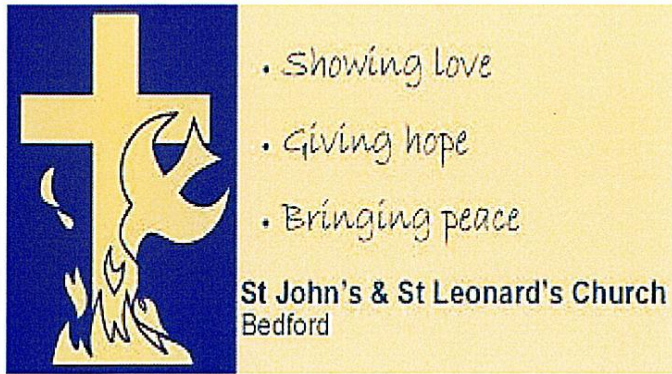




St John's & St Leonard's Church Bedford

The PCC of St Johns and St Leonards is a Registered Charity No. 1131545

Rector: Reverend Helen Stewart

St John's Parish Office
38 St John's Street
Bedford
MK42 0DL

Tel: 01234 320045 www.stjohnsandstleonards.org.uk

Safeguarding Policy

St John's and St Leonard's are proud to be a part of the Diocese of St. Albans in the Church of England, whose Archbishops, Bishops, clergy and leaders are absolutely committed to safeguarding as an integral part of the life and ministry of the Church.

Safeguarding means the action the Church takes to promote a safer culture. This means we will promote the welfare of children, young people and adults, work to prevent abuse from occurring, seek to protect those that are at risk of being abused and respond well to those that have been abused. We will take care to identify where a person may present a risk to others, and offer support to them whilst taking steps to mitigate such risks.

The Church of England affirms the 'Whole Church' approach to safeguarding. This approach encompasses a commitment to consistent policy and practice across all church bodies, church officers, and everyone associated with the Church, who come into contact with children, young people, and vulnerable adults, has a role to play.

The Church will take appropriate steps to maintain a safe environment for all and to practise fully and positively to Christ's Ministry towards children, young people and adults; to respond sensitively and passionately to their needs in order to help to keep them safe from harm.

Although safeguarding is the responsibility of everyone at St John's and St Leonard's; Margaret Lambert is our designated Parish Safeguarding Officer and she can be contacted about any safeguarding matter by emailing: safeguardingstjohnsbedford@gmail.com. Alternatively call the Church Office on 01234 320045 (*your enquiry for support will be passed on to Parish Safeguarding Officer for further action*)

In case of an emergency please contact the Diocesan Office at:

Diocese of St Albans Safeguarding Team

Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor (DSA)

☎ 01727 854532

The Reverend Helen Stewart

16th September 2026

To be reviewed by November 2027

More information on the Church of England's National Safeguarding can be found here:

www.churchofengland.org/safeguarding

More information about Safeguarding in the Diocese of St. Albans can be found here:

<https://www.stalbans.anglican.org/diocese/safeguarding>

