



St. Alphege Church
Sunday 23rd March
The Third Sunday of Lent
(Jesus among enemies)

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

Morning Readings: Isaiah 55.1-9, 1 Corinthians 10.1-13, Luke 6.27-36

8.00am Said Eucharist

President & Preacher: Revd Simon Marshall

10.00am The Junction Sunday Club - At St Helens

10.30am Sung Eucharist

President: The Ven. Paul Taylor & Preacher: Revd Roy Murray
Reader(s): (OT) Deirdre Moll (NT) Elaine Diskin

Psalm:
63.1 - 9

Music led by Senior Girls, Ladies and Back Row
Setting: Waltham Abbey Service – C M Thomas
Anthem: Lord, for thy tender mercy's sake – Farrant
Voluntary: Prelude in B minor – J S Bach

Hymns:
93
708
704
64

1:00pm Baptism of Aria Antonia Barad Chambers

Officiant: Revd Nick Parker

5.00pm Evensong

Officiant: Revd Nick Parker & Preacher: Stephen Linstead
Readings: Genesis 28.10-19a, John 1.35 - end
Reader: Sherwood Burge

Psalm:
12

Music led by Junior Choristers, Senior Boys and Back Row
Smith Responses
Canticles: Short Evening Service - Gibbons
Anthem: Almighty and Everlasting God - Gibbons
Voluntary: Fugue in B minor – J S Bach

Hymns:
374
378
248 (t.2)

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

THIS WEEK

Mon 24	09.00am 09.30am	Morning Prayer Easter Journey
Tues 25	09.30am 10.00am 7.30pm	Easter Journey St Alphege Prayer Group (in the OBH) Bellringers practice
Weds 26	09.15am 09.30am 7.30pm	Open the Book Easter Journey NO RECITAL TODAY Bell ringing teaching
Thurs 27	9.00am 10.30am 12.30pm	Morning Prayer Said Eucharist Easter Journey
Fri 28	9.00am 09.30am	Morning Prayer Easter Journey

BIBLE READING: Isaiah 55.1-9

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food.

Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David.

See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples.

See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near;

let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts;

let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.

For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

BIBLE READING: 1 Corinthians 10.1-13

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, 'The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.' We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

GOSPEL: Luke 6.27-36

'But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

'If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

COLLECT

Almighty God,
whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain,
and entered not into glory before he was crucified:
mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross,
may find it none other than the way of life and peace;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Merciful Lord,
grant your people grace to withstand the temptations
of the world, the flesh and the devil,
and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

THIS WEEK PRAY FOR

Monday	Bishop Esther
Tuesday	Expectant Mothers
Wednesday	The Community of St .John the Baptist
Thursday	H.M. The King
Friday	Archdeacon Phelim O'Hare

PRAY FOR THOSE RECENTLY IN NEED

Ella, Daisy, Mary, Andrew, Jonathan, Peter Sheppard, Kerrie, Nigel Vian, Dorothy Newbery, Emma, Amy, Dean, and David.

CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR

Wendy Meikle, Henry Balthazor, Stephen Foster, Jenny Williams, Evelyn Berry, Ron Herd, Dan and Ruth, Margaret Evans, Nicola Beale, Peter, Elizabeth Kershaw, John Russell, Malcolm Owens, Aaliyah Adeyemo, Ruth & Rae, Roger Loads, Hazel Hewlet, Michael Weale, and Hilary Thurlow.

PRAY FOR THOSE RECENTLY DEPARTED

Paul Mills, Senna Tagboto and Elaine Parry.

NEXT WEEK: Sunday 30th March - Mothering Sunday - The Fourth Sunday of Lent

Services: 8.00am Said Eucharist: President & Preacher: Revd Nick Parker
9.15am All Age Holy Communion
11.00am Choral Eucharist: President: Revd Anne Haselhurst & Preacher: Revd Nick Parker

Morning Readings: Exodus 2.1-10, 2 Corinthians 1.3-7, John 19.25b-27

5.00pm Vespers: Officiant: Revd Nick Parker

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

Lent Reflection Groups and Book. It is not too late to join a Lent group. Full details are in the purple leaflet which includes contact details for each group leader. We are following material from the book 'Lent and Easter for Everyone' by Tom Wright, a wonderfully accessible read, which is available for £8 from the St. Alphege Bookstall and Parish Office.

Car Parking Scheme - Starting Soon - Oliver Bird Hall and St. Alphege Church. Significant changes will be made to the car parking facilities which will be managed in future by UKPS car parking company. The current Car Parking Permit scheme will continue and permits must be displayed clearly on the front windscreen. The system will not operate on Sunday mornings. For occasional visitors to OBH and church for events and services at other times, a keypad system will be in operation so it is essential registration numbers are added upon arrival at the venue.

Stewardship Update

Following our recent appeal we have received 14 responses with 12 people increasing their giving. A big thank you to those 14 and an encouragement to all of us to respond (whether or not we are able to increase). This appeal includes those who are not currently part of planned giving for whom there are stewardship packs at the back of church. Please note, there is no minimum amount required for people to join planned giving.

Mothering Sunday Posies -Saturday 29th March at 10.30am - 2.30pm at St Alphege Church. Please join us to help make posies' No experience required. Please bring scissors/ secateurs on the day and decorative Heather and greenery would be gratefully received and can be left in black bags in church. Just turn up or contact Elaine—0121 705 3265, elainediskin@hotmail.co.uk.

Sat 29 March 7pm: you are invited to St Michael's Chapel to celebrate the launch of Wendy Westley's newly published book of poetry and short stories 'Sun Hats & Staying Home.' Fr Simon will be hosting the evening and Wendy and Simon will be reading poetry and discussing Wendy's book. Space is limited so please request a free ticket by 19th March from David Westley at dwestley75@gmail.com.

Vespers next Sunday (30th March) As usual on a fifth Sunday, instead of the 5pm Evensong, we are presenting Vespers (Recital - Compline - Reception). The choirs will sing Britten's 'Rejoice in the Lamb', a cantata setting the words of Christopher's Smart's poem. All are warmly welcome - please stay to the wine and cheese reception afterwards, proceeds from which will go to the Friends of St. Alphege Music.

Light and Sound at St. Alphege Church: Tuesday 8th April 7.30 to 9.30pm

The Guardians of St Alphege will be showcasing what the newly installed lighting can offer. Following this our tower bellringing team will join us to present the background to bellringing at St Alphege and answer questions. Free admission. All welcome. Refreshments available.

St Alphege DCC AGM Wednesday 9 April 2025 7.30pm Oliver Bird Hall

Everyone is welcome to attend the AGM, fuller details of which are in the Parish Magazine. Various elections will take place as follows. There are vacancies for the post of Deputy Warden (3 years), 6 ordinary members of the DCC (1 for 2 years and 5 for 3 years) and for 2 members of the Deanery Synod each to serve 1 year. There will also be nominations from the DCC to serve on the Parochial Church Council. To be eligible for election 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 these posts are by the North Door. Completed forms should be returned either to Sheila Sayers or to the Parish Office.

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 use the contactless Giving Station by the North Door or scan this QR code



Online Banking

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