



St. Alphege Church
This Week's News
15th December 2019
Advent 3

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 for flowers to decorate Church for Christmas

8.00am Said Eucharist

President & Preacher Revd Canon Jane Kenchington

9.15am The Junction in the Oliver Bird Hall

Gems (to 4yrs with parents), Pebbles (4-7) & Rock Solid (7-11)

9.15am Parish Eucharist

President Revd Canon Jane Kenchington

Preacher Linda Hicks

Reader Lynn Smart

Prayers Philip Tew Offertory Wives' Fellowship

Music led by St Alphege Singers

Anthem: Gaudete! Trad.

Voluntary: Praeludium in E minor Bruhns

Hymns
Screens
Screens
Screens
117
766
363

10.15am Coffee Squash in the Oliver Bird Hall

11.00am Choral Eucharist

President Revd Dr Sam Gibson

1st Reader Mike Rumball

2nd Reader Philip Tew

Music led by the Boys' and Men's Choir

Setting: Missa Brevis in C Eberlin

Anthem: People, Look East Trad.

Voluntary: Andante S S Wesley

Hymns
501 v 3
Leaflet
Ps 146
v4-10
6
14
500
Hymns
Booklet

6.30pm Nine Lessons and Carols

Adam Lay Ybounden Warlock

A Spotless Rose Howells

The Holly and the Ivy Trad.

Benedicamus Domino Warlock

Bogoróditse Dyévo Rachmaninov

The Cherry Tree Carol Willcocks

I Saw Three Ships Trad.

This Little Babe Britten

Shepherd's Pipe Carol Rutter

Here is the Little Door Howells

Tomorrow Shall be my Dancing Day arr. Willcocks

Voluntaries: In Dulci Jubilo BWV 729 J S Bach

Alleluyas Simon Preston

THIS WEEK

Tues 17 9.30am Eucharist in St Antony's Chapel.

10.00am Prayer Group in upper Chapel

Wed 18 10.00am Eucharist at St Michael's Chapel, Bryanston Road.

1.10pm Lunchtime Recital - Christmas Handbells

Thur 19 10.30am Eucharist in the Nave

Sat 21 7.00pm Handel's Messiah

COLLECT

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts; kindle in us the fire of your Spirit that when your Christ comes again we may shine as lights before his face; who is alive and reigns now and for ever.

NEXT SUNDAY

Readings: Isaiah 7. 10-16, Romans 1. 1-7, Matthew 1. 18-end

8am President & Preacher Revd Simon Marshall, 9.15am President & Preacher Revd Dr Sam Gibson, 11am President & Preacher Revd Canon Hutchinson, 6.30pm Choral Evensong Revd Canon Jane Kenchington.

THIS WEEK PRAY FOR

Monday	Local government and councillors
Tuesday	Wisdom for all church councils and committees
Wednesday	Congregations and community at St Michael
Thursday	Local action on the climate crisis
Friday	Prisoners and prison chaplains
Saturday	The Just Explore course and its leaders

PRAY FOR THOSE RECENTLY IN NEED

Rashi Somal, Sarah, Michael, 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, 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, George Hutchinson, Barbara Abbott

PRAY FOR THOSE RECENTLY DEPARTED

June Loades, Patricia Hodges, Michael Gates, Margaret Dallow, Colin Kemp

BIBLE READING Isaiah 35. 1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, 'Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you.' Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

BIBLE READING James 5. 7-10

Be patient, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

GOSPEL Matthew 11. 2-11

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.' As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you." Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

December

Today, 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.

Fri 20th, 7-10pm, 20s and 30s Group Christmas Party. Sam's house, 17 Church Hill Close, 7-10pm. All welcome, especially if you haven't been before, we'd love to get to know you better. Mulled wine/festive food provided. Email solihullcurate@gmail.com to RSVP.

Sat 21st & Mon 23rd, 9.30am, Christmas flower arranging in St Alphege Church. Please can you help with the arranging of the Christmas flowers in church? If you would like to bring flowers and/or foliage with you, that would be very helpful but not obligatory. If you can come and help, please phone Anne Kemp on 0121 722 2274. Thank you.

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

Singers wanted for 21 Dec between 1.30pm and 2pm in Mell Square.

Drinks and nibbles on Sunday 29th December after 10.30 am service instead of Sunday 22nd December.

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 - We were set the challenge by Suzette our Pioneer Minister to read a chapter of Luke for each of the days in Advent. We hope your daily reading is going well, all copies of Luke's gospel in a modern translation are now sold out.

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

Bookstall. There is an expanded range of Art Angels greetings cards.

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.

Growing Disciples, Building Community, Transforming Lives

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