

## St Nicholas Mission Partner

For the last couple of years through CMS (Church Mission Society), we have had a connection with Stephen Hatch. Through him we learn about God's work in Tanzania. It is a two-way relationship providing mutual interest, prayer, and care. Stephen is a young man working in St. John's school in a poor rural area of Tanzania, in a vastly different culture to our own.

He teaches maths and stands in for the school Chaplain when required. The school at Kilimatinde is a mixed boarding school with about 200 pupils aged 12-24 who come from distances about 2 hours' drive away. Stephen and the Tanzanian head's wife are the only 2 Europeans at the school although they do have the occasional short-term helpers.

They teach in English, the local language being Swahili. Stephen finds the general level of maths is fairly low and he has been able to upgrade the ability of many pupils to well above the national expectation. He also teaches computer skills not only to the pupils but also to some of the staff.

At the moment Stephen is covering the Chaplain's post. He has started Bible study sessions covering topics that he hopes will affect the pupils' lives. He enjoys the chapel work especially the preaching for which he has great talent.

The water supply for the school is very erratic, and they had no water for over a month in December, so they are trying to raise enough money to dig a well on the school property.

Last March Stephen came to visit us at St. Nicholas, he preached at our 2 Sunday services and we had a 'bring and share' lunch where we were able to get to know each other better.

We have a prayer request and news of his life at the school from him periodically. He asks us to pray that the £9,300 for the well will be raised and that the post for the Chaplain will be filled.

We thank God for the work he is doing all over the world and that, through Stephen, we hear a little of what is happening in Tanzania.

*By Lizzy Davey*



## Welcome to the Alcester Minster Group of Churches Sunday 21 February 2021

### Lent 1 Purple

*"To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;  
O my God, in you I trust; -  
let me not be put to shame;  
let not my enemies triumph over me.*

Psalm 25 v 1

#### Collect

Almighty God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty  
days in the wilderness,  
and was tempted as we are, yet  
without sin:  
give us grace to discipline ourselves  
in obedience to your Spirit;  
and, as you know our weakness,  
so may we know your power to save;  
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.

#### Alternative Collect

Heavenly Father,  
your Son battled with the  
powers of darkness,  
and grew closer to you in  
the desert:  
help us to use these days  
to grow in wisdom and  
prayer  
that we may witness to  
your saving love  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

*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:

Rector: Vacancy  
Alcester, B49 5DB Tel: 01789 764 261 email: [rector@alcesterminster.org](mailto:rector@alcesterminster.org)  
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: 01789 509 278  
email: [administrator@alcesterminster.org](mailto: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](http://www.alcesterminster.org)

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

## Next week's services and events

**Sunday 21 February**      **Lent 1**      *Purple*  
**All church services within the Alcester Minster  
are suspended throughout February**

**Tuesday 23 February**  
Zoom      12.00 noon      Minster Prayer Gathering

**Sunday 28 February**      **Lent 2**      *Purple*  
**All church services within the Alcester Minster  
are suspended throughout February**

Please remember that on-line worship continues to be available every  
Sunday on the Welcome page of the Alcester Minster website  
[www.alcesterminster.org](http://www.alcesterminster.org)

### **The World Day of Prayer – Friday 05 March**

On-line service will be available from  
Alcester churches at 7.00 pm.

### **LENT 2021**

Hints on observing Lent can be found on the Welcome page of  
the Alcester Minster Churches website [www.alcesterminster.org](http://www.alcesterminster.org)  
including information shared in this  
and the previous two Notice Sheets.

You will also find a link to the  
Alcester Churches Together, Lent Course.

### **Electoral Roll**

All the parishes are preparing for their APCM and if you  
are not already on the electoral roll *and would like to be*,  
please contact the Electoral Roll Officer. *If you do not  
know the identity of the electoral roll officer for your  
parish please contact the Administrator.*

### **Administrator Hours 22 February – 05 March**

Please note: The Administrator's hours for the two weeks from  
Monday 22 February will change to the afternoon.

## Readings for the week

<b>Today</b>	1 Peter 3 v 18 – 22 Mark 1 v 9 – 15 Psalm 25 v 1 – 9
Monday	John 5 v 1 – 18
Tuesday	John 5 v 19 – 29
Wednesday	John 5 v 30 – 47
Thursday	John 6 v 1 0 15
Friday	John 6 v 16 – 27
Saturday	John 6 v 27 - 40



### **Prayer**

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

1. *Pray for all those who are involved in  
vaccination programmes across the world, that  
they may be given the supplies they need and  
the stamina to keep going.*
2. *Give thanks for all the vaccinations already  
given, and for the skill and dedication of those  
working to protect us from new variants of the  
virus.*

Contact Tricia Berry (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.

Please remember if you have a specific role in the  
Minster or in your parish to let the Administrator  
know so it can be shared with the new Rector.  
*If possible do include a photograph.*

*Check out the website calendar for further details on  
events/services coming up*



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)