

St Alphege Mothers' Union

Newsletter - November/December 2019

Teddy Rose Foundation Memorial Service



Pat, Anne, and Elaine served refreshments at the service for Baby Loss Week organised by the Teddy Rose Foundation.

It was a very meaningful and emotional service and we were glad that Mothers' Union was represented there. It was also a great chance for Pat to show the MU hand-made gowns for miscarriages and still-born babies, indeed Trish, the Mum who founded the Teddy Rose organisation, was overwhelmed with them and wished she'd had one available for her loss. Following the success of the evening the organisers are keen for it to be an annual event with our continued help with refreshments.



Forthcoming Meetings

Thursday 7th November: The speaker at this meeting will be a local historian. We shall see how much Solihull has changed over the years.

Thursday 5th December: Advent Lunch and Meditation.

We shall start the meeting with a Festive Lunch and mulled wine. We shall give you details of the menu later, but it will include two courses and home-made desserts. The cost will be £10 which includes lunch, two raffle tickets and the meditation.

For those coming to the meditation only, the cost will be £3 and raffle tickets can be bought separately (as per a normal meeting).

We will be welcoming Fr Simon for the Meditation at 2.00pm. Afterwards there will be tea, coffee and home-made mince pies.

If you are coming to the lunch, please could you let Elaine know. (elainediskin@hotmail.co.uk) or phone (705 3265).

Dear Members,

I cannot believe how the year is rushing by and we are starting to get ready for Christmas.

I was very grateful to Charlotte Gibson who stepped in in October when Bishop Anne was unable to fit us in. Charlotte was an excellent replacement, and perhaps she herself might be a bishop one day.

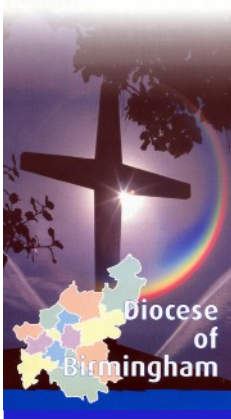
I look forward to seeing you at our remaining two meetings this year and as ever I would love to hear from some of you who would like to join our committee and take over one of the roles.

Mike and I wish you all a very happy Christmas and a healthy New Year.

God bless, *Chris* **0121 243 4340**
chris_thorp@blueyonder.co.uk

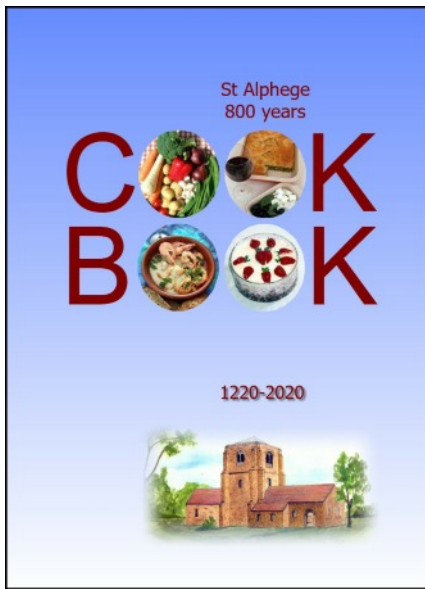
Christmas Presents for Children of Prisoners

We have had a good response to the request for Christmas presents for the children of prisoners in Birmingham jails. But we still need more – it's not too late to donate some gifts. You can bring your gifts to the November meeting, or leave them in Pat's porch (254 Whitefields Road) or the Parish Office. You should all have received an email with details of **what to buy and what not to buy**. For example gifts must be new and in their original packing. If in doubt, let Susan know, and she will send you the instructions. (esleach@blueyonder.co.uk)



Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families

Diocese of Birmingham



800 Year Celebration Cookbook

Our branch of Mothers' Union is collecting your favourite recipes for a cookery book, to mark the eight hundredth anniversary of St Alphege Church. We shall be using a similar format to the one produced in 2012 and some of the former recipes and pictures will be maintained. But we shall need lots of new recipes – please start to send in your recipes NOW. We need traditional and international recipes, soups, salads, meat, fish, vegetarian dishes, puddings, cakes, jams etc. If there is a story behind your recipe, please send that as well as it adds colour.

Susan and Philip Leach will be compiling the recipes, so could you please send them to the Parish Office or direct to Susan (esleach@blueyonder.co.uk). It helps to have the recipes in electronic form, but if you cannot do that, but have typed or hand-written recipes, don't be deterred. We'll find someone to convert them.

Wave of Prayer

The allocated time for St Alphege to maintain the Wave of Prayer is Thursday morning, 16th January 2020.

After Christmas you will receive an envelope containing a prayer leaflet, a letter with your allotted time for prayer for our link dioceses and a gift aid envelope for you to make a donation to Mothers' Union Overseas Fund. For your five minutes just take out the time in a quiet place to pray for our link dioceses, which are – Seychelles, Bukedi (Uganda), Enugu (Nigeria), Marathwada (India) and our own Diocese of Birmingham.

This year, our time for the Wave occurs during the 10.30am MU Corporate Eucharist, so we shall have a special celebration.



*A Very Happy
Christmas to you all.*



Christmas Cards and Diaries

Elaine will be taking orders for Christmas cards and diaries at the November meeting. The diary costs £4.15 and in 2020 it is dark blue. She has catalogues of MU goods and you can view the full range of Christmas cards online at www.mueshop.org

Coming events in November / December

Thursday 7th Nov - 1.30pm in the O.B.H. A talk by a local historian.

Thursday 21st Nov - 10.30am in church. *M.U. Corporate Eucharist* followed by coffee in the vestry.

Thursday 5th Dec - 1.00pm in the O.B.H. *Lunch* followed at 2.00pm by *Meditation* with Fr Simon.

Thursday 19th Dec - 10.30am in church. *M.U. Corporate Eucharist* followed by coffee in the vestry.

Thursday 2nd Jan - 1.30pm in the O.B.H. Meeting details to be announced.

Thursday 16th Jan - 10.30am in church. *M.U. Corporate Eucharist* followed by **AGM**.