



Christ the King Benefice Redditch Area



**Profile for Team Rector with responsibility for
St. John's, Feckenham,
St. Matthias and St. George, Astwood Bank and
Joint Minister at The Bridge Church, (LEP), Headless Cross,
all within the Redditch Mission Area.**





A message from Bishop Hugh and Bishop Martin

Thank you for your interest in this post. We hope this profile helps you in discerning your next steps, and if that leads you to the Diocese of Worcester, we would be delighted.

For more than a thousand years, Christians across Worcestershire and Greater Dudley have prayed and worshipped, opened the Scriptures and received the Sacraments, served their communities and proclaimed the gospel. We have done this through plague, civil and world war, industrial revolution and dramatic social change. And today this deep and faith-filled history inspires us to ask – what does God need of us now and what might he be calling us to next?

And the words **Kingdom People** sum up our response to that call today.

- ◆ To be Kingdom People is to belong to parish churches, schools and worshipping communities that want to live 'kingdom lives', learning from Jesus and one another how to live with faith, hope and love.
- ◆ To be Kingdom People is to be deeply curious about where the Holy Spirit is working, within and far beyond the church, pointing people towards God's holy and life-changing presence.
- ◆ To be Kingdom People is to know that God is close at hand, and that we are invited to join him in nurturing the love, compassion, justice and freedom that marks His rule and reign.

We want to be Kingdom People in the real world that we belong to, in all its beauty and all its mess. Rather than longing for a golden past or imagining a perfect future, we choose to meet reality with confidence, humility and hope, as communities of real people serving this real world.

We are therefore looking for priests who share that vision; who want, first of all, to be disciples of Jesus and who are building their lives on the solid foundation of his love and grace; who can build faithful and curious communities, working in partnership with people of every kind and background; who are committed to serving people and communities with humility and resilience.

And in all of that, because it is our priority of priorities, we need priests who will engage boldly and creatively with children and young people, their families and schools.

What we are not looking for is priests who are perfect, or who expect to do everything, thinking that it's all on them. Our commitment to all our clergy and lay leaders is that we will help equip them effectively for the mission to which they've been called. Nor are we looking for priests who fit any particular mould – God has given diverse gifts to every kind of person, and we want to celebrate that diversity.

We know that priestly ministry brings great blessings but is also demanding and sometimes costly. We expect to be available when you need us and to support you practically and with prayer, investing in your ongoing development as a disciple and priest.

This comes in the hope that your discerning is rich and holy and that, if the Holy Spirit is stirring you to consider this role, you will do so.

God bless.

+ Hugh + Martin

From the Archdeacon of Dudley



I am delighted you are considering a calling to this post, and would be glad to talk it through with you. The Christ the King benefice is one which celebrates diversity! Four very different churches in a new town, including one under alternative episcopal oversight, one part of an LEP and one in a beautiful village setting, provide an opportunity for a priest who loves variety. The churches work really well together, rejoicing in their theological breadth. We have worked hard to enable St Peter's to have a male House for Duty Priest, under the oversight of the

Team Rector, so this post can be held by a woman or a man committed to engaging across difference. Other clergy, minsters and licensed lay ministers bring a rich mix of skills and perspectives, and somehow it all seems to work!

The benefice is part of our pioneering Redditch Mission Area, working collaboratively with others in the town and surrounding villages to maximise missional opportunities. The new Team Rector would bring particular skills to the table and we hope would play a key part in strengthening that initiative, as well as engaging creatively with our wider diocesan priorities and vision.

Due to the resource constraints faced by so many of our churches, the post is not full time. It may be that you are considering it precisely because of that. If however, that is an issue for you, we would be open to a conversation about combining it with a part time central diocesan role within our Mission and Ministry Team, for a candidate with appropriate skills in leadership development and discipleship.

The diocese is a great place in which to serve. We have a new bishop, committed to further developing our vision and relational culture, and it feels to be a season of joyful momentum in which we balance commitment to growth with wellbeing. I do hope you will prayerfully consider applying for this role.

Every blessing

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nikki Groarke'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Nikki Groarke

Archdeacon of Dudley

Diocesan Leader for Transformation and Change

Welcome to Christ the King Benefice

We hope to appoint a Team Rector to join our team and work with us as we proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ in our communities. We believe God is even now calling the right person to this exciting and important ministry and we pray for discernment as decisions are made.

If you are reading this you may have responded, however tentatively, to this call and we invite you to prayerfully read on and consider whether this is the right step for you.

In this document we aim to:

- say something about our different churches
- describe the communities we serve
- describe the activities within each parish and the benefice
- outline what hope our new Team Rector will accomplish with us and for us, in leadership and action, and the sort of person we think he or she needs to be.



We hope you find this profile interesting. You can find more information on the websites mentioned in the text.

The benefice is a team of four separate autonomous parishes. The original team of three parishes was formed in 2005 as a result of wider pastoral reorganisation in the Deanery and until 2008 each parish had its own parish priest. Later, following diocesan reorganisation of deaneries, Feckenham Parish was added to the benefice.

In 2020, on the retirement of the Team Rector, who had responsibility for Crabbs Cross, the then Team Vicar took responsibility for all four parishes.

The four parishes are:

- **St. Matthias and St. George** – is in the village of Astwood Bank. Population approx. 3,500.
- **St. John the Baptist, Feckenham** - is a rural parish with the village at its heart. Populations: approx. 660 in the village and rural areas and 970 to the north of Feckenham comprising the Redditch housing development of Callow Hill.



- **The Bridge, Headless Cross and Southcrest, Redditch** – is in an urban setting. It is a single congregation Local Ecumenical Partnership with the Methodist church based at the former St. Luke’s Anglican Church. Population approx. 8,000.
- **St. Peter’s Crabbs Cross** – is a parish in an urban setting with Anglo-Catholic tradition, under the episcopal oversight of the Bishop of Oswestry. A part-time House for Duty priest is to be appointed for Crabbs Cross. Population approx. 10,000.

Our new Team Rector will have responsibility for the parishes of Astwood Bank, Feckenham and Headless Cross and will work in conjunction with our SSMs, the house for duty priest, Methodist Presbyterian and other lay ministers in ministry to the wider community.

Our vision is to continue to meet the spiritual and pastoral needs of the communities we serve, to encourage and develop lay ministry in its many forms and continue to serve and develop our service to our communities. We are keen to establish and support New Worshipping Communities and engage with the Redditch Mission Area.

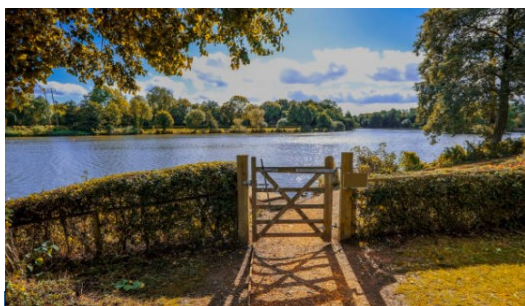
Redditch and its surroundings

Redditch is a combination of old and new. It is situated in North East Worcestershire, close to the borders of Warwickshire and Birmingham. It has an abundance of parks and woodlands, and a history that stretches back to the 12th Century, all set amid beautiful countryside and within easy reach of The Cotswolds, Shakespeare Country, the Severn Valley and the Welsh Borders.



It is world famous for the manufacture of needles and springs. This developed into other products, notably fishing hooks and motor components, including Royal Enfield motorcycles. The town retains this industrial heritage in its economy and architecture.

In 1964 Redditch was designated a New Town and has grown to its present population of 95,000. This resulted in large estates being built on the outskirts notably to the east. New homes were built in and around the established villages of Headless Cross, Crabbs Cross and Astwood Bank, all located along the ridge of land along which runs the historic Evesham Road.



New industries have developed rapidly in recent years, thanks in part to Redditch’s strategic location with excellent road and motorway connections.

The town has an excellent road system with good access to the M42, M40, M5 and M6/M1. Birmingham, Worcester, Warwick and Stratford-upon-Avon are all within easy reach. A rail link to Birmingham provides access to main line routes and Birmingham International Airport is a short car journey along the M42. The town has an extensive bus service.



Across the Benefice there is a mixture of two and three tier education systems. Within the parishes are one C of E Primary School, one C of E First School, one C of E Middle School, a Catholic High School plus two County First Schools, a County Primary School and a County High School.

The main Alexandra Hospital for Redditch is nearby.

Most of the shops in the town centre are within the modern Kingfisher Shopping Centre, although the old town character can be seen in the buildings of Church Green, where St. Stephen's Church is located. The Heart of Worcestershire FE / HE College has a campus in the town centre.

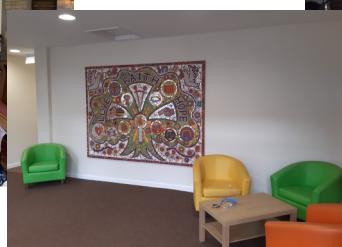
Headless Cross and Astwood Bank both have a number of local shops, take-aways and public houses. Feckenham has a thriving community-run village shop and two pubs.



We would like to welcome . . .

a Team Rector, male or female, who

- ◆ is a team player with good collaborative and organisational skills.
- ◆ is passionate about encouraging spiritual development, supporting individuals on their faith journey, and equipping others for ministry and outreach.
- ◆ values Lay Ministry in its many forms, and who will encourage and develop current and new lay ministers.
- ◆ comes with a background of central church tradition but who feels called to explore differing styles of worship, fostering deeper spiritual growth and inspiring new discipleship.
- ◆ is enthusiastic about working collaboratively in The Bridge LEP in shared ministry with our Methodist Minister and Ministry Team.
- ◆ is keen to engage with the Redditch Mission Area.
- ◆ is a person willing to be visible and accessible within both church and community settings and with a heart for pastoral care.
- ◆ is keen to help us develop innovative ways to reach out to the communities we serve.



What we offer you

The parishes within the benefice, for the most part, work as individual parishes but also work collaboratively, particularly around Christmas and Eastertide.

All three churches within the pastoral care of the Team Rector have strong connections with schools in varying ways and seek to retain and enhance those connections.

We have on a number of occasions participated in benefice-wide Lent and Advent courses which have been held in person during the daytime and repeated on-line in the evening.

We are a benefice with both strengths and weaknesses. All the parishes have an ageing congregation but with a realism to confront this issue and seek to be missional in outlook and welcoming to new members, to continue to share the Good News of Jesus Christ.

Community events are always popular and all three churches would consider that a significant number of the community regard the parish church as 'their church'.

We are at the advent of the establishment of the Redditch Mission Area, detailed elsewhere in this document. We look forward to all that this exciting project offers in support and involvement within our parishes in the years ahead.

All the parishes have robust safeguarding policies in place, each with an appointed Safeguarding Officer.

The ministry team

Stipendiary clergy

Team Rector (vacant) responsible for Astwood Bank, Feckenham and Headless Cross

Shared ministry at The Bridge with Methodist minister, Rev Rachel Borgars (ministry commencing 1st September 2026)

Part-time House for Duty priest (vacant) with responsibility for Crabbs Cross

Non-Stipendiary

Assistant Curate SSM (P/T) focussing on Feckenham and Astwood Bank - Rev Fiona Carter

SSM Priest with PTO, focussing on The Bridge Church - Rev. Kay Dyer

A Reader / LLM focussing on The Bridge

2 Methodist Local Preachers based at The Bridge

4 Authorised Lay Ministers, authorised for leading worship or pastoral care.

The Bridge employs a part time administrator.



Finances

Each Parish is responsible for their own finances, assets and Ministry Share. The Ministry Share has hitherto been equally shared between the parishes but under the new 'House for Duty' arrangement for St. Peters, Crabbs Cross their Parish Share will be decided separately.

All four parishes paid 2025 Ministry Share in full.

The Bridge also pays annual Assessment to the Methodist Circuit, a similar amount to Ministry Share.

Challenges

None of the churches has significant reserves in their General Fund although some churches have funds designated or reserved for specific purposes.

Astwood Bank	2024	2025
Designated	49,308	47,057
Restricted	549	574
General Fund	5971	5462
Movement		-2,735
Total	55,829	53,093

Feckenham	2024	2025
Designated	14,021	8,293
Restricted	93,145	101,056
General Fund	6,611	6,652
Movement		2,224
Total	113,777	116,001

Headless Cross	2024	2025
Designated	0	0
Restricted	8,499	9,572
General Fund	6,843	7,330
Movement		+ 1,560
Total	15,342	16,902

Crabbs Cross	2024	2025
Designated	4,490	6,950
Restricted	0	0
General Fund	9,034	14,121
Movement		7,547
Total	13,524	21,071

Accommodation

The Rectory, 69 Evesham Road, Headless Cross, Redditch B97 4JX

The Rectory is a four-bedroom detached house with an attached double garage. It is a purpose-built vicarage constructed in the 1960's.

The accommodation includes kitchen, utility room, dining room, sitting room, study and w.c. downstairs and four bedrooms, a bathroom, and a shower room to the first floor.

The plot slopes from west to east and is sited next to and behind the Bridge Church, accessed by a private drive.

The Diocese has improvement plans for the Rectory, including cavity wall insulation, solar panels and internal cosmetic work.



Our churches and people

St. Matthias and St. George, Astwood Bank



At St Matthias and St George Church, we have a small, cheerful and welcoming congregation. We hold a service each Sunday and also a mid week service on Tuesday mornings of Holy Communion alternating with Morning Prayer.

An informal family service takes place once a month and we hope to start a Messy Church soon. Some of our members take **"Open the Book"** to the village primary school next door and the schoolchildren use the church for their nativity. We are developing a **"Coffee Stop"** on one Wednesday afternoon each month, and this is attracting all ages, from babies to over 90-year-olds!

Church and community events such as concerts, seasonal fayres and the village flower festival are held in the church and the church hall.

We celebrate Christmas with a **"Come and Join In"** Nativity. At Easter, we organise a **Good Friday Workshop**. We have links with the local Scouts and Guides, who have their own premises and are not affiliated to the church. The village Remembrance Day Service is held in the church and then follows at the village War Memorial.

We have ongoing weekly donations of non-perishable items for the HomeStart **Food Bank**, to which we also give any monetary donations after our Harvest Festival, and we support the Children's Society through collections taken at our Christingle service and home collection boxes.

Our **Church Hall**, which doubles as a community hall, is on the same site as the church and the vicarage. A pre-school Nursery for over two-year olds hires the hall each day during term time. The hall is also available for hire on weekends and evenings.

Behind the church is a **Garden of Memory**, tended by volunteers and supported by members of the Astwood Bank in Bloom Group.

It is proposed that the Astwood Bank vicarage will provide accommodation for a House for Duty priest for St. Peter's Crabbs Cross Church.

Further information can be found at www.astwoodbankchurch.org.uk





Our pattern of worship is 1st, 4th and 5th Sundays, 10.30am, Sung Eucharist (CW) or Morning Prayer, 2nd Sunday, 10.30am, Family Service, with activities and contemporary music and 3rd Sunday, 6.30pm, Choral Evensong, BCP/CW. A robed choir supports these services. A rota of members undertake the readings and lead intercessions.

Our 'Usual Sunday Attendance' in 2025 was 26 adults and 1 child. increasing to over 80 at Christmas. The service of Nine Lessons and Carols and the Christmas Eve Crib service are full to bursting. The Christmas Eve Eucharist is well supported by visitors as is Remembrance Day - the village war memorial is within the churchyard. We have a monthly Messy Church on a Saturday morning.

We have a twice monthly morning '**Drop In for Coffee and a Chat**' and a monthly **Coffee Afternoon** for parents meeting their children from School. We host the **Village Book Exchange** in the Church. The **Feckenham News** is a monthly magazine published by the Church with editorial input from non-church-going members of the community, which is distributed to every house in the village and widely throughout the rest of the parish. We have a monthly **Lunch Club** for the over 50s held in the village hall.

We maintain a close relationship with the **Feckenham C of E Primary School**, part of the Shires Multi Academy Trust. The school regularly holds Christmas, Easter and end of term services in the church.

There are 38 on the Electoral Roll with a worshipping community of 50, over half of whom live outside the parish.

The Grade II* church building stands in an ancient churchyard. The tower dates from the C14th and C15th with the belfry housing eight bells and an C18th clock. The Nave Arcade and North Aisle is C13th with Nave and Chancel reconstructed in the mid C19th.

The church is unlocked everyday all day and is wheelchair accessible via the main South Door. There is a defibrillator and DDA compliant toilet with baby changing facilities. There is kitchen/servery at the rear of the nave.

Following falls of plaster, the nave ceiling has protective netting and the roof has persistent leaks. An architect for Historic England Buildings at Risk has said that the building is "vulnerable". The Friends of Feckenham Parish Church are currently pursuing sources of funding for repair work including a Lottery bid, hoping the nave roof and ceiling can be replaced in 2027.

Further information can be found at: www.stjohnfeckenham.org.uk





The Bridge is a single congregation Local Ecumenical Partnership (LEP) between the C of E and the Methodist Church, formed in 2009. The ministry is shared between the C of E Team Rector and the Methodist minister and is governed by its approved constitution.

The church is of Anglican central tradition which complements our joint Methodist partnership with a strong commitment to community engagement.

Sunday Services are a mix of eucharistic and non-eucharistic, conducted by our two ministers and also members the Bridge Ministry Team, visiting Local Preachers and other Methodist Ministers.

On Wednesdays a service of Holy Communion is held and a monthly 'Little Fishes' service for pre-school children with their parents / carers is held on a Tuesday.

The Bridge Ministry Team was established 15 years ago to encourage and train lay members of the congregation to be involved in lay ministry in various forms.

It currently comprises the clergy, an SSM, a Licensed Lay Minister, two Local Preachers, an Authorised Lay Minister and four other members involved in lay ministry. It meets six-weekly for prayer, study, discussion on ministry matters and planning. It is planning to run an **Alpha Course** in the Autumn of 2026.



The Bridge Charity Shop and Community Café, established for 20 years is open on Thursday and Friday morning from 10.00am-12.45pm, run by volunteers. It is a great meeting place for the local community. The church receives rental income for the use of the hall with all other profits donated to charities. A monthly PACT meeting takes place attended by the local PCSOs and local councillors.

Boys' and Girls' Brigade Companies. Our companies are a cornerstone of youth ministry at The Bridge, meeting on Tuesday and Friday evenings in our halls. Guided by core values, the aim is to provide a safe, fun, and friendly environment where young people can grow within a Christian context and explore their faith in a supportive and engaging way. The Methodist Minister usually acts as Chaplain to the Brigade Companies.

Baby and Toddler Group Run by volunteers, it runs in our hall on Monday mornings during term time. There are 30 families registered with an average attendance of 22 children.

Quest Bereavement Support Group, formed 20 years ago, meets monthly in our hall for those who have lost their spouse or partner and seek mutual support from others who have faced loss. The informal meetings are varied with speakers, discussions and other activities. About 18 regularly attend the group which is run by a Licensed Lay Minister.

Other church groups are **Everywoman's Circle**, a long-standing ladies' social group meeting twice a month with speakers on a variety of subjects. It is self-administered.

Crafty Thursday, a social group that meets weekly to undertake a variety of crafts, a mix of sewing, quilting and knitting with conversation. **Mothers' Union**, the group having recently diminished in numbers now only holds occasional meetings.



Schools Connections We enjoy close links with **St. Luke's C of E First School** with a member of the Collective Worship Team leading worship in the school. For several years The Bridge has put together a Christmas and Easter Experience, primarily for the School, setting up stations in church telling part of the story

Walkwood C of E Middle School visit the church at various times during the school year with church leaders assisting with their worship/activities. The SEND group has visited the Christmas Experience.

Other schools come to the church for their Christmas services. Usually over the Christmas period over 1000 children and their families attend the church.

The local **Scouts & Guides** are affiliated to The Bridge. They have their own building nearby and attend the church for Mothering Sunday, Remembrance Day and Christingle.

Community Workers' Lunch The Bridge is a co-organiser of this three-times-per-year event working in partnership with Bromsgrove & Redditch Network (BARN). Meetings provide networking opportunities for leaders from charity organisations and community groups providing services in the area, providing significant benefits to local organisations, including The Bridge.

Foodbank and Toy Service We collect food donations working closely with Homestart and Redditch Nightstop. We hold an annual pre-Christmas Toy Service with donated toys passed to Homestart.

We also support the **Teams 4U shoebox appeal**. The Girls Brigade and Church family work together providing items for the boxes. In 2025 we filled 88 boxes.

Church Administrator The Bridge employs an Administrator for eight hours per week. The Administrator produces the weekly news sheet, organises the church rota, takes minutes, hall bookings and enquiries for baptisms and weddings. She is also our Safeguarding Officer.

The Bridge has three adjacent buildings. The church, built c1850 by the celebrated architect Frederick Preedy now has the pews removed to facilitate flexible seating on stackable chairs. There is a designated children's area.

The Rectory is located behind the church, accessed by a private drive.

Adjoining the church is 'No.71'. A former house, it was acquired when the Methodist Church was sold. It has been converted to additional meeting rooms with one upstairs room on long-term rent to a local author.

Next to No. 71 is The Bridge Church Community Hall. It was extended and refurbished 8 years ago and has large and small halls with a commercial standard kitchen. It provides excellent facilities for church group activities as well as being hired by a number of community organisations.

Further information can be found at: www.thebridgeredditch.co.uk





Also in the benefice is St Peter's, Crabbs Cross. St Peter's is an Anglo-Catholic church which will be served by a part-time House for Duty priest. St Peter's is a warm, faithful, and community-minded church rooted in its traditions and Eucharistic worship.

St Peter's offers a rhythm of prayer and sacrament that supports both regular worshippers and those who come seeking connection or comfort. With weekly Sung and Said Eucharists, Stations of the Cross and a rich pattern of seasonal services at Christmas and Easter, St Peter's aims to provide a spiritual home grounded in reverence, care, and continuity. St Peter's is a resolution church under the See of Oswestry.



The St Peter's church family is known for its hospitality, friendliness, and a sense of shared purpose. A resident organist and cantor enrich worship, and the congregation – which has grown in the last few years - prides itself on being welcoming, sociable, and outward-looking. Community links run deep, through links with local schools, uniformed organisations such as Rainbows, Brownies, Guides, and Rangers, and ongoing support for Redditch **Foodbank**. The recently refurbished guide hut, upgraded church roof and guttering, and improvements to the church hall - including a new kitchen - reflect a commitment to providing spaces that serve both church members and the wider community.

St Peter's also values longstanding traditions such as its annual **Walsingham Pilgrimage**, home communions for the housebound, and regular pastoral care. The church recognises challenges, including an ageing congregation, but with an engaged PCC and congregation it embraces opportunities with hope and creativity, particularly in outreach, social events, strengthened school relationships, and use of the hall as a community resource.

St Peter's is committed to continuing to share in joint events within the benefice.

Financially, St Peter's is supported by steady regular giving, fundraising, and hall hire.

Overall, St Peter's is a church shaped by devotion, community spirit, and a desire to welcome and serve. It stands as a place where tradition meets kindness, and where people of all ages can find fellowship, support, and a sense of belonging.

Further information can be found at: www.stpeterscrabbcross.co.uk



Redditch and Bromsgrove Deanery

Redditch and Bromsgrove are significant urban centres in the Diocese. The Deanery as a whole serves over 140,000 people with 23 parish churches in areas of varying affluence and social dynamic in urban, suburban and rural contexts.



We seek to discern what we can do better together than individually and long for all the centres of worship across our area to be healthy sustainable fellowships living out their unique call to be Kingdom People.



The Deanery Chapter includes 19 licensed ministers and active ministers with permission to officiate. Chapter is a relaxed and supportive space where we share in fellowship and prayer and seek to support each other.

Deanery Synod meetings seek to fulfil the technical requirements but also to be a place where relationships are formed and where we can seek to communicate the diocesan vision and share in developing strategy locally and feeding back ideas and information. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we pray that the Deanery can be a source of support

and resourcing for clergy and laity alike.

Redditch Mission Area

Facilitating | Enabling | Sharing in God's Mission Across Greater Redditch

The Christ the King Benefice is part of the Redditch Mission Area. The key function of the mission area is to support the 12 Parishes of Greater Redditch to be the healthy and sustainable churches God is calling them to be.



The small central team exists to provide practical support and enable work that crosses our parish boundaries. We also have funding for targeted work which furthers our diocesan aims to engage with children and families, support the development of new worshipping communities, work with lower income communities and collaborate with St Stephen's renewal church in Redditch town centre.

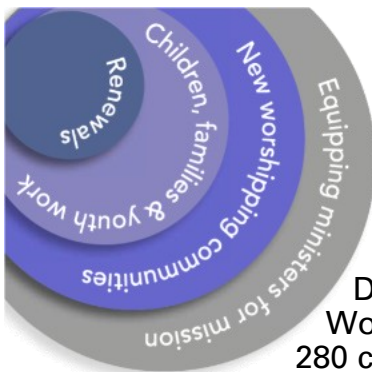
You can learn more about the vision and work of the RMA on our website www.cofe-redditch.org.uk

We pray that we can all use our gifts to the mission of God across Redditch as we further our shared priorities and seek to be Kingdom People.



Paul Lawlor
Area Dean and Mission Area Leader

Worcester Diocese



The Diocese of Worcester covers an area of 671 square miles and includes parishes in Worcestershire, the Metropolitan Borough of Dudley, and a few parishes in northern Gloucestershire, south-east Wolverhampton and Sandwell. It has around 170 parishes and 280 church buildings, together with 100 church schools. The diocese is divided into two archdeaconries, with six deaneries.

Our diocesan vision is to grow as kingdom people, sharing the good news of Jesus' love in Worcestershire and Dudley. As the body of Christ, we join together to worship God creatively, make disciples, share hope, and transform communities as we live out values of love, compassion, justice and freedom to bring about the kingdom of God on earth.

Priorities 2023 – 2030

Over the next few years, we aim to:

- **Double** the number of children and young people worshipping in our churches.
- Create **100 new worshipping communities** offering a range of ways for people to come to faith and worship God. (eg Forest Church / Café Church / Walking Church).
- **Invest in the renewal** of around a dozen churches to ensure that each major area of population has at least one church with 150 people attending weekly, enabling them to support other local churches.
- Underpin these by investing in our clergy and lay leaders, providing **training and development** opportunities to enable them to grow and feel supported and equipped for mission.

One size doesn't fit all - we want to strengthen local churches and encourage and resource them to explore what it might mean to grow in health and sustainability in their context as they worship God, make disciples, share hope, and transform communities.

We share a vision for a church which enables its people to be:

- Deeply rooted in prayer and study of the scriptures
- Renewed and transformed by regular worship
- Equipped to witness to the gospel of love, compassion, justice and freedom
- Dedicated to helping children, young people and young adults to belong and be nurtured in faith
- Devoted to growing deeply in discipleship, offering our time and talents and money to God
- Resourced and released to minister to others
- Ready to engage with and serve our community
- Committed to making our buildings fit for purpose as a spiritual and community resource.

