The Parish of Tettenhall Regis
Four Churches at the Heart of their Communities

St. Michaels and All Angels, Tettenhall
Church of the Holy Cross, Bilbrook
Christ the King, Aldersley
St. Paul’s, Pendeford

Parish Profile
For the Position of
Team Vicar of St Paul’s Church, Pendeford
in the Tettenhall Regis Team
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The new Team Vicar within the Tettenhall Regis Team is based at St Paul’s, Pendeford and will work with the Team Rector and the Team Vicar of Aldersley and Bilbrook (as well as other lay and ordained members of the Ministry Team). The post provides great opportunities at the heart of Pendeford, not least because the Church shares a building, as well as close links, with St Paul’s Church of England (Aided) Primary School and includes a busy community café, open daily and used by many groups as well as individuals.

There is a vibrant congregation at St Paul’s with active involvement in worship, music, pastoral care, bible study and discipleship and the school. 3 members of the congregation of St Paul’s have entered ordained ministry in the last 8 years and the development of vocations in secular and church life is an important aspect of the role.

The worship could be described as informal Eucharistic and combines liturgical sensitivity and creativity in an inclusive congregation of mixed age and ethnicity. You would have opportunity to build on the creative use of liturgy, congregational involvement and growth. The school takes a regular part in the worshiping life of the church and the Team Vicar would be expected to take a leading role in the worshiping life of the school.

In addition, you will take a lead in an area of ministry across the Team (eg Youth Ministry). You will share in the large number of Occasional Offices across the Parish (primarily the weddings and funerals that come from Pendeford but may take place at St Michael’s.)

The post will also involve chaplaincy to the Jaguar Land Rover plant on the i54 site and to Blakeley Green House, which provides supported housing for adults living with severe and enduring mental health needs.

The vacancy has arisen following the move of Rev Jim Perry after 12 years as Team Vicar of Pendeford to take a new post in the Southwark Diocese.

The Parish

The diverse Parish comprises the north-western suburbs of the City of Wolverhampton, with a population of 21,000 and the adjacent South Staffordshire Village of Bilbrook with a population of 5,500. It also includes a sizeable area in rural Staffordshire. There is considerable social diversity, including suburban village, suburban, outer estate with a UPA element and even working farms. A large part of the new i54 industrial area falls within the boundaries of the Parish.
The Challenge

The Diocesan themes of Discipleship, Vocation and Evangelism are used to categorise the challenge. There may be overlap between categories.

Discipleship

Encourage the life and faith of St Paul’s Church and School through:

- Enabling and presiding at worship that honours God, connects with worshippers, and develops their gifts, combining creativity with sensitivity to liturgical tradition
- Building an inclusive atmosphere in which all can learn and grow in faith (starting where they are) and providing opportunities for them to do so.
- Helping the church grow in numbers (reversing the slow decline)
- Building on the already strong links between the Church and the School to strengthen their shared identity as followers of Christ.
- Helping to shape the “Christian Distinctiveness” of the School
- Sharing in Youth Leadership to nurture faith, especially through the Encounter Groups and encourage the development of the Sunday School
- Building on the growth in Christian stewardship
- Nurturing the faith of those who live at Blakeley Green House (and other people with mental health needs) and strengthening their links and integration with the church community.

Minister effectively among people of the four churches of the Parish with varying traditions, working closely with colleagues across the team to strengthen the common life of the Parish.

Grow in personal discipleship, through prayer, learning and sustainable patterns of life, work, rest and retreat.

Vocation

The discernment and development of gifts and calling for Christian service in church and secular life through:

- Helping people to make links between Christian faith and life
- Discerning gifts and encouraging others to discern one another’s gifts
- Providing a safe place and appropriate opportunities for people to “have a go” and to nurture their gifts (eg in helping to lead or participate in worship, church and community groups and activities, hospitality and pastoral care), accepting mistakes along the way.
- Within the school encouraging the nurture of children in a way that enables them to see their learning as directed towards service.
• Continuing to encourage vocations to ordained ministry, Reader Ministry and other lay ministries.
• Developing leaders for the Youth Encounter groups
• Participating in continuing professional development

Evangelism
To communicate and enable the Christian community to communicate, by word and action the good news of Jesus Christ by:
• Maximising the opportunities provided by the school, the café, and community groups and activities for the service of the wider community and its people. Through these enabling the sharing of faith and invitation to worship.
• Using the St Paul’s 40th anniversary celebrations in 2021 to reach out to the wider community including newer groups within it
• Being an active presence in the community of Pendeford
• Networking with people and organisations within and serving the Pendeford Community to strengthen collaboration with the church
• Engaging with Dovecotes School and Aldersley Academy to support education in the Christian faith and church links (eg through collective worship, joint activities and church visits)
• Strengthening the Church’s witness on the Dovecotes Estate.
• Giving Christians confidence to share their faith.
• Taking an active role in pastoral visiting and supporting others to carry out this ministry.
• Maximising opportunities provided by baptism, weddings and funerals to nurture Christian faith.
• Working collaboratively with the DCC in Mission Action Planning and Delivery
Role Description

**Governance**

- To Chair St Paul’s District Church Council and to participate in and report to the PCC.
- To work with the Parish Safeguarding Committee, Team Rector, Safeguarding Coordinator and St Paul’s Safeguarding Representative to safeguard children and vulnerable adults in accordance with the Parish Policy and Procedures.
- To participate with the treasurer of St Paul’s in the work of the Parish Stewardship and Finance Committee in guiding Parish strategy.
- To represent the Parish as a governor of St Paul’s School and to encourage the participation of Foundation Governors.
- To work collaboratively with clergy team and take part in weekly staff meetings.
- By working with others to ensure good governance of the Oasis Café.
- To take a role in leadership of the Encounter programme for young people.
- To provide leadership and oversight across the Parish in an area of ministry (eg Youth Ministry)

**Discipleship**

- To oversee and where appropriate preside at regular worship and celebration of the sacraments, principally at St Paul’s but also elsewhere in the Parish as required.
- To preach, in a way that enables people to receive the good news of Jesus Christ and to apply the scriptures and the Christian faith in their lives.
- To nurture the faith of children through Sunday School and monthly All-Age Worship.
- To be consistent in a life of prayer and study which underpins the work of ministry.
- To give theological leadership to shape the life and witness of St Paul’s and the wider Parish.
- By ensuring opportunities for faith sharing, study and prayer, to encourage the growth in discipleship of the congregation of St Paul’s
- Through governance and pastoral ministry at St Paul’s School to deepen the influence of the Christian faith in the life of the school community and to support the educational work of the school.
- To work with others to promote Christian stewardship within St Paul’s and across the Parish.
- To provide chaplaincy to Blakeley Green House, overseeing regular worship and pastoral care.
Vocation

- To work with others to identify gifts and provide opportunities, training and mentoring in ministry within the life of the Church and wider community.
- To help people to reflect on the way in which their Christian vocation is lived out in their daily lives (at home, work, in the community etc)
- To take opportunities for continuing professional development and to participate in the Diocesan Ministerial Review Scheme.

Evangelism

- To make yourself widely known in the community of Pendeford and identify key partners for collaboration.
- To provide chaplaincy at JLR working in collaboration with the Black Country Urban Industrial Mission.
- To be regularly present in the Oasis, engaging with those who use it as groups or individuals.
- To encourage creative community activity and to make links between church and wider community (up to now this includes the Pantomime, The Fun Run, Arts and Crafts exhibitions, as well as regular group activities such as knit and natter, Sunday lunches)
- Use and develop links with St Paul’s School and collaboration between Church and School.
- To make contact and identify opportunities for ministry within local schools and especially on the Dovecotes Estate.
- To share your faith and to encourage the congregation to share theirs and to invite others to worship.
- To ensure there are opportunities for Christian nurture (eg Pilgrim Groups, Confirmation Groups, Encounter Groups, Bible Study Groups.)
- To identify pastoral care needs and ensure there are appropriate structures, skills and training to provide pastoral care to the community.
Person Specification

We are seeking a priest who has satisfactorily completed initial ministerial education for a post of responsibility at incumbent level.

The person appointed should be able to offer:

- Evidence of good interpersonal skills and collaborative, enabling leadership.
- Pastoral sensitivity and wisdom towards members of the church and wider community
- Leadership in setting, holding and fulfilling the church’s vision
- The ability to ensure ministry is supported by good organisation, administration and communication
- Willingness and disposition to work supportively with clergy colleagues across the Parish in a way that brings out the best in each other.
- Ministry and leadership that is prayerfully, biblically and theologically rooted
- Prayerfulness, liturgical sensitivity and creativity in shaping and conducting worship at St Paul’s
- Willingness and ability reverently and effectively to conduct worship within the varying worship styles across the Parish.
- Evidence of ability to work effectively with schools in governance, leading worship, and pastoral care.
- Outward facing ministry making links between the church and the wider community and building networks within the community
- Visible and active participation in community events and activities.
- The ability to nurture faith and develop the gifts and vocations of others.
- The ability to work with people of all ages and abilities and to be inclusive in attitude and practice.
- Ability and commitment to encourage youth and children’s ministry.
- Commitment to safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults
- Commitment to personal growth and professional development
- Care for themselves and their personal relationships, taking a weekly day off and their full holiday entitlement.
What we can offer

- The opportunity to work as part of a supportive team in the Parish and at St Paul’s.
- An exciting sphere of ministry with excellent school and community links and a vibrant and active church community.
- Full reimbursement of working expenses
- Support for ongoing training and development
- An excellent place to live with easy access both to urban and rural areas and to local facilities.
- Excellent transport links (road, rail and bus).
- A range of good local church and community schools
- A 4 bedroomed detached vicarage in a quiet location, with a separate entrance to the study.

St Paul’s Vicarage

The Vicarage, 1 Talaton Close, Pendeford, Wolverhampton WV9 5LS
The Vicarage is a detached house, built in the 1980s and later extended, to provide: hall, lounge, open-plan kitchen/sunroom, store, utility, single-storey study (with separate entrance and cloakroom) and garage; and at first floor, four bedrooms and a bathroom.

The property is double glazed throughout and has central heating, with a gas fire in the lounge.
The wide garden at the rear can be accessed from both the utility and the sunroom. It also has a side gate.
In a quiet residential road, it is within 3 minutes’ walk of St Paul’s Church, Oasis Café and St Paul’s CE School, where there are also shops, a library and a health centre.
The other three churches within the Parish are all within 3 miles of the vicarage and Wolverhampton City Centre is 4 miles away.
We are one Parish with four worship centres

The Team has arisen as a result of Church planting from St Michael's to serve the needs of the growing surrounding communities in Bilbrook, Aldersley and Pendeford. Holy Cross Bilbrook was first formed as a Mission Church from the Parish of Tettenhall Regis in 1898. Having been a Parish in its own right, it returned to the Parish of Tettenhall Regis in 2014. Christ the King and St Paul’s were opened in 1956 and 1981 respectively. Information is given about each of the churches later in this document. Within the Team there is a variety of worship styles and there are different types of opportunity for ministry and mission within each of the communities.

St. Michael and All Angels, Tettenhall – The Parish Church which is located in an established, largely prosperous, suburban area of mostly private, but also some local authority housing. The principal Sunday service is in a modern Catholic style sung Eucharist with incense.

St. Paul’s, Pendeford – A modern community building including a café and chapel, sharing a hall with St. Paul’s Primary School. The church serves relatively new and socially varied communities across two large housing developments and beyond. The worship has a more informal Eucharistic tradition.

Church of the Holy Cross, Bilbrook – Holy Cross Parish church offers regular worship throughout the week as well as community outreach activities for all age groups. Bilbrook has a mix of social and private housing. The Sunday morning worship is in a modern-Catholic tradition with said Eucharistic worship in the week.

Christ the King, Aldersley - A multi-purpose building, serving the needs of the community that grew rapidly both before and after the Second World War. The worship is Eucharistic and of the central tradition.

The Ministry Team

The Team clergy are the Team Rector, Rev Richard Reeve (since 2008 - based at St Michael’s), the Team Vicar of Aldersley and Bilbrook, Rev Simon Douglas (since 2014) and the person we are seeking to appoint as Team Vicar of St Paul’s. The Parish Ministry Team consists of licenced ministers, lay and ordained, from across the Parish. There are three Readers in the Parish. Four people from the Parish have gone forward for ordination in the last 10 years. In addition to the Readers the ordained ministry is supported by a stipendiary curate and an associate priest (NSM). The clergy team meets weekly for prayer, reflection and planning.

Church Schools

The Team is committed to education, not least by supporting the life of four Church Schools within the Parish (St Paul’s CE (A), primary; St Michael’s CE (A) primary; Bilbrook CE (C) Middle School; and The King’s School CE (A) secondary). There is also another Church of England secondary school (St Peter’s Collegiate Academy) nearby. Clergy and lay people from the Parish play a supportive role in the church schools as well as the many other schools within the Parish. School groups are regular visitors to the churches for worship and education.
**Encounter**

We have a long-established “Encounter” group which lasts for a year and takes young people in year six and above. As well as weekly meetings there are away days and a weekend away at Dovedale. The Encounter group is led by a clergy and lay team drawn from across the Parish. Encounter 2 is currently in its first year and is giving an opportunity for those who have completed Encounter to meet alongside the Encounter Group and enjoy the Dovedale weekend.

**Occasional Offices and Parish Administration**

A Parish Administrator is employed for 12 hours a week to support the mission and ministry of the Parish.

Occasional offices have been coordinated centrally, with support and preparation for these offered by lay and clergy teams. Although many of the weddings (25 this year with two at St Paul’s) and funerals (108 in 2018, with 40 at St Michael’s and 4 at Holy Cross and the rest at Crematoria) take place at St Michael’s, the ministry is shared across the team (often on a geographical basis). Bereaved families are invited to one of our twice-yearly memorial services at St Michael’s supported by the Ministry Team and the St Michael’s Pastoral Team and others from around the Parish.

**Mission Action Planning, Leadership and Governance.**

There is a PCC for the whole Parish elected from the four Churches and two Parish Wardens. In terms of worship and mission, the leadership and development tends to start within the individual churches. Each Church has a District Church Council and District Wardens. Although we have a Parish rota for Sunday worship it is recognised that we could benefit from a more coordinated Parish wide approach to “mission action planning” to maximise the sharing of resources and improve communication. It is anticipated that the new Team Vicar will take a leading role in “mission action planning” in Pendeford and be a significant part of Parish wide development.

**Community Communication**

St Michael’s and Holy Cross have their own web site. St Paul’s and Christ the King have a Facebook feed and presence on A Church near You. Holy Cross also publish their own monthly magazine for the community of Bilbrook and St Michael’s publishes a Newsletter every two months.
Introduction

Pendeford square - a meeting place, (I’ll meet you in the square by the church), a transport Hub for cars and buses, people passing through. It’s surrounded, North, South, East and West with vibrant communities: the Health Centre; the council offices; the HUB (incorporating the Library and rooms for community activities); St. Paul’s C of E (A) Primary School and the Church.

Whilst we share the building with the school, we have our own dedicated chapel, with access during the week to be quiet and pray. We also have the Oasis community Café.

We communicate through printed notice sheets, posters in church, in the Oasis Café, on outside noticeboards and through the school. We advertise and celebrate weekly services and social events through our Facebook profile and an embryonic twitter profile.

The Oasis Café (The community outreach) is our gem in the community, used by shoppers from Morrisons or the other shops backing on to the square, as well as community groups, parents from school, local workers and users of the HUB.

The Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal and Shropshire Union Canal are close by and well used. People moored locally on holiday have joined Sunday worship.

A bus terminal, just off the square has three useful routes.

This tremendous potential at the heart of the community makes St Paul’s Church and School a fantastic place for you to come and help us minister. You will work within a supportive Team Ministry.

This is a good place to be. Our previous Vicar, Jim Perry, was with us for 12 years.

In 2021 we are 40 years old and a Vicar could help to shape a vision for the celebration that captures the heart of our community – represented by Pendeford Square.
Pendeford

St Paul’s is situated in the Wolverhampton suburb of Pendeford, NNW of the city. It is just over two miles from Junction 2 of the M54, giving access to other Midlands’ cities, Shropshire, and Wales. Bordering on countryside, there are lots of beautiful areas nearby including Cannock Chase (AONB, 11 miles away), the Wrekin hill (22 miles away) and the Shropshire and Staffordshire Countryside. The Vicarage is a two minute walk from the lovely scenic canal, perfect for dog walking, cycling, and contemplating Sunday sermons!

Wolverhampton has a lot of positive attractions, but like anywhere, there are challenges. Pendeford comprises two estates: Pendeford Park (which includes the Church building) and Dovecotes. Whilst pastoral care has been offered and community links developed through Dovecotes School, the church has fewer members from the Dovecotes Estate and this provides one of the challenges for the church and the new Vicar.

Compared to the national average, Wolverhampton has higher rates of poor mental health, homelessness and children living in low income families. St. Paul’s has always supported people with poor mental health by welcoming them into the congregation and by offering ministry at Blakeley Green House, where 13 people with persistent mental health issues live. Low income families play an active part in the church’s worship and the congregation supports the local food bank. Some members of the congregation provide cover at a city night refuge for homeless people. There is always more that can be done and a new Vicar will need to respond innovatively to the challenges.

St. Paul’s is only 3.5 miles from the Molineux Stadium, home of the city’s beloved Wolverhampton Wanderers. There are horse and greyhound racing locally. For those who wish to participate in sport, there is Aldersley Stadium (1.5 miles), public swimming baths, and indoor rock climbing (Wolf Mountain).
St Paul’s DCC and the Parish

The diagram shows the governance relationship between St Paul’s and the rest of the Parish.

Parish of Tettenhall Regis
PCC

- St Michael’s DCC
- Christ the King DCC
- Holy Cross DCC
- St Paul’s DCC
  Chaired by Vicar and Lay Chair
  Val Morgan
- Pastoral Care Group
  Convened by Charles Poole
- Worship and Ministry Team
  Chaired by Dot Clavton
- Sunday School leaders. Led by Marion Burns
- Oasis Management
  Vicar and 3 DCC members
Service Patterns including Sunday School and School Worship

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weekly</th>
<th>Sundays at 10.30am</th>
<th>Communion service with exceptions as below</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>2nd Sunday at 10.30am</td>
<td>Service of the Word</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approx. 15-20 per year</td>
<td>Christenings</td>
<td>Part of the usual service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 weeks school summer holidays</td>
<td>All age Communion Service</td>
<td>Activity/talk rather than sermon, some lay led</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Services</td>
<td>HOPS, Advent, Christingle, Crib Service, Carol Service, Blue Christmas, Christmas Eve, Christmas morning, Lent, Palm Sunday – service starts outside in the square, Easter, Remembrance, Memorial</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weekly</td>
<td>School worship service</td>
<td>Continuing in vacancy – lay led</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Termly</td>
<td>Whole school Communion Service</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday School</td>
<td>Every term-time week except 5th Sundays</td>
<td>Bubbles – reception &amp; yr1 Splat – yrs 2-6 Boing – year 7 upwards</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Worship and Involvement

The Worship and Ministry team consists of a Warden, a Reader, 3 lay people and the Vicar meeting bi-monthly.

For Sunday worship, the words are projected using (lay prepared) PowerPoint, with paper copies available in standard or large print. Lay involvement includes leading parts of the worship, leading intercessions, reading, sidespeople, administering communion, preaching, and leading children’s groups. 3 people share the role of sacristan.
Over half of the congregation stay for an hour or so after worship fellowship and refreshments. It is a useful time for pastoral conversations and for communication about church events and activities.

Two main groups lead the music for the services on different weeks. A third group is able to play occasionally. We use a range of traditional and modern songs from Mission Praise, trying to provide for varied preferences. We enjoy music and singing.

Volunteers set up and run the sound system and projector each week. This has enabled young people to develop their skills and take an active role in the services.

“HOPS” – an Hour of Praise Songs - happens every 3-4 months on a Sunday evening and has proved very popular. Inspired by one of the music leaders it gives people the opportunity to sing and worship through modern praise songs.

The church chapel and St Paul’s CE (A) Primary School building are integrated. The hall is used for church services with the chapel opened up. The school choir and some of the staff, children and parents take part in special services such as Christingle, Easter and St. Paul’s day. The links have strengthened in recent years, with the Vicar leading school worship once a week and taking a termly whole school communion service.

Christenings take place within the 10.30am service. Pendeford families who have Christenings at St Michael’s, come the following week to receive a welcome at St Paul’s.

**St Paul’s School Links**

To help continue this great link and to support the staff and children in their faith journey one of the church members is going in to school once a month to take a Christian assembly. There are also several members of the church on the school governing body, again helping to forge the church/school links.

**Oasis Café**

The Oasis Café was built onto the existing church building in 2006 and is owned by the PCC. It is rented out on licence. The present licence holder has been running the café very successfully for 18 months with 2 employees. She runs and manages the business and opens Monday to Friday 8.30am to 4.30pm and Sat 8.30am to 1.30pm. Outside these hours the cafe area is for church use. A small working group of 3 DCC members plus the Vicar meets quarterly to liaise with the license hold and address any issues.

This café offers a wonderful and welcoming interface between church and community. A small verbal survey was taken and this is what some of the customers had to say -
• “It's warm, welcoming, friendly, the food is delicious and very reasonably priced.”
  One gentleman said - “I used to be very lonely since losing my wife, but this café has given me a new life and a secure place to come to. I’ve since made lots of new friends.”
  • “It’s a safe place, it's vibrant, the staff are amazing and they treat everyone the same, as if they've known us for years.”
  • “I’m able to bring my dog in with me and that's wonderful.”
  • “I love the children’s play area as I can watch them while chatting with my friends and I know they are happy and safe.”

The café has recently agreed to take part in an initiative from the West Midlands Mayor’s office, Chatty Café Campaign and also to be part of a Wolverhampton Local Government, Social HUB programme aiming to address Wellness and Social Health.

**Bible Study Groups**
A weekly lay led bible study has been meeting in the day for 15 years combining study with prayer and fellowship. An evening group was set up to accommodate working people in 2019 and had been using a published course, “Lifting the Lid on Mental Health.” This has combined study of the bible with prayer and with the opportunity to share personal mental health issues and strategies to cope.

**Social Events and Community Activities**

**Pantomime**
In February half-term, we put on a church pantomime, written and produced by a member of St Paul's. There is a cast spanning all ages and everyone who wishes to take part is made welcome. Set building, scene painting, props, costumes, make-up, stage crew, lights, sound and front of house are all covered by church members with around fifty people taking part. The motivation is to bring us together and to welcome the community into the church with four sell-out performances. Whilst not the primary purpose, Aladdin 2019 raised £2000 for church funds.

**St Paul’s Annual Community Fun Run/Walk and Toddle Trot**
St Paul's Church has hosted its Community Fun Run for the last 8 years. A familiar well-organised event in the local calendar, it attracts up to 180 participants of all ages bringing family and friends. A safe and scenic 2 mile route including canal banks finishes outside the church in Pendeford Square. A short Toddle Trot around the school field allows all the family to join in the fun. Community groups, such as NHS Health Watch and ‘Christian Aid’ set up on tables in the square aimed at promoting Health and Wellbeing. Organised and marshalled by members of our congregation, families and friends, the event is regularly supported by St Johns Ambulance crew, the Police, the Fire Service, Morrisons, Asda and other Community services, and of course, the Oasis Café is open during the day to provide refreshments.

**Knit & Natter**
A Knit and Natter group, meeting on Saturday mornings, was set up to encourage community engagement. Special activities have included knitted and crotchet poppies for Remembrance, angels for advent, twiddle muffs for those living with dementia, sheep to accompany the Posada journey. The Advent angels were particularly successful, 150 were hidden around the estate, a Bible passage and times of seasonal services were included with them. Finders were encouraged to take photos and post them on the church Facebook account. Local children were proud of the angels they found.
Theatre Group
Lifts are arranged for small groups to enjoy a variety of cinema, live screened theatre and plays.

Quiz Nights
Quiz nights mostly include a fish and chip dinner which supports local businesses.

St Paul’s Church After School Running Club
For Junior age children, a member of our congregation leads a cross country running club.

Sunday Lunches
A Monthly Sunday lunch in the Oasis Café brings together members of the church and local community, who usually eat alone on a Sunday. We want to love and support our community and several people who have come to the lunches now regularly attend St Paul’s. Residents at Blakeley Green House are encouraged to come and a lift is provided by church members. The meal is prepared by a team of volunteers from St Paul’s and St Michaels, using the kitchen facilities in the Oasis. Food is mainly donated or purchased from donations from church members. Some produce is donated by ASDA and Morrisons from their respective community funds. All volunteers and guests eat together and teamwork is actively encouraged. Staff at The Oasis Café are instrumental in promoting the Lunches and identifying residents in the local community who may be on their own.

Community Bingo
Over the past 5 years every Monday is bingo afternoon in the Oasis café. There are regularly 25 to 35 players. The café provides delicious refreshments. Sylvia, who runs the group, organizes 2 or 3 coach trips a year, a 5 day holiday to a seaside resort and a Christmas party for everyone. They can pay towards any of these weekly should they wish.

Oasis Over 50’s Friendship Group
Since the leader of this group moved away 12 months ago the numbers dropped but 3 or 4 who still meet weekly. The group could be revived if someone could be found to run it.

St Paul’s Finances
The DCC has been successful in improving and maintaining its financial position. We pay the Parish share in full each quarter. The total income in 2019 is expected to be £38600. This is largely made up of generous giving (£25800 including gift aid) in the context of the demography of Pendeford. Rental income is £8600 largely from the OASIS and lettings. Fundraising is very active and will contribute £3000. The expected surplus is £2500 which will be transferred to a building and fabric fund. Total expenditure is expected to be £34100. The largest item of spend is the Parish Share (£26600). Since it is a shared building running costs are relatively low however the church makes a contribution to the school to support running costs. Ongoing maintenance issues will be addressed from a fabric and building fund (currently £10200). The Church has a general reserve balance of £17200. Overall the cash balances are healthy. The Church has no balance sheet liabilities that require repayment. The two most significant challenges the church faces are

- Parish Share increases to move towards recognizing the current share is significantly under target (the share across the Parish is at target). A Parish wide stewardship committee
ensures all 4 churches work collaboratively.
• Increasing income to be able to pay the Parish share increases. For some years giving was increasing however this is now static.

Lettings Information
St Paul’s is regularly booked by local community groups and private hirers. The different spaces within Church can be separately booked; private hirers currently pay £10 an hour to use any space. Regular community groups use the hall or café with no charge, including Brownies, and Pensioners Bingo.

Blakeley Green House
Blakeley Green House Trust operates in conjunction with Accord who manage Blakeley Green House Supported Housing Scheme for individuals with severe and enduring mental health problems. The House has a long established Christian identity and to maintain this the Trust provides a Chaplain, who in recent years has been the Vicar of St. Paul’s. A short weekly evening service is held in the Chapel, at the House, which once a month is a Communion Service taken by the Chaplain. Other services include a Carol Service, a Good Friday service and a Rogation service. The Trust supports the tenants in other ways such as through buying presents and helping out with other activities. The Trust is chaired by the Bishop of Wolverhampton.

Jaguar Land Rover (JLR)
The Parish has developed close links with the JLR (Jaguar Land Rover) Engine Manufacturing Centre, part of the i54 Business Park alongside the M54. School groups from the Parish have visited the site, and the previous Vicar of St Paul’s was Chaplain there.

As part of its employee well-being programme, JLR has Chaplains at most of its manufacturing sites in the UK. The company welcomes the regular visits of a supportive and independent person who can provide a confidential listening ear for people of all faiths and none. Visits are typically every two weeks for up to three hours, though a Chaplain may need to respond to occasional calls on their time in much the same way as pastoral emergencies arise in Parish life. The Vicar will be supported as a Chaplain by the Black Country Urban Industrial Mission, which works together with other Chaplaincy groups in the Midlands to coordinate relations with the company and to share good practice.

This is an opportunity to work alongside a company which is at the leading edge of technology, is respected around the world, and makes a major contribution to the national and regional economies. We hope the new Vicar will continue and develop this role, offering a valued ministry to those who otherwise may have little contact with the church.

Uniformed Groups
Rainbows, Brownies and Guides meet at St Paul’s on a Monday night. We occasionally take part in Parade Services and would like a Vicar who will encourage us to be involved in the services. We have 16 Rainbows, 14 Brownies and 6 Guides.

Mission Action Plan (MAP)
The 2015-2020 MAP covered the following main areas and progress is briefly as follows:

• The Church aimed to increase numbers attending and volunteering but this area still has scope for development.
• To develop a greater awareness of youth. Sunday school is active across all age ranges but faces the challenge of sufficient volunteers.
• Stewardship has improved. The financial position has improved greatly over recent years and as such there has been maintenance and improvement of the buildings.

• Evangelism – there have been efforts to recognize the demography of Pendeford but access and inclusion of the Dovecotes estate remains a challenge. There have been occasions where the number of services has increased to accommodate working patterns but this remains an area for development.

• To have open the OASIS café – there is now a community café operated under licence

• Pastoral and Outreach – to be accessible to and support all groups in the area. The church is working towards being dementia friendly and has an active pastoral group. The Vicar acts as the Chaplain for the local Jaguar Land Rover factory and Blakeley Green House.

• For St Paul’s to be more visible in the Community – there are many community groups operating from the premises but raising the church’s profile generally needs further development.
The date of the foundation of the Church is thought to go back to the latter part of King Edgar’s reign (959-975), though nothing remains of the Saxon church. On 2 February 1950 the old church building was totally gutted by fire, leaving only the 14th century tower and the Victorian porch. The new church was rebuilt in modern Gothic style and consecrated on 16 April 1955. It is attractively set near Tettenhall’s Lower Green. St Michaels School is on the other side of the Lower Green.

The church is a quarter of a mile or so from the popular Tettenhall Village and the leafy Upper Green, with the cricket club and paddling pool and adjacent South Staffs Golf Club.

Worship

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Said Eucharist</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>8.00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CW Order 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>BCP on the last Sunday</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sung Eucharist</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>10.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CW Order 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>with Sunday School and Crèche</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BCP Evensong</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>6.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morning Prayer</td>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>8.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eucharist</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>10.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morning Prayer</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>8.30am</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The 6.30pm Evensong can sometimes be replaced by special seasonal services during Advent and Lent and occasional other services – eg Valentine’s Day, Memorial Services.

A small robed choir is augmented for seasonal services at Christmas and Holy Week/Easter.

The 10.30am Eucharist is in the modern catholic tradition with incense and vestments. The usual Sunday attendance in 2018 was 117 adults and 10 people under 16 (over the three services).
All-Age services are held 5 times a year (with the possibility of more) and on these occasions the Cubs, Beavers and Sunday School and sometimes the St Michael’s School are encouraged to take part.

**Activities and facilities**

Facilities at the Church are rather limited for activities other than worship but the nearby Church Cottage is busily used by the Church for the Parish Office, meeting rooms, Sunday School and some community activities and church activities.

There is a Parish Centre in Tettenhall Village which is occupied by the local library and a play group, leaving a room for Church use. This provides a small but convenient location in the village for community activities.

**Mission and Ministry: Serving Christ at the heart of our community.**

The Mission and Ministry of St Michael’s is quite traditional with a significant number of occasional offices and links with schools and uniformed organisations. There is a strong pastoral emphasis supported by a Pastoral Team and considerable ministry in care homes for the elderly.

There are 3 teams of leaders for Sunday School which work on a rotation basis. Leaders and young people from St Michael’s take part in the Encounter Group for young people.

We have close links with St Michael’s School through clergy and lay governors and supporters and likewise with the King’s School and both schools regularly use the church for worship.

We have had regular retreat times away (most recently in Rydal Hall, Cumbria) which provide good opportunities for fellowship, growth in faith, and the development of lay ministry.

The Church has provided good opportunities for the training of curates. Members of the church support hospital chaplaincy work.

There is a fortnightly bible study group which meets in Church Cottage, Pilgrim Groups and regular courses for Christian education and nurture (especially in Lent and Advent) and for training in aspects of ministry.
Worship

Holy Cross is of a sacramental worship tradition, with a weekly Eucharist and 3 weekday services. In the last 12 months we have been experimenting with a non-eucharistic service on the first Sunday of the month, which has been well received, particularly amongst baptism families. Our electoral roll contains 57 people, and average Sunday congregation is 40, including 4 under 16.

We also offer a variety of other forms of worship on a Sunday afternoon, including a biannual memorial service, songs of praise services, as well as seasonal worship, such as Stations of the Cross, and services in the Taizé and Iona styles.

The worship and ministry team includes a licensed reader and a team of eucharistic ministers, who are also licensed to take home communions. A team plans and leads our all age worship, and other lay people participate in various ways before, during and after services.

We have a small un-robed choir who lead the singing of hymns in our Sunday and weekday festival services, as well as leading the music during communion. We have a few musicians, who support our non-Eucharistic worship, and other than that we use recorded music.

Pastoral Ministry

We have an active pastoral team, offering home communions, supporting funeral ministry and leading on being a dementia friendly church.

Baptisms are conducted in our main service on the first Sunday of the month, following preparation undertaken by our baptism preparation team. We have baptised 5 children in Holy Cross Church in 2019.

Funeral ministry is an important aspect in the life of Holy Cross, supported by the pastoral team, including 2 memorial services a year, to which we invite the families of those for whom we have taken funerals. We have conducted 3 funerals in church, and 14 funerals in a crematorium.

We currently have 1 wedding every other year.

Schools

There are 2 schools in the district, Bilbrook Church of England Middle School (children aged 9 to 13) and Lane Green First School (children aged 4 to 9), with whom we have strong connection. The church appoints
foundation governors to Bilbrook Middle School, which is part of the Codsall High School federation. The Vicar takes regular assemblies, and a termly eucharist in the school hall, to which members of the congregation are invited. The school also attends and leads half termly services in church, to which family and friends are invited.

The current Vicar is Governor of the First School, and takes regular assemblies in school, as well as supporting other aspects of religious education and the school come in to church for end of term services. Members of the congregation support students of both schools in their reading.

**The buildings**

Originally built when Bilbrook was still a farming community, Holy Cross church has been central to the community, as the village experienced its major growth in the 1930s when an aircraft factory relocated to the area. With a further estate of private and social housing built in the 1990s, the population of the village is now approximately 5500, although further significant housing is planned in the area.

Holy Cross was itself extended 50 years ago, and in 2005 became a Parish in its own right, but in 2014 the Parish returned to be part of the Parish of Tettenhall Regis. The church and hall are in a good state of repair, as the hall was refurbished in 2018 and the church roof underwent major repairs in 2017.

The main body of the church has pews with chairs towards the rear which allows more flexibility for weekday and informal worship and activities. There is carpeted area at the rear of the church with soft seating for children’s crèche activities during the Sunday Morning service.

We are proud that the building is open to the community for private prayer and quiet space by opening the church every day between 10am and 5pm.

Holy Cross church has a Garden of Remembrance, available for the cremated remains of members of the congregation, their families or residents of the community.

**The community**

There is a busy programme of activities throughout the week that many members of the community participate in and enjoy, including weekly groups, such as Craft Group, Friendship Club, coffee Pop In, and a fortnightly Bible Study, and a group for adults with physical and learning disabilities.
There are also special events, including an annual Easter Monday fair, and frequent social events, including Vintage Tea Party, Skittles Nights, Karaoke, Quiz Nights, Murder Mystery Evenings, Beetle Drives, Horse Racing Evenings.

The newly-refurbished hall is well used, by the church, and community groups, including a dance school, meditation classes, keep fit, and country dancing.
Christ the King is a multipurpose church building, built in 1956, to accommodate the suburban sprawl of Aldersley and later, Pendeford. Intended to be used as a community building, the sanctuary can be closed off and used as a church its own right, leaving the body of the church available for community use. The church is not under faculty, which is a mixed blessing, but the sanctuary was redecorated, and a new altar dedicated, for the diamond anniversary in 2016. The church is used by a number of community groups, including Seniors Movement to Music, Ladies Keep Fit, Slimming World, Zumba and Yoga, and is also used as a Polling Station for all Elections.

The buildings have been expanded, with a hall and kitchen being added in the 1970s, which underwent a much needed redecoration in the summer of 2019, toilets and a meeting room. It is extensively used in term time by a playgroup and nursery, but also by rainbow, brownie and guide units and a dance school.

The church makes use of the facilities for social events and other activities, such as quizzes, skittles, concerts and a monthly board games group. The buildings are fully accessible for disabled access, and have their own toilet facilities.

The site includes a car park, which is a great asset, although is now in need of some repair.

The front garden is used at Easter and Christmas to display Nativity and Holy Week Scenes, attracting good comments from both church users and the local community. The space to the rear of the church is divided into an area of lawn and a safe multi-sensory space used by the playgroup.

**Worship**

Worship at Christ the King is of an informal Eucharistic style, with a weekly Communion and 1 midweek service. Sunday worship, which is currently accompanied by record music, is supported by a small robed choir, several lay assistants, intercessors and readers. Our electoral roll contains 52 people, and the average Sunday congregation is 30, including, on average, 2 children under 16.

We have a well-established healing ministry, with a healing service and a Guild of Healing & St. Raphael prayer meeting.
both happening monthly. We are looking to develop the variety of forms of worship on offer, which already includes songs of praise services, as well as seasonal worship, such as Stations of the Cross, and services in the Taizé and Iona styles.

We are proposing to install some new audio-visual equipment, to allow for more informal worship, as well as enhancing our prayers and sermons.

**Pastoral Offices**

**Baptisms:** Baptisms are held in our main Sunday service, on the second Sunday of the month, supported by our baptism coordinator. We continue to keep in contact with anniversary cards and host the annual Parish Cradle Roll Party.

**Weddings:** Christ the King was only recently licensed for weddings, the first of which was in July 2014, although two previous weddings had been held under special license. The Parish office deals with all wedding administration.

**Funerals:** All funerals are arranged by the Parish office and in the last year 2 funerals have taken place at Christ the King.

**Aldersley District**

Almost entirely a residential district within the Tettenhall Regis ward, Aldersley does contain a small area of light industry and several small shopping areas, 1 being opposite the church.

There are two primary schools located within the district and both have tentative links with the church, and have visited the church for Carol Services and educational visits. Church members have served as governors and the children who attend the playgroup tend to move into both schools at the appropriate age.

While Aldersley is situated on the edge of the West Midland Region, access to open country is only minutes away. Just 10 minutes from Wolverhampton city centre, there is also easy access to the M54, M6 and M6 toll, so travel to many places is easy and convenient. Aldersley is also well served by buses, and the nearest train station at Bilbrook is only 5 minutes away.

The Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal forms the eastern boundary of the Parish, and along with the disused railway that has been converted to the Smestow Vale Nature Reserve, there are plenty of walks available, into the city or the countryside. The Aldersley Leisure Village also offers a wide variety of sporting and social activities.