



St. Alphege Church
This Week's News
8th December 2019
Advent 2

A WARM WELCOME to St. Alphege. It's good to have you with us.
Do join us for tea, coffee or squash at 10.15am.

TODAY Retiring collection - Children's Society

8.00am Said Eucharist

President & Preacher Revd John Bradford

9.15am Christingle All Age Worship

President Revd Canon Jane Kenchington

Preacher Revd Dr Sam Gibson

Offertory St Alphege Pre-School

Hymns

513

436

Screens

393

668

10.15am Coffee Squash in the Oliver Bird Hall

11.00am Choral Eucharist

President & Preacher Revd Canon Andrew Hutchinson

1st Reader David Sturdee 2nd Reader Sally Herd

Music led by the Girls' and Men's Choir

Setting: Communion Service in A minor Darke

Anthem: A Spotless Rose Howells

Voluntary: Prelude in C minor BWV 546 J S Bach

Hymns

5

Ps 72

v 1-7

12

Leaflet

3

6.30pm Choral Evensong

Officiant & Preacher Stephen Linstead

NT Reader Malcolm Owens

OT - 1 Kings 18. 17-39 NT - John 1. 19-28

Music led by the Boys' and Men's Choir

Responses Ayleward

Canticles: Short Service Gibbons

Anthem: The Record of John Gibbons

Voluntary: Fantasia in A Gibbons

Hymns

6

Ps 11

Leaflet

170

THIS WEEK

Tues 10 9.30am Eucharist in St Antony's Chapel.

10.00am Prayer Group in upper Chapel

Wed 11 10.00am Eucharist at St Michael's Chapel, Bryanston Road.

1.10pm Lunchtime Recital - Michael Lam (baritone) and Anna Ho (piano)

Thur 12 10.30am Eucharist in the Nave

Sat 14 10.00am Breakfast & Bible study

COLLECT

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness we are grievously hindered in running the race that is set before us, your bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honour and glory, now and for ever.

Almighty God, purify our hearts and minds, that when your Son Jesus Christ comes again as judge and saviour we may be ready to receive him, who is our Lord and our God.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Father in heaven, who sent your Son to redeem the world and will send him again to be our judge: give us grace so to imitate him in the humility and purity of his first coming that, when he comes again, we may be ready to greet him with joyful love and firm faith; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

NEXT SUNDAY

Readings: Isaiah 35. 1-10, James 5. 7-10, Matthew 11. 2-11

8am President & Preacher Revd Canon Jane Kenchington, 9.15am President Revd Canon Jane Kenchington, Preacher Linda Hicks, 11am President Revd Dr Sam Gibson, 6.30pm Nine Lessons and Carols.

THIS WEEK PRAY FOR

Monday	The St Alphege Luncheon club
Tuesday	Congregations and community at St Helen
Wednesday	Charlotte, our parish ordinand
Thursday	General Election and all holding political office
Friday	Parish youth and youth leaders
Saturday	Prayer/home groups across the parish

PRAY FOR THOSE RECENTLY IN NEED

Rashi Somal, Sarah, Michael, George Hutchinson, Margaret Evans, Jean Williams, Martin H, Mandy, Barbara Abbott, Ellie Mitchell, Verity Munslow, Kate, Joy, Ruth, Margaret & Colin James, Valerie Powell, Lydia Hunt, Irene Williams, Ann Roberts, Derek Owen, Priscilla White, Richard, Lilley Green, Mike

CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR

Richard Harmon, Martin Pashley, Diana Mitchell, Henry Balthazor, Louise Butt, Stephen Foster, Jenny Williams, Jonathan Mark, Stephen John, Debbie White, Helen Greenham

PRAY FOR THOSE RECENTLY DEPARTED

June Loades, Patricia Hodges, Michael Gates

BIBLE READING Isaiah 11. 1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow

and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; nations shall inquire of him and his dwelling shall be glorious.

BIBLE READING Romans 15. 4-13

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, 'Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name'; and again he says, 'Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people'; and again, 'Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him'; and again Isaiah says, 'The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.' May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

GOSPEL Matthew 3. 1-12

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.' This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, 'The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."' Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 'I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing-floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

NOTICES

St. Alphege C.of E. Nursery School Entry September 2020. Applications for places in our Nursery School for September 2020 should be made directly to the Infant School Office, in person or by telephoning 0121-705-0443. Application forms should be returned to the School Office by 1st December please. Children applying should be 3 years old (but not 4) by, or on, 31st August 2020. There are 30 places in the morning Nursery session and 30 in the afternoon session.

New Cookbook. As part of the 800th Anniversary celebrations, a new edition of the parish Cookbook is being prepared. We want lots of new recipes – savouries and sweets, traditional and international - which are family favourites of yours. They need to have a list of ingredients, and the method of preparation and cooking, and the number it serves. Please send them, preferably by email, to the Parish Office (office@solihullparish.org.uk) or to Susan Leach (esleach@blueyonder.co.uk) in the next few weeks.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

December

Tues 10th, 10.30am, Wives' Fellowship, Walk and Lunch. Meet at Monkspath Hall Road Park (entrance off Monkspath Hall Road). 12.30pm lunch at Drum and Monkey Pub. Visitors welcome. Details from Carol Caldicott - 705 3168.

Wed 11th, 1.10pm - St Alphege Church, Lunchtime Recital - Edward Leung, piano. All Chopin recital. Refreshments from 12.30pm, performance at 1.10pm, free admission, all welcome.

Fri 13th, 2.00pm & 7.00pm, Birmingham Town Hall, Carol concert in aid of CLIC Sargent by Midland's Hospital Choir. Adults £12.75, Children £6.00. Tickets online from www.thsh.co.uk/event/carols-for-clic

Sat 14th, 7.30 – 10.30pm St Helen's, Youth Christmas Party. £17.50 to include food, disco, entertainment. **RSVP** The Youth Team or Joe Minal 07746 708860.

Sun 15th, 2-4pm, OBH, St Alphege Pre-School Christmas Fayre. Children £5 which includes a visit to Santa and their refreshments. Adults £1 on the door.

Wed 18th, 1.10pm - St Alphege Church, Lunchtime Recital - Christmas Handbell Recital. Refreshments from 12.30pm, performance at 1.10pm, free admission, all welcome.

Sat 21st, 7pm – Handel's Messiah – a special concert featuring our own choirs and our very own soloists singing this festive favourite. Tickets £12 adults, children free, available before and after services.

Sun 22, 4.30pm, The Longest Night at St Michael's Chapel. This is a quiet, prayerful and reflective service for anyone who finds Christmas a difficult time. This service is open to everyone including friends, neighbours and family members.

NOTICES

Young Servers. We are looking for junior aged children (year 3 and up) to join our team of young servers at our All Age service. There is an open training session on **Sunday 12th January, in the OBH during coffee-squash (after All Age worship)**, run by Sam and Linda. Parents/guardians are asked to be present; the session lasts about 20 minutes. All are welcome to give serving a go, it is great fun and an important role in church. Any questions please email curate@solihullparish.org.uk or l.hicks@solihullparish.org.uk

Advent Challenge - Luke's Gospel. We have been given the challenge by Suzette our Pioneer Minister in this month's Parish Magazine to read a chapter of Luke for each of the days starting on Advent Sunday leading up to Christmas, as our preparation for the celebration on Christmas Day. We have acquired copies of Luke's gospel in a modern translation and these are available at the west end of the church for people to buy at 50p each either for yourself or to give as a challenge for a friend or member of your own family. Please take up the challenge and do pick up a copy of Luke's Gospel and start reading from Advent Sunday. 'Know who and why we celebrate!!'

Bible Reading Fellowship Notes for January to April are ready for collection from the table by the North Door.

Another HUGE thank you! Suzette and David Maguire would like to add in their thanks to all who supported them in any way at Suzette's licensing last week. All of your efforts were very much appreciated and rest assured they both feel very 'welcomed'. Suzette adds: "I look forward to working with you all!"

Thank you to all for your prayers and good wishes. I am gradually on my way to recovery. Lilley.

Thank you to all who donated generously for the winter plants. It is hoped that these will be purchased in the next couple of weeks. Anne Kemp

Bookstall. In addition to the Parish Christmas card there is an expanded range of Art Angels greetings cards.

Children's Society - If any Box holder would like a collection please contact : John Busst - 07899758545 or email johnbusst@sky.com Anyone wishing to support The Children's Society would be most welcome. Please contact above for details.