

SOLIHULL
PARISH



NEWS



No. 559

SEPTEMBER 2024

PRICE £1.00

TEAM CHURCHES

St ALPHEGE - The Square, Solihull B91 3RH

St HELEN - St Helen's Road, Solihull B91 2DA

St MICHAEL - Bryanston Road, Solihull B91 1BS



St Alphege (Sundays)

8.00 a.m. Said Eucharist
10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist except:
Sunday 9.15 a.m. All Age Eucharist 8th September
5.00 p.m. Evensong
Monday, Thursday and Friday 9.00 a.m. Morning Prayer
Thursdays 10.30 a.m. Said Eucharist

The Junction

9.15 a.m. Junction in person at the OBH on Sunday 15th and 29th September

St Helen

Sundays 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion
Third Sunday 10.00 a.m. Morning Praise
Tuesdays 9.00 a.m. Morning Prayer
Sunday Club 10 a.m. 22nd September

St Michael at Sharmans Cross School on Sundays

10.30 a.m. Eucharist.

St. Michael's Chapel, Bryanston Road on Wednesdays

9.30 a.m. Morning Prayer
10 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Friday

9.30 a.m. **Praise and Play** – please e-mail Linda Hicks l.hicks@solihullparish.org.uk

Full details on the homepage of the Parish website at: <https://www.solihullparish.org.uk>

Please don't hesitate to contact the Revd. Nick Parker or another priest if you need help in an emergency or any support (full contact details inside the back cover) or phone the Parish Office on 0121 705 5350. It is always a pleasure to talk to you."

WEDDING AND BAPTISM ENQUIRIES

Please contact the Parish Office:
life.events@solihullparish.org.uk

The Revd. Nick Parker
The Revd. Simon Marshall
The Revd. Sue Chandler

C o n t e n t s

Editorial	2
Roundabout	4
Let us Pray	12
News from Team Churches	13
St Alphege	13
St Helen	30
St Michael	32
The Guardians of St Alphege	20
Music Matters	22
Church for Families	25-28
Youth Stuff	29
Pioneer Diary	34
Matters of Faith	46
For Your Diary	50
Address Book	52



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

Visit our Website

www.solihullparish.org.uk

Want to email the Editor?
parishnews@solihullparish.org.uk

Cover picture

An icon of St. Michael, whose Feast Day is 29th September, created by the late Revd. John de Wit, a former Team Vicar of St. Michael's.

Photograph by Paul Smith.

H e a d l i n e s

CareHome2CareHome Cycle Ride a Success	4
Solihull Parish Puppets	6
Victory for the Parish	7
Ringers' Ramble	8
Provincial Gathering	10
Project Turnaround: Congregational Briefings	10
St. Alphege MU Visit to St. Mary Magdelene Tanworth in Arden	11
Update from the Parish Wardens	38
Mutanda Island	42

Editorial

We have a dream...

On the evening of Sunday 4th August, a far-right demonstration took place on New Road between St. Alphege and the Ramada Hotel. Our church notice boards were covered over with messages of hate, and photographs taken which quickly appeared on social media. At the same time there was a very unpleasant Islamophobic demonstration on Hermitage Road outside the Hub (Deen Central). Whilst both the national and local picture have significantly calmed, we should not underestimate the distress caused to many in our Solihull community, and nor should we be under any illusion that there remains a minority who, through truth-twisting and the dissemination of lies, continue to stoke fear with the aim of causing division. Against this background we are called to witness to the Gospel we proclaim, to the surpassing love of Christ which demands us to welcome all without discrimination and always to care especially for the most vulnerable and the refugee.

All of this makes the Civic Service held at the end of June yet more important – about which I wrote a report for Parish News some weeks ago (also contained in this September edition). Within that service we sang the hymn based on Martin Luther King's famous 'I have a dream speech'. It included these verses:

*We have a dream: our children shall be free
from judgements based on colour or on race;
free to become whatever they may be,
of their own choosing in the light of grace.*

*We have a dream that truth shall overcome
the fear and anger of our present day;
that black and white will share a common home,
and hand in hand will walk the pilgrim way.*

...and cause to hope

As I reflect on both the Civic Service and recent events, I must say my hope remains undimmed. First, because the light of truth and love has been evident in the widespread sense of outrage reflected in much larger counter-demonstrations that have taken place across our nation. And second, because this hope is based not on us but upon Jesus Christ, Prince of Peace and King of Love, with whom we will together continue to build God's perfect eternal kingdom despite the set-backs, a kingdom reflecting the wonder and diversity of heaven.

As I close it is another hymn which comes to mind:

*Through the night of doubt and sorrow
Onward goes the pilgrim band,
Singing songs of expectation,
Marching to the promised land.*

*Clear before us through the darkness
Gleams and burns the guiding light,
Pilgrim clasps the hand of pilgrim,
Stepping fearless through the night.*

*Soon shall come the great awakening,
Soon the rending of the tomb;
Then the scattering of all shadows,
And the end of toil and gloom.*

Bernard Severin Ingemann (1825); transl. S. Baring-Gould

The Civic Service

Proclaiming the Gospel afresh in this generation

St. Alphege hosted the annual Civic Service on Sunday 30th June, welcoming and praying for the Mayor and elected Councillors. Our new Mayor, Cllr. Shahin Ashraf M.B.E., is Muslim, and we were therefore pleased to include a reading from the Qur'an focussing upon God's truth and light. This was wonderfully intoned by Imam Qari Elaimy from The Hub, Solihull, with the English translation read by Madam Mayor. We then heard 'Ya Ellahi', an Arabic rendition of Leonard Cohen's 'Hallelujah', sung beautifully by Mikhael Mala. The related themes for the service were unity and light, in view of the growing diversity of Solihull Metropolitan Borough, as well as the General Election, then just a few days away. We enjoyed a fine sermon from the Mayor's chaplain, the Revd. Paul Day, along with anthems by Bruckner and Stanford showcasing the talent of our St. Alphege Choirs. At the end of the service, before the Mayor and Councillors were commissioned, faith leaders from different traditions lit candles in honour of the uniqueness and integrity of each faith, whilst recognising that the light is one. The service concluded with the pronouncement of God's blessing and singing of the National Anthem.

Through the planning and leading of this important service, I was reminded of what it truly means to be the Established or National Church of England, privileged to extend God's welcome to all and to serve every citizen without fear or favour. The opportunity this year to be more intentionally inclusive sets a helpful precedent for the future – with the expectation that future Mayors may wish to choose their own reading to sit alongside the chosen Gospel. In making this choice the key is not so much the source (which could be from any faith tradition or none) but rather how it supports the theme of the service and compliments the Gospel message. We regularly apply this same principle for occasional services (weddings and funerals), where the Church has for many years overwhelmingly said 'Yes' to requests for the inclusion of readings and music from alternate traditions, because those asking are unfailingly respectful of our tradition and thoughtful in their choices.

Whilst celebrating this service – positively received by so many – I am conscious that some found the changes unsettling, raising questions about what it means to Christ's Church and faithful to the Gospel Jesus proclaimed. Similar concerns have been raised about the recent decision of the Church of England to offer 'Prayers of Love and Faith' in support and celebration of loving relationships of various shapes – including same sex relationships.

Whilst change can be challenging, and whilst an honoured place needs to be reserved for those who with grace and integrity retain traditional views, it is important to recognise that the bedrock has not changed – namely love, and in particular God's grace and love we receive through Christ. And important to know that the more inclusive Church we are becoming is not in spite of what the Scriptures say, but because of the Good News we find in them – recognising that God's love knows no limits and in Christ all barriers have been broken down.

Looking to the future, I am greatly encouraged to see the positive reception to the changes we are steadily making, especially from friends of the Church who are not, or not yet, full members. It is clear, that when we have courage to open our doors fully to everyone in the community, when we stand ready to offer God's welcome unconditionally without judgment, there remains a warm reception for the Church's voice and an openness to the Gospel proclaimed by Jesus Christ, namely, his promise of redemption, freedom, and renewal, and thereby the fullness of life he brings us by his Spirit.

Revd. Nick Parker
Priest in Charge and Rector Designate

Roundabout

CareHome2CareHome Cycle Ride a Success!

35 years on from my first charity bike ride (Land's End to John O'Groats for the Multiple Sclerosis Society) I am pleased to report my latest challenge for the Alzheimer's Society has been successfully completed! Like every adventure there have been ups and downs - quite literally in some parts! The weather could have been kinder at times especially on Day 1, when cycling through Cumbria, Yorkshire and Lancashire which, although stunningly beautiful, was extremely challenging in the gusty winds! Pot holes and poor road surfaces added an additional hazard, both on country lanes and on the busier roads. Navigation also proved tricky on a few occasions. I followed my planned route on a mapping app on my phone and bright conditions occasionally made it difficult to read, so I confess to the odd 'detour' when I missed a turn or two! 'Range anxiety' with the phone battery added to the technical challenge but thankfully it held out when on unfamiliar territory.



However, none of these issues detracted from, what was, a fantastic experience over the 4 days. The route was extremely pretty for the majority (much better than the M6!) and scenic Staffordshire was a super surprise, as were the fantastic cycle lanes through the centre of Wigan! I passed fellow cyclists, walkers, horses and even a steam traction engine! When we stopped, the charity of strangers was heart-warming; pub managers opened up for us to use their facilities and the general public were so encouraging when they saw the Alzheimer's Society information on the support car along with the charity's kit which Julia and I were wearing.



We are truly overwhelmed and humbled with the encouragement received; from the staff, residents and relatives at both Stobars Hall Care Home in Kirkby Stephen, who sent me on my way with such enthusiasm and those at Blythe Rose Specialist Care Home in Solihull who waved a chequered flag to welcome me at the finish and hosted a celebratory party with singer Barry Styles, a cake and a special medal and of course, to all who donated. The donations on my Just Giving page increased steadily before and during the ride and I am thrilled to have exceeded my fundraising target. Thank you to all who donated from Solihull Parish whether named or anonymous!

My Just Giving Page is still live and contains photos and updates of each stage of my ride to honour my mum, Mary and father-in-law Mike, both Alzheimer's disease sufferers. It can be accessed by searching 'Nick Hanson' on [JustGiving.com](https://www.justgiving.com) or by scanning the QR code and of course feel free to donate to this very worthy cause! Thank you.

Nick Hanson



**HERITAGE OPEN DAY
ST. ALPHEGE CHURCH
SATURDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER
10.00 a.m. – 4.00 p.m.**

Heritage Open Days is England's largest community-lead festival of history and culture. Every year in September it brings people together to celebrate their heritage, community and history. We are hoping to have the church open to visitors on Saturday 14th September, allowing people to look round, and offering tours of the tower and free refreshments. If the work is complete, we may be able to show off our new lighting!

If anyone could spare an hour or so to help out as a welcomer or to serve refreshments, please get in touch with Pam Price: colandpam@ic24.net or 0121 704 3104.



HARVEST BRING & SHARE LUNCH

**SUNDAY 13TH OCTOBER
OLIVER BIRD HALL
12.30pm to eat at 1.00pm
All welcome!**



Offers of help to Pam Price: colandpam@ic24.net 0121 704 3104

Solihull Parish Puppets

What a busy few weeks we have had, with a number of new experiences!

We were invited to provide 15 minutes' of entertainment at Marston Green Scouts Gala on 29th June. We chose 3 favourite songs and linked them with a puppet compering to give performers a bit of a rest for their arms in between. Unfortunately, we had a bit of a hitch with the sound system. We live and learn - nothing wrong with the sound system at all, and we soldiered on. We felt tremendously proud of what we had achieved, pushing our boundaries, but wondered whether the whole experience was worth the effort. Performing in front of an audience that was not wholly engaged (after all there were stalls for people to be browsing at the same time) was a little demoralising, but then, who knows? Maybe our message of God's love for all spoke to one or more people who needed to hear it?



A visit to the Junction is always appreciated and we feel very at home there. A new venture was to perform at Messy Church on 19th July, the occasion of saying "farewell" to Revd. Sue as Children's Worker. It was lovely to reach a new audience and potentially new team members. Young Theo and his Dad, Mark, were roped in to help with our performance, quite willingly, as we were 2 team members short that day.

Wednesday 24th July was a happy day when we returned to SoLO, Daylight South, to perform for the learning disabled adults who attend this valuable day service. As usual, we were very warmly welcomed. One member had even brought her own puppets to perform for us and others enjoyed handling the small puppets we took for them to experience.

Last but not least, Solihull Parish Puppets had the great opportunity to lead a training session at St. John the Baptist Church, Leamington Spa, on Sunday 28th July. Again we performed 3 songs with some explanations and demonstrations of puppeteering and our audience of all ages eagerly grasped the opportunity to use the puppets themselves. We hope that we left them inspired to set up their own puppet group.

Finally, I would like to say a huge thanks to all who have supported Solihull Parish Puppets over the past year, not least Nigel Gleadon, honorary roadie. I am delighted to say that the puppet team has grown but there is definitely room for more. Please visit our table when volunteer opportunities are showcased in September to find out more!

Ruth Sabbagh

Roundabout

Victory for the Parish

You will hopefully have all seen the developing Victory Garden at the front of the O.B.H. as it springs to life with fruit and vegetables aplenty. The establishment of this garden as an outdoor community area has helped Preschool, No.1 Club, Cubs and The Junction's children to develop an understanding of the life cycle of plants, farm to fork and caring for nature.

The success of the garden has also resulted in the Parish being awarded levels 1-4 of the Royal Horticultural Society's School Garden Awards. The Children and Young People's groups of the Parish are also about to embark on



the National Wildlife Trusts' Green Tree Awards which will set 16 nature challenges for children to complete to earn Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum Awards.



Most recently, Preschool and The Junction completed the Wildlife Trusts' 30 Days Wild Challenge which involved 30 challenges over 30 days, all with a focus on environmental stewardship. Look out for us on the National Wildlife Trusts' Website and YouTube channel.

During November 2024 (date to be confirmed) we will receive a donation of

miniature fruit, berries and nuts trees and hedges to plant around the Oliver Bird Hall site from Warwickshire Wildlife Trust. We are planning to host a community planting event for this. For more information, please contact Ben at chair@stalphege-preschool.org.uk

Our first harvest of organic vegetables was donated to the residents of St. Alphege Close - special thanks to Fr. Roy and Jean for arranging this. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive, and all veg was gone within 24 hours.



Ben Yates
Pre-School Chair

Roundabout

Ringers Ramble

A tradition of Solihull ringers is the Annual Ramble, held in the summer, and to which we also invite ringers' family members. This year it was held on Sunday 4th August, which dawned dry and slightly cloudy – looking good!

First of course was morning service ringing, which went very well with joyous ringing on all 12 of our lovely bells. Then home for a quick change before meeting up in Dorridge Park for a picnic. We each took our own food, but some brought extra treats, such as strawberries and fudge, for us all to share. Delicious! Our food attracted the attention of a French Bulldog, Milo, who was evading all his owner's attempts to catch him, which had us all laughing.



Picnic in the park



Setting off

Once replete, we put picnic paraphernalia back in our cars and after a pre-walk group photo, set off at a gentle pace on a circular walk, heading SW initially and mostly along the edge of fields.

Then followed almost a mile along the Stratford-Upon-Avon canal. We took a brief breather beside The Wharf public house in Hockley Heath, before crossing Hockley Heath park.



At The Wharf

Roundabout

A short section of residential roads brought us back into fields, now walking NW all the way back to Dorridge Park. A total distance of just under 5 miles and fairly flat going. Sections of this route can be very muddy indeed, but we were fortunate that recent good weather meant it was dry all the way!



En route



Nearly done!

We said our goodbyes and dispersed quickly at the end, as some of us were meeting up again at St Alphege within half an hour to attempt a Quarter Peal of Grandsire Triples. This was successful, so a happy conclusion to a full but enjoyable day.

Linda Whitehead

MOBILE HAIRDRESSER

*Fully Qualified
Ladies & Gentlemen's Hairdresser*

FOR AN APPOINTMENT
Telephone Claire:

01564 79 46 84
07931 751 451

HIGH QUALITY PAINTING & DECORATING SERVICES

We cover Solihull & surrounding areas.

Contact Lizzie for a free quote:

07809222493 hello@kbpainting.co.uk

www.kbpainting.co.uk



Roundabout

Provincial Gathering

More than 230 MU members from across the Canterbury Province met in Oxford on June 22nd. It was a day of being together as MU members and sharing what is happening in our local dioceses through a series of presentations from each of the four clusters of the dioceses which make up the province.

The day was full. Apart from the four presentations, we heard about an interesting new resource called *Hymns We Love*. It uses well-loved hymns to reveal quite gently but clearly the core truths of Christianity. It is designed to be used as a one-off session or as a series perhaps in a care home. We also celebrated together in a Eucharist and then in the final session were entertained by a comedian, preacher and writer called Andy Kind.

We are in the Midlands Cluster and our presentation was the final one of the day. Instead of the expected format we organised a game of *Mothers' Union Bingo* complete with prizes to highlight some of the projects we do.

Please ask Elaine Diskin, Pat Marshall, Julia Hanson or Deirdre Moll if you cannot imagine what an MU game of Bingo could possibly be like!

It was a really good happy day with lots of fresh ideas and inspiration about all that is going on in the Mothers' Union.



Deirdre Moll

Project Turnaround: Congregational Briefings

With the St. Alphege church lighting now renewed, the P.C.C. have unanimously agreed to seek the necessary approvals for the next phase of Project Turnaround. Following the articles in June's magazine, everyone is invited to hear our church architect, Aidan Ridyard, outline the plans on:

Sunday 29th September from 11.45 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. in St. Alphege Church

After this briefing the plans will be on display at the back of St. Alphege Church for a few weeks over the autumn.

Andy Halstead will be offering similar briefings:

Sunday 13th October from 11.30 a.m. to 12.15 p.m. at Sharmans Cross School

Sunday 3rd November from 11.00 a.m. to 11.45 a.m. at St. Helen's Church

St. Alphege MU visit to St. Mary Magdalene Tanworth in Arden

Mothers' UNION
Christian care for families
Diocese of Birmingham

On Thursday 4th July members visited the Parish Church of St. Mary Magdalene in Tanworth in Arden. A very knowledgeable guide took us round the church, explaining its history and pointing out its most important features. There was a chapel here in Anglo-Saxon times, linked to the Parish of Brailes, in South Warwickshire, which may be why it is not mentioned in the Domesday Book. The earliest part of the building probably dates back to the later Twelfth Century, when it was transferred to the Canons of Kenilworth. Since then it has had many patrons, most recently Frederick Muntz of Umberslade. Most of the present building dates from the Fourteenth Century, built shortly before the Black Death arrived in England. Most of the windows date from this period, but the stained glass is all modern. There are however some Medieval tiles in the Chancel, showing the original, much lower, floor level. Among the church's treasures are two unusual Medieval pedestals, originally for statues, standing either side of the altar in the Chancel; they are of similar size but different designs, still showing signs of the original paint. In the Eighteenth Century there was considerable remodelling of the interior, including the creation of a West end gallery, and the spire was reduced in height and rebuilt. The Georgian font, from this period, was originally in St. Philip's, Birmingham, now the Cathedral, but is no longer used. The popularity of the Gothic style in Queen Victoria's reign led to a "re-Gothicising" of churches; consequently, Tanworth underwent a huge restoration in 1880, when the gallery was removed, pews rearranged and a Victorian font installed. The Georgian font is now often used as flower stand, and there is a third, very modern one which is actually used.



On the outside of the South wall of the Church we saw the remains of a Fourteenth Century "Mass clock", used to tell parishioners the time of the service. The churchyard has been extended into a peaceful, partly wooded area and among the graves is that of the singer songwriter Nick Drake, where an annual commemoration is held in July, and several maintained by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission for men who died in the two World Wars.

Before going to the Bell Inn for an excellent lunch, members looked approvingly at the area behind the pews, which now has tables and chairs, and the excellent kitchen, concealed when not in use behind panelling.

Carol Southworth

Let us Pray

Calendar and Prayer Intentions for September 2024

1	Giles of Provence, Hermit , c. 710	Members of religious communities	Knightcote Drive
2	Martyrs of Papua New Guinea, 1901 & 1942	The Church in the Pacific	Ladbrook Road
3	Trinity 13 , Gregory the Great, teacher, Bishop of Rome	The Roman Catholic Church	Lady Byron Lane
4	Feria	Michael and Anne, our Bishops	Langford Croft
5	Feria	Our Churchwardens	Langtree Avenue
6	Alan Gardiner, founder of South American Mission Society, 1851	The Church in South America	Laxton Grove
7	Feria	The work of our PCC	Libbards Gate
8	Trinity 15 - Accession of the Sovereign	Charles Our King on the anniversary of his accession	Libbards Way
9	Charles Fuge Lowder, Priest, 1880	The Society of the Holy Cross	Lighthorne Road
10	Feria	Nick and all the parish clergy	Links Drive
11	Feria	Our Deputy Wardens	Linton Avenue
12	Feria	The work of our DCCs	Linwood Road
13	John Christostom, Bishop of Constantinople, teacher, 407	The Orthodox Churches	Littleton Croft
14	Holy Cross Day	That we may declare our faith in Christ in word and deed	Littlewood Close
15	Trinity 16	The Prime Minister and Cabinet	Lode Lane
16	Ninian, Bishop of Galloway , Apostle of the Picts, c. 432	The Church in Scotland	Lovelace Avenue
17	Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen, Visionary, 1179	Spiritual Directors and Confessors	Lugtrout Lane
18	Feria	The Readers of our Parish	Malvern Park Avenue
19	Theodore of Tarsus, Archbishop of Canterbury , 690	Justin our Archbishop	Manor Road
20	John Coleridge Patterson, first bishop of Melanesia, and his companions, martyrs, 1871	Martyrs of the Anglican Communion	Manor Walk
21	Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist	Our church treasurers	Maplebeck Court
22	Trinity 17	Members of Parliament	Marsh Lane
23	Feria	All involved in the Parish's musical contribution to worship	Marsham Court Road
24	Feria	Local councillors and magistrates	Martley Croft
25	Lancelot Andrews, Bishop of Winchester, Spiritual Writer, 1626	Bible translators and scholars	Maybridge Drive
26	Wilson Carlile, founder of the Church Army, 1942	Suzette Maguire, our Pioneer Minister	Mayfield Close
27	Vincent de Paul, founder of the Congregation of the Mission (Lazarists) 1660	All who care for the sick and poor	Maythorn Grove
28	Ember Day	Vocations to the sacred ministry	Melford Hall Road
29	Trinity 18 - Michael and all Angels	St Michael's Church	Mell Square
30	Feria	The St Alphege bellringers	Melplash Avenue

The Church prays for the community daily: please include these topics in your personal daily prayers.

From the St. Alphege Register

Baptisms

None

Weddings

1st August Jake Brooks and Kate Louise Allen
21st September Thomas James Holdworth and Sophie Laura Cahalin
21st September Alexander Graeme Douglas Thompson and Laura Stanion

Wedding Blessings

None

Renewal of Vows

None

Funerals

27th June Irene Grice
1st July Derek Sears
19th July Valda Johnson
22nd July Mary Elizabeth Page
27th July Peter Bosley
1st August Sheila Muriel Cross
17th August Linda Preece

Interment of Ashes

5th July Margaret Hurt
8th July Lesley Cowan

Names taken from the Chantry Book for Remembrance in September

Reginald Bernard Aston	Tony Marshall	Noreen Porter
Vernon Cecil Davis	Peggy Oswald	Eileen Rivers
Geoffrey John Day	Wendy Patterson	Alice Shirley
Sue Hewitt	Harry Pilkington	
Nigel Paul Ladbrooke	Colin Pittaway	

Worship Notes for September 2024

September sees the start of **Creationtide**, an ecumenical celebration in which Christians throughout the world unite to pray for the environment. It starts on 1st September, the *World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation*, and ends on 4th October, the feast of St Francis. The theme for this year is 'to hope and act with creation' – when we work together with creation, the first fruits of hope can emerge.

8th September

The Light of Christ

The new lighting will be commissioned on this day at St Alphege's and the theme for the day at all services there will be 'the Light of Christ.'

14th September

Holy Cross Day

A traditional feast observed in honour of Christ's self-offering on the cross for our salvation. It dates back to the dedication of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem c. 335 A.D.

17th September

Hildegard of Bingen

A German Benedictine abbess and polymath, remembered as a visionary, writer, composer, philosopher, mystic and as a medical writer and practitioner during the High Middle Ages.

21st September

Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

Named in the New Testament as one of the twelve Apostles of Jesus. According to Christian tradition, he was the author of the first Gospel and is thus known as Matthew the Evangelist.

29th September

St. Michael and All Angels

On this day we remember that creation comprises things unseen as well as seen. Angels feature in both Testaments and are portrayed as messengers of God. Michael is referred to in Revelations as the leader of the heavenly host in its fight against Satan. Other Angels named in Scripture are Gabriel, Raphael and Uriel.

Stephen Linstead



SHOE AID

TRYING TO HELP TO PROVIDE SHOES, TO PEOPLE WHO ARE TOO POOR TO BE ABLE TO BUY SHOES:-

Children who cannot go to school, or play sports because they have no suitable shoes to wear, which often this makes them a target for ridicule or bullying.

4m children, taking an average across the British Isles, this equates to 4 children out of a class of 30

Young adults unable to go for an interview due to lack of suitable shoes

Rough Sleepers without shoes, "Trench Foot" is now rife amongst these people

So Children s to Adult Shoes, Trainers to Formal wear, all are welcome

We had a splendid collection last year, when we collected in the Parish and the Rotary Club of Solihull, a fantastic total of over 200 sacks of shoes.

Can we beat this??

If you have any unwanted shoes in good condition,
please contact **Phil** on **07770 406870**
or let me know on **philcgodfrey@btinternet.com**

Please tell your friends and relations - Phil Godfrey

September 2024 Services

Sunday 1st September Trinity 14

St. Alphege	8.00 a.m.	Said Eucharist
St. Alphege	10.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist
St. Alphege	5.00 p.m.	Evening Prayer
St. Helen	10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
St. Michael	10.30 a.m.	Eucharist

Wednesday 4th September

St. Michael	10.00 a.m.	Eucharist
-------------	------------	-----------

Thursday 5th September

St. Alphege	10.30 a.m.	Eucharist + PHA
-------------	------------	-----------------

Sunday 8th September Trinity 15

St. Alphege	8.00 a.m.	Said Eucharist, Service of Light
St. Alphege	9.15 a.m.	All Age Holy Communion, Service of Light
St. Alphege	11.00 a.m.	Choral Eucharist, Service of Light
St. Alphege	5.00 p.m.	Evensong
St. Helen	10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
St. Michael	10.30 a.m.	Eucharist

Wednesday 11th September

St. Michael	10.00 a.m.	Eucharist
-------------	------------	-----------

Thursday 12th September

St. Alphege	10.30 a.m.	Eucharist
-------------	------------	-----------

Sunday 15th September Trinity 16

St. Alphege	8.00 a.m.	Said Eucharist
Oliver Bird Hall	9.15 a.m.	The Junction
St. Alphege	10.30 a.m.	Sung Eucharist
St. Alphege	5.00 p.m.	Evensong
St. Helen	10.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
St. Michael	10.30 a.m.	Eucharist

Morning Prayer

Morning Prayer is ordinarily said each weekday, and all are very welcome.

Mondays, Thursdays, and Fridays at St. Alphege at 9 a.m.

Tuesdays at St. Helen's at 9 a.m.

Wednesdays at St. Michael's Chapel at 9.30 a.m.

Wednesday 18th September

St. Michael 10.00 a.m. Eucharist

Thursday 19th September

St. Alphege 10.30 a.m. Eucharist (MU)

Sunday 22nd September Trinity 17

St. Alphege 8.00 a.m. Said Eucharist
St. Alphege 10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist
St. Alphege 5.00 p.m. Evensong
St. Helen 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion
St. Michael 10.30 a.m. Eucharist

Wednesday 25th September

St. Michael 10.00 a.m. Eucharist

Thursday 26th September

St. Alphege 10.30 a.m. Eucharist

Sunday 29th September St. Michael and All Angels

St. Alphege 8.00 a.m. Said Eucharist
Oliver Bird Hall 9.15 a.m. The Junction
St. Alphege 10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist
St. Alphege 5.00 p.m. Vespers and Compline
St. Helen 10.00 a.m. Holy Communion
St. Michael 10.30 a.m. Eucharist

Wednesday 2nd October

St. Michael 10.00 a.m. Eucharist

Thursday 3rd October

St. Alphege 10.30 a.m. Eucharist



Live and streamed services are being held at St. Alphege's, St. Michael's and St. Helen's churches.

Details are inside the front cover of this magazine and on the Parish Website.

<https://www.solihullparish.org.uk>

The Grove Residential Home (Solihull)

48 LODE LANE, SOLIHULL, B91 2AE

CQC AND SOLIHULL MBC REGISTERED

A comfortable 'home from home' residential home for older people, located near to the Hospital and centre of Solihull.

We offer Short term / Long term

**Enquiries to Miss Michelle Farrugia
Telephone No: 0121 705 3356**

RAYNER HOUSE AND YEW TREES

3-5 Damson Parkway, Solihull, West Midlands B91 2PP

**ARE YOU CONSIDERING SHELTERED HOUSING
IN A CARING ENVIRONMENT?**

YEW TREES offers single older people affordable sheltered housing flatlets situated in pleasant grounds -

- Independent living with support services
- 24 hour on site emergency support
- Home cooked meals available
- Domestic service provided
- A secure environment
- Parking facilities
- A varied social activities programme
- A friendly community environment
- Guest flat accommodation available for visitors

For further information and brochure contact Business Manager on

0121 705 9293

<http://www.raynerhouseandyewtrees.co.uk/>

Thomas Bragg & Sons Funeral Directors



A Life Well Remembered Lives On

- 24-hour service
- Bereavement advice
- Transparent pricing
- Home visits
- Private chapels of rest
- Floral tributes
- Memorial masonry
- Prepaid funeral plans

Thomas Bragg & Sons Funeral Directors are here to support and guide you. We offer a friendly, professional service to families.

Call us for immediate support, advice or a home visit. We are here to help 24 hours a day.

www.thomasbragg.co.uk

Shirley

0121 744 1428

562 Stratford Road, B90 4AY

Knowle

01564 773 610

1682 High Street, B93 0LY

 **Funeral Partners**



TOM O' THE WOOD

Country Pub and Restaurant



Finwood Road, Rowington,
Warwickshire, CV35 7DH
Tel. 01564 782 252
www.tomothewood.co.uk

Traditional homemade food with a modern twist all freshly prepared on the premises using locally sourced products.

This ancient canal-side pub provides a relaxing setting in which to enjoy your meal whilst taking in the peaceful sight and sounds from the Grand Union Canal.

You will find a very friendly atmosphere with welcoming staff.

Families, groups, walking parties and dogs are always welcome.

See Website for more information

Advertising in the Solihull Parish News

If you advertise here you will reach over a thousand households in Solihull each month, as well as supporting your church.

**Contact our Advertising
Manager, Tim Drakeford**

**TELEPHONE:
0121 705 4494**



The Guardians of St Alphege Parish Church

As I write this we are, at last, enjoying some real Summer weather. Let's hope it lasts more than a few days.

Our next event will be a lunch at **The Drum & Monkey**. This will take place on **Thursday 10th October**. We will select 3 or 4 dishes for you to choose from, as we did last year. At the end of August we will be going to choose the dishes, so very soon you will hear the details.

The next date for your diary is the **A.G.M.** This will take place on **Thursday 3rd October at 7.00p.m.** in **Room 1** of the **Oliver Bird Hall**. The papers will be sent out in mid-September.

The work on the lighting in church is progressing on schedule. We have been advised that the floodlighting is now working.

Once again, I must make an appeal for someone to come forward as a Trustee. We have in recent months co-opted two new Trustees for the Guardians and it seemed that we were going to be OK for the next year. However, sadly, Jan Richardson has decided that she can no longer continue as a Trustee. Jan has been a great support to the Trustees for the last 5 years and we are very grateful to her, but she does not live in Solihull and has found it increasingly difficult to come to meetings and events, in her already busy life. We are very sorry to lose her but quite understand her position. So, this means that we are once again looking for another Trustee. If you might be interested, or know someone who might be interested, please get in touch with us.

The Trustees



Crafty People – We Need You!

We are planning to host a poppy installation at St. Alphege Church in Solihull for Remembrance Sunday 2024, and we need as many poppies as possible! (Knitted or crocheted.)

(Patterns are available if you need one.)

See **Ann Boccock** (Knit & Natter at the Greville Arms, fortnightly on Monday evenings) or **Suzette Maguire** (Wellbeing Wednesday at the Greville Arms, every Wednesday morning or call

0121 7090884 for more details.

Drop off points to be confirmed.



Floodlighting

The Guardians Floodlighting Scheme is available for anyone who would wish to celebrate or mark an occasion, or to commemorate a date.

It is wonderful news that the Floodlighting of St. Alphege is working again and sincere thanks to all who have made this possible.

The cost is £8.00 for 2 hours or £14.00 for 4 hours. Please give 21 days' notice.

Forms are available from the Guardians' notice boards in St. Alphege Church or in the Oliver Bird Hall.

Names are displayed on monthly lists on these notice boards and also in the Solihull Parish News magazine and acknowledged with a card sent to the donor.

These cards will be on their way again now.

I would personally like to thank everyone who has continued to support the Guardians with their standing orders, cheques and cash and have been so kind and understanding to me.

Do contact me on the phone or email below if you don't know about the Floodlighting Scheme and would like to learn more. It's open to all.

For further information please contact the Scheme organiser:-

Sheila Payne, 0121 706 0520; or email: russellpayne110@aol.com

The Church was floodlit to remember the following in 2024

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| 6 th July | In loving memory of Jackie Goodman. |
| 11 th July | Colin Price with love on your birthday. |
| 21 st July | In treasured memory of David Francis Wright on his birthday.
A devoted husband, father and grandfather. |
| 11 th August | Alan Wilson, in fond memory of a loving father. |
| 17 th August | Remembering James Frangou. A loving husband and adored father.
Sadly missed by Barbara and Diana. Xx |
| 20 th August | In loving memory of John Westbrook and his wife Jean, parents of Sara and Penny.
Married in St. Alphege Church on 20 th August 1966. |
| 28 th August | In loving memory of James Mawson. Dad, you are in my prayers every day. |



The last Sunday of the academic year, 21st July, was designated as Choir Sunday. All the Choirs sang together at the Choral Eucharist at 10.30 a.m., at which the Revd. Sue presided. The music included Ireland's *Communion Service in C* and the anthem *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* by Bairstow. At the end of the service Choir Awards were presented to Choristers to mark their many achievements during the year. After the service there was a most enjoyable Bring and Share Lunch in the Oliver Bird Hall. Evensong was brought forward to 3 o'clock and again sung by all the Choirs. Music included the *Responses* by Ayleward, Canticles from Stainer's *Evening Service in Bb* and the wonderful anthem *Blessed be the God and Father* by Wesley; the Voluntary was *Intrada* by Ives. An excellent celebratory day!

At the time of writing the Choirs are in residence at Rochester Cathedral and there will be a full report of their week there in the October edition of Parish News.

Carol Southworth

Wednesday Lunchtime Music Recitals, 1.10pm to 2pm

Everyone is welcome to the Recitals. Admission is free and there is a retiring collection held in aid of The Friends of St. Alphege Music (Registered Charity 511237).

We hope to resume recitals in St. Alphege Church later in September, but this is subject to the completion of the lighting works in the church building; the dates, performers and venues will be confirmed nearer the time.

Advertising in the Solihull Parish News

If you advertise here you will reach over a thousand households in Solihull each month, as well as supporting your church.

Contact our Advertising Manager, Tim Drakeford
TELEPHONE: 0121 705 4494

GARDENING SERVICES

All types of gardening work undertaken
Serving Solihull and surrounding areas
Free advice available

Contact Steve Byrne 07969 692934



Ring out Wild Bells

Saturday November 16th 2024

Shirley Methodist Church, 3:00pm

**A choral matinée celebrating British Composers
and marking the 150th Birthday of Gustav Holst**

Programme includes: From The Bavarian Highlands - *Edward Elgar*
Give Unto The Lord - *Edward Elgar* • Lord Who Hast Made Us - *Gustav Holst*
Three Festival Choruses - *Gustav Holst* • Ring Out Wild Bells - *Percy Fletcher*

Conductor: Leon James • **Organ:** Angela Sones • **Piano:** Iain Jackson
Tickets £17 (includes Programme and Interval Refreshments) • Under 18s Free

Reserve online at solihullchandoschoir.org
or by phone 01564 779 962

Supported by
prontaprint

126 Station Road, Knowle B93 0EP
0121 705 9988 / 01564 771343
sales@solihull-prontaprint.com



Quality care in Solihull you can trust

When a family is thinking about care for a loved one, they want the best - they want to know that the care home they choose will put their loved one's safety, happiness and wellbeing first.

Blossomfield Grange is managed by award-winning provider Care UK - one of the UK's most highly successful care home operators* with over 40 years' experience of delivering high quality care to older people.

Blossomfield Grange stands out from other care homes with its large apartment-style living and luxury facilities. The home offers a choice between two room types, each with their own ensuite bathrooms, private dining areas and kitchenettes. Our one bed suites are ideal for individuals, whilst our companion suites offer an additional room, perfect for couples to enjoy as an extra living area.

Living at Blossomfield Grange is all about quality of life, and we offer tailored care both for residential residents, as well as those living with dementia on our specialist memory care floor. All residents are supported to continue to enjoy lifelong hobbies and make

new friends, from music sessions to quizzes, while dancing, exercise classes and gardening support residents to stay fit and active.

Blossomfield Grange care home
1 Worcester Way (Off Dog Kennel Lane),
Solihull B90 4JX
0121 756 1802
careuk.com/blossomfield-grange

Join us for our next free event

Knit and natter coffee morning

Last Monday of every month,
11am - 12 noon

Take part in learning and sharing new skills while enjoying complimentary freshly baked cakes and coffee or tea.

Contact us to RSVP.

*As rated by the Care Quality Commission in England and the Care Inspectorate in Scotland.



CHURCH 4 FAMILIES

September Sunday Worship

St Alphege

(More details overleaf!)

On **8th September** everyone will meet in the church building at 9.15 a.m. for a service for all ages to think about Light and New Beginnings.

On **15th September** the Junction will meet **IN PERSON** at 9.15 a.m. for a Welcome Back picnic.

On **29th September** the Junction will meet **IN PERSON** in the OBH when we will be celebrating St Michael and All Angels

St Helen

Every Sunday at 10.00 a.m. there is worship in a modern space with a community feel with activities available for children.

On **22nd September** St Helen's Sunday club will meet during the 10 a.m. service with an exciting action packed session for children age 0-11.

Don't miss it!

St Michael

Every Sunday in term time at 10.30 a.m. there is worship in the school hall where a warm and welcoming space is created for all ages to worship.

Other Activities

Friday 20th September **Messy Church** St Helen's Church 4-6 p.m.

Praise and Play Every Friday 9.30-10.30 a.m. Oliver Bird Hall

There's lots happening in the Parish on Sundays in September!

In the St Alphege church building at 9.15 a.m. on 8th September there will be a very special **All age service** focusing on **Light and New Beginnings**. Children are invited to bring school bags to be blessed. Tags will be handed out to the children at the end of the service to attach to their school bags as a reminder that God is with them wherever they go.

Here are the themes for the **Junction** in September:

15th Sept **Welcome Back picnic** - Join us for a picnic breakfast - We'll provide the food, but don't forget your picnic blanket! If it's wet we'll have an indoor picnic! There'll be time to talk about good things that have happened over the summer holidays and to share what we're excited or nervous about in the days/weeks ahead. We'll be using the parachute to tell a story and there will be Bubble prayers.

29th Sept **St Michael and All angels** - We'll be thinking about angels and the role that angels play in our faith? What is St Michael's particular role? Do you know any bible stories about angels? And of course we'll be doing an angel craft!



ST HELEN'S SUNDAY CLUB

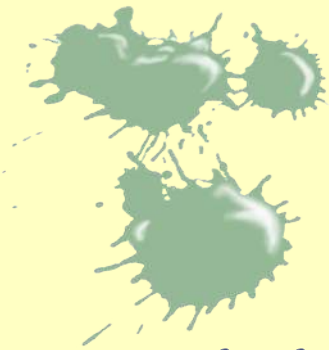


Join us at St Helen's Church, St Helen's Road, B91 2DA (off Buryfield Road) at 10 a.m. on the 4th Sunday of each month for an exciting action packed session for children age 0-11.

Next session Sunday 22nd September 2024

Don't miss it!

For more information contact Linda Hicks
l.hicks@solihullparish.org.uk



Activities for families of all shapes and sizes with lots of hands-on, crafty fun - followed by a celebration including a story and a prayer. Finally we'll finish with a tasty hot tea for everyone!

4 p.m. until 6.p.m. on Friday

WHEN?

20th September, 18th October,
15th November and 20th December

WHERE?

St Helen's Church, St Helen's Road,
B91 2DA (off Buryfield Road)

WHO?

EVERYONE! Children, bring your friends, but be sure to bring an adult

Cost: £2 per person, max £7 per family



Booking is essential. E mail
l.hicks@solihullparish.org.uk
to book your place.





Prams to Preschool -



Praise and Play

Every Friday in the main Hall of the Oliver Bird Hall
9.30 a.m.-10.30 a.m.

Come along and chat, play, eat biscuits, sing action
songs, explore a bible story.

A time of fun and fellowship for all.



If you want to know more ring Linda on
0121 270 7390
or 07838 670772

or e mail l.hicks@solihullparish.org.uk

Youth Stuff

The Youth Group celebrated the end of the Summer Term with outdoor games and a BBQ. The photo shows the fire pit being lit ready to toast the marshmallows for the S'mores, which were delicious!

The Youth sessions recommence on **Friday 6th September at 5 p.m. – 6.20 p.m. in the OBH.**

Would you or someone you know in Year 6 and above be interested in joining a church youth group? Then do consider joining Solihull Parish Youth on a Friday evening, 5 p.m. – 6.20 p.m. in Room 6 at the Oliver Bird Hall. The sessions include pizza, activities and games. The aim is to provide a safe space to have fun and where faith and friendships can grow.

There is no charge, but registering before you come along for the first time is essential.

Please email Lynn Smart for the registration link: l.smart@solihullparish.org.uk



LITTLE LEARNERS MONTESSORI SCHOOL

Cultivating Young Minds



St. Helen's Church, St.Helen's Road,
Solihull, B91 2DA

07526 789185

www.little-learners.co.uk

llmontessorisolihull@gmail.com

Ages 2 to 4 years



Enrol TODAY

Last few places left
at our calm, happy,
caring nursery rated

OUTSTANDING by
Ofsted.

Montessori develops your child's independence and brings joy to child led learning

Here at St. Helen's we have spent the Summer worshipping with our friends from St. Michael's. It is always a pleasure to welcome them, as we form a larger community than normal. And we thank them for their companionship throughout the last few weeks.

Of course, in church we are always planning a few months in advance. So thoughts are already turning to our *Harvest Songs of Praise* on the **13th October at 4 p.m.** This is always a lovely service, enjoyed by all who attend, and we extend a warm invitation to join us for this occasion. As usual we are asking a few people to choose a hymn that is important to them, or to share something about their journey of faith.

Our Homegroups will be sharing a series of discussion videos provided by the Bible Society on the *St. Paul's Letter to the Romans*, meeting on the second and fourth Monday of each month in the afternoons and evenings. These sessions are open to all and for further information please contact Chris Carrington (details on the inside back page of this magazine) or Moira Wyatt. There will be a **Barn Dance** in October, which is sure to be great fun, and details can be obtained from Phil Godfrey (see poster opposite).

Looking further ahead, I suspect that there are already tentative plans in the pipeline for *Advent and Christmas* celebrations – sorry about that!! Watch this space.

And some sad news. As a community we gathered together over the Summer, to bid farewell to two long standing and much-loved members of our congregation. Sadly, both Derek Sears and Sheila Cross passed away recently, and their funerals were held at St. Helen's church. Memories were shared and their lives were honoured by those who knew and loved them best. And we commended them both to God's merciful care. They will both be sadly missed by their close family and friends, and by their family and friends at St. Helen's. May they rest in peace, and rise in glory.



**With love,
Revd. Sue**

Revd. Sue with Linda Hicks on her retirement from Messy Church.

Harvest *Barn Dance*

Saturday 19th October 2024, 7.00pm - 10.00pm

St Helen's Church

in support of Mutanda Island Medical Centre

near to Potters Village Medical Centre



School on Mutanda Island

Tickets £20 (includes fish and chip supper) available from Phil Godfrey 07770 406 870

Please buy your tickets early, in order that Phil can order the food, in advance.

Retrospective

The first item comes from our roving reporter Laurie Upton, Laurie writes:

"Back in the summery days of June, as part of the National Gardens Scheme, Marie Curie Hospice opened their lovely gardens to visitors. Several of our congregation volunteer there and it was a wonderful opportunity to visit. The day was warm and sunny, the helpers friendly and informative, the cakes were tempting, and the gardens looked magnificent.

A huge thank you to all the volunteers who work so hard all year round to provide this haven of peace and tranquillity in our busy town."



Social Thursday

We continued our social gathering on Thursday afternoons in St Michael's Chapel. This is a very straightforward afternoon invitation when anyone can join us, enjoy endless tea/coffee and if you are so minded endless cake. We just come together to chat and enjoy each other's company. In July in addition to the cake we had a strawberry tea, a little reminder of the summer we may or may not get!

Next social is Thursday 5th Sept, in St Michael's Chapel 2 p.m. until 4 p.m.

Picnics

Recently we have enjoyed two picnics in Oak Cottage Garden, the first was more of an indoor picnic, but the more recent one in July had better and warmer weather.

Garden Tidy

On the subject of Oak Cottage Garden, our Warden, Keith Wilson organised a garden tidy at the end of July which saw a group from St. Michael's together with various items of gardening equipment set to, and clear up the garden, and a very good job they made. Many thanks to Keith for organising this and to those who came and gave a helping hand.

St. Helen's

During August as usual we were invited to join with St. Helen's for their Sunday Eucharist, as we do not have access to the school during that month. Very many thanks to all St. Helen's folk for their customary warm welcome. We return to Sharmans Cross School on Sunday 1st September.

St Michael

Dates for your Diary

Friday 27th September: after a few years' break we are holding a *Macmillan Coffee Morning* in St. Michael's Chapel between 10 a.m. and 12 noon. Beverages and cakes will be available. All are welcome.

Sunday 29th September: *St. Michael's Patronal Festival* at 10.30 a.m. Holy Eucharist in Sharmans Cross School.

Paul Smith

SHEPHERDSON COURT DAY CENTRE

7 Damson Parkway, Solihull West Midlands B91 2PP

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR COMPANY OR RESPITE FOR A LOVED ONE?

SHEPS - offers respite for older people in a day care setting

- Mobility Friendly
- Motivation and Exercise
- Socializing
- Art Class
- Refreshments
- Activities and Mental Stimulation
- Nutritious Menu
- Entertainment
- Person Centre Care and Support
- Individual Needs e.g. Administer Medication

For further information contact Day Centre Manager on

0121 711 4266

daycentremanager@raynerhouse.co.uk

<http://www.raynerhouseandyewtrees.co.uk>

Shabbat Shalom – ‘Sabbath of Peace’

Introduction: *September plans*

As you read this, and for the whole month of September, I will be on a mini-Sabbatical. To find out more, read on.

What and why and how of Sabbatical

What? A sabbatical is an expression of Shabbat or Sabbath. It is an extended period of time – usually three months (*although in this case, one month*) - when ministry leaders set aside their normal responsibilities for the purpose of rest and renewal toward sustained excellence in ministry. It gives ministers time to live differently, to look again at ministry, work and lifestyle, to let God speak to them afresh. It is NOT an extended vacation. Sabbaticals are recognised as valid by the Church of England as a whole. In Birmingham Diocese they come under the banner of ‘flourishing in ministry’, offering a time of *rest, retreat and renewal*.

Why? As a Pioneer minister I have been in paid ministry for 23 years without a sabbatical. This is partly due to the nature of the work and to the short length of Pioneering contracts – usually around 5 years. When the question came up about an extension to my contract in Solihull Parish (until 2027), my Pioneer Coach suggested that this would be a very good time for a sabbatical to be taken. I dismissed the idea at the time, knowing that a three-month sabbatical would take me away from my post for too long at this stage in my work. However, it became clear to me while studying the Sabbath during Lent, that I needed to take the suggestion more seriously.

Of course, none of this is anything new. Jesus teaches us all about the importance of taking a break in his own actions –

"He went up on a mountainside by himself to pray." (Matthew 14:23)

and in the actions that he encourages in his disciples –

"Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest." (Mark 6:31)

And then, just in case we are still unsure, he leaves us an instruction:

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28)

How? How will this mini-Sabbatical happen? I'll let my Spiritual Director begin:

"Some people plan a long time in advance for a Sabbatical and know what they want to get from one. There are others also who take a Sabbatical who have not planned and pray that God will guide them to what it is they need from the Sabbatical, and that may not be made clear until the end of that time of "rest" - better I think than preplanning what God will do for you. There is no freedom, flexibility or God of surprises in preplanning. Being open to God there will be."

Reflecting on the question asked by my Pioneer coach, *"What is most important to you about a sabbatical?"*, I have come to realise that there are different kinds of tiredness. The most important thing for me now, therefore, is to have a time to put down all expectations. These expectations – my own and those of others - can be heavy for any Minister, Pioneer or other, and over time can lead to fatigue.

Pioneer Diary

In conclusion

It would be counter-productive of me to list 'expectations' of my mini-sabbatical – aside from *rest, retreat and renewal* - when it is my aim to put all expectations down. That being said, my Pioneer Coach, my Spiritual Director, and I have identified some tools that I *may* use:

- Getting in deeper touch with God. E.g.
 - Using *the Examen* (a specific prayer exercise) as a regular check point during the mini-sabbatical
 - Taking time to appreciate the little moments that get lost in the melee of daily life
- Getting in touch with 'self' as I am now, in this place. E.g.
 - Giving myself permission to take time for me
 - Giving myself permission to pause, celebrate, rest, play and liberate (i.e. exercising Sabbath values)
- Guarding against:
 - Other people appropriating my sabbatical time with their expectations
 - People seeing this as holiday when it is work time of a different nature

I would like to thank the Revd. Nick Parker, Pam Price, the Revd. Ali Dorey (Pioneer Coach), Florence Nilsson (Spiritual Director) and the P.C.C. for their support and/or input re this mini-sabbatical* in September 2024.

(*Actual dates with annual leave attached: Monday 26th August to Thursday 3rd October inclusive.)

When did you last take a break?

I will end with the words of a prayer that a member of Wellbeing Wednesday (a non-churchgoer) saw and thought to buy for me, as it made them think of what I had told them about sabbatical. I will be using it during my sabbatical. *Please feel free to use it as it speaks to you in your situation.*

Dear God,
I am learning to be quiet.
Just to be –
and know that you are with me.
Thank you
that I don't need
special words to talk to you,
or even words at all.
You are here; I am here.
You hold me
in the stillness of this moment.
Amen.

Keep safe and see you in October!

Suzette.



COMPUTER REPAIR



- Virus & Malware Removal
- Broadband Issues
- Wireless Routers Issue
- Broadband Wireless Extensions
- Email Issues
- One To One Training
- New Computers & Set Up
- Computer Servicing



- ☺ **Which?** Recommended.
- ☺ Fully Insured.
- ☺ Home / Business Support.
- ☺ **WE COME TO YOU.**
- ☺ Established For over **20** Years.
- ☺ No Job To Small.
- ☺ **NOT** A Franchise.
- ☺ Friendly / **NO** Jargon.
- ☺ **BASED IN SOLIHULL.**



Call Mike Nash On Local Number : **01564 330 505**

www.ontrackcomputers.co.uk

email : helpme@ontrackcomputers.co.uk

Steve Tremayne

Carpentry & Joinery

Property Repairs,
alterations and maintenance

Garage Conversions

High standard of work and
attention to detail

Friendly and efficient service

Telephone

0121 743 8185 07906 233288

BANNOCKS OF SOLIHULL Monumental Masons



Five generations of quality manufacturing
and service from a family business.
All aspects of Monumental Masonry.
Large display.

117 Streetsbrook Road, Solihull B90 3PF

Tel: 0121 744 1727

Opposite Robin Hood Cemetery main gates

www.bannocksmemorials.co.uk



AMW Lawn Care

01564 340560

amw.uk.com

Lawn Mowing

Lawn Treatment

Turfing

Fencing

Landscaping



**ADAM'S TREE
SURGERY Ltd**

01564 898463

adamstreesurgery.biz

All aspects of tree surgery

Hedge cutting

Wood chippings

Logs Free local delivery

Based in Knowle Solihull

All work fully insured



Update from the Parish Wardens

The school holidays are almost over as you read this and it is back to a more normal routine. We hope you all feel refreshed in many ways and ready for worship and mission. We are look forward to our regular activities and worship starting up again, including the Junction, Solihull Youth Friday evening sessions, Messy Church, to mention a few. St. Michael's have enjoyed their usual joining up with St. Helen's for August but will be back at Sharman's Cross School from 1st September. We have a Men's Breakfast at the Greville Arms at 9 a.m. on 19th October.

Looking back to last June, we welcomed Bishop Michael for the second time to our joyful Confirmation Service at which 9 were confirmed. The Bishop gave an inspiring sermon on the centrality of Jesus in our lives and our need to display this to others throughout our lives. It was so encouraging to see the 9 who want to commit to this.



The new lighting at St. Alphege is progressing well and as we write we are very hopeful that they will be switched on by mid

September. Something to look forward to and we expect to be amazed by what the lights reveal (there must be a number of sermons here). Proposals for further work with Project Turnaround will be shared for consultations with congregations from the end of September.

September will bring a number of changes to personnel:

We are very grateful to **Martin Finch** for taking on the role of Parish Treasurer and we look forward to his guidance on the finances of the Parish. Martin mainly worships at St. Helen's where he has been a member for many years. Thank you, **Tim Drakeford** for taking on this role over the past year.

We marked **Sue Chandler's** last Messy Church in her capacity as Children and Families Worker with a presentation and tributes from Linda Hicks and Nick and Andrew. We are very grateful for Sue's wonderful work over nearly 20 years and we are very pleased she is continuing with her clerical ministry among us. We look forward to welcoming **Tammy Strong** as our new Children and Families' Worker from September. Tammy is well known to some of us as a member of the Junction.

Unfortunately, we do not yet have anyone to take on the roles of Parish Safeguarding Co-ordinator or the St. Alphege Safeguarding Co-ordinator. Please do consider coming forward for either of these positions which are very important to the Parish. At the July P.C.C. meeting we had a presentation to **Viv Dobson** as she retires as Parish Safeguarding Coordinator at the end of August. Viv has done amazing work for so many years. It has not been easy and the requirements kept changing so often. Thank you so much Viv.

Temporarily from September **Pam** will be taking on the position of being the person to contact for safeguarding matters. But please note she is not taking on the co-ordinator position!

We have just said goodbye to **Veronica Spokes** as one of our Parish Administrators and we wish her well as she moves to Worcester. Veronica has done great work in not the easiest of circumstances coming out of the pandemic and the covering the changeover from Ann to Sarah. Thank you so much, Veronica. We are in the midst of recruiting for this position.

Most of you will know that **Suzette**, our Pioneer Minister, will be on a well-earned one month's Sabbatical in September but most of the usual activities will be run by others and we look forward to seeing her refreshed with lots of new insights next month.

We are so pleased that **Anne Haselhurst** has received her P.T.O. so that she is now able to take services for us.

We still need volunteers for lots of positions within the Parish and we are planning showcases in our various congregations in the autumn. Would those running groups and activities, detail what vacancies you have, and everyone consider what you could offer.

Could we mention the importance of prayer in all we do and we would like to invite you to join in Morning Prayer at 9 a.m. for about 20 minutes on weekday mornings at the venues shown on the front page of the website. We follow the Time to Pray app which leads through readings and prayers for each day and gives the opportunity for discussion of the passages and for individual prayer.

Pam Price
Andrew Williams
August 2024

OLIVER BIRD HALL BOOKINGS

Enquiries are welcome for the use of the Hall and meeting rooms for social gatherings, christenings, anniversaries, meetings, etc.

Visit the website on:

<https://www.solihullparish.org.uk/church-hall-hire/>

or contact the Parish Office at:

QBHBookings@solihullparish.org.uk



Bastock & Bruce Ltd

F U N E R A L D I R E C T O R S

A partnership between C. Bastock Ltd and Bruce Bragg

Bruce, grandson of Tom Bragg is now the only remaining member of the Solihull Bragg family to own a funeral directors in Solihull following the sale of the Bragg family business to a national group in 2015. This partnership brings a family business to Knowle with generations of experience ensuring the truly personal service you would expect from a

Family Owned, Independent Funeral Director.

Brisker Court, 1685, High Street,
Knowle, Solihull. B93 0LN

01564 33 5577

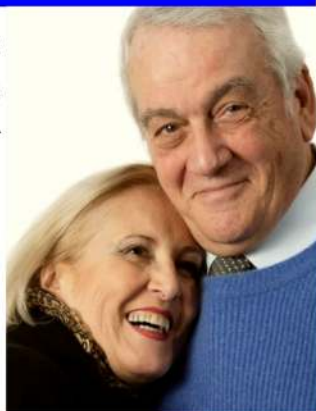
If Knowle is difficult to get to,
home visits can be arranged

Serving all surrounding areas
www.bastockandbruce.co.uk

Dovehouse Court

61 Privately Owned Apartments **Opposite Dovehouse Parade Shops**

- 24 hour on site Duty Manager
- Housekeeping assistance•
- Alarm call system to on site staff•
- Elegantly Decorated & Furnished
- Communal Areas •
- Dining Room with Waitress Service •
- Hobbies Room & Guest Suite •



Residents' Management Company;

Run By The Owners, For The Owners

Owners set & control the budget & annual service charge

1 & 2 Bedroom Retirement Apartments

For Sale

£155,000 — £269,950



Please contact us for a brochure & personal invitation to visit

Dovehouse Court on:

0121 709 2339

enquiries@dovehousecourt.co.uk

www.dovehousecourtltd.co.uk

Mutanda Island

I visited Potters Village to present the donated equipment, with a friend, Vicci a paediatric nurse. Our visit was a humbling experience. In the Children's Medical Centre, we witnessed tiny babies utilising the donated and cleanable cots and others in incubators, being cared for by 9 skilled nurses.

The Children's Crisis Centre cares for around 30 babies, some orphans and some whose mothers were too unwell to currently care for their children, expertly nurtured by dedicated Potters Village staff.

The 9 nurses, who are currently certificate level trained, are required by the Diocesan Management Committee to be upskilled to a higher Diploma level qualification by 2033. Vicci and I came away determined to raise the £9,000 for the training over 10 years, which has now been achieved, so the training costs are now secure.



We learnt through Ezra Ndagije, a Rotarian with Rotary Club of Mgahinga Kisoro, that on Mutanda Island, Rotary (involving 4 Ugandan Rotary Clubs) have built a school for some delightful children and very committed teachers. Mutanda Island is approx. 6 miles from Potters Village, with whom there are close links.

Plans are now being developed for a Medical Centre on the Island, which is the next Project we aim to support. This will cater for some 270 people on the Island, very much subsistence farmers. This proposal seeks to improve maternal and child health through establishment of a Maternal and Child Health Unit. The Maternal Child health Unit project will aim at improving the health status of women and children through improved access to reproductive and child healthcare services in the area. Many women and children die due to failing to get access to associated services. For example, from preventable causes related to pregnancy and childbirth.

According to various sources, the direct causes of maternal deaths include excessive blood loss, infection, high blood pressure, unsafe abortion, obstructed labour; and the indirect causes include anaemia, malaria, pneumonia and heart disease. The timescale for the project is over 3 years, at an estimated cost of £27,000. Vicci and I will do our best to fund part of the project, and Ezra will be seeking a Rotary Global Grant. The need for a Medical Centre on the Island is heightened due to the high costs of getting from Mutanda Island to a Hospital, for medical treatment, approximately some 15 miles away, plus an expensive ferry crossing.

In addition, whilst in Potters Village, we met Laban, a safari tour guide, indeed we went with him on a short safari, magnificent. Laban is a Rotoract President, and is working with the local Batwa people, (a pygmy race), and is trying to educate the Batwa children, as many of them have never seen a book! We anticipate trying to help Laban with this project.

Phil Godfrey

BILL BOYCE DECORATORS

*All types of Painting
Interior and Exterior,
Decorating, Glazing,
Free Estimates
Quality Workmanship*



**89 Union Road, Shirley, Solihull,
West Midlands B90 3BY**
Telephone: 0121 744 0040
www.billboycedecorators.co.uk
billboycedecorators@hotmail.co.uk

PG

TURNING

Specialist Wood Turner

Commissions undertaken

Email: philcgodfrey@btinternet.com

Mobile: 07770 406870



*All profits to the charity
APS Support UK*



St Alphege
All Age Eucharist
9.15 a.m. Sunday 8th September

P STEPHEN & PHILIP PAINTER

FUNERAL DIRECTORS
INDEPENDENT & FAMILY-OWNED



The only funeral homes still owned by
The Painter Family. Providing a dignified & personal
service across Birmingham & Solihull

HALL GREEN OFFICE

192 ROBIN HOOD LANE
HALL GREEN
BIRMINGHAM B28 0LG

TEL: 0121 777 4300

ACOCKS GREEN OFFICE

213 YARDLEY ROAD
ACOCKS GREEN
BIRMINGHAM B27 6LZ

TEL: 0121 707 1172

WWW.STEPHENANDPHILIPPAINTER.COM



The Complete Legal Service for the Private and Commercial Client

**Company and Commercial Matters
Commercial Property
Employment & Litigation Problems
Family & Divorce Matters
Buying & Selling your Home
Wills & Inheritance Tax Planning
Probate & Trusts
Lasting Powers of Attorney
Court of Protection Applications
Administration of Estates**

**Please call us on 01564 776287
or visit our website
www.standley.co.uk**

The partners and staff are dedicated to providing a prompt effective service with understanding and care

1612 High Street, Knowle, Solihull B93 0JU

Tel: 01564 776287 Fax: 01564 778996

Matters of Faith

Spiritual Practice

I wonder if you have ever been asked the question, 'How do you practice your faith?' In response, we might begin to describe the church we go to, and the particular service we attend. We might then talk about reading the Bible, and the people and situations we pray for. These are important elements of the Christian faith which have sustained and guided millions of people down the ages. They support and build up the community of Christian believers, enabling us to worship God and to serve the local community.

In addition to these activities, there are many other areas of the Christian tradition which can help us to develop spiritually. These are timeless traditions of prayer and contemplation, of action and reflection, which can help us to flourish as followers of Jesus. The beauty of these traditions is that they appeal to each of us in different ways and involve the use of our mind, our heart and our senses, so that we can grow as the unique person that God created us to be. This is what many call 'developing our spiritual practice'.

However, we may feel unsure about where or how to begin to explore these traditions! We may feel that we lack the knowledge, or lack the time to invest in researching them and finding someone to show us the way! Therefore, I would like to introduce a new parish-wide project which will give us all the opportunity to develop our spiritual practice.

The Parish Ministry Team is currently planning a series of events, groups and classes which will focus on a variety of practices of prayer, spiritual learning and exploration. Some of the sessions might be 'one-off' events whilst others may take the form of a series over a number of weeks or months. Sessions will be held across the parish in the most suitable venue, and we will seek to offer a balance between evening and daytime sessions. This will be a long-term, ongoing project, and I hope that we will begin some of these sessions in the autumn of 2024.

The following are just a few of the ideas which have already been offered by members of the Parish Ministry Team:

- exploring Celtic traditions of prayer
- contemplative prayer in the tradition of Mother Julian of Norwich
- using our hands in prayer
- exploring the Jesus Prayer
- praying with icons
- encountering God in nature
- the music and prayer of the Taizé community

The aim of the project is to offer events and classes which enable us to explore these practices and traditions, and to try them for ourselves. The invitation is to 'come and have a go', to 'come and find out!' In that sense, the atmosphere of the sessions will be more like a workshop than an academic study. And if we find that a particular practice doesn't work for us, then we can explore something else next time. And, of course, we may find that something we were initially unsure about actually really works for us!

I feel really excited about this project, and how it will help us all to grow in faith and in awareness of God and of ourselves. Information about the programme of sessions will be published soon. In the meantime, if you have any questions about any aspect of this project, please speak to a member of the Parish Ministry Team who will be very happy to talk with you.

Fr. Simon

Don't Judge Me Please

I know women in the Bible
Are worth more than rubies
And are like Wonder Woman
Never tiring, feeding the poor
As well as feeding and clothing
The whole family.
They balance being in charge
With being quiet and humble
And modest in apparel
(Not quite like Wonder Woman, then).

I wonder how I fit it then,
As I cannot sew though I make
A mean pot roast and chocolate cake
That make their way to stomach and to heart.
But I feel there are other ways to please my man.
And although it can be called submission
I prefer to call it love, with deep respect
And occasionally some manipulation.

I also wear some jewellery
Though I have to confess some of it is
Junk. I just like to glitter.
Is that so shallow?
And in the persona of a
Professional woman
I have been known
To wear a high heel or two.
The occasions are rare, like keynote talks
(Or meeting Princess Anne)
Though it's thanks to my bunions
Rather than my gentle modesty
That I walk soberly.

Don't judge me please
I love to face the day
With a facial mask of powder
And soft pink blush
To hide the weariness of all that toil
And not to scare the neighbours.
But just to reassure you
I first wash my face and pray in quiet room
Often with fasting and with prayer
Before I grab my make up bag
And pretty frock
A modern biblical woman.



Retirement Apartments For Sale in Solihull

Retirement Doesn't Have To Be Lonely

- Move with help from our on-site handyman and additional support from our in-house team
- 24/7 on-site staff can help with any problems or queries offering total peace for mind for you and your family
- Dedicated weekly domestic support for every owner at Deerhurst Court.
- Private guest suite available for family and friends wishing to stay at the Court

BOOK YOUR VISIT, CALL
0800 389 9384

www.retirementsecurity.co.uk
resales@retirementsecurity.co.uk

Deerhurst Court, George
Road, Solihull, B91 3BY



Setting Standards for
Retirement Communities



RetirementSECURITY

C. Bastock Ltd Funeral Directors



Independent and Family Owned Since 1856



Our family will look after yours

Our dedicated full time staff will guide you through the arrangements to ensure a unique and a befitting funeral.

Whether you have a traditional, contemporary or eco funeral in mind our family are here to help you.

As an independent company we provide a truly personal experience, allocating your own personal funeral arranger, private viewing lounges and the attention to detail you would expect from a family business.

We are Pre-Paid Funeral Plan Specialists

Shirley Funeral Home

Century House,
100, Stratford Road,
Shirley. B90 3BH
(Next to Poppy Island)
0121 726 2626

Solihull Funeral Home

67-71 Warwick Road,
Olton, Solihull.
B92 7HP
(In Olton Hollow)
0121 706 4040

Yardley Funeral Home

112, Church Road,
Yardley.
B25 8UX
(On Yew Tree Island)
0121 784 3230



Our Silver fleet of Jaguars

We are happy to arrange;

- Black fleet of cars
- Horse drawn hearses
- Alternative hearses and transport

See what our clients have to say at www.cbastock.co.uk



For Your Diary



- Thursday 5th September :** 1.30pm in the OBH. *Troop Aid Charity*. A talk by a representative from the Association.
- Thursday 19th September :** 10.30am in church. *MU Corporate Eucharist*.
- Thursday 3rd October :** 1.30pm in the OBH. *Blood Bikes*. A talk by Martin Williams.

You can access more information on www.solihullparish.org.uk/mothers-union and also from the website homepage top menu by clicking on **Connect** and then on **Mothers' Union**.

WIVES' FELLOWSHIP

The Fellowship Lunch Club will meet on Friday 6th September at 12 noon. Anyone who would like to join this friendly party would be most welcome.

Please telephone Carol Caldicott for further details.

Carol Caldicott
0121 705 3168

The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily the views of *Solihull Parish News* or of *Solihull Parish*.

NOTE FOR ADVERTISERS AND POTENTIAL ADVERTISERS

Would all advertisers please ensure that any changes they might require to their advert, or notice of cancellation, are routed through the Advertising Manager (Tim Drakeford, 42 Fowgay Drive, Solihull B91 3PH, Tel 705 4494) in sufficient time to meet the copy date for the issue in which they wish the changes to take effect. The copy date is usually the first Friday of the preceding month, but the exact date of the next copy date is shown below. Similarly, would new advertisers please ensure that their requirements for advertising space are also routed through the Advertising Manager in plenty of time to meet the required copy date.

CONTRIBUTIONS FOR THE OCTOBER EDITION OF THE PARISH NEWS MUST BE IN BY FRIDAY, 6th SEPTEMBER PLEASE.

Email to parishnews@solihullparish.org.uk or leave in the Parish Office

SOLIHULL PARISH REPRESENTATIVES

Parish Wardens:

Andrew Williams
Pam Price

Lay Members of the PCC:

Elaine Diskin
Andrew Halstead
Julia Hanson
Jas Singh
Carol Southworth

Lay Members of the Deanery Synod:

3 Vacancies unfilled

PCC Secretary:

Julia Hanson

PCC Treasurer:

1 Vacancy unfilled
Tim Drakeford (Acting Treasurer)

ADCM – St Alphege

Deputy Church Wardens:

Sheila Sayers
1 Vacancy unfilled

Representatives of the DCC on the PCC:

Tim Drakeford
Jenny Ladbroke

Lay Members of the DCC:

Susan Gomm
Carol Southworth
David Sturdee
Kathleen Talbot
1 Vacancy unfilled
Stephen Linstead (1 year)

DCC Secretary:

Peter Haselhurst

DCC Treasurer:

Tim Drakeford

ADCM – St Helen

Deputy Church Wardens:

Chris Carrington
1 Vacancy unfilled

Representatives of the DCC on the PCC:

Les Prescott
1 Vacancy unfilled

Lay Members of the DCC

Martin Finch
Pippa Gates
Julie Norman
Mark Norman

DCC Secretary:

Sand Cooper

DCC Treasurer:

Geoff Wyatt

ADCM – St Michael

Deputy Church Wardens:

Keith Wilson
1 Vacancy unfilled

Representatives of the DCC on the PCC:

2 Vacancies unfilled

Lay Members of the DCC:

David Yarnold
Russell Payne
John Hudson

DCC Secretary:

Tim Bett

DCC Treasurer:

Linda Crowdy

For Life Event arrangements, please contact Parish office via email to life.events@solihullparish.org.uk

Please note our Parish Office opening hours:

9.00am till 1.00pm (Mon - Thur)

9.00am till 12noon on Fridays.

SOLIHULL PARISH SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding Coordinator **Pam Price**, colandpam@ic24.net 0121 704 3104

SOLIHULL PARISH PCC & DCC CONTACTS

<i>Parish Wardens</i>	Andrew Williams , arwilliams399@gmail.com	0121 705 3268
	Pam Price , colandpam@ic24.net	0121 704 3104
<i>PCC Secretary</i>	Julia Hanson , pccsecretary@solihullparish.org.uk	
<i>Acting PCC Treasurer</i>	Tim Drakeford , 42 Fowgay Drive	0121 705 4494
<i>Parish Electoral Roll Officer</i>	Stephen Linstead , 20 Silhill Hall Road	0121 705 1376
<i>St Alphege Deputy Warden</i>	Sheila Sayers , 636 Streetsbrook Road	0121 705 5331
<i>St Alphege Stewardship Recorder</i>	Frank Upton , 1 Rectory Road	0121 705 2963
<i>St Helen Deputy Warden</i>	Chris Carrington	0121 705 0902
<i>St Helen Hall Bookings</i>	Jeremy Eade , solomere@aol.com	0121 706 3831
<i>St Michael Deputy Wardens</i>	Keith Wilson	0121 778 2295

SOLIHULL PARISH NEWS CONTACTS

<i>Editor</i>	Carol Southworth , parishnews@solihullparish.org.uk	0121 705 4958
<i>Production</i>	Roger Edwards , 39 Westfield Close, Dorridge, B93 8DY	01564 739134
<i>Treasurer</i>	Roger Giddings , 70 Silhill Hall Road	0121 686 3422
<i>Postal Subscriptions</i>	Helen Russell , 30 De Moram Grove, B92 0PZ	07710 473 418
<i>Advertising Manager</i>	Tim Drakeford , 42 Fowgay Drive	0121 705 4494
<i>Circulation Enquiries</i>	Helen Russell , 30 De Moram Grove, B92 0PZ	07710 473 418
	Parish News is published every month except August and costs £1 per copy. The Annual Subscription is £10 for all 11 editions.	
<i>Printers</i>	Prontaprint , 126 Station Road, Knowle, B93 0EP	0121 705 9988

OLIVER BIRD HALL

PARISH OFFICE

Sarah Markham Senior Administrator s.markham@solihullparish.org.uk
Rekha Anand Parish Administrator admin@solihullparish.org.uk
Parish Office, Oliver Bird Hall,
Church Hill Road, Solihull, B91 3RQ 0121 705 5350

**Mon-Thu 9am to 1pm;
Fri 9am to 12 noon**

Oliver Bird Hall Bookings

Life Events

(Baptism, Wedding, Funeral)

Pewslip items

(by 10 a.m. Wednesday)

OBHbookings@solihullparish.org.uk

life_events@solihullparish.org.uk

Pewslip@solihullparish.org.uk

SOLIHULL PARISH STAFF & CONTACTS

Priest in Charge, Rector Designate	The Revd. Nick Parker	rector@solihullparish.org.uk 07890 720240
Team Vicar for St. Michael (Not available Thursdays)	The Revd. Simon Marshall St Michael's Church Centre, Oak Cottage, Bryanston Road, Solihull, B91 1BS	simon@solihullparish.org.uk 0121 704 4730
Team Vicar for St. Helen	The position is currently vacant	sthoffice@solihullparish.org.uk
Pioneer Minister (Not available Thursdays)	Suzette Maguire 10 Middlewood Close, Solihull, B91 2TY	s.maguire@solihullparish.org.uk 0121 709 0884
Associate Priest	The Revd. Sue Chandler	s.chandler@solihullparish.org.uk 07970 791288
Readers	Linda Hicks Stephen Linstead Chris Carrington Paul Smith	01564 782557 0121 705 1376 0121 705 0902 07887 663 171
Assistance is also offered by	The Revd. Roger Chamberlain The Revd. Roy Murray The Revd. Canon Andrew Hutchinson The Venerable Paul Taylor The Revd. Anne Haselhurst	revrog@hotmail.co.uk fatherroy47@gmail.com 0121 296 7798 fr.andrewhutchinson@btinternet.com 0121 758 7877 pstaylor53@gmail.com 07796 691203 annehaselhurst@talktalk.net
Director of Music & Organist	Christopher Martin Thomas	c.thomas@solihullparish.org.uk
Assistant Organist	Liam Condon	l.condon@solihullparish.org.uk
Music Department Administrator	Isabel Baumber	isabel@solihullparish.org.uk
Director of Children's & Families' Ministry	Linda Hicks Room 3, Oliver Bird Hall, Church Hill Road, Solihull, B91 3RQ	l.hicks@solihullparish.org.uk 07838 670772 0121 270 7390
Youth Assistant	Lynn Smart Youth Office, Oliver Bird Hall, Church Hill Road, Solihull, B91 3RQ	l.smart@solihullparish.org.uk 0121 661 6303
St Alphege Verger	Paul Evans Verger's Office at St Alphege Church	07443 917726
St Alphege Tower Secretary	Sand Cooper	sand.cooper@outlook.com



Peace of Mind

Need advice on Headstones?

*Get free, impartial advice on
all aspects of Headstones,
Cremation Desks & Tablets,
and a free colour brochure.*

POLLARD MEMORIALS

www.pollardmemorials.co.uk

Many examples of our work in the churchyard at St Alphege, Solihull,
and at Widney Manor and Robin Hood Cemeteries.

Phone 01676 534618

326, Kenilworth Road, Balsall Common, CV7 7ER



Design. Print. Finish.

When you need a professional design
and print solution, call the experts.

www.prontaprint.com

126 Station Road, Knowle B93 0EP

Tel: 0121 705 9988 Email: sales@solihull.prontaprint.com

Business as usual!
following all safety guidelines
of course

