

## **Church and Community together in dark times**

*An article from Maggie Payne.*

Well, I thought I would write about church and community activities in the newsletter. Obviously through this horrible lock down, organisations are at a standstill. However; we must all find time to keep everything alive in the town. Our main aim has been to make sure those less fortunate are being helped, apart from trying to brighten the town up for everyone.

I, along with many others, have enjoyed knitting for premature babies, baking for those who can't get out and helping on the resilient telephone line. As for doing puzzles, I have no patience! I think everyone's gardens must be perfect now ready for spring!

During this horrible time, the community have still persevered to join in anything possible. The Bunting was put up, the hanging baskets, all to brighten the town up and lovely to see the community attending the 2 services outside church. There are many services online to watch on Sunday mornings to keep us in touch with our own thoughts.

On a sad note we have lost so many from the church community. Now is the time to encourage new people. I think after this awful year, people will be glad to go to church for their own reasons. Our traditions will always stay the same. We all so much look forward to a New Year, a new beginning with the same faith.

A prayer:

Lord of the light; come to us in our darkness. As we prepare for the season of Advent; the season of hope, may Christ take away our doubts and fears and renew our hope in him. Fill us through your Spirit with his love and care. Amen

*Please note: The Advent on-line service on the 29<sup>th</sup> November, is a special family friendly service taken by Beth and Julie*



## **Welcome to the Alcester Minster Group of Churches Sunday 22 November 2020**

### **Christ the King**     *Red/White*

*“for I was hungry and you gave me no food,  
I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink.”*

Matthew 25 v 42

#### **Collect**

Eternal Father,  
whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to  
the throne of heaven  
that he might rule over all things as  
Lord and King:  
keep the Church in the unity of the  
Spirit  
and in the bond of peace,  
and bring the whole created order to  
worship at his feet;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

#### **Alternative Collect**

God the Father,  
help us to hear the call of  
Christ the King  
and to follow in his  
service,  
whose kingdom has no  
end;  
for he reigns with you and  
the Holy Spirit,  
one God, one glory.

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#### **Ministry Team:**

Rector: Vacancy  
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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 22 November**      **Christ the King**    *Red/White*  
*No services in church*

**Tuesday 24 November**  
Via Zoom Platform    12 noon    Minster Prayer Gathering

**Sunday 29 November**      **Advent Sunday**    *Purple*  
*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)  
*If you have any problems accessing the on-line service please contact the Administrator who can send a link.*

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.**

No Minster funerals took place during last week.

## Readings for the week

### **Today**

Monday  
Tuesday  
Wednesday  
Thursday  
Friday  
Saturday

Ephesians 1 v 15 - 23  
Matthew 25 v 31 - 46  
Revelation 14 v 1 - 13  
Revelation 14 v 14 - 15 v 8  
Revelation 16 v 1 - 11  
Revelation 16 v 12 - 21  
Revelation 17 v 1 - 18  
Revelation 18 v 1 - 24



### **Prayer**

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

1. Pray for those who are ill, physically or mentally, that they may find the right help at the right time, and know God's healing touch and peace.
2. Pray for all the doctors, nurses and carers who have been under great strain coping with the pandemic, that they may have resilience, wisdom and hope.

Contact Tricia Berry (01789 509 278 or 07840 284 294 or [administrator@alcesterminster.org](mailto: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](mailto:administrator@alcesterminster.org)