

## The season for Church weddings.

It is lovely to once again welcome wedding couples into our churches. Church still offers a place for the couple to celebrate their love to each other in a place that is full of God's love.

As churches we welcome couples to make their vows in buildings that have witnessed couples over the centuries exchange their vows with each other. These are glorious events in anyone's lives.

For many couples over the last year it has been a difficult time. They want to celebrate in front of their family and friends as people have always done, yet in order to do so, many have chosen to delay the ceremony not once but twice. We are once again able to invite couples into our churches to celebrate in a marriage ceremony. Nothing has changed in the marriage service. We are still able to read Banns of Marriage prior to the wedding. It is a lovely way for our church family to participate in the couple's happiness. Our first Minster weddings will take place in July.

You may be aware that this year there is a change in how weddings are registered. One of the benefits of these changes is the inclusion of mothers and stepparents in the marriage documents. Another change is that the marriage certificate is not given to the couple on the day. The marriage is registered by the church at the local register office within 21 days of the wedding ceremony. The signing of the certificate is replaced in the service with signing a Marriage Document. It is this document which is registered by the church with the Register Office. The couple must after the 21 days, apply to the Register office to receive their Marriage Certificate.

As a Minster we are preparing to instigate these changes and in order to process the change we are establishing different documents to share with the couple to enable us to gain the additional information.

Please pray for all couples who have plans to marry in 2021 and 2022.

*God of love, we pray for those who bring their love to you.  
May God be a partner in the lives they share together.*



# Welcome to the Alcester Minster Group of Churches Sunday 16 May 2021

**Easter 7**    *White*

*"Then they prayed and said, 'Lord, you know everyone's heart. Show us which one of these two you have chosen<sup>25</sup> to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place."*

Acts 1 v 24

### Collect

O God the King of glory,  
you have exalted your only Son Jesus  
Christ  
with great triumph to your kingdom  
in heaven:  
we beseech you, leave us not  
comfortless,  
but send your Holy Spirit to  
strengthen us  
and exalt us to the place where our  
Saviour Christ is gone before,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

### Alternative Collect

Risen, ascended Lord,  
as we rejoice at your  
triumph,  
fill your Church on earth  
with power and  
compassion,  
that all who are estranged  
by sin  
may find forgiveness and  
know your peace,  
to the glory of God the  
Father.

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### Ministry Team:

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### 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](http://www.facebook.com/AlcesterMinster)

## Next week's services and events

<b>Sunday 16 May</b>		<b>Easter 7</b>	<i>White</i>
Alcester	10.00 am	Holy Communion	
Coughton	10.00 am	Holy Communion	
Weethley	3.00 pm	Evening Prayer	

### Tuesday 18 May

Via Zoom 12.00 noon Minster Prayer Gathering

### Wednesday 19 May

Via Zoom 7.30 pm Alcester PCC  
Via Zoom 7.30 pm Arrow with Weethley PCC

### Sunday 23 May

		<b>Pentecost</b>	<i>Red</i>
Alcester	10.00 am	Pentecost Service	
Great Alne	10.00 am	Holy Communion	

**Please remember to reserve a place at any of the church services, wear a face covering, unless exempt, and keep 2 metres distance. Thank you.**

### Thy Kingdom Come 13 – 21 May

Reminder that this is the season of global prayer for every denomination and tradition across the globe to pray that more people will come to know the love of Christ. We are encouraged to 'Pray for Five,' friends, family, neighbours, that they would come to know God's love in this special ten day period between Ascension and Pentecost.

### Sunday 30 May – Trinity Sunday

The Minster service on the fifth Sunday in May will be an **Open Air Minster service** held at **Holy Trinity, Arrow at 10 am.**  
Prayer and Praise, please bring your own seat..  
*Please remember to reserve a place.*

### Special notice

**"Sue is retiring from her post as House for Duty Associate Minister at the end of July this year (having reached, by then, the grand old age of 66). As prior to that she will be taking some holiday, her last Sunday with us will be the 11th. July."**

## Readings for the week

<b>Today</b>	Acts 1 v 15 – 17 & 21 - 26 John 17 v 6 – 19
Monday	1 John 2 v 18 – 29
Tuesday	1 John 3 v 1 – 10
Wednesday	1 John 3 v 11 – 24
Thursday	1 John 4 v 1 – 6
Friday	1 John 4 v 7 – 21
Saturday	1 John 5



### Prayer

Please pray for the following topics:

1. Pray for those who feel worthless, the alienated and the estranged that they may feel God's presence.
2. Pray for Mission Aviation Fellowship whose small planes fly to the remotest parts of the earth carrying missionaries and supplies and taking sick people to hospital.

### Thy Kingdom Come

Resources available from  
<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/resources/new-2021>  
or from the FREE app.  
*Available to download from Apple Store or Google Play*

*Please ensure all mobile phones are switched OFF during church services.  
Visitors are invited to Gift Aid their offerings in the envelopes provided.*

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

### ARROW AND WEETHLEY PCC

Our lovely Treasurer is stepping down at our APCM this month and we are therefore looking for somebody to take on this role. Perhaps you may know somebody who might be willing to take on this task. The person doesn't need to be a churchgoer but would be required to attend our PCC meetings every other month. Further information can be obtained from Carolyn Baldwin on 01789 762638  
Noreen Dean – PCC Secretary