



**St. Alphege Church**  
**This Week's News**  
**Sunday 28 April**  
**Fifth Sunday of Easter**

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

**8.00am Said Eucharist**

President & Preacher: Revd Nick Parker

Readings: Acts 8.26-end, John 15.1-8

**9.15am The Junction via ZOOM**

**10.30am Sung Eucharist**

President & Preacher: Revd Canon Andrew Hutchinson

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

Reader(s): (OT) Pat Marshall (NT) Rachael Linstead

Music led by Senior Girls', Ladies' and Men's Choirs

Setting: Communion Service in C - Ireland

Anthem: Jubilate - Stopford

Voluntary: Allegro Marziale - Bridge

**1.00pm Baptisms**

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

Officiant: Revd Nick Parker & Preacher: Bishop Michael

Reading(s): John 15.1-17

Reader(s): Deirdre Moll

Music led by a combined Deanery Choir

Anthem: Love Divine - Howard Goodall

Voluntary: Nun Danket alle Gott – Karg-Elert

**Psalm 22.25-31**

**Hymns:**

428 (t.2)

284

56

493 (omit\*)

**Psalm 150**

**Hymns: (HON)**

683

11

584

56

67

660

92

**THIS WEEK**

Mon 29	9.00am	Morning Prayer
	10.00am-11.30am	Church open for visiting and private prayer
Tues 30	10.00am	St Alphege Prayer Group in OBH
	7.30pm	Bellringers practice
Weds 1	1.10pm - 2.00pm	Lunchtime recital: Calypso Moon saxophone trio
Thurs 2	9.00am	Morning Prayer
	10.30am	Eucharist
	1.00pm	Mothers Union meeting
Fri 3	9.00am	Morning Prayer
	1.15pm	Interment (private service)

**BIBLE READING** Acts 8.26-end

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this:

'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.'

The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

**BIBLE READING** 1 John 4.7-end

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

**GOSPEL** John 15.1-8

'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

## **COLLECT**

Almighty God,  
who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ  
have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life:  
grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires,  
so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect;  
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

## **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Eternal God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life:  
grant us to walk in his way, to rejoice in his truth,  
and to share his risen life;  
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

## **PRAY FOR THOSE RECENTLY IN NEED**

Hazel Hewlett, and Jennifer Spencer.

## **CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR**

Wendy Meikle, Henry Balthazor, Stephen Foster, Jenny Williams, 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**

Alasdair Geddes, Anne Roberts, and Anne Boulter

## **THIS WEEK PRAY FOR**

Monday	The church in Italy
Tuesday	Scripture translators and commentators
Wednesday	Bishops Michael and Anne
Thursday	Elections for SMBC
Friday	The King and Queen

## **NEXT WEEK: Sunday 5 May - Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**Readings:** Acts 10.44-end, 1 John 5.1-6, John 15.9-17

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

**9.15am** The Junction in the Oliver Bird Hall

**10.30am** Sung Eucharist: President & Preacher: Revd Nick Parker

**5.00pm** Evensong: Officiant & Preacher: Revd Roy Murray

**Readings:** Song of Solomon 4.16-5.2; 8.6-7, Revelation 3.14-end

**NOTICES** (send any notices to [pewslip@solihullparish.org.uk](mailto:pewslip@solihullparish.org.uk) by 10am on Wednesdays)

**Wednesday lunchtime recital:** 1 May - Calypso Moon saxophone trio. Recitals start at 1.10pm with refreshments from 12.30pm. Entry is free, with retiring collection.

**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.

**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.

**Confirmation:** Bishop Michael will be confirming candidates for confirmation on Sunday 23 June at 5.00pm. Adults and young people from Year 6 who would like to consider confirmation are invited to speak to a member of clergy and/or contact the Parish Office. Arrangements for confirmation preparation will be made in liaison with prospective candidates.

**St Alphege Micro Victory Garden Project:** thanks to a Big Lottery grant, Preschool have set up a fruit and vegetable garden for children and young people in the community outside the OBH. Plans are for 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](mailto:Chair@stalphege-preschool.org.uk)

**Basic Awareness Safeguarding course:** Weds 8 May 1.30pm to 3.30pm in the Oliver Bird Hall. All employees and volunteers are asked to do this course. If you are a volunteer and have not done this training, plan to be a volunteer, need to refresh your training or are just interested in the course please contact Viv Dobson, Parish Safeguarding Coordinator: email [vhdobson@gmail.com](mailto:vhdobson@gmail.com) or 07960 783636.

**Christian Aid Week is coming:** Please note there will be a Coffee Morning on Saturday 11 May from 10.00am onwards at Solihull Methodist Church . Lunches will be served together with the usual stalls including cakes, jam, books and an excellent plant stall. Everyone is welcome to support this event.

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

**Church Lighting Works (Phase 1 of Project Turnaround) beginning Monday 3 June.** The church will remain open as usual for worship on Sundays, Thursdays at 10.30am, and for Morning Prayer (9am Monday, Thursday, Friday), as well as weddings Otherwise, the church will be closed so that the works can be carried out safely. We expect completion in early September.

**Annual Meeting Booklet:** Following our recent APCM, copies of the booklet reporting on the life and direction of the parish and its various areas of ministry are now available.

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**Donations:** 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.