



# Acton and Bednall Cornerstone

November 2025 Volume 3 Number 9

## Welcome

Welcome to the latest edition of Cornerstone our monthly newsletter. Please let Phil have any content by the 20th of the month prior to publication.

### December and January Sunday Services

December 7th	09:30	Acton	Holy communion	David and Roger
December 14th	09:30	Bednall	Holy Communion	Delphine
December 21st	18:30	Acton	Carol Service	Delphine and Roger
December 24th	14:00	Acton	Messy Christingle	Delphine
December 24th	18:00	Bednall	Carol Service	David
December 24th	23:15	Acton	Midnight Mass	Delphine and Roger
December 25th	No Service			
December 28th	No Service			
January 4th	09:30	Acton	Epiphany Carols	Tba
January 11th	09:30	Bednall	Tba	Tba

### Friday Services at St James, Acton Trussell

December 12th	10:00	BCP Holy Communion	Delphine
January 2nd	10:00	BCP Holy Communion	Greg
January 16th	10:00	BCP Holy Communion	Delphine

A Zoom service is held on Sundays at 11:00. Please contact Roger for further information. Call 01785 714527 or email [rogerhowarth@icloud.com](mailto:rogerhowarth@icloud.com)

**Church Finances.** Each year it costs over £50,000 to run our Church buildings covering service costs, payments to the Diocese, heating, lighting and insurance. We rely on the generosity of all the donations we receive and fundraising events for which we are most grateful. In the past we have received free banking. Now we have to pay a fee to bank all cash. We also pay to pay in each individual cheque and to write a cheque. These costs are significant. We are therefore asking everyone to pay direct into our bank account and receive payments electronically. Our details are **Lloyds Bank**. Account name: **Acton and Bednall PCC**, Sort Code: **30 98 00** Account Number: **02549299**. To receive money from the PCC by direct transfer please contact Alison Kendall our treasurer. These transactions are free.

## Contact Information

<b>Rector</b>	Revd Greg Yerbury <a href="mailto:gregyerbury@gmail.com">gregyerbury@gmail.com</a>	01785 714344
<b>Minister</b>	Revd. Delphine Howarth <a href="mailto:Rev.delphine@btinternet.com">Rev.delphine@btinternet.com</a>	01785 714527
<b>Reader</b>	Roger Howarth <a href="mailto:rogerhowarth@icloud.com">rogerhowarth@icloud.com</a>	01785 714527
<b>Reader</b>	Phil Clayton <a href="mailto:phil@phil-clayton.uk">phil@phil-clayton.uk</a>	07411 064108
<b>Churchwarden</b>	Grete Willacy <a href="mailto:mmwillacy@gmail.com">mmwillacy@gmail.com</a>	01785 661939
<b>Safeguarding</b>	Howard Searle <a href="mailto:howardsuesearle@btinternet.com">howardsuesearle@btinternet.com</a>	01785 715640
<b>PCC Secretary</b>	Phil Clayton <a href="mailto:phil@phil-clayton.uk">phil@phil-clayton.uk</a>	07411 064108
<b>PCC Treasurer</b>	Alison Kendall <a href="mailto:overbury.kendall@outlook.com">overbury.kendall@outlook.com</a>	
<b>Weddings</b>	Pat Bates	01785 714091
<b>Moat House</b>	<a href="mailto:info@thelewispartnership.co.uk">info@thelewispartnership.co.uk</a>	01785 712217
<b>Flowers</b>	Carol Bloxham	01785 715282
<b>All Saints School</b>	Zoe Scott	01785 334977
<b>Friends of Bednall</b>	David Primrose	01785 748976
<b>Friends of St James</b>	Len Bates	01785 714091
<b>Messy Church</b>	Eleanor Simms	01785 716265
<b>Church Lane Antiques</b>	Stuart Lloyd	07779 870140
<b>Local Voices (Choir)</b>	Sue Searle	01785 715640
<b>Community Centre</b>	Sue Calvert	01785 713735
<b>BATTH Social Group</b>	Sue Calvert	01785 713735
<b>Thursday Tea Room</b>	Sue Calvert	01785 713735
<b>Bowls Club</b>	Alan Webster	07411 311990
<b>Bednall Banter</b>	Katie Holmes	07788 214938
<b>NHS—non emergency</b>		111
<b>Police—non emergency</b>		101
<b>Bednall, Acton Trussell and Teddesley Hay website</b>	<a href="http://batth.co.uk">batth.co.uk</a>	
<b>The Churches page is</b>	<a href="http://batth.co.uk/churches/">batth.co.uk/churches/</a>	

## Reflection

I was looking for inspiration knowing i had a letter to write for “Cornerstone” and came across an article by Bishop Brendan Leahy. He wrote of being with a pilgrimage group, visiting Bethlehem just before Covid struck, they were able to go down to the Grotto where tradition says is where Jesus is born. We too were there just six weeks before lockdown. Who knows i may have rubbed shoulders with the Bishop. It was a memorable moment as we gazed in awed silence at the 14 point silver star emblazoned on the marble floor, and bearing the words “ Here Jesus Christ was born to the Virgin Mary”, an event that was to touch the lives of millions over the centuries.

Today, in Bethlehem there is forced silence. There are no pilgrims. The people feel abandoned. The terrible war between Hamas and Israel. Such a contrast from the tender compassionate scene of the nativity. One Pastor of Bethlehem has written that if Jesus were born today, he’d be born under the rubble. Such a shocking statement. In the last months We’ve all witnessed the evidence of so much evil, the whole world over, that we find ourselves this Christmas, bewildered, discouraged, despairing almost, and wondering – will there ever be peace on earth?

800 years ago, St Francis arranged for the first crib to be put together – some animals, some hay, and men and women representing, Mary, Joseph, and the shepherds. It was Francis’ way of making a statement in a world at that time where there were many Italian cities at war with one another. He wanted to put a visible reminder before people, of the birth of the Prince of Peace

Because we forget the message. We need to see it and hear it again and again. The message that is the truth of things – God has come to be with us, no matter how dark our situation ( and we all live in a darkness of one kind or another). And He who is the Light is stronger than the darkness. Let us take heart this Christmas, and as the song goes, pray “Let there be Peace on earth – and let it begin with me”

Have a truly joyous and peaceful Christmas & Blessed 2026

*Delphine*

## Ministry Team

Rector:	Greg Yerbury	Readers:	Esther Burd
Ministers:	Delphine Howarth		Jonathan Burd
	David Primrose		Phil Clayton
			Roger Howarth

**Safeguarding** Every parish must have an individual to contact regarding safeguarding. This is a point of contact for any safeguarding questions or concerns. Our Safeguarding Officer is **Howard Searle** who can be contacted on 01785 715640 or [howardsuesearle@btinternet.com](mailto:howardsuesearle@btinternet.com).

### Baptisms

Please contact  
Delphine



### Bereavement

At a time of loss please  
contact Delphine



**Weddings.** Weddings are possible at both Churches in our parish and are ideal in combination with the award winning nearby hotel of The Moat House at Acton Trussell. Please contact our parish wedding coordinator Pat Bates, Revd. Delphine or Grete Willacy to discuss your requirements.

### Save the dates

**Sunday 25th January:** Dedication Service at 10:30 in All Saints, Bednall  
**Saturday 31st January** 10am - 12pm. Open Morning All Saints Bednall. An opportunity to visit and see the new facilities at Bednall. There will be a discussion on how the new facilities can support village activity. Refreshments including cake will be available.

### Climate Change.

What can I do to make a difference? What can we do together? Join us in the new year for five Wednesday evenings to discuss Carbon Literacy and learn about the impact of our actions on the climate. We’re meeting in the new meeting room in All Saints Church, Bednall, starting on 14th January, using new material specially produced in conjunction with the Church of England for members of congregations. Optional donation of £4 per evening to cover costs and certification. To register your interest or for more details contact Revd [David Primrose](mailto:David.Primrose@talktalk.net), [primrose01@talktalk.net](mailto:primrose01@talktalk.net) 07975 644044.

**Churchwardens.** For more information on any Church matter please contact the Churchwardens. **Acton:** Roger Howarth. **Bednall:** Grete Willacy and Phil Clayton