



**St. Alphege Church
This Week's News
9th May 2021
6th in Eastertide**

President & Preacher: Revd Andrew Hutchinson

BIBLE READINGS Acts 10. 44-end

While Peter was speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 'Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?' So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

NEW TESTAMENT 1 John 5. 1-6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? Testimony concerning the Son of God This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

GOSPEL John 15. 9-17

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. 'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

COLLECT

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

God our Father, whose Son Jesus Christ gives the water of eternal life: may we thirst for you, the spring of life and source of goodness, through him who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

THIS WEEK PRAY FOR

Monday	Those preparing to be admitted to First Communion
Tuesday	Those who work at Core in Solihull
Wednesday	Those who plan and prepare our worship
Thursday	Our part in God's mission to Solihull
Friday	Suzette, Our Pioneer Minister
Saturday	Those studying for Exams

THOSE PREPARING FOR MARRIAGE - 3rd Reading of Banns

Neil Leonard Etheridge & Alexandra Bethan Solera, Milo Pajic & Elizabeth Anne Webster

NEXT SUNDAY

Readings: Acts 1. 15-17, 21-end. 1 John 5. 9-13, John 17. 6-19

President & Preacher: The Venerable Paul Taylor

PRAY FOR THOSE RECENTLY IN NEED (St Alphege)

Rashi Somal, Margaret Evans, Joy, Ruth, Margaret & Colin James, Valerie Powell, Irene Williams, Derek Owen, Lucy, Michele, Alan, Megha, David Boyes, Lee-Anne Wilson, Anna Mary Thomas, Helen L, Anne Wheatley, Lucy Adeyemo, Dan Doyle, Anne Lawrence, Kerrie.

CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR

Henry Balthazor, Stephen Foster, Jenny Williams, Jonathan Mark, Stephen John, George Hutchinson, Sheila Pittaway, Anne Roberts, Katie, Evelyn Berry, Anne Kemp, Peter Gregory, Liz Gregory, Mandy Watts.

PRAY FOR THOSE RECENTLY IN NEED (St Michael's and St Helen's)

Carol & Stuart; Paul Binfield; Irene Tunnicliffe; Julie; Donna; Geoffrey Pearson; Pat Bass; Anthony Vanes; Jane; Helen; Carolyn; Nigel; Angeline; Mary, Eileen Gilbert and Keith Potter

PRAY FOR THOSE RECENTLY DEPARTED: May Withey, Rachel Brady, William Garland

NOTICES

Our churches are now open for Sunday services. When you book it will be necessary to provide your name, number of people attending from your household, your email address (if you have one) and a contact telephone number. The wearing of a mask in places of worship is still mandatory and we ask all who attend a service to bring one with them. We will continue to share services online for those unable to attend in person. For all the latest information go to: <https://www.solihullparish.org.uk/>

St Alphege Church

A eucharist service will take place at 10.30am. To book a place either email office@solihullparish.org.uk or call (0121) 705 5350.

St Helen's Church

There will be two eucharist services at 9.30am and 11am. To book a place either go to: <https://www.trybooking.com/uk/eventlist/sthelenseucharist> or call Beryl Moppett on (0121) 705 0337.

Prayer and Fellowship - To join in with the new Zoom event on a Saturday morning at 11.30am contact Stephen Linstead at: sqlrml@btinternet.com

Ascension Day – To mark this important feast in the Church's calendar, there will be a Sung Eucharist at 7.30pm on Thursday 13th May at St Alphege Church. To book a place, please email office@solihullparish.org.uk or phone (0121) 705 5350

Parish Giving - Would you like to make a financial donation to support the work of Solihull Parish? Giving couldn't be easier and every donation, no matter how small, helps to make a real difference. A huge thank-you to all who have donated so far and those who are members of our Parish Giving Scheme. To donate head to: <https://www.solihullparish.org.uk/giving/>

Exciting news - Charlotte Gibson is to be ordained to the diaconate by David, Lord Bishop of Birmingham in St Philip's Cathedral at 9.30am on Saturday, 26 June 2021. She will take up her ministry at St Peter's Church Harborne with the Revd Kate Stowe. More details will follow nearer the time. We keep Charlotte, Sam, Rodaidh, Seona, Revd Kate Stowe and the people of St Peter's Church in our prayers.

Sunday Eucharists Questionnaire - As announced last Sunday, the congregation is being consulted on the pattern of Sunday eucharists at St Alphege Church after pandemic restrictions have been fully lifted. All those on Churchbuilder should be receiving a questionnaire. If you are not on Churchbuilder and would like a questionnaire, please contact Stephen Linstead, tel. 0121 705 1376 email: sglrml@btinternet.com.

Pray For - Please could you contact the Parish Office if you recognise a name that is no longer required to be on the list. Unrecognised names will stay on for another three weeks and will then be removed. Either email: office@solihullparish.org.uk or call (0121) 705 5350 thank-you.

Christian Aid Week 10-16 May We are unable to provide our normal door-to-door collection of envelopes because of COVID. If you are in Church on SUNDAY, MAY 10th. We are making a Bucket Collection. If you are not in Church we are giving you the opportunity to donate by e-envelope if you wish.

To donate enter the following address into your browser, click on the link and make your donation. The address is: <https://envelope.christianaid.org.uk/envelope/st-alphege>

In common with all Charities, Christian Aid has suffered immensely because of COVID and we are asking for your generous support to help those in need.

THANK YOU John Busst Tel : 07899758545 Email : johnbusst@sky.com

Shoe Aid Donation - Shoe Aid has called today (27.4.21) and collected the last load of Shoes, approx. 20 sacks. This has been a truly magnificent effort by the Rotary Club of Solihull and the Parish of Solihull, so a great big THANK YOU to all. We have donated in total, 90+ sacks of really needed shoes to very grateful people - young and old, across the British Isles. So the shoe shop is now closed temporarily, until later in the year. Phil Godfrey

Update from Jane Kenchington From the end of April my "work" mobile phone number 07743 402229 - will be ceasing to exist. If people wish to contact me, my mobile phone number is 07779 991760. My email address remains the same: janekechington@gmail.com. And our address is *still* 45 Park Avenue, Solihull! Due to the pandemic. Building supplies are severely delayed, so the building work on our Gloucestershire house is far from finished. We still do not know when we will be able to move.

Oberammergau - The famous Passion Play was postponed in 2020 due to Covid. It is hoped to be performed through the summer of 2022. Anyone interested in joining an organised trip should contact Anne Rock, 705 0885, for more information.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

Parish of SOLIHULL

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will be held in ON ZOOM address:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83449744219?pwd=aVVKMEVqZmw4TWVNBs9rMzJ2VTNkQT09>

on the 18TH day of MAY 2021.

For election of parochial representatives of the laity as follows –

1To the Deanery Synod _____ not an election year _____ representatives.

To the Parochial Church Council _____ 25 _____ representatives.

For the appointment of the Independent Examiner or Auditor.

For the consideration of:

- (a) a report on changes to the Roll since the last annual parochial church meeting OR 2 a report on the numbers entered on the new Roll;
- (b) an Annual Report on the proceedings of the parochial church council and the activities of the parish generally;
- (c) the financial statements of the council for the year ending on the 31st December preceding the meeting;
- (d) the annual report on the fabric, goods and ornaments of the church or churches of the parish;
- (e) a report of the proceedings of the deanery synod; and
- (f) other matters of parochial or general Church interest.

In this Notice, 'parish' means an ecclesiastical parish.

Signed: The Revd Simon Marshall Team Vicar

Minister of the parish

Notes

1 Every lay person whose name is entered on the Church Electoral Roll of the parish (and no other person) is entitled to vote at the election of parochial representatives of the laity.

2 A person is qualified to be elected a parochial representative of the laity if –

- (a) his or her name is entered on the Church Electoral Roll of the parish and, unless he or is under 18, has been entered there for at least the preceding six months;
- (b) he or she is an actual communicant (which means that he has received Communion according to the use of the Church of England or of a Church in communion with the Church of England at least three times during the twelve months preceding the date of the election);

(c) he or she is at least 16; and

(d) he or she is not disqualified as referred to in paragraph 3 of these Notes.

3 (1) A person is disqualified from being nominated, chosen or elected or from serving as a churchwarden or a member of a parochial church council, a district church council or a joint council if the person is disqualified from being a trustee of a charity (and the disqualification is not subject to a waiver which permits membership of a parochial church council, district church council or joint council).

(2) A person is disqualified from being nominated, chosen or elected or from serving as a member of a parochial church council, a district church council, a joint council or a deanery synod if the person is included in a barred list (within the meaning of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006).

(3) A person is disqualified from being nominated, chosen or elected or from serving as a member of a parochial church council, a district church council, a joint council or a deanery synod if the person has been convicted of an offence mentioned in Schedule 1 to the Children and Young Persons Act 1933 (with that expression being construed in accordance with Rule 71(2) of the Church Representation Rules).

(4) A person's disqualification under sub-paragraph (3) may be waived by the bishop of the diocese by giving the person notice in writing.

(5) A person is disqualified from being nominated, chosen or elected or from serving as a member of a parochial church council if the person has been disqualified from holding office under section 10(6) of the Incumbent (Vacation of Benefices) Measure 1977.

43 A scheme is in operation in this parish which provides that any person entitled to vote in the elections of parochial representatives of the laity to the parochial church council or to the deanery synod or to both may apply on the appropriate form to the Minister of the parish (or other person signing below) for a postal vote. The completed form must be received before the commencement of the annual parochial church meeting.

Notes

1 To be included in a year in which parochial representatives of the laity are to be elected to the Deanery Synod.

2 To be included in a year when a new Church Electoral Roll is prepared. Delete as applicable.

3 This paragraph should be deleted if no scheme for postal voting is in operation in the parish.

4 Or vice-chair of the parochial church council as the case may be (see rule M19(2) of the Church Representation Rules).

Community Champions News 29.04.21

Figures

Cases in Solihull have continued to fall to 21.3 per 100,000. This is the result of the lockdown and the vaccination rollout. We are now reaching a plateau figure around which cases will rumble for a while. There will be odd, isolated outbreaks. The virus is less active in the Summer so, hopefully, that will have an impact as well.

Vaccinations

The rollout is still progressing well. We have to remember that the 18 to 40 age group has not been vaccinated and this is the group that is spreading the virus.

Vaccinations are making a huge difference; there have been no new cases in care homes.

If you are coming up to 12 weeks since your first vaccination and do not want to wait to be called for your second, you can book to go to a mass vaccination centre. There is no reduction in efficacy if you go over the 12 weeks.

There have been one or two reports of nose bleeds after a vaccination; these and other adverse reactions to the vaccine may be reported to the Yellow Card scheme; it can be found at:

<https://yellowcard.mhra.gov.uk/>

Testing

Positive test results are now very rare but it is recommended that everyone over the age of 18 gets into the routine of doing a lateral flow test twice a week.

For the latest testing information signpost people to the Council testing webpage:

<https://www.solihull.gov.uk/COVID-19/covid-testing>

If the LFT is positive, you need to get this confirmed by a PCR test because there has been a small number of false positives; these are available at Tudor Grange Leisure Centre. Details on the above link.

If you collect testing kits from a pharmacy, they may ask you for information; this is to avoid people stockpiling from several places.

New tests are coming through all the time e.g. nostril only tests, and other are being trialled.

Other News

GPs are trying to get back to 'business as usual'. Most surgeries now have facilities to send symptoms by text message, and there are telephone triage and appointment arrangements.

After 21st June, we will still need to wear masks and keep up with social distancing.

Stronger Communities Solihull

We heard from Austin Rodriguez, Head of Stronger Communities for SMBC. This department supports collective community action, especially by developing the voluntary sector. They are interested to hear how we can build on the partnerships and community groups built up during Covid, after lockdown restrictions are lifted and life returns to 'normality'. The areas they particularly want to focus on are:

- Exploitation, abuse, modern slavery and trafficking.
- Climate change and sustainability.
- Commonwealth Games in Birmingham 2022.
- Community Spaces (where people meet up).
- Promoting good health and wellbeing.
- Neighbourliness and Community Cohesion. How do we keep this up post-Covid and maintain the level of volunteering?

Any reflections or ideas may be shared by emailing Austin at austin.rodriguez@solihull.gov.uk