

High street, is not only an ornament to the town, but forms a fine feature in the general landscape, from its elevated position. It is the parish church, and was rebuilt in 1816-17, under an Act of Parliament, at a cost of £24,000. The foundation stone was laid by the Bishop of the diocese, Oct. 25th, 1816; architect, Mr. W. Brooke, London. It is built in the Perpendicular style, of Tixell stone, and has a small chancel, nave, aisles, embattled parapets with crocketed pinnacles, and handsome spire 175 feet high. The tower contains a peal of 10 bells. In 1861-2 it was restored at a cost of nearly £1,800. The register begins at 1538. The living is a vicarage, value over £1000; patron, the Earl of Dudley; vicar, Rev. W. Reyner Cosens, D.D., Magdalen Hall, Oxford. *St. Edmund's Church*, a brick building at the east end of Castle street, was erected in 1724, chiefly at the expense of Messrs. G. and R. Bradley, wealthy inhabitants of the town. The old church (which was the parish church before that of St. Thomas was founded) was destroyed in the civil wars. The living is a vicarage, value £26, with pew rents and fees amounting to upwards of £300; patron, the vicar of Dudley; vicar, Rev. Gilbert Bradley, M.A., University College, Oxford. *St. James's Church*, Eve hill, was erected in 1840, by subscription, aided by society grants; it is a neat structure and has some good stained glass. It was greatly improved in 1869, when a correctly arranged chancel, vestry, and organ chamber were added to the original nave. The living is a vicarage, value £300; patron, the vicar of Dudley; vicar, Rev. John George Cotton Browne, M.A., Corpus Christi College, Cambridge. *St. John's Church*, at Kate's hill, was also erected in 1840, by subscription and grants from the Incorporated and Diocesan societies and the Commissioners for building churches; it has a memorial window of stained glass in the chancel. The living is a vicarage, value £300; patron, the vicar of Dudley; vicar, Rev. Edward H. L. Noott, B.A., Corpus Christi College, Cambridge. *St. Andrew's Church*, at Netherton hill, was built in 1830 (see Netherton). The Dissenting chapels in Dudley far outnumber the Established churches. The Roman Catholic church, in Porter's field, is dedicated to our Blessed Lady and St. Thomas of Canterbury; it is a Gothic building erected from designs by Pugin. The schools (attached) are taught by the Sisters of Charity of St. Paul. The Society of Friends have a meeting-house in High street. The Baptist chapel, at the corner of Tower street and New street, was erected about 1778, on the site of a former building. It was enlarged in 1838. The Unitarian chapel, in Wolverhampton street, was originally erected in 1701, being the first Nonconformist chapel in Dudley. It was burnt down during the Sacheverel riots in 1715, and was re-erected by public subscription. It was completely renovated in 1869. Trinity English Presbyterian church is a modern and handsome erection in the Early English style, situate in Wolverhampton street. The Congregational chapel in King street is a large brick building, erected in 1840. A new Congregational chapel is proposed to be erected at Waddam's Pool. Service is now held in the school-room, North street. The Congregational chapel, Abberley street, was erected in 1853, by Mr. Thomas Allen, sen. This place, which is capable of holding about 200 persons, is carried on by Mr. Allen, assisted by the free-will offerings of the congregation; all sittings are free. The Congregational chapel in High street, Woodside, was built in 1858.

The Methodist New Connexion (Wesley) chapel, in Wolverhampton street, was established in 1819. It has since been enlarged at a cost of £2000. The Conference was held here in 1849 and in 1861. Fountain's charities in connexion with this chapel are the school charity and upwards of £400 in the funds. The interest is appropriated to the education of children of poor persons belonging to the chapel. Fountain's clothing charity consists of the interest of £200 (less £20 duty) distributed annually on St. Thomas's day to about 50 poor persons, members of the chapel. The same donor bequeathed £10 to be distributed in tracts. The Sunday school adjoining the chapel is 84 ft. by 36 ft., with five large class-rooms. The number of children on the books is 600. Bethel branch New Connexion chapel at Brown street, Kate's hill, was erected in 1837, and Mount Zion chapel, High street, Woodside, in 1853. The Wesleyan chapel, King street, is a commodious brick building: the one in Salop street is a large blue and red brick building, erected in 1849. The Wesleyans have also chapels at Woodside and Dixon's green; the central stone of the latter was laid October 25th, 1869, by the mayor, Job Taylor, Esq. This is a fine building; the façade is very effective, the centre being broken by the introduction of three wide arches, forming the front of an open portico, supported on carved caps and moulded columns. A large wheel window forms the chief feature of the centre gable. The front is flanked on the one side by a tower and steep slated spire, and on the other by a continuation of the principal front. The façade is further broken up by means of buttresses, and flat buttresses relieve the plainness of the sides. The chapel is built of red brick, relieved by Bath stone dressings, and its general effect is good. The total cost was about £3,000. It was opened August 16th, 1870. The Wesleyan Reform Union Free church is a brick building in Chapel street. The Primitive Methodist chapel in George street is a small building erected in 1829; the one in Wellington road is a brick building, the foundation stone of which was laid by H. B. Sheridan, Esq., M.P., November, 2nd, 1868; the one in the Croft, Woodside, was erected in 1834; the one in Brewery street, Kate's hill, was built in 1848; and there is a small chapel belonging to this denomination in Tetnall street.