

The Revd Robert Fletcher
Vicar of St John the Baptist, Aldenham

Robert was brought up in Chalfont St Peter, but the church he remembers most while growing up was St James, Gerrards Cross.

After leaving school at the age of eighteen, he started working in the shipping business, eventually becoming a shipbroker in the city of London. He worked there for about seven years before being asked to work in the Aberdeen office, with the offshore supply ships and business relating to the North Sea oil.



It was in Aberdeen that he started attending a church, St Devenick's, Beildside, which was to change his life completely. He realised there was far more to the Christian faith than he had previously understood and he became increasingly more involved in the life of that church, to the point of realising that he needed to offer himself for ordination. It was a huge decision but in a sense it was made for him - this is what a calling into the church feels like.

He moved south to study at Ridley Hall Theological College in Cambridge and, once qualified, he went to serve a first curacy at Chalfont St Peter - which was a huge surprise! He then moved to Bushey to serve a second curacy, highly providential in that he met my wife, Caroline, at St James's Church.

They then moved to Welwyn Garden City where their two first children were born and in the year 2000 came to Aldenham where Robert have served as Team Vicar for the past 22 years.

These have certainly been some of the best years of his life, living in such a beautiful place where their three children have grown up and within such a loving and supportive Church community.

Robert now works on a house-for-duty basis until his retirement in 2024.