

God's Acre

Our churches are surrounded by an area of peace where we can find solitude with God's creation and God's love. A place of sanctuary from the busy world we live in. Our churchyards are also a place where people not connected to our church services can find peace and, even if not knowingly, spend time with the Lord.

Each churchyard is unique, apparently there are 20,000 burial grounds in England and Wales, both church and community. Each one is sacred ground. God's ground. For the local community who may rarely visit the church building, the churchyard is often a place of pilgrimage. Many people 'religiously' visit a loved one's grave, every week, every month, or only once a year, to honour someone who has passed from this life. Sadly, they often contain unmarked and unrecorded burial places. I am always aware that the yew trees in the churchyard often cover unmarked burials hastily made during the period of plaque.

The gravestones offer an insight into the past, a historian's 'research-heaven'. They encapsulate the community in the past. We may not appreciate what was allowed in the past or, we may be thrilled by the different monuments in our local churchyard. Each one tells a story.

The land within the churchyard also offers a refuge for wildlife and nature, too. Many of the Minster churchyards are protected areas.

As current members of our church family we have a responsibility to care for these burial places, one day we or, our loved ones, may rest there. Let's not forget, the local community who relies on it as a burial place for their loved ones and eventually for themselves, share that responsibility with us.

Prayer:

*God, you walk with us all our lives;
you watch us make our way towards you;
you long to catch us when we fall.
Help us at our end to rest in you. Amen*



Welcome to the Alcester Minster Group of Churches Sunday 13 June 2021

Trinity 2 Green

"Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.'

Acts 8 v 29

Collect

Almighty God,
who through your only-begotten Son
Jesus Christ
have overcome death and opened to
us the gate of everlasting life:
grant that, as by your grace going
before us you put into our minds
good desires,
so by your continual help
we may bring them to good effect;
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Alternative Collect

Risen Christ,
your wounds declare your
love for the world
and the wonder of your
risen life:
give us compassion and
courage
to risk ourselves for those
we serve,
to the glory of God the
Father.

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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 13 June		Trinity 2	<i>Green</i>
Alcester	10.00 am	Holy Communion	
Arrow	10.00 am	Morning Prayer	
Kinwarton	4:00 pm	Holy Communion	

Tuesday 15 June

Via Zoom 12.00 noon Minster Prayer Gathering

Wednesday 16 June

Alcester 10.00 am Mid-week Communion

Sunday 20 June

		Trinity 3	<i>Green</i>
Alcester	10.00 am	Holy Communion	
Coughton	10.00 am	Morning Prayer	
Weethley	3:00 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

Caring for God's Acre

If you found the feature for this week interesting perhaps you may like to go to the website 'Caring for God's Acre' <https://www.caringforgodsacre.org.uk/>

Information and resources available.

'Love your Burial Ground Week' 05 – 13 June

Church of England service

marking the fourth anniversary of the Grenfell fire.

Available to watch live on Sunday 13 June, or at a later time, on the Church of England Facebook page, YouTube channel or CofE website. <https://www.churchofengland.org/>

Readings for the week

Today	2 Corinthians 5 v 6 – 10 [11-13] 14 – 17 Mark 4 v 26 - 34
Monday	Romans 9 v 1 – 18
Tuesday	Romans 9 v 19 - 33
Wednesday	Romans 10 v 1 – 10
Thursday	Romans 10 v 11 - 21
Friday	Romans 11 v 1 – 12
Saturday	Romans 11 v 13 - 24

Prayer



Please pray for
the following topics:

1. Let us pray for the world leaders who are meeting this week in Cornwall for the G7 meeting that their discussions may be productive.
2. Let us pray for all those who have been housebound during the last year and now are finding courage to come out of their homes to enjoy the summer.

*Please ensure all mobile phones are switched OFF during a service.
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.

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 If you would like to submit event notices or photos to be published on the page then please email administrator@alcesterminster.org