

Feature of the Week

The Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA)

The recent report, which is available in full on the Church of England website, had a number of disturbing aspects which we as a church cannot ignore. It followed a public hearing held in 2019 and concerns the extent of past cases of sexual abuse and the current safeguarding arrangements.

<https://www.coventry.anglican.org/news/iicsa-report.php>

Shockingly we are informed that in the past:

"The culture of the Church of England facilitated it becoming a place where abusers could hide." ..."Deference to the authority of the Church and to individual priests".....[led to] "an environment where alleged perpetrators were treated more supportively than victims"... "the moral authority of clergy was widely perceived as beyond reproach." We cannot ignore the fact that this did not just concern priests but other people in a position of 'authority' within the church.

Recently we have begun to see a culture change. As a church we teach a Christian code of knowing right from wrong, caring for our neighbours and even our enemies. We have a duty to safeguard all individuals. The report recommends many aspects of safeguarding in all church's settings. Most of which have already been put in place in the Church of England, the Diocese and within the Minster churches.

Safeguarding in the Minster:

The recent report on abuse within the Church of England has been very disturbing. The Coventry Diocese has been over many years proactive in their Safeguarding procedures and training and aware of the needs of the abused. Here in the Minster all the PCCs have a Parish Safeguarding Officer (PSO) who is responsible for Safeguarding within the church community, safer recruitment of volunteers and retrospective safer recruitment of volunteers and helpers who have not gone through the process. If you have any safeguarding concerns you may contact any PSO at any time if needed. If you are aware that someone is suffering abuse or might be suffering abuse they can support and help. As a group we meet regularly to discuss new legislation, progress on recruitment, training, policies etc. One of the PSOs is also responsible for safeguarding at the Food Bank.

Elizabeth Humphrey, Minster Safeguarding Officer.



Welcome to the Alcester Minster Group of Churches Sunday 18 October 2020

Luke the Evangelist *Red*

*"Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.
4 Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
'Be strong, do not fear!"*

Isaiah 35 v 1 – 2a

Collect for Luke the Evangelist

Almighty God,
you called Luke the physician,
whose praise is in the gospel,
to be an evangelist and physician of the soul:
by the grace of the Spirit
and through the wholesome medicine of the
gospel,
give your Church the same love and power to
heal;
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.

Common Worship, material from which is included on this pew leaflet, is copyright of
The Archbishop's Council and The Central Board of Finance of the Church of England.
St Nicholas, Alcester: Copyright licence: CCLI 296655

Ministry Team:

The Rector: Vacancy

Revd Sue Henwood: Kinwarton Rectory, Spermal Lane, Great Alne

Alcester B49 6HY Tel: 01789 488 344 email: sue.henwood@live.co.uk

Revd Julian Davey: The Field House, Allimore Lane

Alcester, B49 5PR Tel: 01789 764 640 email: jw.davey@yahoo.com

Children & Family Worker:

Beth Clarke email: beth.clarke@covLEC.org Tel: 0749 432 9638

Administrator:

Tricia Berry (Monday – Friday 10.00am – 1.30 pm) Tel: 01789 509 278

email: administrator@alcesterminster.org Alcester Minster Office, Church House,

17 Butter Street, Alcester, B49 5AL (Office Opening Hours 10.30 – 12.30pm)

Alcester Minster website: www.alcesterminster.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/AlcesterMinster

Next week's services and events

Sunday 18 October **Luke the Evangelist** *Green*

Alcester	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Great Alne	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Weethley	4.00 pm	Evening Prayer

Tuesday 20 October

Via Zoom Platform 12 noon Minster Prayer Gathering

Sunday 25 October **Trinity 19** *Green*

Alcester	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Coughton	10.00 am	Morning Prayer

Alcester Minster churches will be open as usual for private prayer during the week

Please remember to reserve a place at ALL Minster services by contacting the Administrator via email or telephone by noon on the Friday before the service.

'Zoom Prayer Gatherings' each Tuesday at 12:00 noon.

If you have not previously taken part and wish to in the future, please email the Administrator to receive your invitation to join these Prayer Gatherings. *The Administrator can also send you instructions on how to access Zoom if this is new to you.*

Prayer Gather this week on 20 October but not next week, for one week only.

Last week's Minster funerals.

The following Minster funerals took place during last week.
16 October: Doris Mary Fletcher

Daily Hope Tel: 0800 804 8044

24/7 access to a free phone line of hymns, reflections and prayers

If you can recommend a spiritual book or a spiritual on-line resource for inclusion in future Notice Sheets, please send details to the Administrator at *administrator@alcesterminster.org*

Readings for the week

Today

Isaiah 35 v 3 - 6

Luke 10 v 1 - 9

Monday

Philippians 1 v 1 - 11

Tuesday

Philippians 1 v 12 - 30

Wednesday

Philippians 2 v 1 - 13

Thursday

Philippians 2 v 14 - 30

Friday

Philippians 3 v 1 - 4 v 1

Saturday

Philippians 4 v 2 - 23



Prayer

The Ministry Leadership Team would like you to pray for the following topics:

1. *Pray for the interview process for our new Rector, taking place soon. Pray that all concerned will be guided by the Holy Spirit and that the right person will be chosen.*
2. *Pray for all those who have been abused within a church setting/by someone in the church and have subsequently been ignored, that they may find justice, healing and peace. Give thanks for all those working to make our churches places of safety.*

07840 284 294 or administrator@alcesterminster.org) by 6 pm on Tuesday to add notices of church activities to next week's notice sheet

Parish Safeguarding Officers

Alcester:	Elizabeth Humphrey
Arrow with Weethley:	Becky Shepherd
Coughton with Sambourne:	Gail Laband
Haselor:	Margery Pickering
Kinwarton:	Susan Kinnersley
Great Alne	Tricia Berry

Contact details can be found on your church Notice Board.



Did you know that you can now 'LIKE' Alcester Minster on Facebook? Find details and pictures of events at www.facebook.com/AlcesterMinster If you would like to submit event notices or photos to be published on the page then please email administrator@alcesterminster.org