

## Feature of the Week

Although we face another lockdown, with lots of fun things in the planning I am pleased to say this won't deter or slow down children and family ministry in our area.

October has been a busy month and saw the launch of our first Messy Church at home in a bag (not that catchy I know!). Wonderfully, over 30 children requested a bag and enjoyed learning about Jesus being the light of our world through a variety of crafts and games. Families got together to watch the online video and then do the crafts together. Unsurprisingly, the chocolate mini roll candle craft appeared to be the favourite! I am delighted to tell you we will also be doing a Christmas Messy Church bag that will be full of activities to celebrate the most joyful month of the year. If you or someone you know would like a bag please do e-mail me.

This October 'Positive Pumpkin' crafts were provided to schools to encourage children to promote love, light and positivity. Children were encouraged to think about how we can let the light of Jesus shine through us and our actions and they had some super ideas!

It has been wonderful to work closely with Alcester Town Council with the 'Cook and Eat Your Tea' project. For this course, teenagers were welcomed to learn basic cooking skills and then eat the meal that they had made together. All Covid regulations were adhered to and although it made things slightly different, it didn't stop the teenagers coming out with some fantastic skills and having had a great time. This was hugely enjoyed by all involved and the next scheme will be for gentleman.

Sadly our mum and baby group has been put on hold whilst we stay in to stay safe. However, we look forward to being able to start helping new mums meet other mums in our area soon.

December looks set to be action packed! If you would like to help out in any way do get in touch ☺

*Beth Clarke, Alcester Minster Children and Family Worker*  
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## Welcome to the Alcester Minster Group of Churches Sunday 15 November 2020

### 2 before Advent Red/Green

*"Be silent before the Lord God!  
For the day of the Lord is at hand;"*

Zephaniah 1 v 7a

#### Collect

Heavenly Father,  
whose blessed Son was revealed to  
destroy the works of the devil  
and to make us the children of God  
and heirs of eternal life:  
grant that we, having this hope,  
may purify ourselves even as he is  
pure;  
that when he shall appear in power  
and great glory  
we may be made like him in his  
eternal and glorious kingdom;  
where he is alive and reigns with  
you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

#### Alternative Collect

Heavenly Lord,  
you long for the world's  
salvation:  
stir us from apathy,  
restrain us from excess  
and revive in us new hope  
that all creation will one  
day be healed  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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#### Ministry Team:

Rector: Vacancy

Revd Sue Henwood: Kinwarton Rectory, Spernal Lane, Great Alne  
Alcester B49 6HY Tel: 01789 488 344 email: [sue.henwood@live.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto:jw.davey@yahoo.com)

#### Children & Family Worker:

Beth Clarke email: [Beth.Clarke@Coventry.Anglican.org](mailto:Beth.Clarke@Coventry.Anglican.org) Tel: 0749 432 9638

#### Administrator:

Tricia Berry (Monday – Friday 10.00am – 1.30 pm) Tel: 0784 028 4294  
email: [administrator@alcesterminster.org](mailto:administrator@alcesterminster.org) Alcester Minster Office is currently  
closed, (Working Hours 10.30 – 12.30pm)

**Alcester Minster website:** [www.alcesterminster.org](http://www.alcesterminster.org)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/AlcesterMinster](https://www.facebook.com/AlcesterMinster)

## Next week's services and events

**Sunday 15 November**      **2 before Advent**      *Red/Green*  
*No services in church*

**Tuesday 17 November**  
Via Zoom Platform    12 noon    Minster Prayer Gathering

**Sunday 22 November**      **Christ the King**      *Red*  
*No services in church*

The on-line service is continuing and can be accessed on the Welcome page of the Alcester Minster website.  
[www.alcesterminster.org](http://www.alcesterminster.org)

Alcester Minster churches will be open as usual for private prayer during the week  
*Please remember to contact Gail Laband if you wish to pray in Sambourne church.*

### **'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.*

The Archbishops of Canterbury and York have written a letter for everyone in their churches: "*Bearing in mind our primary vocation as the Church of Jesus Christ to pray and to serve we call upon the Church of England to make the month of lockdown a month of prayer....we know we are in the faithful hands of the risen Christ who knows our weaknesses, tiredness and struggles and whose steadfast love endures for ever.*" In addition, in the Diocese of Coventry, Bishop Christopher is calling us to fast on Thursdays in lockdown, in order to pray more earnestly.

### **Last week's Minster funerals.**

The following Minster funerals took place during last week.

Date: 11 November      Patricia Bishop  
Date: 13 November      David Charles Taylor

## Readings for the week

<b>Today</b>	Zephaniah 1 v 7 & 12 18 Matthew 25 v 14 - 30
Monday	Revelation 10 v 1 - 11
Tuesday	Revelation 11 v 1 - 14
Wednesday	Revelation 11 v 15 - 19
Thursday	Revelation 12 v 1 - 17
Friday	Revelation 13 v 1 - 10
Saturday	Revelation 13 v 11 - 18



### **Prayer**

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

1. Pray for all those who have lost jobs or businesses during the pandemic, that they may receive the support they need, and be given the gift of hope.
2. Give thanks for our Children and Families Worker, Beth Clarke, and all the imagination, hard work and skill she uses to spread the good news of God's love in very difficult circumstances.

Contact Tricia Berry (01789 509 278 or 07840 284 294 or administrator@alcesterminster.org) by 6 pm on Tuesday to add notices of church activities to next week's notice sheet

Revd. Steve Tash writes:

I am in a position to be able to post financial need on to ACTS 435 crowdfunding website. This is practical help for people suddenly faced with costs they cannot afford, like bills, repairs or school shoes for children etc. ACTS 435 is a charity whose patron is Rt. Revd. John Sentamu, previous Archbishop of York. If you know of anyone in such need do please let me know at [stevetash@aol.com](mailto:stevetash@aol.com)



Did you know that you can now 'LIKE' Alcester Minster on Facebook? Find details and pictures of events at [www.facebook.com/AlcesterMinster](https://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