

The Grapevine

THE PARISH MAGAZINE OF ST LAURENCE CHURCH ALVECHURCH



NOVEMBER 2015

Online at www.alvechurch-stlaurence.org

St Laurence Church Alvechurch

SUNDAY SERVICES

8.00am Holy Communion

Book of Common Prayer Communion Service, will take place on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. On the other Sundays there will be an 8.00am Book of Common Prayer Communion Service at St Leonard's in Beoley

9.30am Family Service

*with Holy Communion on the 1st Sunday
and Baptisms on the 4th Sunday*

11.15am Parish Eucharist

6.00pm Evensong

On the 4th Sunday of the month at 6pm there will be Sacred Space, a quieter more reflective space for worship

At Rowney Green Shared Church

9.30am Methodist/Anglican Service

with Holy Communion on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month

DAILY SERVICE

9.00am Monday to Friday In St Laurence Church

ORGANISATIONS

Sunday Club	Sundays at 9.30am in the Church and Ark (445 1854)
Choir	Thursdays at 7.45pm in Church (445 3569)
Bellringers	Sundays at 10.30am and 5.30pm Tuesday Practice at 7.30pm (01527 64077)
Women's Fellowship	4th Wednesday of the month at 2.00pm in Tanyard Lane Community Centre (445 2125)
Mum's the Word	Thursdays at 9.30am in The Ark (07773509390) Tiny Tots Service 10.15am 1st Thursday of the month
Ark Café	Thursdays during term time at 12.15pm (447 7017)
Home Group	Thursdays, 7.30pm at the Coach House (445 2547)

THE ARK

Enquiries to Ian Price 0121 447 7955



Richard Bubbers writes.....Busyness and stillness

Someone has described stillness as the punctuation to life, which can help us to take stock of our lives and see the meaning and avoid burnout. It helps remind us that, amid all our busyness, everything begins and ends in God's mercy and grace and not our own efforts. It is a place of refreshing and refocusing.

At a time when it can seem that everything is getting busier and faster, we might think that, when Jesus was on this earth, his ministry was unhurried and unpressured. However, his great mission was to bring in the kingdom of God, and on a daily basis he had crowds to teach, multitudes to heal and thousands to love. He had to deal with the expectations and demands of so many who wanted so much from him. And all the time, of course, he was preparing himself for the climax of his ministry on a wooden cross and in an empty tomb.

However, we read in the gospels that Jesus consciously and deliberately chose to withdraw for a time from the busyness of his workload: over 40 times we are told he went to a place privately to be with his Father. He would leave the busyness, in spite of the scale of his task and the minimal time in which he had to do it, as his priority was to listen to God in the stillness.

In the place of stillness we are more able to focus our attention inward and become more aware of God's bigger picture – he loves us unconditionally, and each one of us is his beloved child– instead of being lost in the details and noise of our life. For centuries Christians have found this to be a way of reconnecting with what matters in life, and with God, and with themselves.

Entering into periods of stillness enables us to see things with greater clarity, and we come to know ourselves better by getting in touch with the deepest part of ourselves – that is our soul.

If you are curious to discover more about this, you may be interested in some events taking place at St Laurence's over the next few months.

Sacred Space is a quieter, more reflective space for worship and being aware of God's presence. It will usually be on the 4th Sunday evening in the month at 6pm (in place of Evensong). The following dates are already planned:

- 25 October – Celtic Compline (Night Prayer)
- 22 November – a guided silent space, with opportunity for prayer for healing
- (27 December – no service)
- 24 January – Taize

Christian Mindfulness Day Workshop on Saturday 16th January 2016 from 9.30am to 4pm. Christian mindfulness is deeply rooted in the ancient Christian tradition of contemplative prayer, and today is being discovered by many to be very relevant in helping with the busyness and noise of our daily lives. It encourages us to calm and to be present in the moment, and to hear what God is saying.

Further details including how to reserve a place are to be found on page 12 of this edition of the Grapevine.

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St Laurence Women's Fellowship

Jill Woolley writes...

On November 25th our Speaker will be Ruth Lowe who will tell us the story of Mary Quant and how she changed the world of fashion.

On December 16th at our Christmas meeting we will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the founding of St. Laurence Women's Fellowship by the Reverend Blakiston in 1965. We will meet in the Tanyard Centre at the earlier time of 1pm for a Celebratory Lunch followed by a seasonal quiz and Christmas celebrations.

Alvechurch Historical Society

Hilary Taylor writes...

Many of you will have visited our museum Open Days in September, and seen the exhibition curated by members of the Worcester, Birmingham & Droitwich Canals Society, celebrating the bicentenary of the canal which passes through Alvechurch.

The presentation at our October meeting was given by Max Keen, always a popular speaker with members & guests. From the point of view of a Man-at-Arms in the army of King Richard III, complete with his suit of armour, Max told us about the life and death of Richard. This was the Wars of the Roses, when the Yorkist's and Lancastrians fought over the crown of England. Max explained medieval warfare techniques, the roles of Dukes and Earls, the battles and the rumours, with great enthusiasm.

Our next meeting is on **Monday 2nd November**, when Neil Wedgbury will give a talk called "AUSTIN WORLD WAR II UNDERGROUND TUNNELS & MANUFACTURING". Only five miles from Alvechurch, the wartime manufacture of munitions and engines took place in underground tunnels, where the workers, and their efforts were safe from German bombers.

The meeting starts at 7.45pm, at the museum in School Lane. Parking is available behind the catholic church, with their kind permission. New faces are always welcome, just come along, or contact our chairman, Anne Humphries on 0121 445 5955.

Alvechurch Village Society

Ray Yarnell writes...

The November walk will be a "*Leisurely Stroll in Alvechurch*", For families and newcomers to the area, sharing lots of info on the village and ideas for your own walks. Led by Norma and Ray Yarnell (0121 445 5739) the walk will start at 2.30pm on Sunday 1st November from Tanyard Lane car park .

The November evening event will be a talk on the Lickey Hills Country Park "*A Paradise on your Doorstep*", given by Mike Brooke and Steven Hinton from the Lickey Hills Society and Country Park Ranger service. The talk will start at 7.45pm on Wednesday 25th November in Alvechurch Village Hall, and there is a charge of £2.00 to non members, which includes a drink and biscuits.

A Ripe Old Age

Gloria Wilson writes....

I had the good fortune to met an elderly neighbour recently who is 101 years old and still living independently with family support. It made think how many other seniors live in Alvechurch who have reached this age or indeed are older - who is the oldest resident in our area?

In the Bible Abraham, Moses and Noah to name but a few in the Old Testament lived to a ripe old age well over a 100 years and I know a handful of people in their 90s so if anyone can enlighten me I would appreciate finding out if my neighbour is unique.

She tells tales of being born in 1914 on a farm in stormy weather and happy days working at Cadburys where she met her husband and had to leave when they got married. Her husband served in WW2 and life was hard but her faith has seen her through the tough times and she has a devoted son who looks after her now in her great age.

Stained Glass Windows

There will be a full update on the St Laurence Stained Glass Windows Appeal in the December edition of The Grapevine.

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St Laurence Churchyard

Andy Humphries writes...



Tree removal....as winter comes round the corner, the churchyard volunteers move from their mowing and strimming work to pruning shrubs and trees. A couple of local residents have told us that some trees near to paths are getting quite large and would benefit from having their tops taken out or, in the case of a few ash trees, being cut down. We're always reluctant to remove any churchyard trees but there are some, especially along the road to the church from School Lane that are close to houses. These will gradually be removed or pruned through the winter. We also plan to prune some of the trees and hedges along Church Walk (that's the path up to the church from the village green) and along the Black Path from the churchyard to School Lane.

Dogs in the churchyard ? We welcome dogs in our churchyard provided their owners keep them on leads and clear up if their dog fouls on the grass. Dog mess near graves is very unpleasant for the family of the deceased....and dog mess anywhere is equally unpleasant for the volunteers who have to clean it off the church mowers and trimmers. The majority of dog walkers take great care to avoid this problem but sadly a few let their dogs run around and don't clean up. Please help us to keep our churchyard looking its bestand keep your dog on a lead.

Tell us what you think ? Local people often make comments about the churchyard and its maintenance in letters, emails and sometimes on Facebook! All feedback is welcome, even the occasional complaint, as it helps us to know what residents think. I hope most Parishioners will join me in thanking the volunteers (some of them non-churchgoers) who give up their spare time to keep the place looking so good.

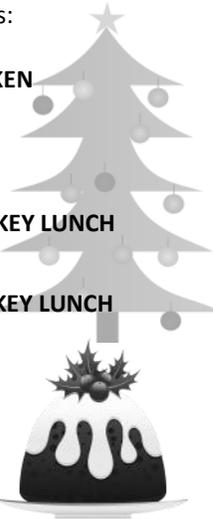
The Ark Café



Firstly, we would like to say how pleased we are to have had so many people attending and supporting the Cafe on Thursdays lunchtimes during September and October, enjoying our main courses and home made desserts and the congenial atmosphere.

So now for November and December with the approach of Christmas, the menus will be as follows:

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| NOVEMBER 5TH | SOMERSET CHICKEN |
| NOVEMBER 12TH | ROAST PORK |
| NOVEMBER 19TH | ROAST LAMB |
| NOVEMBER 26TH | CHRISTMAS TURKEY LUNCH
(TICKET ONLY) |
| DECEMBER 3RD | CHRISTMAS TURKEY LUNCH
(TICKET ONLY) |



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A Thank You

Cilia Hitch writes...

Macmillan Coffee Morning at Rectory Cottage, Alvechurch. Thank you to all who came to our coffee morning and supported us so splendidly. Also to the many helpers and the kind donations of cakes. It was a great success and £758 was raised.

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Rowney Green Horticultural Society

Lindsay Smith writes...

ROWNEY GREEN HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY meets at The Peace Hall on the second Thursday each month at 7.30 pm. The meeting on 12th November 2015 will be the AGM followed by Cheese and Wine.

All members are most welcome on the evening re. the election of the Committee. Maybe you are even thinking of putting your own name forward as a new addition to the Committee!!!

For more information please telephone Lindsay Smith on 01527 592874.

Forget-Me-Not

Doug Johnson, a member of Forget-me-Not writes...

Life has dealt a cruel blow, maybe recently, maybe some time in past. Someone with whom you had shared a loving companionship, doing many things together, perhaps for decades, is no longer with you. A hole has appeared in your life, periods when you feel a sense of loneliness enter your days.

You are not alone. On the contrary, many people are living with the same emotions and find that meeting with others to discuss common experiences and perhaps find helpful suggestions and information, which, although the grief never goes away, makes living with it easier and may well brighten your day.

The chance to do just that is offered in Alvechurch by FORGET-ME-NOT, a group supported by St Laurence's church and held in the ARK every second Monday (excluding Bank Holidays) from 1:45pm to 3:30pm.

Why not join us for companionship, and a chance to compare experiences over a cup of tea? You would be very welcome.

More details are available from Sue Phillips on 0121 445 3620.

Alvechurch WI

Pam Horsfield writes...

Alvechurch WI has had two really good meetings in September and October. In September we celebrated 100 years of WI (information which is hard to miss if you like the cookery programmes on television!). Dianne Chamberlain, from the Barnt Green tea shop, produced a wonderful traditional tea for us in the Village Hall, before we were well entertained by 'Some like it hot'...three girls in polka dot dresses singing songs ranging from the 50s to the 70s. It truly was a celebration.

The October meeting was also different as a variety of crafts were available for members to choose from, mostly based on poppy designs. It didn't matter if you were skilful or not, as the choice allowed for everyone to have fun and chat to other members while enjoying themselves. By the concentration shown at each table, the evening was a real success. Next week several members are going to the Annual Council Meeting at Malvern where we always hear interesting speakers.

Our gardening group will be meeting to tidy up the WI garden in the village by the flag pole as Neil Hoskins is going to do some heavy digging and sorting before we make the garden ready for winter. This will hopefully be completed before the Remembrance Day Service is held there. We also have 28 members going on the coach from Alvechurch to Blenheim Palace in November for the Worcestershire WI Christmas shopping trip. This should be a good day with members from WIs around the county getting together.

Our November meeting speaker is Betty Webb who is 92 and will tell us about her time at Bletchley Park during the war. Do come and join us to hear her speak, even if you aren't a member, as she's so interesting.

We meet at the Village Hall on the second Monday of the month (November 9th) at 7:30pm.

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FOR FURTHER INFO

Parish Prayers

Prayers will be said at St Laurence Church for the residents of the following roads:



- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Sunday 1st November | - Coopers Hill |
| Sunday 8th November | - Crown Meadow |
| Sunday 15th November | - Cygnet Close |
| Sunday 22nd November | - Dagnell End Road |
| Sunday 29th November | - Dellow Grove |

2015 Real Advent Calendar Launch

Sam Setchell (Diocese Communication Officer) writes...

The Meaningful Chocolate Company is hoping to donate £15,000 from sales of its 2015 Real Advent Calendar to help fund a baby clinic in Kenya and support overseas farmers through Traidcraft Exchange.

However, it is not just the charitable donation that makes The Real Advent Calendar unique. This year it includes a 32-page Christmas story/activity booklet illustrated by Sophie Allsopp and designed to be used every day in Advent. The new booklet includes all the traditional nativity characters, gives more detail about the Christmas story and has seven Advent challenges. The calendar also comes with 24 Fairtrade Belgian chocolates and a line of the Christmas story behind each of the windows.

David Marshall, from The Meaningful Chocolate Company, said: 'Recent surveys show that knowledge of the Christmas story is fading. The Real Advent Calendar is part of a campaign which hopes to reverse this trend by finding new ways to share the story. By buying this Advent calendar children, parents and Godparents can share the Christmas story throughout December.'

How to buy - The Real Advent Calendar costs £3.99. Churches, schools and groups can buy directly from The Meaningful Chocolate Company by visiting our special website at www.realadvent.co.uk and take advantage of free delivery.

Retailers stocking the calendar include larger Tesco stores, Traidcraft, Eden.co.uk, Shared Earth, CLC Bookshops and a number of cathedrals. Details at www.realadvent.co.uk Launching this year's calendar, TV presenter Diane Louise Jordan said: 'Not only is the calendar educational and made from Fairtrade chocolate but it's a great opportunity to raise funds to help equip and support The Funzi and Bodo Trust baby clinic in Kenya.'

What's On At Alvechurch Library

During October Half Term, join us in Alvechurch Library, where, back by popular demand, we will be hosting a fantastic fun packed, Scooby Doo and Haunted House Lego family workshop. Monday 26th October, 2.30pm - 4pm, £10 per family. We have three spaces available. Please call 01905 822722 or email alvechurchlib@worcestershires.gov.uk to book a place.

We have a free Explore Learning workshop on Tuesday 27th October. In the morning at 11.30am there is a **Telling the Time** workshop as covered in the National Curriculum, and is suitable for children aged 6 – 8.

In the afternoon of Tuesday 27th October from 2.15pm-3.15pm there will be a **Roald Dahl** workshop for child aged 5+. We will be making Beastly masks and our own revolting rhymes. £1.50 per child.

Our popular **watercolour** classes with Andrew continue to and go from strength to strength. In fact, the pupils are so good now; we are holding an exhibition of their work during November!

Yvonne joins us in the library on November 27th at 10.30am to run a **Christmas Card Crafty Workshop** where we will be getting creative, making cards with a folding technique and recycling old books into Chrissmassy works of art. £10.00. Please pop in to reserve a place.

Our fabulous Alvechurch Library Crafty Ladies are having a **Christmas Sale** and once again raising money for Alvechurch Charities. Join us on Monday 30th November 10am - 1pm and 2pm - 4pm and stock up on hand made baby clothes, knitted dolls clothes, peg bags, soft toys and Christmas Decorations and the odd Mince pie or two! There will be a stunning handmade appliqued tablecloth to be raffled and also a giant polar bear looking for a new home. Homemade cakes will be on sale too.

For those lucky people who were good this year, had a visit from Santa and found a new iPad or tablet in their stocking, Alvechurch Library have three courses, starting In January and February that will be right up their street.

IPad for beginners, a brilliant starter course for anyone who has just had a new iPad. The course covers the basics such as turning the device on and off, the settings, how to open and close apps, how to take photos and how to use the internet. Monday 11th January, 2.15pm - 4.15pm, £19.

EBay Basics, a fun introduction workshop for anyone who would like to start buying and selling on eBay. Monday 25th January, 2.15pm - 4.15pm, £19.

Social Networking, Introduction to Facebook and Twitter, how to register, use and have fun on social networking sites. Monday 8th February, 2.15pm – 4.15pm, £19.

All of these courses can be booked and paid for online via www.worcestershires.gov.uk Please look under adult learning. Or pop into Alvechurch Library, where you can by cash or cheque and we will book you in.

Beginner I.T Lessons run throughout the year for beginners on Tuesday mornings with our group of talented volunteers. Lessons are free but need to be booked in advance by popping in or calling the Hub 01905 822722 and asking for Alvechurch Library.

Spanish Classes. We are lucky to have not one but two very talented Spanish Language tutors currently delivering courses here at Alvechurch Library, Patrick and Jessica. The courses run in blocks of 5 lessons and are held on a Friday, morning or afternoon session available The next block of 5 lessons, due to start in November are available to book online now. £47.00. All of our courses can be booked and paid for online via www.worcestershires.gov.uk Please look under adult learning. Or pop into Alvechurch Library, where you can pay by cash or cheque and we will book you in.

Christian Mindfulness Day Workshop

**Saturday 16th January 2016
9.30am to 4pm**

Venue: The Ark, adjoining St Laurence Parish Church,
School Lane, Alvechurch, Worcestershire, B48 7SB

Christian mindfulness is deeply rooted in the ancient Christian tradition of contemplative prayer, and today is being discovered by many to be very relevant in helping with the busyness and noise of our daily lives. It encourages us to calm and to be present in the moment, and to hear what God is saying.

This three session workshop explores mindfulness from a Christian perspective and includes PowerPoint presentation, video clips and small group discussion. There will also be a variety of self awareness and God awareness meditations throughout the day.

The workshop is presented by Richard Johnston (director, Christian Mindfulness).

To book your place on the Workshop visit the website
www.christianmindfulness.co.uk/alvechurch.html

£25 per person up to 16/12/15 (£30 per person for booking after 16/12/15). Bring your own packed lunch.

War Memorial

Ann Humphries writes...

During the last year I have been able to find out more information about the wooden screen war memorial in St. Laurence Church. In *“Pevsner’s Buildings of England: Worcestershire”* I found that the memorial was designed by Arthur Stansfield Dixon (1856-1929). Dixon was the eldest son of Birmingham

M.P. George Dixon and was a metal worker and architect, he founded the Birmingham Guild of Handicraft and designed their HQ in Great Charles Street. He also designed St. Andrew’s Church in Barnt Green, but not their war memorial which is by the Bromsgrove Guild, and the church of St. John and St. Basil, now the base for the St. Basil’s charity. In 1917 he designed Seoul Anglican Cathedral in Korea, this was started in 1922 but not completed until 1996 after the original plans had been discovered. His son James who was in the Royal Warwickshire’s was killed in 1916 and Dixon designed the Regiment’s memorial in St. Philip’s Cathedral in Birmingham.



The Alvechurch Memorial was given by Alfred and Margaret Wiggin of Bordesley Hall in thanks for the safe return of their son William. A service of dedication of the *“Memorial Screen”* was held on 3rd October 1920 as part of the morning service. The names of those listed on the memorial were read followed by last post and reveille. The recessional hymn was *“God of our fathers, known of old”* written by Rudyard Kipling who had also lost a son in the conflict.

This hymn was originally a poem called *“Recessional”* written by Kipling to mark Queen Victoria’s Diamond Jubilee in 1897. Four of the five verses end with the line *“Lest we forget – lest we forget”*, lines which later came to be very much associated with remembering the fallen of World War 1. The hymn is sung on Anzac Day in Australia to the tune of *“Eternal father strong to save”* and was also sung at Kipling’s funeral in 1936. Kipling was involved with the Imperial (later Commonwealth) War Graves Commission and selected the phrases *“Their name Liveth for Evermore”* and *“Known Unto God”* used in the cemeteries as well as *“The Glorious Dead”* on the Cenotaph in London.

Poppy Crosses

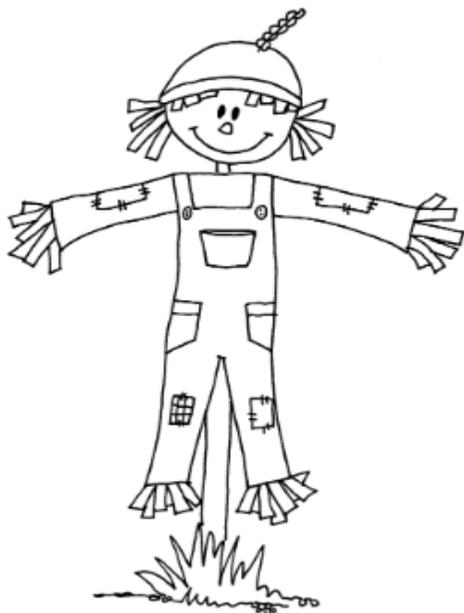
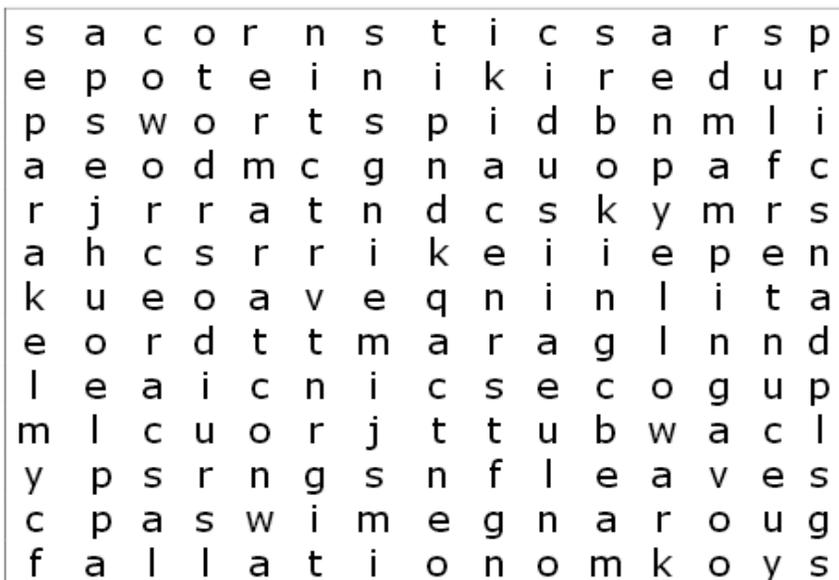
In recent years poppy crosses have been placed on the war graves in St. Laurence Churchyard by members of the Alvechurch Ex-Services Association, I am now going to do this on their behalf.

Anyone who wishes to join in the placing of the poppy crosses should meet at the porch of St. Laurence Church on Sunday 15 November at 3.00 p.m.





Scarecrow Word Search



fall
pumpkin
leaves
scarecrow
rake

red
orange
yellow
apple
acorn

Coming Onside to help

Sam Setchell (Diocese Communication Officer) writes...

Onside offers advocacy, mentoring & befriending to people who are struggling to cope with a situation due to their vulnerability in life.

More volunteers are needed throughout Worcestershire to support local people. Advocacy volunteering is a way of supporting and empowering people to ensure that they have their voice heard and their wishes made known to others; while Mentors & Befrienders offer a supportive and reliable relationship to an individual who would otherwise be socially isolated. The support may involve visiting the person at home or encouraging them to access activities in their local community, and doesn't involve any domestic or personal care.

Onside's Volunteer Manager, Claire Watkins, said *"Our volunteers give their time, their passion and enthusiasm, we need continued help from willing volunteers who would enjoy supporting people in their local community."*

Volunteers are ordinary people of all ages and backgrounds they just need to be good listeners and have some time to give.

Elizabeth one of our volunteers, said *"if you are thinking about volunteering I would say "DO IT!". I have had so much pleasure already, It's a wonderful feeling when you know you've helped and made even a small difference to someone else's life."* Since retiring I felt I wanted to give something back, volunteering with Onside means I can do this along with knowing it's a very worthwhile use of my time.

If you can picture yourself in the role of an Onside volunteer please call Claire Watkins - Volunteer Manager on 01905 27525 or email claire.watkins@onside-advocacy.org.uk to find out more. This type of volunteering can be very flexible to fit with your life and circumstances. Free training (throughout the year) is provided and all expenses paid.

December Christmas Tree Festival at Alvechurch Baptist Church

Plans are going well and 16 trees are promised. The church will be open daily for the village to enjoy this free festival. Various events are planned, open to all, but some are designed for specific groups e.g. the after school children's activity on Monday 14th and the Tots Nativity on Friday 11.00 a.m. During the week there will be hand bell ringers; afternoon tea and carols, business lunch, art / craft / poetry / Christmas readings and music.

The festival starts with a carols Songs of Praise at 4.30p.m. on Sunday 13th and finishes with the community choir singing at 11.15 a.m. on Saturday 19th.

Look out for full details of all the events next month.
Fiona, Pam, Dave and Meryl.



General Knowledge Quiz and Supper Evening



THE MIDLAND SINFONIA

Friday 6 November 2015, 7 for 7.30pm start

The Ark, St Laurence Church, Alvechurch

Teams of up to six, with singles and couples accommodated. £8pp which includes a fish and chips supper. Bar available for wines, beer and soft drinks.

Booking is essential for this very popular annual fundraising event.

Secure your table by contacting:

marian@midlandsinfonia.co.uk or
0121 447 7040/07889 147861

For information about the orchestra
do have a look at our website
www.midlandsinfonia.co.uk

Delivery Of Grapevine To Houses

Dick Russell writes...

The Grapevine is delivered to most of the houses of the parish of Alvechurch by volunteers.

These people are known to me, and have them delivered to them by myself or John Dominic, or in some cases collect them from Gordon Parson's house. There are a few people who are not covered by a round in this way and there is a sufficient pool of 'spares' in the church for these to be picked up by the people so affected. This happens because managing to acquire such volunteers becomes increasingly difficult.

In addition to the establishing of these rounds, and printing off slips to ensure those very many magazines which do get delivered are correctly counted out and packaged each month, I have also for many years delivered, personally, to those who live in Swan Street. Last month I failed to deliver to a number of these, because I became ill whilst doing so, and was unable to complete the delivery. I have in fact reached an age and level of fitness which renders me unable, unfortunately to undertake this task as it requires the ability to mount steps up to each dwelling on most of the round. This means I do need someone fit enough to deliver to Swan Street.

I do have a volunteer for delivery to Bear Hill, but it would appear that someone unknown to me has been delivering Grapevines there, and duplicating our system; if that person is reading this I would ask them, please, not to continue doing this. However, if that person wishes to volunteer where Grapevine magazines are not being delivered at present please get in touch!

It would be, at this point, remiss of me not to say how thankful we are for all who do volunteer. Some commit themselves to very large rounds, even though they, like myself, are getting on in years. To them our whole church parish owes a particular debt of gratitude.

Dick Russell - Means of contact: 0121 4453083, or russell2gothic@btintemet.com



INVITATION



**You, and your friends, are invited to a Charity
Peruvian Crafts sale.**

DATE: Saturday 7th. November 2015.

TIME: 12.00 noon to 4.00pm.

**PLACE: ANN SMITH'S home,
3, WHITE HOUSE DRIVE
BARNT GREEN, B45 8HF.**

Tel: 445 1374

Email: Nooey98@gmail.com

**(White House Drive is a cul-de-sac off Twatling Road, near
its junction with Mearse Lane and Lickey Square.)**

Flowers for NOVEMBER

	1 November	8 November	15 November	22 November	29 November
Sanctuary	Virginia Davis	Remembrance		Rosina Spreckley	ADVENT No flowers
Lady Chapel	Virginia Davis	Remembrance		Rosina Spreckley	ADVENT No flowers
In memory of	Her father Mr G.H. Catley	Arranged by Dorothy Davenport		Pat Spreckley	

My thanks to Helen, Elizabeth, Monica, Lynda and Janet who helped arrange the flowers for Harvest. It was made more difficult this year fitting in with a wedding on the same day but it all worked out beautifully and I am most grateful for the cheerful help that I received.

Only one week in November to fill before we are into the season of Advent, when by tradition, the church is without flowers until Christmas.

Ann Thurrell
0121 447 7668
annthurrell@hotmail.co.uk

From The Registers



Baptisms

We welcome you into the Lord's family

September 27

Edward Thomas Stanley
Grace Olivia Stanley

October 25

Amy Rebecca Chadderton



Marriages

Those whom God has joined together

October 3

Matthew Jenns and Linzi Savage

Who's who

Rector	Revd Richard Bubbers, The Rectory, School Lane, 445 1087 stlaurencealvechurch@yahoo.co.uk
Licensed Lay Ministers	Mr Dick Russell, 2 Gothic Cottages, Radford Rd, 445 3083 Ms Sue Phillips, Withybed Green, 445 3620
Authorised Lay Ministers	Mrs Helena Allen, 117 Birmingham Road, 445 5605 Mr Martin Allen, 117 Birmingham Road, 445 5605 Mrs Philippa Brakes, 56 Callow Hill Road, 445 3983 Mr Graham Clark, The Coach House, School Lane, 445 2547 Mrs Lynne Clark, The Coach House, School Lane, 445 2547 Mr Michael Fletcher, 13 Red Lion Street, 447 8451 Mrs Annette Thomas, 8 Snake Lane, 445 5180 Ms Gloria Wilson, 11 Bear Hill Drive, 445 1854
Churchwardens	Mr Graham Clark, The Coach House, School Lane, 445 2547 Mr Mick Fletcher, 13 Red Lion Street, 447 8451
Deputy Wardens	Mr Colin Bennett, 122 Redditch Road, 01527 64077 Mr David Richmond, The Ferns, Chapel Lane, 445 3569 Mrs Alison Smith, 12 Hollington Road, 447 7293 Mr Andy Notley, 38 The Buckleys, B48 7NF
PCC Secretary	Mrs Enid Brumsen, 32 Callow Hill Road, 445 0663
PCC Treasurer	Mrs Susan Seeley, 40 Bear Hill, B48 7JX
Organist & Choirmaster	Mr David Richmond, The Ferns, Chapel Lane, 445 3569
Electoral Roll Officer	Mrs Janet Wright, 28 Callow Hill Road, 445 4335
Tower Captain	Mr Colin Bennett, 122 Redditch Road , 01527 64077
Singing Group	Mrs Lynda Wolstencroft, 49 Hinton Avenue, 445 3212
Mum's the Word	Mrs Kate Grove, 07773509390
Flower Co-ordinator	Mrs Ann Thurrell, Top Barn, Scarfield Hill, 447 7668
Women's Fellowship	Mrs Jill Woolley, 111 Birmingham Road, 445 2125
Ark Booking Secretary) & Grapevine advertising) Grapevine Editor)	Mr Ian Price, The Ark, School Lane, 447 7955 thearkalvechurch@yahoo.co.uk

PCC Special Responsibilities

Finance and Standing Committee

Graham Clark	Mick Fletcher
Alison Smith	Bob Dale
Janet Wright	Susan Seeley

Children and Youth Committee

Martin Allen	Mick Fletcher
Thomas Birchall	Lynne Clark

Buildings, Fabric and Churchyard Committee

Mick Fletcher	Colin Bennett
David Richmond	Jill Woolley
Janet Wright	Lynne Clark

Task Committee

Mick Fletcher	Dick Russell
Graham Clark	Sue Phillips

Peru and Missionary Committee

Sue Phillips	Dick Russell
Gordon Parsons	Margaret Haste

Calendar for NOVEMBER



Sunday 1	2.30pm	Alvechurch Village Society: Walk: <i>"Leisurely Stroll in Alvechurch"</i> : Meet at Tanyard Lane Car Park
Monday 2	1.45pm	Forget-Me-Nots: The Ark
	7.45pm	Alvechurch Historical Society: Talk: Austin WW2 Underground Tunnels and Manufacturing: Museum, School Lane
Wednesday 4	7.30pm	Hillside WI: The Ark
Thursday 5	9.30am	Mums The Word
	10.00am	Tiny Tots Service: Sarah Linton
	12.15pm	Ark Café: Somerset Chicken
Friday 6	7.30pm	The Midland Sinfonia Quiz: The Ark
Saturday 7	12 noon	Peruvian Crafts Sale: Ann Smith, 3 White House Drive, Barnt Green, B45 8HF
Monday 9	7.30pm	Ark Angels WI: The Ark
	7.30pm	Alvechurch WI: Talk by Betty Webb on Bletchley Park during the war: Alvechurch Village Hall
Thursday 12	9.30am	Mums The Word
	12.15pm	Ark Café: Roast Pork
Monday 16	1.45pm	Forget-Me-Nots: The Ark
		DECEMBER GRAPEVINE GOES TO PRESS <i>articles to thearkalvechurch@yahoo.co.uk</i>
Thursday 19	9.30am	Mums The Word
	12.15pm	Ark Café: Roast Lamb
Sunday 22	1 for 1.30pm	Family Service 30th Anniversary Celebration Lunch: The Ark
Wednesday 25	2.00pm	St Laurence Women's Fellowship: Ruth Lowe: Mary Quant <i>"60's Fashion"</i> : Tanyard Centre, Alvechurch
	7.45pm	Alvechurch Village Society: Talk on the Lickey Hills Country Park: <i>"Paradise on your Doorstep"</i> : Alvechurch Village Hall
Thursday 26	9.30am	Mums The Word
	12 noon	Ark Café: Christmas Lunch (tickets only) <i>(There is also a Christmas Lunch on Thursday 3rd December)</i>
Friday 27	10.30am	Christmas Card Crafty Workshop: Alvechurch Library
Monday 30	1.45pm	Forget-Me-Nots: The Ark
	10am - 1pm	Christmas Sale: Alvechurch Library
	& 2pm - 4pm	