



**St. Alphege Church**  
**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2024**  
**The Fourth Sunday of Advent**

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

Morning Readings: Micah 5.2-5a, Hebrews 10.5-10, Luke 1.39-45

**8.00am Said Eucharist**

President and Preacher: Roy Murray

**10.00am** The Junction will meet at St Helen's

**10.30am Sung Eucharist**

President: Revd Sue Chandler & Preacher: Revd Roy Murray

Reader(s): Andy Hodkinson (OT) Martin Ayers (NT)

**Psalm**

80.1-8

**Hymns:**

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

117

Setting: Communion Service in C - Ireland

586

Anthem: Gabriel's Message, arr. Pettman

408

Voluntary: Nun Komm der Heiden Heiland BWV 661 - J S Bach

612

**5.00pm Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols**

Music led by Combined Choirs

Anthems: The Holly and the Ivy – June Nixon

Sir Christmas – Mathias

Sussex Carol – Willcocks

A maiden most gentle – Andrew Carter

Lux aurumque – Eric Whitacre

O Holy Night – Adam

A spotless rose – Howells

Sing lullaby – trad. arr C M Thomas

Voluntary: Finale from Symphonie No.6 - Vierne

**Carols:**

See order  
of service

**St Alphege Church is open from 10.00am to 3.00pm on  
Weekdays & 10.00am to 12.00pm on Saturdays**

**THIS WEEK**

Mon 23	9.00am	Morning Prayer (enter via choir vestry please)
Tues 24	10.00am	St Alphege Prayer Group (in the OBH)
	3.00pm	Crib Service 1
	4.15pm	Crib Service 2
	11.30pm	Midnight Mass- with carols from 11.10pm
Weds 25	8.00am	Christmas Day Said Eucharist
	10.30am	Christmas Day Sung Eucharist
Thurs 26		No Service
Fri 27	9.00am	No Morning Prayer

## **BIBLE READING** Micah 5.2-5a

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labour has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

If the Assyrians come into our land and tread upon our soil, we will raise against them seven shepherds and eight installed as rulers.

## **BIBLE READING** Hebrews 10.5-10

Consequently, when Christ came into the world, he said, 'Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt-offerings and sin-offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, "See, God, I have come to do your will, O God" (in the scroll of the book it is written of me).'

When he said above, 'You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt-offerings and sin-offerings' (these are offered according to the law), then he added, 'See, I have come to do your will.' He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

## **GOSPEL** Luke 1.39-45

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, 'Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leapt for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfilment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.'

## COLLECT

God our redeemer,  
who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary  
to be the mother of your Son:  
grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour,  
so we may be ready to greet him  
when he comes again as our judge;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Heavenly Father,  
who chose the Blessed Virgin Mary  
to be the mother of the promised saviour:  
fill us your servants with your grace,  
that in all things we may embrace your holy will  
and with her rejoice in your salvation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## THIS WEEK PRAY FOR

Monday        Those who are far from their families and friends  
Tuesday       Chris Thomas Director of Music at St Alphege and the St Alphege Choirs  
Wednesday    That the worldwide Church may celebrate this day with joy and goodwill  
Thursday      The work of Solihull Churches Action on Homelessness  
Friday         Those who live alone

## PRAY FOR THOSE RECENTLY IN NEED

Michael Weale, Ella, Daisy, Mary, Andrew, Jonathan, Peter Sheppard, Kerrie, Hilary Thurlow, Rachael Myall, and David Porter.

## CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR

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

## PRAY FOR THOSE RECENTLY DEPARTED

Jillian Hecht, Angela Hillman and Mike Parsons

## NEXT WEEK: Sunday 29th December: The First Sunday of Christmas

**Services:** 8.00am - Said Eucharist: President & Preacher: Revd Roy Murray  
                  10.30am - Sung Eucharist: President: Anne Haselhurst & Preacher: Revd Roy Murray  
Morning Readings: 1 Samuel 2.18-20, 26, Colossians 3.12-17, Luke 2.41-end  
                          5.00pm Evening Prayer: Officiant: Michael Smith & Preacher: Stephen Linstead  
Evening Readings Isaiah ch 61, Luke 2.15-21

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

## Church Opening – Christmas Arrangements

The church will be closed after the service on Christmas morning and reopen on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> January (usual timings, 10am-3pm). Thanks to all who have given their time to host visitors this Autumn and wishing you a very happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.

**Volunteers are invited to help** prepare the Christmas flowers for church on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December at 10am.

Any donations of greenery or flowers that have already been prepared, help tidying, would be gratefully received. Thank you for your support.

Any queries contact:- Nichol Hodkinson 07890701101

**Project Turnaround:** The plans are on display at the back of church and can be downloaded from the parish website. Everyone is encouraged to give feedback. What do you like, and is there anything you are less keen on? Please email [turnaround@solihullparish.org.uk](mailto:turnaround@solihullparish.org.uk)

**Wednesday lunchtime recital** - No recital on Christmas Day or New Year's Day. Recitals resume after the Christmas break on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January.

**Advent materials.** A reminder that we can join 'Calm and Bright', the CoE Advent and Christmas journey of daily readings and reflections. Simply download the 'Everyday Faith' app on your smartphone or computer.

**Advent books, calendars and candles** are available to purchase from the Bookstall as well as Parish Christmas cards.

**St Alphege School Admissions** - In accordance with the School Admissions Code 2021, the Schools of St Alphege are required to consult on admissions arrangements where changes are proposed. The draft Admissions Policy for the academic year 2026-27 is available to view on our website at <https://www.stalphege.solihull.sch.uk/Parents/Admissions/> and a copy is available from the school office. **There are significant changes in the proposed policy.**

**The Art of Advent:** if you would like to see the pictures which have been selected for each week, they will be put online after that session has been held. You can see them at: <https://artofadvent.blogspot.com/>

## New Year Service - change to published details.



New Year's Day Service: Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> January 10.30am  
Our parish Eucharist with candle lighting as we pray in the New Year is being held at St. Helen's Church, St. Helen's Road, B91 2DA.  
Refreshments afterwards. There is ample car parking.

**Advent Appeals.** This week's retiring collection is on behalf of Mothers' Union - One More Step, and Potter's Village. Please give generously. You can donate in cash as you leave church, or by online banking, or via the QR code below.

To donate St Alphege, please use the contactless Giving Station by the North Door



### Online Banking

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