

## Petertide

Dear Christian friends,

Being the nearest to St Peter's Day this Sunday is traditionally known as "Peter-tide" and in many cathedrals and churches throughout the world men and women will kneel before their Bishop who will lay hands on their heads and confirm that they have been called to a new ministry of service amongst God's people. As you may know, tomorrow I will be celebrating the fortieth anniversary of my own ordination in Worcester Cathedral.

Various New Testament passages such as Acts 6. 1-6 and 1 Timothy 4.14 are regarded as the basis for this practice and certainly by the third century a recognisable order of service began to emerge which involved asking for the coming down of the Holy Spirit and the giving of a New Testament to the ordinand.

To be called to lead God's people is a great privilege, second only to the greatest privilege of all, that of being called to follow Christ. For the newly ordained deacon or priest is given the responsibility of the spiritual and pastoral care of his or her fellow Christians. For my part I cannot think of a happier or more suitable path down which God could have called me in His service.

Recently, I have been reading my way through scores of letters written whilst I was working as a doctor in a remote hospital in Bangladesh in the '70's. It is only lately that I have realised that in *none* of them did I mention any aspiration to a future ordained ministry. Little did I know that within six years of returning I would be kneeling before Bishop Robin in Worcester Cathedral at the beginning of a new chapter of my life. I have no doubt that I found myself there, not only as a result of the prayers of many people, but also through the constant support and encouragement of Lizzie, whom I had married soon after we had come back from Bengal.

However, I *do* remember one particular Bible passage that impressed me as I sought God's guidance for the future. In the story of the demoniac of the Gadarenes: now healed and at peace, the man asked Jesus if he could stay with him. Surprisingly Jesus declined his wish, saying: "*go home and tell your friends what God has done...*" In the forty years since then this is what I have tried to do.

And so, this Peter-tide, let us pray for all those who are being ordained to a new life of service and let us especially pray for our own ordinand, Julie Lindsay, who is to begin her training at Queen's Theological College this Autumn.

With grateful thanks for all your encouragement through many years. *Julian*



# Welcome to the Alcester Minster Group of Churches

## Sunday 27 June 2021

### Trinity 4 Green

*"Now as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you—so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking."*

2 Corinthians 8 v 7

#### Collect

O God, the protector of all who trust  
in you,  
without whom nothing is strong,  
nothing is holy:  
increase and multiply upon us your  
mercy;  
that with you as our ruler and guide  
we may so pass through things  
temporal  
that we lose not our hold on things  
eternal;  
grant this, heavenly Father,  
for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

#### Alternative Collect

Gracious Father,  
by the obedience of Jesus  
you brought salvation to  
our wayward world:  
draw us into harmony with  
your will,  
that we may find all things  
restored in him,  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

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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](https://www.facebook.com/AlcesterMinster)

## Next week's services and events

|                       |                  |                 |
|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Sunday 27 June</b> | <b>Trinity 4</b> | <i>Green</i>    |
| Alcester              | 10.00 am         | Holy Communion  |
| Great Alne            | 10.00 am         | Morning Worship |

**Tuesday 29 June**  
Via Zoom 12 noon Prayer Gathering

**Wednesday 30 June**  
Alcester 10.00 am Midweek Holy Communion

|                       |                  |                |
|-----------------------|------------------|----------------|
| <b>Sunday 04 July</b> | <b>Trinity 5</b> | <i>Green</i>   |
| Alcester              | 10.00 am         | Holy Communion |
| Arrow                 | 10.00 am         | Holy Communion |
| Haselor               | 10.00 am         | Morning Prayer |
| Sambourne             | 4.00 pm          | 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.**

### 40 Years On

Our congratulations to Julian on his 40 years of ministry for the Lord.

We hope everyone is now aware of the postponement of the celebration planned for Sunday, 27 June due to the delay in the relaxation of the current restrictions.

As last weeks' notice sheet informed everyone, the Administrator will keep the names of those who had hoped to attend the celebration this Sunday.

*We look forward to celebrating with him some time in the future.*

Sue Henwood's final service within the Minster will be at

**St Nicholas, Alcester at 10 am on Sunday 11 July**

Unfortunately, due to the continuation of restrictions, numbers in church will be restricted to 30 but the plans are that the service will be available on-line.

Apologies to those who have not received recent Notice Sheets. They are available on the website.

Click on the word 'Noticeboard' on the top of the front page. Then click on the aqua/green 'button' under the title 'Noticeboard'. All notice sheets are available there.

## Readings for the week

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| <b>Today</b> | 2 Corinthians 8 v 7 - 24<br>Mark 5 v 21 - 43 |
| Monday       | Romans 14 v 13 - 23                          |
| Tuesday      | Acts 11 v 1 - 18                             |
| Wednesday    | Romans 15 v 14 - 21                          |
| Thursday     | Romans 15 v 22 - 33                          |
| Friday       | Romans 16 v 1 - 16                           |
| Saturday     | Romans 16 v 17 - 27                          |



### Prayers

Please pray for the following topics:

1. *As we slowly come out of lockdown and seem to have the virus under control let us pray for other countries like Brazil who are still seeing numbers rising.*
2. *Last Sunday was Father's Day so let us continue to give thanks for everything that they have done and continue to do for their children remembering those no longer with us.*

*Please ensure all mobile phones are switched OFF during 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.

*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