularly than our past sporadic attempts as we are aware that we need to become more digitally active to communicate effectively with our local community.

Visit our YouTube Channel 'St George's Glascote' to see how we hosted services during Covid-19.

St George's Preschool

St George's Preschool was established in 1992 by church members and currently holds a Good rating from Ofsted. The Preschool is popular within the local community but also attracts children from the wider community within Tamworth. It is a non-profit making group, based in the church hall, with a Management Committee of parents/carers of children led by St. George's church members. All Staff at the Preschool are qualified Early Years Practitioners, Enhanced DBS checked and hold certificates in Paediatric First Aid and Food Hygiene. The emphasis at St. George's Preschool is on 'Learning through Play'. Whilst our children are playing, they are learning too, through activities that match their capabilities, enthusiasm and own interests. Each child is assigned a Key Person who creates a close relationship with the child and uses observations to plan specific activities to help further their individual development. St. George's Preschool opens for 38 weeks p.a. mirroring the Staffordshire CC School terms. We run 10 sessions lasting 3 hours each morning 9am-12pm and afternoon 12.30-3.30pm.

Safeguarding

The PCC and DCCs have adopted the Diocesan Safeguarding Policy: <https://www.lichfield.anglican.org/safeguarding/> and the Safeguarding Social Media and Online Activities Policy. All Safeguarding policies are regularly reviewed and while not complacent our Safeguarding processes have worked well.

Each DCC Safeguarding Officer manages their own church's DBS checks, training requirements and leads a dedicated agenda item at DCC meetings. Each church has a Volunteer signature sheet and a Media consent form.

At St George's, groups which hire space in the church hall must have their own policy or adopt the Parish Safeguarding Policy. Our Preschool employ their own staff and have their own safeguarding policy.

Welcome to St Peter's Church, Glascote Heath

St Peter's has a vision to love God, love each other and love our community of Glascote Heath. We are a congregation who are passionate about serving our community and do that in all sorts of ways throughout the week. Glascote Heath is a significantly deprived estate, but St Peter's has been at the heart of the community, both physically and spiritually, for 40+ years. Our priorities for 2025 are Going Deeper in Prayer, Developing an Invitational Culture and establishing Discipleship Groups - we have seen growth in these areas as we've sought the Lord's guidance and experienced his blessing.



St Peter's Church building



Sunday worship at St Peter's Church

St Peter's is in Interregnum at the moment, but it is being led by Rev. Pat Faultless and Rev. Hugh Baker, both PtO's. Their respective spouses David Faultless (Church Warden) and Elizabeth Baker both lead and preach. Completing the Leadership Team are Thelma Luke (church warden) and Sue Clamp (treasurer) and David Cooley.

The Leadership Team are responsible for the vision of the church, overseeing the spiritual direction we take. St Peter's also has a DCC who oversee the practical aspects of church life, reporting to the PCC regularly.

We meet for Sunday morning worship, following an alternating pattern of Holy Communion and Morning Praise. The first Sunday of the month is our All-Age service, put together by a team who come up with creative ways to engage with the theme of services. Many members from the congregation are involved in leading and preaching, reading, and leading the intercessions and our children's ministry. We are quite relaxed in style, singing a range of songs and hymns, and usually follow preaching series. We believe in the power of prayer, offering prayer ministry in each service and meeting to pray on a Wednesday afternoon each week.

Aslan's Gang is a key part of the story of St Peter's, a youth group which has been running for over 30 years - we now welcome the children of parents who came when they were children! Aslan's has been a sure and steady place for children from 4 upwards to come and receive teaching in faith, play games, do crafts and enjoy time with their friends in a safe, encouraging space. Pat and Dave Faultless lead the team who faithfully serve Aslan's and also run an annual Holiday Club each summer. We regularly engage with 3 local primary schools, offering monthly assemblies and occasional 'Messy' events throughout the year, in which classes come to church and do crafts, sing songs and hear an interactive talk.

A unique aspect to St Peter's is that it operates as a Community Centre as well as a church, so we hire rooms out to Community Groups and businesses throughout the week - including craft groups, a dementia support group, Tamworth Ladies' Choir Mercian Choir, Slimming World and Cambian, an organization which runs children's Care Homes Nationwide.



The Centre hosts an average of 4000 people of all ages and from all walks of life each month. This is a huge opportunity for witnessing to people, and we do so through our commitment to hospitality and offering a warm welcome, especially at twice weekly Place of Welcome meetings from which we give all contributions to local charities. The Centre is managed by Alice Couchman and operated by a Management Committee made up of church members, Borough councilors and external stakeholders.

Social event at St Peter's Community Centre

Welcome to St Martin's-in-the-Delph Church and Community Centre.

St Martin's has a vision to know Jesus and to make Him known among the people of Stonydelph and beyond. Stonydelph is an area with high deprivation, with a real mixture of council-let properties built in the 1970's and then areas of newer privately owned houses. With proximity to the M42, these newer properties are typically occupied by commuters. St Martin's is situated in the heart of the estate, and very close to shops, a doctor's surgery and dentists', as well as two primary schools. Our priorities for 2025 are to Go Deeper in Prayer, to prioritise fellowship and to undertake some Low Maintenance - High Impact mission initiatives both in and out of the church.

St Martin's is at present in Interregnum, due to its previous Minister moving on to pastures new. St Martin's is a Local Ecumenical Partnership, working with the Tamworth and Lichfield Methodist Circuit, this means that two services a month are led by one of the circuit team of Lay Readers or Ministers; they are also supplying us with a Pastoral Support Worker for 5hrs per week, so it is good to know that our pastoral needs are being met.



St Martin's-in-the-Delph Church Building

The building is 35 years old, built to be a Christian presence in the community of Stonydelph and for many years it hosted the Ark Nursery too. Sadly, financial pressures at the end of 2021 saw the closure of the Nursery, though there is a new nursery in the pipeline which would provide significant income to the church. We rely on the income of the Centre to help keep us afloat; financially we are very close to the wire and have had to face some costly and frustrating outgoings to repair niggles with the building.

We hire our two halls throughout the week to two dance groups, a karate group, toddler group and Tamworth Borough Council for polling and courses. We have a local special needs school using our café area on a Friday as a resource for their older students, giving them the opportunity to run a café themselves; this is a very exciting venture for us. We also rent out office space to a couple who provide counselling to adults and provide specialist support and assessment for non-verbal children and their families.

St Martin's worships at 10am on a Sunday with a very varied service plan, including Holy Communion, Family Worship, a discussion café style service and small group led worship. We are fairly informal in style, using Common Worship liturgy in part and singing a wide range of songs and hymns. We have a small group of people to read and lead prayers and though a small congregation, is full of people who serve the church in all sorts of ways both on Sunday and in the week. We run Craft and Chatter on a Monday afternoon, meet for prayer on a Tuesday morning followed by our Place of Welcome and we launched a film club once a month on a Thursday afternoon.

We also run two small holistic bible study groups, led by two members of the congregation.

We are trying to be wise with the resource and capacity we have, in order to make a significant but sustainable Kingdom impact in our community.



Social events at St Martin's

Useful Information Maps

