



St Leonard's
Church
Dunston



**DUNSTON WITH COPPENHALL
PARISH PROFILE
HOUSE FOR DUTY – TEAM VICAR**



St Lawrence's
Church
Coppenhall



1. WELCOME

Thank you for showing interest in the profile of the Parish of Dunston with Coppenhall. The church wardens and members of the PCC hope the profile will provide you with an insight to our parish and what it might be like to be part of the family of St. Leonard's and St. Lawrence's.

We are looking for a good shepherd to work with us to grow a welcoming and vibrant Christian presence in our communities. The person who is appointed will be a house for duty team vicar (Sunday plus two days per week, worked flexibly) within the Penkridge Team Ministry.

We are confident that we have many strengths to offer to our next minister and we hope you may find this post attractive because:

- ❖ **we are very friendly and good-humoured congregations** - who come from welcoming communities;
- ❖ **we are caring churches with a strong tradition of pastoral care** - including a monthly 'drop in' coffee morning and care for the elderly;
- ❖ **we have many supportive and active members of the churches** - with many committed officers and hardworking volunteers who complete administration and care for the church buildings and their grounds;
- ❖ **we are well organised and have an experienced and efficient PCC** - which manages much of the parish administration;
- ❖ **we are part of a very supportive Team Ministry** - which supports collaborative working as well as providing fellowship for both lay and ordained ministers;
- ❖ **we are good at communicating with our local communities** - with a monthly parish and community magazine, good publicity and a developing electronic mailing system;
- ❖ **we are a pleasant rural parish located in glorious Staffordshire countryside** - yet very close to the county town of Stafford and the thriving village of Penkridge which offers all the amenities needed for everyday living;
- ❖ **we are located in an area which offers a wide variety of recreational and educational opportunities** - with good transport links to Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool, Wolverhampton, Stoke and London - which is only 1 hour 20 minutes by train from Stafford;
- ❖ **we are realistic in our expectations of our part time minister** - actively encouraging lay involvement to support the work of the minister.

BUT we also recognise that we do have some challenges to face:

- ❖ **we are ageing congregations** - but do warmly welcome new worshippers, particularly families and children;
- ❖ **we are small congregations** - but we do reach out to our local communities and we are prepared to try new expressions of worship in an attempt to attract new worshippers.
- ❖ **we are keen to increase engagement with young children, teenagers and families** – and are actively considering appointing a part time parish worker to support this work.

The Rt Revd Dr Michael Igrave
Bishop's House, 22 The Close, Lichfield WS13 7LG
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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

3. TABLE OF CONTENTS		
1	Welcome from the Parish	Page 1
2	Welcome to the Diocese of Lichfield from Bishop Michael	Page 2
3	The Table of Contents	Page 3
4	The Context	Page 4
5	The Challenge	Page 4
6	The Role Description	Page 4
7	The Person Specification	Page 5
8	The Church Leadership	Page 5
9	Parish Mission Statement and Mission Action Plans	Page 7
10	Church Finances	Page 8
11	Congregations	Page 9
12	Styles and Traditions of Worship in the Churches	Page 10
13	Services	Page 10
14	Music	Page 11
15	Parish Activities and Programmes	Page 11
16	Children and Youth Work	Page 12
17	Schools Work	Page 12
18	The Church Buildings	Page 13
19	The Churchyards	Page 14
20	The Village Halls	Page 14
21	The Vicarage	Page 15
22	Communications	Page 15
23	Pastoral Offices	Page 16
24	The Parish	Page 17
25	What the Area has to Offer	Page 17
26	Useful Websites	Page 20
27	Contacts	Page 20
28	Enquiries and Applications	Page 21
29	Appendix 1: Statement of Financial Activities	Page 22
30	Appendix 2: Mission Action Plan	Page 23

4. THE CONTEXT

THE PARISH OF DUNSTON WITH COPPENHALL

The Parish of Dunston with Coppenhall is a small rural parish close to the large thriving village of Penkridge and near to the county town of Stafford. The Parish is served by two churches - St. Leonard's, Dunston and St. Lawrence's, Coppenhall and is part of the Penkridge Team Ministry.

The Penkridge Team Ministry comprises of three parishes:

1. The Parish of Penkridge - which includes Stretton, Pillaton and Levedale;
2. The Parish of Acton Trussell and Bednall;
3. The Parish of Dunston with Coppenhall.

The Team and Parish are seeking to appoint a House for Duty Team Vicar

5. THE CHALLENGE

The Dunston with Coppenhall PCC recognises that the churches in the two villages face a number of challenges in the future as noted in the PCC's Mission Action Plan. A major challenge is as a consequence of having ageing congregations at a time when there is a greater need for involvement by the laity to compensate for the loss of clergy time.

Priorities identified by the PCC include:

1. reviewing and refreshing our worship;
2. empowering members of the churches to use their God given gifts and talents to support the ministry of the churches;
3. further developing our mission to children and young families;
4. playing an active role in the life of our communities, providing pastoral care and fellowship as well as promoting Christian teaching and spiritual guidance.

6. ROLE DESCRIPTION

As we pray and seek God's guidance in the appointment of a new minister, we trust that he or she will be a person with a vibrant and real faith, a person of prayer who is committed to his/her own spiritual journey from where his/her service in ministry flows.

We seek a house for duty team vicar who would:

1. lead our churches to achieve the vision set out in our Mission Action Plan;
2. plan and lead worship that supports the vision and ministry needs of the churches, including appropriate use of resources, music, teaching and preaching;
3. enthuse, teach and challenge us with God's word in order to help us grow in faith and fellowship as well as attracting new members to join our congregations;
4. inspire, motivate and empower lay members to get them actively involved in the life of the Church and to work collaboratively to help them make good use of their God given gifts and talents;

5. be a good shepherd and have a positive presence in the local community, promoting Christian teaching and providing pastoral and spiritual support;
6. develop a positive working partnership with our Lay Reader;
7. have a presence in St. Leonard's School;
8. attend PCC meetings but not necessarily chair the committee;
9. be part of the Penkridge team of clergy and readers and to share in the ministry across the team, particularly in occasional offices as there are few in Coppenhall and Dunston.

The PCC recognises that this is not a full-time post and are keen that the skills and talents of Church members are developed to enable them to share the ministry with the new minister. For a number of years worship has been led by clergy and readers from across the Penkridge team and so there will not always be the need to preach and lead worship every Sunday. The final details of how this will work practically will be reached as a result of negotiations with the Team Rector and PCC.

7. THE PERSON SPECIFICATION

We seek someone who will be:

1. a strategist in mission - someone who is able to discern the key areas for achieving the vision of St. Leonard's and St. Lawrence's;
2. collaborative in style but also able to be directive when necessary;
3. a leader who is able to recognize gifts and talents in others and has the skills to help them to grow, develop and use them, through training, encouragement and review;
4. able to relate to a wide range of people and sustain effective working relationships;
5. a good Shepherd of all God's people - both members of the congregations and those outside the church, particularly providing pastoral and spiritual support to those in need.

8. THE CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Penkridge Deanery

Penkridge Deanery is a compact and friendly deanery, incorporating the small towns and villages located in the area between Stafford, Wolverhampton, Cannock and western rural Shropshire.

Penkridge Deanery is in the process of completing its shaping for mission (SFM) review, with our focus being on improving communication, making better use of resources, assessing how to reach out to new housing estates and considering how to encourage young people to be involved in church. No pastoral re-organisations have been proposed as a result of SFM, but as a number of parishes face considerable financial issues, it is possible that there may be some in the future.

We have a combination of in-person and on-line deanery meetings, as travel within the deanery can sometimes be time-consuming along narrow country roads. There are three Deanery Synod meetings a year: one to discuss a current Christian issue, another on Shaping for Mission, with

the third frequently including holy communion and a social event.

Over the past four years, our chapter has shrunk quite significantly because local retired clergy have become less active. The five incumbent-status clergy meet on an irregular basis, normally for lunch or other social events. We are often in contact with one another on the deanery WhatsApp group and Zoom. As there are so few clergy, we often support each other by taking funerals and weddings in other benefices in the deanery.

Rev Greg Yerbury (Rural Dean)

The Penkrigde Team Ministry



Background

The Parish is part of the Penkrigde Team Ministry. The Team Council acts as a co-ordinating and information sharing body across the team. Its aim is to develop a collaborative and shared ministry across the benefice.

Attendance by the Dunston with Coppenhall minister would not normally be expected.

The Covenant

The team has developed a Covenant with a focus on collaborative working at its heart and mutual support for all those in ministry but without unnecessary bureaucracy and extra meetings.

Team styles and traditions of worship

Church tradition across the team is diverse and open with Eucharistic services being mostly in line with the central church tradition but with St. Michael's, Penkrigde, having a slightly more evangelical feel.

Staffing

The team's current staffing includes one full time stipendiary clergyperson, the Team Rector, based at St Michael's Parish Church, Penkrigde, a curate, also based at St. Michael's, a 0.2 vacancy at Acton and Bednall and a vacancy for a Team Vicar House for Duty post at Dunston with Coppenhall. In addition, there are five Readers and several retired clergy who assist with ministry across the Team

The minister appointed to Dunston with Coppenhall will receive support and assistance from the Team Staff in the covering of services and occasional offices so that the workload does not exceed that expected of a House for Duty appointment.

Team Co-ordination

There is a quarterly team rota meeting which also aims to support collaborative working as well as providing fellowship for both lay and ordained ministers. It would be expected that the minister for Dunston with Coppenhall would make this meeting a priority.

Informal Inquiries

Informal inquiries about this post, prior to making an application, would be welcomed by the Team Rector –

Revd. Greg Yerbury:

email: rector@stmichaelspenkridge.co.uk; or

telephone: 01785 714344

9. THE PARISH MISSION STATEMENT AND MISSION ACTION PLAN 2021 - 26

The Mission Action Plan prepared by the Dunston with Coppenhall PCC aims to:

1. identify the way forward for the two Churches in the Parish during a time of change;
2. promote a shared and collegiate approach to ministry through the development of the Penkridge Team and growth of individuals from our congregations and communities;
3. help the parish move forward in response to the diocesan strategy of Developing Discipleship, Encouraging Vocation and Inspiring Evangelism.
4. support the Deanery's Shaping for Mission vision by maintaining a focus on improving communication, making better use of resources, assessing how to reach out to new housing developments near to St. Leonard's Church and considering how to encourage young people to be involved in church.

MISSION STATEMENT:

Our Vision:

Our vision for the Parish of Dunston with Coppenhall is to live by the commandments given to us by Christ:

"Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind' and 'Love your neighbour as yourself."

To this end we endeavour to grow a welcoming and vibrant Christian presence in our communities, providing a spirituality that is accessible for all and offering the opportunity to fully participate in God's mission in the world.

We aim to:

- i. be a welcoming Church;
- ii. be vibrant, active and caring places where all can come for Christian spiritual fellowship and pastoral care;
- iii. be His disciples and take the message of the Gospel into the local communities which we serve;
- iv. provide Christian teaching and worship which are accessible and understandable;
- v. be good neighbours, both as churches and as individuals;
- vi. encourage the work of the laity;

- vii. spread the Word to children and young people;
- viii. stand for justice and fairness;
- ix. support progress in our individual faith journeys;
- x. listen and be ready for whatever is asked of us – ready to offer our time, talents and skills.

To fulfil our vision we will:

- i. identify ways to grow the number of both occasional and regular worshippers, learning from our own experiences and other churches both within and outside of the Penkridge Team;
- ii. make sure our church buildings are fit for purpose and are welcoming and comfortable;
- iii. enrich services by building on participation by the congregation and including a wider range of music;
- iv. be prepared to try fresh expressions of church;
- v. provide opportunities which support church members in making progress in their individual faith journeys;
- vi. raise the profile of the churches in the life of the local community;
- vii. reflect on how our churches and individuals within them are already involved in acts of grace and on what further support and encouragement are needed;
- viii. refresh the pastoral support team and ensure the whole congregation is aware of its role, needs, opportunities for discipleship and availability;
- ix. recognise the need for the laity to take on more roles within the life of our churches and make full use of the skills and talents of church members;
- x. provide training and support to help lay people who take on roles within the life of the churches;
- xi. continue and strengthen our work with children;
- xii. reach out to young people in their teens so they know they are part of the family of the Church;
- xiii. improve communications by maintaining a database of contacts, including email addresses;
- xiv. encourage stewardship to support our churches and generosity to help those in need;
- xv. ensure we achieve the most effective use of resources and value for money.

Our current Mission Action Plan is attached as appendix 2 on page 21.

10. CHURCH FINANCES

The parish finances are in a healthy state and well managed by our Treasurer.

A summary of the 2022 accounts for St. Leonard's and St. Lawrence's Churches is attached as Appendix 1 at the end of this profile.

Our contribution to the Common Fund for 2023 is £12,993.00 and it is paid by monthly instalments with each church paying 50%.

Regular givers use our envelope scheme or pay by standing order.

Our Gift Aid Secretary claims tax rebates on our regular giving and also now on our loose plate collections through the Small Cash Donations Gift Aid Scheme.

Fund Raising Events

Both churches organise fund raising events throughout the year to raise additional funds. Fund raising activities have included social evenings, coffee mornings and fete stalls.

Giving

Each year Church members support various charities. There are monthly collections of food and cash for Stafford Christian Food Help and also a cash collection for the Staffordshire Women's Aid. In addition, other fundraising events, retiring plate collections after special services and collecting boxes are used to raise funds for a range of organisations.

During 2022 we financially supported –

The Childrens' Society – donating £567

The Appeal for Ukraine – donating £770

The Staffordshire Women's Aid - £2,215

The Stafford Christian Food Bank – donating £127

Historic Churches Ride and Stride – donating £540

as well as donating 57 Christmas gift boxes to young people leaving the care of the local authority.

11. CONGREGATIONS

Electoral Roll: The Roll currently stands at 106 - (Dunston 40 Coppenhall 66)
21 of whom are not resident in the parish -
Dunston 28 resident and 12 non-resident,
Coppenhall 57 resident and 9 non-resident.
The majority of the congregations are aged 50 years and over.
The ethnicity is white British.

Attendance: The average weekly attendance during 2022 was -
Coppenhall 17 adults and 1 child
Dunston 11 adults and 1 child
This number increases at all major festivals and invitation services.
Before the pandemic average weekly attendance during 2019 was –
Coppenhall 24 adults and 1 child
Dunston 16 adults and 3 children
During 2022 services were live streamed and had over 1000 hits on Facebook

12. STYLES AND TRADITIONS OF WORSHIP

Both congregations belong to the central tradition of the Church but have a broad and open attitude to worship - enjoying a variety of styles and traditions of worship from BCP to Celtic Services and welcome new experiences. Before the pandemic a successful Café Church was held in Hyde Lea and Coppenhall Village Hall. Although plans for more events had to be put on hold due to the pandemic and the vacancy we are now preparing to hold another Café Church in October.

13. SERVICES

Services at St Leonard's, Dunston



Sunday services are held at 11.00am each week with a monthly programme usually consisting of two Communion Services and a mixture of Morning Prayer and All Age Worship.

The Church has a range of prepared service sheets for use at all age worship and other special celebrations.

In addition to the recognised festival days, special invitation services are held for Mothering Sunday, Harvest and Remembrance Sunday. Christmas celebrations include a Christingle Service combined with lessons and carols.

St Leonard's School also holds end of term and major festival services in the church.

St Leonard's has a welcoming congregation which includes some families.

Services at St Lawrence's, Coppenhall



Sunday services are held at 9.30am each week and, prior to the pandemic and the current vacancy, followed an established pattern of worship each month:

- first Sunday - a family/all age service;
- second and fourth Sundays – CW Communion Services;
- third Sunday – CW Morning Prayer;
- fifth Sunday - BCP Communion.

Members of the congregation lead the intercessions and there is a weekly rota for the reading of the lessons.

Four members of the congregation have regularly led Morning Prayer and preached.

Prior to the pandemic there were special themed and invitation services for Mothering Sunday, Easter, the Patronal Festival, Community Sunday, Harvest Festival, Remembrance Sunday, Memorial Sunday and at Christmas we had Carols with Christingles, Midnight Mass and a Christmas Morning Family Service.

When the villages of Hyde Lea and Coppenhall hold a village festival a Songs of Praise Service is held in a marquee in the grounds of the village hall.

St Lawrence's is also proud of its friendly and welcoming congregation. Coffee, biscuits and cake are served after each service and members of the congregation stay behind to socialise.

14. MUSIC

Our congregations enjoy singing. St. Leonard's has a pipe organ and St. Lawrence's has an electric organ. We are fortunate enough to have a member of the congregation who plays the organ for weekly Sunday services at St. Lawrence's.

When the organist is not available both churches use a C D player that feeds into their P.A. systems. Prior to the pandemic, a worship band was formed and played as part of all age worship on the first Sunday of the month at Dunston.

15. PARISH ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMES

Education:

- Both Lent and Advent Courses, led by the vicar or our lay reader, are held most years.
- A number of successful Alpha Courses have been run over the last five years and resulted in some active house groups being formed.
- A SACRED (Simply a Chapter Read Each Day) Group met monthly over a period of four years and completed the scheme to read and discuss the whole Bible.
- Recently a Bible Study group, led by our lay reader, has begun to meet monthly and is studying the Gospel of Mark.
- Pastoral care training workshops were held for a number of years and it is hoped they can be revived.
- There are occasional Team Courses

Community activities include:

- The Pastoral Care Team in Coppenhall meets on the second Wednesday of every month and holds a popular coffee drop-in.
- Church members are regularly involved in activities at St. Leonard's First School
- An annual Lent Lunch is held as a fund raiser for the Bishop's Lent Appeal or other charity.
- Harvest services are followed by a joint Harvest Supper, with proceeds from a raffle going to a local charity.
- A team of volunteers produce and deliver 'Contact' our monthly Church and community magazine.
- St. Lawrence's Church participates in the Hyde Lea and Coppenhall Village Festival having a stall at the festival fete and organising a Festival Songs of Praise and a bring and share afternoon tea in a marquee in the grounds of the village hall.
- St. Lawrence's has held several Flower Festival which have included a Songs of Praise service.
- The annual Historic Churches Cycle Ride & Stride is supported by both churches.
- At Christmas members of the congregations sing carols at the local nursing homes and, before it closed, at the Crown Public House. During the last three years the churches arranged community carol singing at Hyde Lea and Coppenhall Village Hall.

- St. Leonard's Church has held social and fund raising events including a fish and chip supper and a George Formby evening.
- The churches are represented at the Churches Together group in Penkridge.
- Both churches are proud of the 'neighbourly concern' shown by their members and this was particularly evident during the pandemic.



Festival Songs of Praise



Village Fete



Flower Festival

16. CHILDREN AND YOUTH WORK

The PCC recognises the need to increase engagement with young children, teenagers and families and are actively considering appointing a part time parish worker to support this work.

St. Leonard's, Dunston - School Work

Work undertaken with St. Leonard's First School is an important part of the ministry of the minister. Regular services in school and church, informal contacts with teachers and parents together with some input into classroom activities are all successfully established.

St. Lawrence's, Coppenhall

A successful Messy Church was held four times a year but we seek a new leader to reinstate the activity.

17. SCHOOL WORK

St. Leonard's C.E (VC) First School.

There is one school in the parish - St. Leonard's C.of E. First School Academy. The school is part of the Staffordshire University Academies Trust and the Diocese of Lichfield. It is part of a three-tier system in which children leave at the end of Year 4 for Penkridge Middle School and then progress onto Wolgarston High School at the beginning of Year 9. Wolgarston School has a Sixth Form Centre. The school enjoys strong links with St. Leonard's Church and its Christian distinctiveness and values are evident inside and outside of the school curriculum. It has recently developed an outdoor worship area and has appointed a school chaplain.



At present it has over 70 children on roll including the Reception Class.

The school has undergone some major building work in recent years with 2 new modular classrooms being built and the interior of the old building being completely refurbished.

These developments were needed due to the popularity of the school which attracts pupils from a wide area outside the designated catchment area.

The Team Vicar is expected to play an active role within the school.

Further information about the school can be found on the school website:

www.st-leonards-dunston.staffs.sch.uk

18. THE CHURCH BUILDINGS

St Leonard's, Dunston

A chapel has occupied the site of St. Leonard's since 1445.

The current church was built between 1876 and 1878. The church can seat 180.

A sound system, which includes lapel and fixed mics and a CD player has been installed.

There is a carillon of eight tubular bells, rung from a keyboard, which needs restoration.



A new heating system for the church was installed in 2018 and repairs to the tower completed.

The quinquennial report completed in 2019 recommended repairs to the roof and guttering be prioritised. Since the quinquennial the guttering has been repaired.

There is a team of villagers who provide flowers and clean the church.



St Lawrence's, Coppenhall

St. Lawrence's church is a small stone building dating from around 1220 and described by Pevsner as -

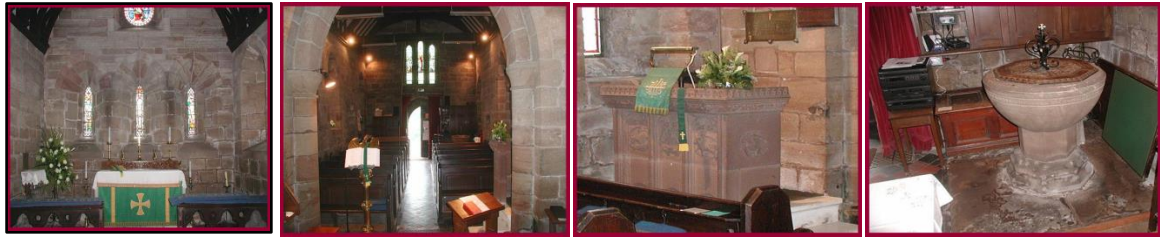
"a perfect 13th century village church, small but of great dignity."

It remains largely unchanged by any restoration and is Grade 2* listed. The church can seat 56



A sound system, which includes lapel and fixed mics, a CD player and a hearing loop, has recently been updated.

There is a dedicated group of villagers who clean the church and provide flowers each week. The latest quinquennial inspection was completed in June with no major issues.



19. THE CHURCHYARDS

St. Leonard's Churchyard



The original churchyard is now full but an attached extension burial ground, which includes an area for cremated remains, has been consecrated and provides additional plots.

The churchyard is maintained by a contractor on a regular basis.



St. Lawrence's Churchyard



The churchyard still has a large number of plots. It is in excellent order and maintained by volunteers who are rostered throughout the growing season to mow and strim the grass. Visitors regularly comment on the well-kept churchyard.



The PCC recently purchased a piece of land opposite the church and has created a car park. Additional land will provide a future extension to the graveyard.

20. THE VILLAGE HALLS

Neither of the two churches have a church hall but both communities do have village halls which are used by the churches for meetings as well as a variety of social and fund-raising activities.

Dunston Village Hall



Dunston Village Hall consists of two function rooms, which can be hired together or individually and a fully equipped kitchen.

The Hall provides a useful facility for the adjacent Church School and many other local organizations.

The Trustees and Management Committee of the Hall regularly provide social evenings for the local people.

The Hall is available for use by the Church for meetings and annually hosts the joint Harvest Supper.

Hyde Lea and Coppenhall Village Hall



Hyde Lea and Coppenhall Village Hall consists of a large function room and a kitchen. It is the only community facility in the villages and provides a range of social, educational and recreational services to the local community. Its grounds provide a grassed play area for local children.

The hall and grounds are the base for the annual village festival in which the Church takes an active role, organising a Festival Songs of Praise and a 'bring and share' afternoon tea.

The church uses the Hall to host a monthly coffee morning and drop in for local people.

21. THE VICARAGE



A vicarage has been recently acquired in the popular residential area of Moss Pit, Stafford. It is a four-bedroom detached house situated in a small and quiet cul-de-sac near local shops, amenities and schooling with the town centre a short distance away with a wider array of restaurants and shops. Its location is also equidistant from both churches.

Accommodation comprises of a lounge, dining room, conservatory, study, kitchen, utility, downstairs cloakroom, four bedrooms, master with ensuite and a family bathroom. Externally to the front there is a spacious driveway and to the rear a landscaped and easily managed garden.

22. COMMUNICATIONS

A free monthly parish and community magazine called Contact is delivered to every home in Dunston, Coppenhall, Hyde Lea and surrounding hamlets. It contains Church notices and other village information and is edited by a member of St. Lawrence Church at Coppenhall.

Good use is made of village notice boards to advertise church services and other activities.

The parish has a website which the PCC is currently upgrading.

The current parish website is –

<https://www.dunstonwithcoppenhall.org/>

23. PASTORAL OFFICES

Occasional Offices in the Parish During the Last Three Years						
	Baptisms		Weddings		Funerals	
	Dunston	Coppenhall	Dunston	Coppenhall	Dunston	Coppenhall
2022	3	1	0	0	2	3
2021	2	2	0	0	3	3
2020	0	1	1	1	0	3

The Parish follows the policies agreed by the Penkridge Team Council.

Policy for Baptism

In the Team we baptise adults or children of parents who live in the parish or who are members of the congregation or have some proven connection to a church such as the parents were married at the church or grandparents live in the parish. If the connection is based on something other than regular attendance or living in the vicinity (ie not strictly in the parish) then they should get a letter or e-mail from the vicar of the parish in which they live consenting to the service being held elsewhere.

Each church arranges the timing of their own baptism service according to local needs.

Adults, young people and parents of children coming forward for baptism are required to attend a baptism preparation session. Currently a joint Team preparation session is held monthly and led by the clergy from St Michael's, ably supported by the baptism team also from St Michael's.

It would be expected that the minister for Dunston with Coppenhall would accompany any baptism families to this preparation evening.

Policy for Marriage

This follows Church of England guidelines.

The vestry hour at St Michael's, held on a Wednesday evening and provides the opportunity for wedding arrangements to be made, although the timing of the ceremony and the local fees are arranged by each parish in the Team. There is a 'Space to Think Day' held twice a year to which all couples planning to marry in a team church are invited and all clergy who are taking marriage services are expected to attend if possible.

Marriage of divorcees is carried out within the Team according to the Bishop's guidelines.

Sunday weddings are discouraged as the clergy are committed to regular Sunday acts of worship.

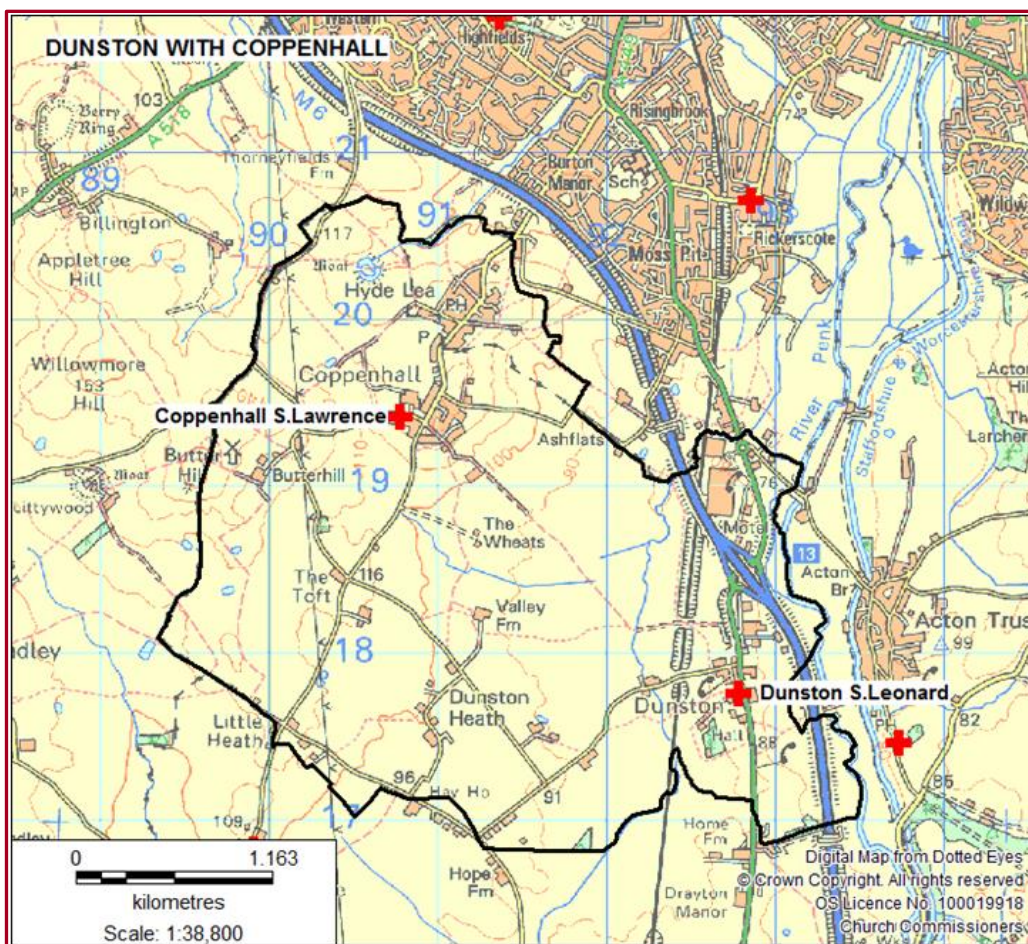
Policy for Funerals and Churchyard Burials

This follows Church of England guidelines.

We carry out funerals for those who live in the parishes or have some link to the parish.

The right of burial in the churchyard is determined by individual PCCs and is set out in their Churchyard Policy.

24. THE PARISH



The Parish of Dunston with Coppenhall is a split rural parish with two churches –

- **St. Leonard's** - serving the small village of Dunston, which lies along the A449 (Stafford/Wolverhampton Road), together with the hamlets of Dunston Heath and Drayton. The heart of the life of Dunston is the small church school & the adjacent village hall.
- **St. Lawrence's** - serving the larger villages of Coppenhall and Hyde Lea together with the hamlet of Butterhill. Hyde Lea and Coppenhall have seen new developments of private housing built in recent years. This community has a pub and a village hall which provides a sense of community spirit.

Sources of employment in the area are agriculture and a rural business park developed in former farm buildings, although most villagers commute to work.

25. WHAT THE AREA HAS TO OFFER

Location

The Parish is situated 3 miles south of the county town of Stafford in beautiful unspoilt countryside. The vicarage is located in the residential area of Moss Pit, Stafford close to Rising Brook community village which has all the facilities required for everyday living with larger shopping facilities available in the county town of Stafford.

Accessibility

Both the parish and the vicarage are close to the A449 and a short distance from junction 13 of the M6. Good rail links are also available from both Penkridge and Stafford. The vicarage is also close to a bus route.

Rising Brook



All the facilities for everyday living are available in the nearby Rising Brook community village. **Shops** – there is a Cooperative Supermarket, pharmacy, Post Office, butcher, off license, hardware store and an Esso filling station with a Tesco Express outlet.

Education – there are nurseries, a primary and a secondary school and a library.

Health – there is a medical centre, two pharmacies and a dentist.

Recreational – there is a public house and a sports and social club offering tennis and badminton. There are also a number of local football, rugby and cricket clubs and a running club.

Religious groups – there is a Methodist Chapel and a large and very active Baptist Christian Centre.

			
Rising Brook Medical Centre	Burton Manor Primary School	Stafford Manor High School	Rising Brook Library
			
Community Fire Station	Shopping Precinct	Post Office	Esso Tesco Express

Penkridge

The nearby market village of Penkridge, which the Parish has very close connections with, being part of the Penkridge Team Ministry, has a wide variety of independent local shops and two supermarkets. There are two car sales and maintenance garage businesses. Every Wednesday and Saturday Penkridge has a long-established market which is very popular with people living in the wider area. Every November, for one night, the village centre becomes a Victorian Christmas Market.

Education

There are several playgroups and nurseries in the village together with three first schools, a middle school and a high school. One of the South Staffordshire College's campuses is located just outside the village and offers a range of adult and community education courses.

Health

The modern Penkridge Health Centre offers a wide range medical services. There are also a number of dentists, an optician and a chiropractor in the village as well as two pharmacies.

Railway

Penkridge has a railway station with direct services to Wolverhampton, Birmingham, Stafford and Liverpool.

Recreational

There are several pubs in the village and hotel accommodation is also available.

There are a number of sports clubs in Penkridge which include well-respected cricket, football, rugby union and tennis clubs.

The Penkridge Leisure Centre, which is adjacent to Wolgarston High School, offers a sports hall and a swimming pool.

The River Penk and the Staffs-Worcester Canal are enjoyed by both fishermen and walkers. Walkers also have easy access to the Staffordshire Way.

There is a well maintained, well used bowling green in the heart of the village.

Stafford



The nearest town is the county town of Stafford which offers a wide range of health, recreational and retail facilities.

There is a good mix of national and independent retailers found in picturesque cobbled streets or modern indoor shopping centres. In addition there are also several out of town retail parks and a town centre market which trades on Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday each week.

Other facilities available include:

- for education - the College of Further Education,
- for health - the County Hospital
- for recreation - The Gatehouse Theatre and recently opened Odeon Luxe multi-screen cinema together with a wide range of places to eat and wide variety of sporting activities.

The nearby city of Wolverhampton and the new town of Telford also provide shopping centres and a wider range of recreational opportunities.

Activities within Ten Miles of the Parish

Sports enthusiasts are well catered for and facilities include the following:

Gailey Pools - 2½ miles to the south of Penkridge, has facilities for sailing, fishing, bird-watching (including herons and egrets.)

Cannock Chase - is an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, with rolling hills, heath lands, and abundant wildlife.

In the area there are many recreational opportunities including Birches Valley Visitors' Centre and Chasewater Country Park



Golf Courses - there are several golf courses near to the vicarage, the nearest club's being the Chase Golf Club or the Brocton Golf Club.

Theatres - nearby theatres include - The Gatehouse, Stafford, The Grand, Wolverhampton, The Regent, Hanley (Stoke) and The Vic, Newcastle (Stoke)

26. USEFUL WEBSITES

Website for St. Leonard's, Dunston and St. Lawrence's, Coppenhall:

<https://www.dunstonwithcoppenhall.org>

Website for St Michaels Church, Penkridge:

www.stmichaelspenkridge.co.uk

27. CONTACTS

Team Rector

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Email: rector@stmichaelspenkridge.co.uk

Churchwardens of St. Lawrence, Coppenhall

Mr. Robert Lawrence
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28. ENQUIRIES AND APPLICATIONS

Enquiries regarding the post of House for Duty Team Vicar should be made to:

The Venerable Dr. Susan Weller,

The Archdeacon of Lichfield

24 The Close,

Lichfield.

Staffordshire WS13 7LD

Tel: 01543 306145

Mobile: 07583 119740

E-mail: archdeacon.lichfield@lichfield.anglican.org

Application Form:

For an application form please email the Archdeacon's PA:

Jimm Rennie.

Jimm.rennie@lichfield.anglican.org

Completed Application Form:

Completed applications, with the names and addresses of two referees, should be returned to:

The Venerable Dr. Susan Weller, the Archdeacon of Lichfield – address as above

APPENDIX 1: DUNSTON WITH COPPENHALL PCC
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds	Designated Funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Prior year total funds
RECEIPTS						
Planned giving	14,400	-	404	-	14,804	13,938
Collections and other giving	2,075	-		-	2,075	1,843
Other voluntary receipts	86	-	50	-	136	190
Gift Aid recovered	5,061	-	-	-	5,061	3,047
Other receipts	-	-	11,870	-	11,870	117
Activities for generating funds	496	-	266	-	762	470
Investment income	-	-	12,460	-	12,460	9,615
Receipts from church activities	2,956	-	1,738	-	4,694	3,080
TOTAL RECEIPTS	25,074	-	26,788	-	51,862	32,300
PAYMENTS						
Cost of generating funds	215	-	16	-	231	-
Parish Share	7,146	-	5,847	-	12,993	17,008
Clergy and Staffing costs	1,319	-	-	-	1,319	2,011
Church Running Expenses	1,636	-	6,656	-	8,292	4,614
Church Repairs and Maintenance	1,387	-	11,310	-	12,697	6,311
Governance Costs	-	-	68	-	68	128
TOTAL PAYMENTS	11,703	-	23,897	-	35,600	30,072
Excess of receipts over payments before transfer	13,371	-	2,891	-	16,262	2,228
Bank current and deposit accounts at 31 December	62,573	2,374	19,674	127	84,748	68,745

DUNSTON WITH COPPENHALL PARISH MISSION ACTION PLAN
ANNUAL OBJECTIVES 2022 to 2024

DIOCESAN PRIORITIES - DISCIPLESHIP VOCATION EVANGELISM	DIOCESAN STRATEGY FOCUS AREA (Areas from Diocesan Strategy)	PARISH DEVELOPMENT / IMPROVEMENT OBJECTIVES (What we want to improve)	ACTIONS TO ACHIEVE OBJECTIVES (How we will achieve this)	RESOURCES NEEDED (Resources needed to achieve developments)	PROGRESS MADE (Outcomes - what has been achieved)	LED BY	WHEN BY	DATE OF REVIEW BY PCC
<p style="text-align: center;">A. Developing Discipleship:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">discipleship</p>	<p>A2: Study and theological reflection. i. Good levels of participation in bible study or small groups.</p>	<p>1. During the interregnum we need to maintain the small groups started by the former vicar and support and encourage them to grow further.</p>	<p>1. Crazy Christians continue to meet 2. The SACRED continue to meet. 3. Encourage new groups. 4. Activities to be publicised and invitations issued.</p>	<p>1. Meeting hosts and venues. 2. Group leaders. 3. Source training for group leaders and group members. 4. Source published materials to support group activities.</p>	<p>1. SACRED course completed 2. New group studying Gospel of Mark meeting</p>	<p>1. Sue Millett 2. Wendy Pitt</p>	<p>From now and progress reviewed September 2023</p>	
	<p>A6: Diversity, inclusivity and community. v. Ministry amongst families and middle-aged people.</p>	<p>1. Increase the number of families, young and middle-aged people who engage with the Church and attend worship.</p>	<p>1. Complete a feasibility study on the appointment of a Community and Family Worker. 2. Reach out to our people in the villages. 3. Introduce a range of services to attract different age groups. 4. Consider holding services at different times and mid-week. 5. More invitation services.</p>	<p>1. Funding for a Community and Family Worker. 2. Additional leaders of worship. 3. Performers to enhance worship. 4. Improved audio-visual equipment to enhance worship. 5. Training opportunities for leaders of worship.</p>	<p>1. Decision to appoint a Community and Family Worker delayed until arrival of Manda (Curate) 2. All age worship planned until December 2023.</p>	<p>1. Church Wardens 2. Barbara Cantrill</p>	<p>Progress to be reviewed September 2023</p>	
	<p>viii. Dementia friendly churches.</p>	<p>1. Improve our understanding of dementia in order to make changes that make a difference to those with dementia and their carers.</p>	<p>1. Reflect - how would a person with dementia find our church? 2. Review - what do we currently do for people with dementia? 3. Consider what more we could do to help a person with dementia. 4. Develop - plan improvements and make to become a Dementia Friendly Church.</p>	<p>1. Someone to become our Dementia Friendly Church Champion. 2. Dementia Friendly Resource Pack. 3. Training. 4. Funds should they be needed to purchase resources or equipment</p>	<p>1. Champions in place.</p>	<p>1. Gwyneth Hodges 2. Kaye Harrison</p>	<p>Progress to be reviewed September 2023</p>	

B. Encouraging Vocation: vocation	B1: Exploring and nurturing everyone's vocation. i. To enable people to discover their gifts and callings.	1. To help people, both church members and non-church members, to discover their gifts and callings	1. Share our vision with both church members and the wider community. 2. Talk to people. 3. Identify the gifts and skills people have and encourage them to use them. 4. See B3 below	1. Training 2. Support 3. Workshops	1. New volunteers: - leading worship - leading intercessions - reading lessons	1. Church Wardens	Progress reviewed to be September 2023	
	B2: Collaboration between lay and ordained in leading worship, prayer and study. i. Opportunities for all ages (lay and ordained) to be involved in developing and leading worship and prayer.	1. During the interregnum maintain worship on a weekly basis through the involvement of both lay and ordained. 2. In consultation, produce rotas to include a variety of acts of worship and to include members of the Penkrige Ministry Team, retired priests and lay members - including new volunteers. 3. Introduce a wider variety of music and performance into worship.	1. Grow a team of people to lead worship, prayer and study. 2. In consultation with team members produce a six-monthly overview of services. 3. Produce a detailed monthly rota detailing arrangements for each service. 4. Seek musicians and other performers to enrich our worship.	1. Six monthly overview 2. Monthly rota 3. Training for lay volunteers 4. Mentoring for new volunteers 5. Worship resources 6. Musicians and performers	1. Weekly worship maintained 2. Six monthly overview of services produced 3. Rotas prepared and implemented 4. A number of retired priests recruited to lead worship	1. Church Wardens 2. Wendy Pitt 3. Paul Russell	From now and progress to be reviewed September 2023	
	iii. A variety of people lead and facilitate church activities and groups.	Seek and encourage volunteers, both church members and non-church individuals, to lead and facilitate church activities	1. Identify activities to enrich the life of the church 2. Encourage people to volunteer to lead activities. 3. Advertise for volunteers via social media and Contact	1. Social media platform 2. Training 3. Mentoring 4. Tokens of appreciation	No action to date	1. Church Wardens	Progress to be reviewed September 2023	
	B3: Encouraging and caring for volunteers. v. Skills, gifts and talents recognised and developed.	Ensure all volunteers are supported by providing encouragement, training and resources.	1. Support volunteers. 2. Seek training for volunteers 3. Where appropriate provide mentoring support	1. Training 2. Resources required to complete role or task	1. Support provided by Wendy Pitt (Lay Reader)	1. Church Wardens	Progress to be reviewed September 2023	
	B5: Care and loving service in the wider community (3rd Mark of Mission).	1. The Pastoral Care Team will respond to unmet needs in the	1. Pastoral Care Team to identify need. 2. Pastoral Care Team to draw up a plan to meet the	1. Publicise need on social media platform 2. Volunteers	1. Support given to individuals experiencing social / emotional problems	1. PCT Members	Progress to be reviewed September	

	ii. Church run groups are created to meet unmet needs.	villages - as during Covid lockdowns	needs identified and recruit volunteers to assist. 3. Publicise need and request support in church and via Contact and social media.	3. Resources dependent upon needs			2023	
C. Inspiring Evangelism: evangelism	C4: Building personal relationships in the wider community that can lead to faith. v. Being aware of local needs and helping (to address these needs e.g. foodbanks, community cupboards / wardrobes etc.	1. Continue the work begun by Rev. Sue Mayo by carrying on the monthly collections of food for Christian Food Help Stafford and money and vouchers for the Staffordshire Women's Aid. 2. Respond to local needs when identified - see B5.	1. Continue monthly collections on the Village Hall car park at same time as the coffee morning is being run. 2. Raise awareness of the collections with notices in church and via Contact and social media.	1. Publicity 2. Volunteers to manage collections and deliveries	1. Continued monthly support for - Food Bank Womens' Refuge	1. Sue Millett 2. Terry Mingay	From now and progress to be reviewed September 2023	
	ix. Extend invitation to those met through the church's activities and groups to other activities and groups.	1. Become more confident in sharing our faith and encourage those we meet to join us in worship.	1. Promote All Age Services. 2. Advertise new approaches to worship. 3. Examine different methods of inviting people to worship. 4. Encourage church members to invite people to worship and other church events.	1. Maintain and make good use of an electronic contact list 2. Prepare attractive invitations 3. Volunteers to champion the objective	1. Advertisements in Contact	1. Church Wardens	Progress to be reviewed September 2023	
	C6: Creating a missionary presence through digital media. i. Well publicised regular online worship and spirituality events	1. Reintroduce live streamed services. 2. Live stream a service at least once a month.	1. Volunteer to be recruited to live stream services. 2. At least one service to be streamed each month. 3. Streamed services to be publicised via electronic contact list, social media and Contact.	1. Technical equipment to be sourced. 2. Publicity via electronic contact list, social media and Contact magazine	1. Services from Copenhall streamed weekly	1. Louise Pryce	Progress to be reviewed September 2023	
	iv. Church has presence on social media	1. Develop the website so it reflects who we are and what our church is about - explaining our vision and aims.	1. Volunteer to be recruited to develop and manage the website. 2. Produce a website map.	1. Funding for a domain name and website 2. Volunteer to manage the website	1. Domain name funded 2. New website built but requires further development	1. Church Wardens 2. Louise	Progress to be reviewed September 2023	

		<p>2. Provide information needed by a person considering joining our congregation.</p> <p>3. Include information to help people grow in faith.</p>	<p>3. The content to be agreed and approved by the PCC.</p> <p>4. Gather visual and written content for the site.</p> <p>5. Explore opportunities for including online learning on the site.</p>	<p>3. Volunteers to contribute visual and written content for the site</p> <p>3. Funding for licenses (if required)</p>	<p>3. Advertisements to find a webmaster placed in Contact - unsuccessful</p>	Pryce		
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03-07-23