

More than a telephone...

It is amazing what we take for granted. At the end of the 19th century people were amazed by the invention of the telephone. It was a miracle of engineering. I grew up with a telephone in the house. I took it for granted but I remember why I first got a mobile phone. I had broken down on the way home and couldn't tell my children why I wasn't there. A kind motorist stopped and let me use his mobile to both ring home and the garage. I was so grateful to him. He was an answer to my prayer.

How times quickly change. Today, if we have a 'smart' phone, we all carry a minicomputer in our pockets. Many have also over the last year become familiar with using 'Zoom'. We have all been able to take them for granted.

A long time ago, I gave an assembly [Collective Worship, as it is now known] about 'Prayer is like a telephone'. It came from a Christian children song of the same name. I was asking the children to think about prayer as if it was a telephone. We can just pick it up and use it every day to speak with God. He is always on the end of our call; we never get an engage signal. I still like to think of prayer a bit like a telephone. Prayer is the mobile I don't even have to carry around with me. It is just always available, and God is always at the other end. There is never a bad connection. The battery never runs out and I don't experience buffering as I do when the internet fails me.

I know I am not saying anything new. But it is so easy to take prayer for granted. To the point where we can forget to do it. Let's be encouraged to pray more. To talk daily with our dearest friend, God.

Collects for Harvest Thanksgiving

Collect

Creator God,
you made the goodness of
the land,
the riches of the sea
and the rhythm of the
seasons;
as we thank you for the
harvest,
may we cherish and respect
this planet and its peoples,
through Jesus Christ our
Lord.

Alternative Collect

Eternal God,
you crown the year with your
goodness
and you give us the fruits of the
earth in their season:
grant that we may use them to your
glory,
for the relief of those in need and
for our own well-being;
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.



Welcome to the Alcester Minster Group of Churches

Sunday 12 September 2021

Trinity 15 Green

"He asked them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Peter answered him, 'You are the Messiah.'"

Mark 8 v 29

Collect

God, who in generous mercy sent the
Holy Spirit
upon your Church in the burning fire
of your love:
grant that your people may be
fervent
in the fellowship of the gospel
that, always abiding in you,
they may be found steadfast in faith
and active in service;
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

Lord God,
defend your Church from
all false teaching
and give to your people
knowledge of your
truth,
that we may enjoy eternal
life
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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Alcester Minster website: www.alcesterminster.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/AlcesterMinster

Next week's services and events

Sunday 12 September **Trinity 15** *Green*
Arrow 9.00 am Holy Communion
Alcester 11.00 am Sung Eucharist
Alcester 3.00 pm *Baptism Preparation*

Tuesday 14 September

Via Zoom 12.00 noon Prayer Gathering

Wednesday 15 September

Alcester 10.00 am Mid-week Holy Communion
Sambourne 1.30 pm Keep Fit for over 65s

Sunday 19 September

Trinity 16 *Green*

Haselor 9.00 am Holy Communion
Weethley 9.00 am Harvest service
Coughton 11.00 am Morning Worship
Alcester 11.00 am Sung Eucharist
Alcester 3.00 pm *Baptism service if required*

National Heritage Open Days

**Saturday 18 September and
Sunday 19 September
12 noon – 4.00 pm.**

Come and look round St Nicholas Church
and Church House.

*Also, open to visit and view are Alcester Baptist Church and Meeting
House, Alcester Memorial Town Hall and the Alcester Roman Museum*

Tea Party

Lizzy and Julian invite you and any one from the Minster
Churches to their garden on Sunday Sept 19th at 3pm for a
final tea party.

Please let us know if you can come on mrseadavey@gmail.com
or leave a message on 764640. We do hope you can join us.

Churchwomen's Guild Meeting

Thursday 23rd September at 2pm in Church House

Rachel Newitt will be stepping down at the end of September and introducing a new
leader at the meeting.

Spaces are available for arrangers to do the choir stalls, the pillars and one spare
window for Festivals, and also spaces on the weekly Altar Flower rota. If you can help,
please contact Rachel and/or come along to the meeting. All are welcome.

Readings for the week

Today	James 3 v 1 - 12 Mark 8 v 27 - 38
Monday	Mark 11 v 1 - 11
Tuesday	Mark 12 v 27 - 36a
Wednesday	Mark 11 v 27 - 33
Thursday	Mark 12 v 1 - 12
Friday	Mark 12 v 13 - 17
Saturday	Mark 12 v 18 - 27

Prayer



Please pray for
the following topics:

1. *Pray for our Father as schools have now returned, we
pray for all pupils as they start a new school year. We
also think of teachers and all school staff who do so
much to support pupils.*
2. *We are so thankful for the great work done by Beth
and pray that it will continue in the interim.*

*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 (01789 509 278 or 07840 284 294 or
administrator@alcesterminster.org) by 6 pm on Tuesday to add notices of
church activities to next week's notice sheet.

Future services to note at Holy Trinity, Arrow.

Harvest Festival – 10 October at 9 am.

Remembrance Service with the British Legion

14 November at 9 a.



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