



utlook

November 2026

**Abbots Langley
and Bedmond
Parish
Magazine**

50p



SAVE THE LYCHGATE

The lychgate which stands at the main entrance to the churchyard of St Lawrence Church was commissioned as a memorial to Queen Victoria in 1901 and paid for by donations from the people of the parish.

It was designed by Architect Fredrick Kinnier—Tate of St Albans and constructed by a local tradesman Edwin Glennister. The construction was carried out over 3 months during the summer of 1902.

The construction is primarily an oak timber framed structure with traditional mortice and tenon joints to the upper sections and with metal dowels and through bolts to the balustrade, posts and ground sill.

After one hundred and twenty-four years of providing a focal point in the village, a fitting entrance to the churchyard and shelter for all who need it, it is now in need of specialist restoration.

The cost of this work is more than £15,000 and once again we need the help of all who live in the village, use the facility or value its importance to help us restore it for generations to come.

**PLEASE DONATE WHATEVER YOU CAN
USING THE QR CODE or
THE DONATE PAGE ON OUR WEBSITE**



November Calendar

REGULAR SERVICE TIMETABLE

Sunday

8.00am Eucharist
at St. Lawrence

9.30am Eucharist
at St. Lawrence

11.30am Eucharist
*at the Church of the
Ascension*

Wednesday

12.00 noon Eucharist

Monday to Saturday

9.15am Morning Prayer

WEEKLY EVENTS

*Weekly events do not hap-
pen on a bank holiday.*

Monday

10.00am Coffee Morning
Breakspeare Room

Tuesday

10.30am Tiny Tots
St Lawrence Church
(Term time only)

Thursday

8.00pm Alpha Course
Breakspeare Room

Friday

10.00am Tin Church
Craft Group
The Tin Church

2.00pm Craft and
Conversation
Breakspeare Room

OTHER EVENTS

Sunday 1st

3.00pm CTAL

Thanksgiving &
Remembrance Service
St Lawrence Church

6.30pm Nameless Youth
Group
St Lawrence Church Hall

Tuesday 3rd

2.30pm Bedmond
Congregational Meeting
The Tin Church

8.00pm Blokes
Breakspeare Room

Wednesday 4th

10.00am Bedmond Coffee
Morning
The Tin Church

2.00pm Compassionate Café
Breakspeare Room

Friday 6th

6.30pm Monthly Quarter
Peal Attempt
St Lawrence Church

Saturday 7th

9.30am Churchyard
Working Party
St Lawrence Churchyard

Sunday 8th

10.50am Act of Remem-
brance at War Memorial
St Lawrence Churchyard

11.15am Remembrance
Day Service
St Lawrence Church

3.00pm Remembrance Day
Service
The Tin Church

5.00pm Choral Evensong
St Lawrence Church

Monday 9th

7.00pm Christian Aid
Dinner
La Banq

Wednesday 11th

3.30pm Messy Church
Methodist Church

Saturday 14th

11.00am ALGSS Concert
St Lawrence Church

Sunday 15th

1.00pm Sunday Lunch
St Lawrence Church Hall

5.00pm Taize Service
St Lawrence Church

6.30pm Nameless
Youth Group
St Lawrence Church Hall

Saturday 28th

10.00am FOSL and
Mothers' Union Christmas
Coffee Morning
St Lawrence Church Hall

Sunday 29th

3.30pm Spark Service
St Lawrence Church

6.30pm Advent Carol
Service
St Lawrence Church



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abbots-langley](http://www.littlefawnspreschool.co.uk/abbots-langley)

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Current opening times as below. Please see our website for email enquiries and full details of our service:

www.threeriverscab.org.uk

Abbots Langley: 01923 271 707 Mon 10-4, Tues & Thurs 10-3, Wed 10-1, closed Fridays

Rickmansworth: 01923 293 136 Mon, Tues & Thurs 10-3.30, Wed 10-12.30, Fri 10-3.30

South Oxhey: 0208 515 8321 Mon-Fri 10-4

County wide Adviceline: 0800 144 8848, Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm. This number also uses Relay UK, type in 18001 then 0800 144 8848

Messy Church

This month we continued our theme of “People Jesus Met” with the story of Zacchaeus. Dennis told us the story during our worship time and the children all booed whenever Zacchaeus’ name was mentioned, then cheered at the end after Zacchaeus had met Jesus and changed his life around.

The children made a moving model of Zacchaeus hiding in the tree which was very popular and the food craft was an iced biscuit tree with jelly babies for Jesus and Zacchaeus! There were other exciting crafts which showed the children that God loves us and reaches out to us . . . just as we are!

We all had a wonderful afternoon which ended with our usual Messy

Tea which was a delicious pasta bake followed by homemade cakes made especially for Messy Church.

Our November meeting will be:

**Wednesday 11th November
3.30pm–5.45pm
at the Methodist Church**

Messy Church is free but we welcome donations. Please contact Wendy if you would like to come to November’s meeting on wendymeldrum@gmail.com. It is useful for us to know who is coming so we can cater for the crafts and Messy Church tea.

Everyone is welcome . . . do come along and join in the fun!

Wendy Meldrum





Friends of St Lawrence

On the 3rd October the Friends of St Lawrence held a very successful quiz which raised almost £1300 to be used exclusively for the maintenance and repair of the church building.

There were 9 teams taking part. The winners were 'The Clangers'. This team was made up of bellringers who were understandably delighted with the result.



Thanks to those who took part as one of the quiz teams on the evening as well as the team that put in hard work to prepare for the evening or help run the event on the evening.

The remaining events for 2026 are:

28th November: Christmas Coffee Morning

3rd December: Hot Chocolate at the Parish Council Light Switch on

19th/20th December: Wreath Festival

Do make a note in your diary and come along.

The idea behind the wreath festival is that organisations and businesses in the village as well as individuals create their own wreath. We will also be serving hot drinks and mince pies from the Breakspear Room throughout the weekend.

We will be writing to local organisations and businesses in the village in the next few weeks to encourage them to create and display a wreath for this fundraising event, this will include an opportunity to promote themselves as well. If you would like to put forward a local organisation or business or indeed would like to participate as an individual please contact: Wendy Meldrum: wendymeldrum@gmail.com or text 07710 688633 or Church Office on 01923 261795.

In the meantime time for those who enjoy quizzes or missed the quiz—can you guess the answers to these questions?

Example: 26 L of the A.

Answer: Letters of the Alphabet

15 M of F

18 H on a G C

7 W of the W

88 P K

90 D in a R A

Answers on page 13.

Carol Higgs

Churchyard in November: Remembrance

On the 8th November people will gather around the war memorial in the corner of our churchyard just before 11am for an act of remembrance. We will be gathering around what was originally called the ‘War Cross’. It is now referred to as the Cross of Sacrifice. It was the winning design submitted by Sir Reginald Blomfield for the Imperial War Graves Commission (now the Commonwealth War Graves Commission). For flexibility Blomfield designed four versions of the cross varying in height from 14ft to 24ft depending on the size of the cemetery and an octagonal base so that it could be incorporated in a wall if necessary. The memorials are of white stone,

usually Portland stone, and the proportions resemble that of a Celtic cross. Although modelled on a Christian cross it was deliberately designed to be a focal point for soldiers and civilians of all faiths and religions. The short cross arms, fairly close to the top of the shaft are designed to be exactly one third of the length of the shaft. The shaft is tapered and the cross arms are octagonal. The sword is the design of a mediaeval longsword—set with the blade pointing down.

“They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old; age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them.”

Laurence Binyon (1869–1943)

Carol Higgs

Eileen wins the BBC Three Counties Radio Award

Eileen Sexton-Adams, manager of Henderson Hub, has been named the winner of the Great Neighbour Award at the BBC Three Counties Radio Make a Difference Awards, held on Monday 28th September.

The award recognises individuals or groups who make a positive difference to their local neighbourhood through acts of kindness, community involvement and a commitment to improving the lives of others.

Eileen’s dedication to Henderson Hub and the wider Abbots Langley community has helped create a welcoming space where local people can meet, build friendships, take part in activities and feel connected to their community. Her generosity of spirit also shines through in her volunteering at St Lawrence Church, where she heads up the team that runs our Sunday Lunch club, bringing people together and helping to foster a sense of community and belonging.

The award recognises Eileen’s valuable contribution to the local community, and we are delighted to see her kindness, dedication and efforts acknowledged.

Edwin Glenister: The Man Who Built The Lychgate

The story of the Glenister family of Abbots Langley (Part Two)

As stated in last month's *Outlook*, Edwin and Jessie Glenister had four children, three girls and a boy.

Isabel Glenister was born in 1895. She attended the village school and left there when she had reached the leaving age, unlike her two sisters who were able to continue their education at Watford Grammar School for Girls. She became Head Seamstress at St Pancras School which was on the Leavesden Hospital Site. She then ran the Glenister sweet shop, taking over after her mother's death in 1940. She ran the shop until July 1954. This shop was then bought by Mrs Miller.

Clement Glenister—Caroline and Richard's father—was born in 1897. From Abbots Langley school he won a scholarship to Berkhamsted School. Edwin and Jessie wanted their son to work in a bank, but he pursued a very distinguished career in the Royal Navy. At the age of 19 he served on The Princess Royal at the Battle of Jutland in 1916. He was a good sportsman and played football, cricket and boxed for the Navy. He won 3 caps for England playing for the Corinthians. In 1944 he married Marion Elizabeth Griffith-Jones who was a sister in the Queen Alexandra Royal Naval Nursing Service. They met while he was in Al-

exandria. Clement was promoted to the rank of Captain in 1946 and awarded a CBE in 1951 in recognition of his work testing submarines in the Arctic. The following year he was appointed Naval Aide-de-Camp to Queen Elizabeth. He didn't start a family until he was 50. He retired to Pie Corner, Box Lane Bovingdon. His son Richard told me that he wasn't any good at DIY. However, he did create a most beautiful garden and orchard and became very involved in village life, helping with the football club and becoming President of the cricket club. He was also Treasurer of Bovingdon Church and Chairman of Bovingdon Horticultural Society.

Dorothy Glenister was born in 1902 and was the only sister to marry. She married a Welshman named Elwyn Preece and had one son Glyn born in 1943. She sadly died suddenly at the age of 51 from a brain haemorrhage following a fall. There are poignant entries in sister Kathleen's diary in December 1952. On the 18th she writes "Dear Dolly died in West Herts Hospital" and then on the 22nd she writes "Dear Dolly buried".

Kathleen Glenister was born in 1904 and after leaving Watford Grammar School went to Bishops Stortford College to train as a teacher. She excelled at hockey and tapestry work and drove ambulances during the war. She was the first woman to ring a peal at St Lawrence Church on December 8th, 1935, a jubilee year peal of Grandsire Double and was a bell ringer at the church for 50 years. She taught for for-



ty years at Watford Fields School. (*N.B. In 1947 she was my very first teacher there and was very kind to a frightened little girl!! B.S.*)

The two unmarried sisters looked after their father Edwin until his death in 1961 and they travelled extensively in their retirement. The grandchildren have fond memories of holidays spent with their aunts.

Caroline describes the house at 25 Langley Road, which had been built by Edwin, when she visited it as a child to see her grandfather and her two aunts. The sitting room was large and very light with a marble fireplace over which was hung a portrait of their grandmother. There was an upright piano covered with family photographs and a conservatory leading off from this room, bright with red geraniums. It was here that Edwin had his afternoon sleep each day in a brick red painted Windsor chair which now graces Car-

oline's house. The garden had roses, dahlias, sweet peas and runner beans.

Caroline remembers spending most of the time in the dining room at a large round table playing board games. There was a cheerful coal fire with a chair either side and always a black spaniel around. The grandchildren spent very happy Christmas days every year at the house in Langley Road. The conversations were always good humoured.

When Edwin died in 1961 aged 93, Isabel and Kathleen continued to live in the house and were referred to locally as 'the Miss Glenisters'. Isabel died at 97 and Kathleen at 88, within three weeks of each other. In 1993 Brian Andrews conducted their funeral services at St Lawrence and spoke about the sisters' long relationship with the church and their involvement in the life of the village.

Continued on page 13.

Baptisms and Confirmations

2026: What Brought Us Here?

Something wonderful happened in the life of our parish on the evening of Saturday 24th October: we brought six candidates to the Cathedral for baptism and/or confirmation. They were amongst the very first to be ‘done’ by the brand-new Bishop of St. Albans, Rt. Revd. Andrew Rumsey, so it’s a major occasion not just for the parish but the diocese as well. First and foremost, though, it’s wonderful for the candidates themselves: for Joe Halford, Mary Squires, Tim and Sabrina Grovesnor, Stephen Chiles and Thomas Shephard. In a moment, a little more of their stories.

First though, a word about baptism and confirmation. ‘Baptism’ and ‘christening’ are exactly the same thing, though the latter word is perhaps more often used when a baby is involved. A similar idea is expressed by both words: when we christen someone we ‘in-christ’ them: we place their life inside Jesus. ‘Baptise’ is a Greek word meaning ‘to sink’ or ‘to plunge’—and at a baptism someone is (at St. Lawrence, usually symbolically!) plunged under water, and their life is plunged into Jesus. From that moment on, the most real thing about them is that they share in Jesus’ life. It all happens then, though it may take a lifetime to be fully understood and bear full fruit.

Confirmation *confirms* baptism. In it, the Church prays for the candidate to know ever more clearly and strongly

the reality of what happened at their baptism, and for the Holy Spirit to fill them (which are really two ways of saying the same thing). It always involves the Bishop, because being a Christian means belonging to a family that stretches right across the continents and the centuries. The Bishop—tracing his ordination right back to the Apostles—is the most obvious symbol of that.

If you’re *not* baptised and confirmed . . . why not? And why not change that in the very near future? Here’s why our candidates chose to take that step:

Having chased dreams and caught them all, the universe sent me the toughest of tests. I was drawn to St Lawrence Church in my darkest hour and walked through the door to a warm welcome. The words read by the priest landed. Our Bible readings went further. Conversations, prayer and the Alpha course helped with the transition from simply searching for answers to discovering faith.

I had spent much of my life looking outward, chasing the next horizon. Yet during a time when so much seemed to be falling apart, I found myself looking inward and upward. Christianity brought light into an extraordinarily dark chapter of my life and introduced me to a community that welcomed me without judgement. In a world struggling with so much, it was nice to be home. Now it feels less like arriving somewhere new and more like discovering somewhere I was always meant to find.’

Joe Halford

Being a traveller by origin, over time I have travelled a few different roads but none quite like the road I am on now. This road has given me a sense of peace and fulfilment like no other, thanks to God's good grace and love.

Mary Squires

I was raised in a non-religious household and identified as an atheist. I was diagnosed with epilepsy at 15 and faced further hardships in 2019–2020. This included losing my job, relationship, home, and mother. These losses left me struggling with anger, grief, and depression.

I met Sabrina in 2021, and we were married in September 2024. Increased work pressures and unresolved emotional pain caused my mental health to deteriorate, deeply affecting our marriage. By August 2026, we had separated, and I was struggling with severe depression. On 17th August 2026, during a moment of crisis, I finally opened up about the pain and anger I had carried for years. Sabrina spent the night praying, fasting, and asking God to intervene, while I remained unaware of what was to come.

When I returned home on 18th August, Sabrina shared the Gospel with me. For the first time, I was ready to listen and accepted Jesus Christ into my life. I asked for forgiveness, salvation, peace, and freedom from my pain. I had an immediate sense of calm and peace; God had rescued me from darkness and brought me into His light. I have journeyed through atheism, profound

emotional pain, and despair to finding faith, healing, and a renewed purpose through Jesus Christ.

Tim Grosvenor

Having given my life to Christ at 7 years old, I relied on God's strength to endure trauma and escape abusive situations. After being baptised in 2015, I continued to rebuild my life through faith, eventually marrying Tim.

During a deeply difficult period in our marriage, when Tim and I were separated and in a dark place, I turned to God. I recognised that I had been relying on my own strength rather than completely surrendering to Him. Through prayer and worship, I sought the Holy Spirit's guidance and strength to return Tim safely to me and ultimately to God. I was born-again-that night.

On 18th August 2026, Tim returned home; I shared with him the Gospel, and he surrendered himself to our Heavenly Father. In that instant, He brought healing, salvation, and restoration to my husband, our marriage, and our lives.

I discovered that true freedom and peace comes not from relying on my own strength, but from fully surrendering to God and trusting in His grace, mercy, and promises. I came to understand that the strength God had given me was not meant to be a crutch, but that my ultimate security was found in Him.

Sabrina Grosvenor

Growing up I never really had an interest in religion, I never considered

they'd be a day when I would be attending church, other than weddings or funerals. Most of my days were spent playing football, working and then when I got married, building a family. Throughout that time having lost my wife, mum and dad, there were times when I felt genuinely helpless. Times now where I think I should have turned to Jesus for help, but at the time religion was still a foreign concept to me.

However, moving forward to October 2025 I came back to faith when my son and I started visiting St Lawrence Church and experienced the warm welcome of the congregation as well as hearing Peter's thoughtful sermons. Also, the church itself is a place I hold dear to my heart as this was where I married my wife. Whilst I struggle with understanding at times, I feel a sense of great joy when I'm at the church. I have decided to get confirmed to acknowledge my new found faith, as growing up I didn't really have a relationship with Jesus or an understanding

of Christianity, but now I feel as if my faith is developing and growing to where I would like to confirm it.

Stephen Chiles

When I was baptised, I was six—old enough to remember the event itself but too young to have a responsible faith. Since then, I admit to having a turbulent faith journey which took me many years to come to this decision. At the beginning of sixth form I decided to finally get to the bottom of my questions of faith. I have devoted myself to understanding God's word through the reading of scripture and theology. I am now equipped with a firm understanding of our faith and I am now prepared to make my public confirmation of Christian faith. Now I truly know the grace of God and his immeasurable mercy for our fallen species. I am full of faith, and I hope by doing this I may grow closer to God and to his Church.

Thomas Shephard

**From the Parish Registers
October 2026**

Christenings
Ginevra Serschen

Funerals
Ruth Hayter
Barbara Procter

Edwin Glenister: The Man Who Built The Lychgate, Continued



Richard and Caroline as children.

I am truly grateful for the wonderful insight that grandchildren Richard, Caroline, and Glynn have given me into the life of Edwin Glenister, the builder of the lychgate, and his family. I would like to finish the second of these articles with a brief glimpse into their lives.

Richard was born in Ipswich when his father, Clement, was stationed at a naval base in the area. When the family moved to Bovingdon he attended Berkhamsted School as did all three of Edwin's grandchildren. Richard went on to read History at Jesus College, Oxford and then did Law in London for 3 years to be a barrister. He worked for the Director of Public Prosecutions and the Crown Prosecution Service. He played cricket for West Herts.

Caroline was born in Bovingdon and trained as a nurse at the Royal London Hospital in Whitechapel. After 10 years she left nursing and tried Art College which she did not enjoy. Later on, she worked in a Care Home in Hemel Hempstead for 17 years which she thoroughly enjoyed.

Glynn Edwin Preece, Dorothy's son, now lives in Scotland. He took a career up in British Railways and retired as National Manager with their Inter City department. His memories of 'GranGran' as they called Edwin, was someone who was great fun and gave the grandchildren a great deal of treasured advice. He often took them round to his old workshop. Elwyn Preece, Glynn's father, was a leading tenor in St Lawrence Church Choir from the 1930s until 1956.

Edwin would have been delighted to know that he has 8 great grandchildren and 11 great, great grandchildren

Caroline thinks that it was while she was at her grandfather's house as a child that she heard the well-known anecdote concerning the local doctor and Edwin Glenister having a banter about the lych-gate. The doctor told him that the lych-gate was the wrong way round. Edwin replied "The thing is Doctor, that you can bury your mistakes. I have to live with mine!"

Brenda Southorn

ANSWERS FROM QUIZ ON P. 6

Minutes of Fame

Holes on a Golf Course

Wonders of the World

Piano Keys

Degrees in a Right Angle

Malawi Project

I am sorry to say that we still have no news about the container or when it is likely to be sent to Malawi. I think it is quite possible that it will not be sent until next year now given the difficulties for shipping as a result of the war between the US and Iran.

As I wrote last month in Outlook, we can store all the items that have already been donated but we are now asking people to hold on to their gifts till we know what is happening. We will let everyone know as soon as we have a date. If anybody has storage space for the items we have already collected could you get in touch we would be very grateful. Once again, thank you all for your patience, the whole situation is very frustrating but hopefully we will find out what is happening before too long.

Our Malawi presentation in the Break-spear Room on Sunday 4th October went very well with several people attending to find out more about the Malawi Project and what we do. As we said to those at the presentation . . . the Malawi project is a part of St Lawrence's outreach to the greater community and in the case of Malawi our outreach is to the community in Malosa. We have supported several vital projects in the hospital, secondary school and community there and we do this by fund raising. Our Malawi Team has a full calendar of fundraising events as well as activities that raise awareness of our links with the community there.

We are looking to expand our team—would you be interested?

If your answer is “yes” or “possibly” . . . please contact Wendy Meldrum or any of the Malawi Team.

Wendy Meldrum

An evening with
Christian Aid
(Invite your friends)
at La Banq mediterranean restaurant
38 High Street Abbots Langley WD5 0AR
7.00pm Monday 9 November 2026
£23 for a 2-course meal



See the full menu at
kings-langley-churches.org.uk/whats-on

Tickets from: Peter Jowsey 07837 400480

PARISH DIRECTORY

The code 01923 precedes all the telephone numbers unless stated otherwise

Abbeyfield (West Herts) Society	Marcus Coultrup (334387)
Bedmond Bells WI	Carol Paley 07932 007353 or Moira Bunting 01923 262242
Bedmond Village Carpet Bowls	Margaret Forrest (670989)
Bedmond Village Hall	Simon Smith (07401 331302)
Bell Ringing	Phill Higgs (07973 265666)
Bowling Club	off Langley Road (alongside the Scout HQ)
Breakspeare Community Pre-School	(274483)
Brownies, Rainbows and Guides	www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested
A/L Carers and Former Carers Support Group	Brenda Southorn 07933 144117
Churches Together	Marie-Louise Nolan 07769 696629
Citizens Advice Bureau	01923 271 707, see advertisement on page 4
Community Centre	(to hire 07530 266293)
Cricket Club	www.abbotssc.hittsports.com
Evergreen Youth FC	Ian Turner (266640)
Family Planning	Garston Clinic (234525) Mon & Wed 6.00 – 8.00 pm
Flower Arrangement Society	Sylvia Clinton (262678)
Friends of St Lawrence	Wendy Meldrum (07710688633)
Friends of The Tin Church	Church Office: 01923 261795
Gardening Society	Jane Lay (447281)
Gilbert & Sullivan Society	Brenda Southorn 07933 144117
Hillside Residents Association	School Mead (261734)
Home Start (Helping Families Under Stress)	(248010)
Infant Welfare Clinic	St Saviour's Hall - Monday 1.30 to 3.00 pm (264639)
Library	Open: Mon & Thu 1.00pm-6.00pm; Tue & Fri 9.30am-6.00pm Sat 9.30am - 1.00pm; Wed & Sun closed all day
	07852 146857 Email: abbotslangley@littlefawnspreschool.co.uk
Little Fawns Pre School	Or visit www.littlefawnspreschool.co.uk
	Delva O'Reagan (267585)
Local History Society	Pam Rastall Email: pamrastall@live.co.uk
Mothers' Union	Penny Abbot (01442 873205)
Orchestra (ALO)	Community Centre; Wednesday & Friday 9.30-11.30 am
Parent & Toddler Group	Council Office, Langley Road (265139)
Parish Council and Halls	Jean James (461549)
Players (ALP)	Secretary: Chris Driscoll (01923 675563)
Royal British Legion	Church Office (261795)
St Lawrence Church Hall	Church Office (261795)
St Lawrence Church Flower Arrangers	Chair: Dave Gray chair@abbotslangleyscouts.co.uk
Scouts:1st Abbots Langley (3rd North Watford)	5thnwscoats@gmail.com
Langleybury Scout Group	Tim Denyer (270563)
Youth FC	

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Mothers' UNION

Christian care for families

We are doing well with our plans to produce a Prayer Book filled with contributions which members have found helpful over the years, or which fit in with praying for our local community. There is still room for more so please let me have yours.

This month we have two extra activities to support—on Sunday 1st November we provide tea after the Service for the Bereaved. The Service is at 3.00pm. Offers of cakes and help would be good.

Then on Saturday 28th November we again join with the Friends of St Lawrence for a Coffee Morning—10.00am to 1.00pm in the hall. Raffle prizes and small gifts to sell. This is a fundraiser for the work of the Mothers' Union both at home and abroad. Please make sure the dates are in your diary!

Our monthly meeting is on Wednesday 11th November. I suggest we meet just before 11.00am so we can have a Two Minutes' Silence at 11.00am—followed by a catch-up and coffee; and then into the Communion Service at 12.00noon.

Pam Rastall
pamrastall@live.co.uk

Bedmond Bells Women's Institute

Autumn is really upon us now and by the time you read this, the clocks will have gone back, and we will be getting into 'winter mode'.

We celebrated our October meeting with a lovely Harvest supper and social evening. We enjoyed a tasty Ploughman's meal followed by some mouth-watering cakes, having worked up an appetite on a 'meaty' quiz titled 'What's in your kitchen cupboard'—unusual descriptions of everyday things, which was good fun and enjoyed by all.

At our November meeting, we are looking forward to a Craft Evening, which will have a slightly Christmassy theme. Visitors are always welcome, so do come along and join in.

The following week we are holding another Community Café in the Tin Church. This will be on Thursday 19th November from 12 to 1.30. Soup and a filled roll, a cake and a hot drink will be served, and we will also have a Craft and Sales table at this event. We hope you will be able to join us for a light lunch in friendly and sociable surroundings.

For further information, our contact details are:

Carol Paley (President): 07932 007353
Moira Bunting: 01923 262242
bedmondbellswi@gmail.com

Meetings are held in Bedmond Village Hall at 7.30pm on the 2nd Friday of each month except August.

Moira Bunting

A Rocha UK's Easy Eco Tips

As winter creeps in, homes are really important. God calls us to give nature a home, too. Does your garden have a bird feeder? Could your balcony or window-sill do with some plant life? If you don't own the house you could make a case to the homeowner for a bird box, hedgehog highway or whatever. (For a hedgehog highway do make sure the neighbours are

OK with you making a small hole in a shared fence). Why not gather your housemates, friends and family to discuss how a new recycling, heating or transport arrangement might work for you all—you'll go further together! For more eco tips visit: arocha.org.uk/wild-christian



QR Codes

If you would like to access the website for either St Lawrence and the Church of the Ascension or for St Albans Cathedral, you can do so by scanning the QR codes below.

QR code for St Lawrence Church and The Church of the Ascension



QR code for St Albans Cathedral



Churchwardens

Richard Baldwin

(churchwarden1@abbotslangley.org.uk)

Pam Lewis(churchwarden2@abbotslangley.org.uk)

Website: www.abbotslangley.org.uk

Contacts

Vicar: The Revd Dr Peter Waddell

Tel: 07552359046

Email: vicar@abbotslangley.org.uk

The Church Office:

High Street

Abbots Langley

WD5 0AS

Tel: 01923 261795

Email: adminstlawrence@abbotslangley.org.uk

Church Office Opening Times:

Weekdays 10.00am-1.00pm (Closed Wednesdays)

To submit an article for Outlook, please contact the Church office.

St Lawrence's Church Choir

Rehearses Wednesdays 8pm

We are looking for new members of all voice parts (particularly **bass**) to join our church choir.



The choir sings for most Sunday services as well as monthly evensong, weddings, funerals and other special occasion services. Attendance at every service is not mandatory!



Being able to read music is very useful due to the number of pieces we learn, but not necessarily required if you're willing to learn outside of rehearsals.



We understand that not everyone can do regular Sundays, so please reach out and let us know what you can do, or if you'd like to mostly be involved only with 'special' services.



We sing a diverse range of music, from Ayleward to Stainer, to contemporary composers such as Richard Shepherd and Amy Beach.



Our Director of Music, Marianne Chapman, is a singer and multi-instrumentalist. She studied music at the University of Cambridge where she held a choral scholarship.

For more information on the choir or how to join, please contact Marianne at directorofmusic@abbotslangley.org.uk

We also have a **junior choir**, who rehearse Wednesdays at 6.30-7.15pm and sing the anthem on the 2nd Sunday of each month.
Contact Marianne for more information.

ABBOTS LANGLEY
GILBERT AND SULLIVAN SOCIETY
Presents

G & S and Beyond



>75TH ANNIVERSARY!

SATURDAY 14TH NOVEMBER
11.00AM

GILBERT & SULLIVAN SONGS AND
MUSICAL THEATRE NUMBERS

Concluding the 75th Anniversary Celebrations

ST LAWRENCE CHURCH
ABBOTS LANGLEY

Refreshments from 10.30am

Free Admission: Donations to ALGSS

Christmas Coffee

Morning

10am – 1pm

Sat 28th November

St Lawrence Church Hall

Abbotts Langley. WD5 0AS

Try our Famous

HOT Bacon & Sausage

Butties

and enjoy

Coffee & Cake

Buy your Christmas presents and cards too!

Christmas Wreath Festival

**ST LAWRENCE CHURCH
ABBOTS LANGLEY WD5 0AS**

Come and see amazing wreaths on display in our beautiful village church. Wreaths designed and made by local schools/organisations/businesses

**SAT: 10.30AM – 4PM
SUN: 12 – 4PM**

This is a fundraising event for
THE FRIENDS OF ST LAWRENCE
Entry: Free; Donations welcome
**TEA / COFFEE & SEASONAL
REFRESHMENTS**

Wreaths to purchase will be available

Saturday 19th December
Sunday 20th December



2026 Christmas Services & Events

Parish of Abbots Langley & Bedmond

Saturday 28th November
10.00am - 1.00pm

Christmas Coffee Morning
St Lawrence Church Hall

Sunday 29th November 6.30pm

Advent Carol Service, St Lawrence Church

Thursday 3rd December 6.00pm

Abbots Langley Christmas Lights Switch-On
St Lawrence Church

Saturday 5th December 7.30pm

Watford Band Christmas Concert
St Lawrence Church

Saturday 12th December 10.30am

Churches Together in Abbots Langley
Street Carol Singing (Meet Outside the Hospice
of St Francis Charity Shop, Abbot Langley)

Saturday 12th December 12.00pm

Lunch in Aid of Crisis, Methodist Church

Saturday 12th December
2.00 - 4.00pm

Children's Christmas Workshop
St Lawrence Church

Sunday 13th December 9.30am

Christingle Service, St Lawrence Church

Sunday 13th December 6.30pm

Christmas Carols & Readings, Tin Church

Thursday 17th December 5.30pm

Carols Round the Tree, Tin Church

Saturday 19th December
10.30am - 4.00pm, and
Sunday 20th December
12.00 - 4.00pm

Wreath Festival
St Lawrence Church

Sunday 20th December 6.30pm

Nine Lessons and Carols Service
St Lawrence Church

Tuesday 22nd December 7.00pm

Blue Christmas, St Lawrence Church

Wednesday 23rd December
8.00pm

Christmas Carols at the Royal Oak

Thursday 24th December
1.30pm, 2.30pm, 3.30pm,
4.30pm, 5.30pm

Candlelight Carol Service *with donkey!*
St Lawrence Church

Thursday 24th December
11.45pm

Midnight Mass
St Lawrence Church

Friday 25th December 9.30am

Christmas Day Service, St Lawrence Church

Friday 25th December 11.30am

Christmas Day Service, Tin Church