



St. Alphege Church
This Week's News
Sunday 21 April
Fourth Sunday of Easter
Good Shepherd Sunday & Feast of St Alphege

A WARM WELCOME to St. Alphege. It's good to have you with us.

8.00am Said Eucharist

President & Preacher: Revd Simon Marshall
Readings: Acts 4.5-12 and John 10.11-18

9.15am The Junction in the OBH

10.30am Sung Eucharist

President: Revd Nick Parker & Preacher: Revd Simon Marshall
Readings: Acts 4.5-12, 1 John 3.16-end and John 10.11-18
Reader(s): (OT) Martin Ayers (NT) Pam Price

Psalm 23

Hymns:
555
Screens
330

Music led by Combined Choirs

Setting: Communion Service in F - Darke
Anthem: Te Deum - Howells
Voluntary: Prelude & Fugue in G major BWV541 – J S Bach

5.00pm Festal Evensong

Officiant & Preacher: Revd Nick Parker
Readings: Exodus 16.4-15 and John 6.30-40
Reader(s): Pam Price

Psalm 150

Hymns:
206
104 (omit*)
205

Music led by Senior Choristers, Ladies and Men,s choirs.

Rose Responses

Canticles: Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis in A - Stanford
Anthem: For lo I raise up - Stanford
Voluntary: Postlude in D minor - Stanford

THIS WEEK

Mon 22	9.00am	Morning Prayer
	10.00am-11.30am	Church open for visiting and private prayer
	12noon	Funeral - Terrence JW Eccles
Tues 23	9.15am	St Alphege School St George's Day Eucharist
	10.00am	St Alphege Prayer Group in OBH
	7.30pm	Bellringers practice
Weds 24	1.10pm - 2.00pm	Lunchtime recital: Simon Watterton (piano)
Thurs 25	9.00am	Morning Prayer
	10.30am	Eucharist
Fri 26	9.00am	Morning Prayer

We Celebrate Alphege Today

Alphege (Elphege, AElfheah) was born about 953. He was first a monk, then a hermit, before being appointed Abbot of Bath. In 984 he became Bishop of Winchester.

In September 1011, just a few years after becoming Archbishop of Canterbury, the Danes overran much of southern England, capturing Canterbury and holding Alphege along with other prominent persons for ransom. Alphege, knowing the poverty of his people, refused to let anyone pay this. This infuriated the Danes who at the end of a drunken feast threw various objects at him (large bones from the feast, for example) and finally an axeman delivered the death-blow. By his death Alphege became a national hero.

When the Dane Cnut (Canute) became King of England in 1016, he adopted a policy of conciliation, and in 1023 he brought the body of Alphege from London to Canterbury, where he was long remembered as a martyr, one who died exercising the Christian virtue of justice. In art, he is shown with an axe, the instrument of his death, or as a shepherd defending his flock from wolves.

BIBLE READING Acts 4.5-12

The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?' Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is

"the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone."

There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.'

BIBLE READING 1 John 3.16-end

We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

GOSPEL John 10.11-18

'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'

COLLECT

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life:
raise us, who trust in him,
from the death of sin to the life of righteousness,
that we may seek those things which are above,
where he reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Merciful Father,
you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd,
and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again:
keep us always under his protection,
and give us grace to follow in his steps;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

PRAY FOR THOSE RECENTLY IN NEED

Hazel Hewlett, and Jennifer Spencer.

CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR

Wendy Meikle, Henry Balthazor, Stephen Foster, Jenny Williams, Anne Roberts, Evelyn Berry,
Ron Herd, Dan and Ruth, Margaret Evans, Nicola Beale, Andy Cotterill, Peter, Anne Kemp,
Elizabeth Kershaw, John Russell, Malcolm Owens, Ellen, Aaliyah Adeyemo, Janet, Angela Maas,
Ruth & Rae, and Roger Loads.

PRAY FOR THOSE RECENTLY DEPARTED

Terence Eccles and Alasdair Geddes.

THIS WEEK PRAY FOR

Monday	Vocations of lay ministry
Tuesday	The evangelisation of England
Wednesday	Anglican Martyrs for the Faith; the Church in the Pacific
Thursday	The Church in Egypt
Friday	The homeless and SCAH

NEXT WEEK: Sunday 28 April - Fifth Sunday of Easter

Readings: Acts 8.26-end, 1 John 4.7-end, John 15.1-8

Services: **8.00am** Said Eucharist: President & Preacher: Revd Nick Parker

9.15am The Junction via ZOOM

10.30am Sung Eucharist:

President & Preacher: Revd Canon Andrew Hutchinson

4.00pm **Deanery Welcome Songs of Praise Service for Bishop Michael**

Officiant: Revd Nick Parker, & Preacher: Bishop Michael

Readings: John 15.1-17

NOTICES (send any notices to pewslip@solihullparish.org.uk by 10am on Wednesdays)

Wednesday lunchtime recitals return: Wed 24 April performance by Simon Watterton (piano). Recitals start at 1.10pm with tea/coffee and cake available from 12.30pm. Entry is free with a retiring collection held in aid of The Friends of St Alphege Music. All welcome.

Sunday 28 April. Cakes needed please! St Alphege Mothers' Union are serving tea and cake after the Deanery service of welcome for Bishop Michael. Please bring cakes of any sort to the Oliver Bird hall after 4pm or contact Elaine Diskin 07884 214817 if you would like to drop off earlier.

Growing Gifts: CofE Birmingham has launched a new training programme towards authorising people as lay worship leaders and lay preachers. If you are interested, please speak to a member of the ministry team for an exploratory conversation and more information. Participants will need PCC approval and it is expected they would have relevant experience and a sense of call.

Annual Parish Meetings: Monday April 22 2024, 7.30 pm, St. Helen's Church. **Please note change of usual venue.** The Annual Meeting of Parishioners to elect Parish Church Wardens is followed by the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, which elects PCC members and hears reports on the life of the Parish over the past year. Please try to attend this important event. Nomination forms for PCC candidates are available near the North Door of St. Alphege Church.

St Alphege Micro Victory Garden Project: Using a small patch of ground at the entrance of the Oliver Bird Hall, we have been granted funding from the Big Lottery to establish a fruit and vegetable garden for children and young people in the community. We are working together to plan several community planting days for children and young people and gardening talk evenings for people of all ages to come together to learn more about horticulture. If you are interested in being involved, please contact Ben, the Preschool Chair at Chair@stalphege-preschool.org.uk

Parish Treasurer. We are looking for a volunteer to take on the Position of Parish Treasurer. This is an important and interesting position. Details are on the Parish Website (there is a link from the home page) or ask at the Parish Office.

Wives Fellowship Lunch Club: next meeting on Friday 3 May at 12noon. Please contact Carol Caldicott on 0121 705 3168 for further details, and to book a place.

Crafty people – we need you! We are planning to host a parish poppy installation at St. Alphege Church in Solihull for Remembrance Sunday 2024, and we need as many poppies as possible! (Knitted or crocheted.) Drop off points to be confirmed - but we need as many poppies as possible knitted before the end of September. (Patterns available if you need one, contact Suzette: s.maguire@solihullparish.org.uk) Thank you to all who are already on the case! Please pass the word on.

Theology at St George's Edgbaston Summer 2024: They have what promises to be an enriching series of theology talks lined up for the summer term at St George's Edgbaston on Friday 10 May, Tues 11 June and Friday 5 July. Details will be on the leaflets in church and Parish Office, or online can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/stgesummer24>

Donations: Please see the special leaflet created for last week's Stewardship Sunday containing full details of our financial need and how we may respond. To make a regular donation please contact the Stewardship Secretary, Frank Upton on 0121 705 2963.

To make a one off payment, please use one of the following two methods:

Online Banking

Bank:	Lloyds
Sort code:	30-97-78
Account:	00206323
A/c name:	PCC Solihull
Reference:	St Alphege



To donate using your smart phone just scan the QR code with the phone's camera and follow the link.