



St Alphege Church
Sunday 8th March 2026
The Third Sunday of Lent

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

Morning Readings: Exodus 17.1-7, Romans 5.1-11, John 4.5-42

8.00am Said Eucharist
President: Revd Nick Parker and Preacher: Suzette Maguire

9.30am Journey Service – Living Water
Part 1 in Church: Eucharist – Revd Simon Marshall
Part 2 in OBH: Revd Simon Marshall and Ben Yates

10:15am-11.00am - Refreshments in the OBH

11.00am Sung Eucharist **Psalm:**
95
President: Revd Simon Marshall and Preacher: Suzette Maguire
Reader(s): (OT) Sally Herd (NT) Sheena Linstead **Hymns:**
19
Intercessor: Michael Smith 552
Music led by: Senior Boys, Ladies and Back Row 408
Ukrainian Kyrie 708
Setting: Communion Service in F – Sumsion
Anthem: Like as the Hart - Howells
Voluntary: Fugue and Variation - Franck

5.00pm Evensong: **Psalm:**
40
Officiant: Mike Smith and Preacher: Revd Simon Marshall
Readings: Joshua 1.1-9, Ephesians 6.10-20 **Hymns:**
64
Reader: Nick Cahm 206
Music led by: Back Row 449
Condon Responses
Canticles: Fauxbourdons Service – Morley
Anthem: Si iniquitatis – S S Wesley
Voluntary: Praeludium in E Minor (the Great) - Bruhns

THIS WEEK

Mon 9	9.00am	Morning Prayer
Tues10	10.00am	St Alphege Prayer Group (OBH)
	7.30pm	Bellringers practice
Weds11	9.30am	Open The Book
	1.10pm	Lunchtime Recital – Solihull School (chamber music recital)
Thurs 12	9.00am	Morning Prayer
	10.30am	Said Eucharist
Fri 13	9.00am	Morning Prayer
	11.30am	Funeral for David Caldicott
	1.45pm	Funeral for John Kemp

BIBLE READING: Exodus 17.1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. The people quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?' But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?' So Moses cried out to the Lord, 'What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.' The Lord said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.' Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. He called the place Massah[a] and Meribah, because the Israelites quarrelled and tested the Lord, saying, 'Is the Lord among us or not?'

BIBLE READING: Romans 5.1-11

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

GOSPEL: John 4.5-42

So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?' Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.'

Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come back.' The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband"; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!' The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.' Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.' Jesus said to her, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.'

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or, 'Why are you speaking with her?' Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, 'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah,[d] can he?' They left the city and were on their way to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, eat something.' But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' So the disciples said to one another, 'Surely no one has brought him something to eat?' Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps." I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.'

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.' So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.'

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

321 Course: Running until March 22nd, on Sundays 6pm-7.30pm in OBH Rm 5

We are running the 321 Course for those exploring faith or new to faith, offering a new perspective on exploring life according to Jesus. This is great opportunity to invite friends and family. For more details and booking please contact the parish office.

Parish Weekend - Spaces are filling up quickly for the parish away weekend at Launde Abbey (5-7th June). Please see leaflet in church for full details and book soon to avoid disappointment.

Lunchtime Recital – March 11th – Solihull School (chamber music recital). Refreshments are available from 12.30pm with the performance at 1.10pm. All are welcome – admission free, retiring collection.

Sat 14th March 10am, Mothering Sunday Posy Making. Can you help to make posies in St Alphege church? No experience required. Please bring scissors/secateurs. Decorative heather and greenery gratefully received by all (can be left in black bags in church). Just turn up or contact Elaine - 705 3265 elainediskin@hotmail.co.uk.

Mothering Sunday Retiring Collection. Mothers' Union will be collecting for one of their main projects AFIA - Away From It All Holidays. All donations will support and enable families facing adversity enjoy a short break or day trip offering much needed respite.

Churchyard Tidy Up – March 14th meeting at 10am in the Churchyard. All help appreciated.

Parish Agape Meal on Maundy Thursday, 6.00pm at St Helen's Church. Booking essential. Please email carringtons.church@gmail.com.

Electoral Roll – The Electoral Roll is undergoing its annual revision. Applications for enrolment, amendments and queries, please contact Stephen Linstead, Electoral Roll Officer, no later than March 25th, 2026: E. sglrm1@btinternet.com, T. 0121 705 1376 M. 07746 796 989.

St Helen's and St Michael's inquiries should be addressed to District Electoral Roll Officers.

St Alphege DCC AGM Tuesday 14 April 2026, 7.30pm Oliver Bird Hall - Everyone is welcome to attend the AGM, fuller details of which are in the Parish Magazine. To be eligible for election to the committee you must have been on the St Alphege section of the electoral for at least 6 months at the time of the AGM. Nomination papers for all posts are by the North Door and in the Parish Office. Completed forms should be returned either to Sheila Sayers or to the Parish Office.

Community Interest:

Eco-Lent 2026 – Knowle Parish Church, The next meeting is on Tuesday 10th March at 7.45pm. A talk by Rev.Dr. Dave Bookless Head of Theology. Please visit:

www.kpc.org.uk/Groups/402947/Latest_News_and.aspx for more information.



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 two methods below:-

To donate to St Alphege, use the contactless Giving Station by the North Door or scan this QR code.

