

Sharing God's Love through Inspiration Word & Action



Things keep changing

Last time I said 'Its tempting to wish that everything will stay the same & to think nothing changes' so its always good to look at signs of change and growth. Life is about change and growth.

Recently we have seen small changes that have encouraged us. This has led to the successful trial and reintroduction of Junior Church for young people during the sermon and prayers at the 10:45 family worship service during term time. It will enable us to deliver age appropriate teaching following the same themes as the adult teaching but in a form which they can interact with. The meeting room is also available now as space for parents to take children who need some privacy (we are working to provide an audio feed in the meeting room so parents can still hear what is happening in the main meeting. In doing this we are not excluding the children from the main worship where they can stay with their parents if they wish,

and will continue to provide space and material in the children's corner at the side of the nave. We hope parents appreciate the varied options to maximize their and their children's needs, whilst enabling them to recognize the needs of others.

The teaching of Jesus brought dramatic change to the stagnant culture of his day, we pray he will continue to grow us in our faith and collective worship as well as our communal service.

It is good when we can see the growth in God's ministry.

The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is the Gift of God to all who believe in him and follow him as Lord of their lives, given for the common good ^(1 Cor 12). The fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control ^(Gal 5:22-23, NIV 2011) that we looked at in the run up to Easter need constant work to grow healthily in us. To help us with God's work and to build up the Church we are given the

Gifts of the spirit: ^(1 Cor 12:8-10) message of wisdom, of knowledge, faith, gifts of healing, miraculous powers, prophecy, distinguishing between spirits, speaking in different kinds of tongues, and interpretation of tongues. We are going to explore these and how they build up the church over the coming weeks.

The Churchyard

Our churchyard is a space for Christian worship and remembrance of those who have gone before us in faith. Even here things can not remain the same. Over the last year we have lost some trees to 'Chestnut virus' and to other fungal attack. Luckily we have been able to find resources to enable the felling of the dead trees, and pollarding of some other trees that were overgrown, showing signs of stress. This has led to a more open and airy feel to the churchyard. We hope to move on and spend more time on the maintenance at ground level in the future, but are reliant on voluntary help for this.

Food Bank We are looking for extra people to help pack the food bank donations, and deliver them to the distribution centre. This is an important ministry that helps many people every year.

Debt & Welfare Support

ACT have just agreed to start a 6 month trial of a debt and welfare support service. This will depend on finding financial support from across the 12 churches to ensure its funding and allow us to measure the need.

Who Pays

When we look at the church, it is tempting to think that it's a big building in a organization that can keep it all going. Or that its paid for by the government.

The local church receives no outside funding and no money from the

Small amounts can be given by text.
Text **SMAA01** £amount to **70070**.
We receive all the money donated.

Mid week Communion
Wednesday 10:30—11:30am
Term time

Small Group
Every other week small groups meet to pray, study the scriptures, share fellowship, refreshments and provide pastoral care with their members.
Currently there are small groups meeting :
Sundays 7-9pm
Tuesdays 1:45-3pm
Thursdays 7:30pm
Which one would you like to join ?

government. We have to rely on the generosity of local people.

This has to pay not just for the ministry of the church, such as the food bank, job club, debt advice, and worship services, support of homeless charities and shelters, but also for the electricity, gas and maintenance of the churchyard and St. Michael & All Angels which is a listed building.

I want to thank Filey Caravans, a locally run company who ran a raffle for a holiday in aid of the floor repair and have passed the proceeds of £1315 to us for this fund. It is a fantastic boost.

If you have a relative in the churchyard or want to see the building kept open and in good

condition why not think of making a small regular gift for either Churchyard maintenance or development and maintenance of the building?

Yours in faith

John Whitney,

Vicar of Alvaston

Coffee & Cake

A monthly social gathering in St. Michael & All Angels on the first Saturday of the month from 10:30am till 12pm

Flowers & Clean up crew

Friday Mornings 10:30 till 12 Inside St. Michael & All Angels a time to prepare for the weekend and an opportunity to speak to Chris in the churchyard about helping with the churchyard.

Regular Worship

Every Sunday

9 to 10am Holy Communion

10:45 to 12:15 Family Worship

All Welcome

Alvaston Church Program 2018

Advance program of events and festivals.

We are also holding a series of music events after Easter. These will be on Friday or Saturday evenings.

Details will be confirmed in a forthcoming newsletters.

Date	Time	Event
Sat 05/May	10:30	12:00 Coffee Morning
Sat 12/May	16:00	18:00 Messy Church
Sun 20/May	10:45	Pentecost Sunday
Sat 02/Jun	10:30	12:00 Coffee Morning
Sat 09/Jun	16:00	18:00 Messy Church
16th Jun	19:00	Music Night
Sat 07/Jul	13:30	15:30 Summer Fair
Fri 13/Jul	14:00	Wedding
Sat 14/Jul	16:00	18:00 Messy Summer
Sun 22/Jul	12:00	Vicarage Pick-nick
Sat 04/Aug	— No coffee & cake in August	
Sat 11/Aug	— No Messy Church in August	
Sat 11/Aug	16:00	Blessing of Marraige
Thu 23/Aug	11:00	Reaffirmation of Vows
Sat 25/Aug	13:00	Wedding
Sat 01/Sep	10:30	12:00 Coffee Morning
Sat 08/Sep	16:00	18:00 Messy Church
Fri 14/Sep	13:00	Wedding
Sat 06/Oct	10:30	12:00 Coffee Morning
Sat 13/Oct	16:00	18:00 Messy Church
Sat 27/Oct	12:00	Wedding
Sat 03/Nov	10:30	12:00 Coffee Morning
Sun 04/Nov	16:00	18:00 Memorial Service
Sat 10/Nov	16:00	18:00 Messy Church
Sun 11/Nov	10:45	12:00 Armistice Day
Sat 24/Nov	10:30	14:00 Christmas Fair

Prayer Group

Meet every Tuesdays at 1pm to pray around issues and seek God's will for his church in St. Michael & All Angels

History of the Church

Alvaston Parish Church has met on Church Street for hundreds of years. Indeed the first known Vicar is recorded in 1535, and we have evidence of the sites use in Saxon times. The Building 'St. Michael & All Angels' was constructed as a larger meeting place for the church in 1856. A booklet is available for £2 at the welcome table

Fun Friends—meet regularly to organise our special events and always welcome new helpers

WE'RE
ON THE
WEB:

<http://alvaston.church>



@alvaston.church



St. Michael's Hall, Alvaston Lane
2nd Saturday of the month 4-6pm
Story, Craft, Activity, and food

Merry Church meets on the 2nd Saturday of the month for families with children in St. Michael's Hall. Each month we have various crafts and children's

activities sing a few songs, look at a theme from a bible story and share food together. There is no charge for attending Merry church (we do ask for a voluntary donation to cover costs)

Wednesday Craft Group 1-4pm
Bring your craft and make new friends—All Welcome
St. Michael & All Angels

The Office in the Vicarage is staffed by volunteers.

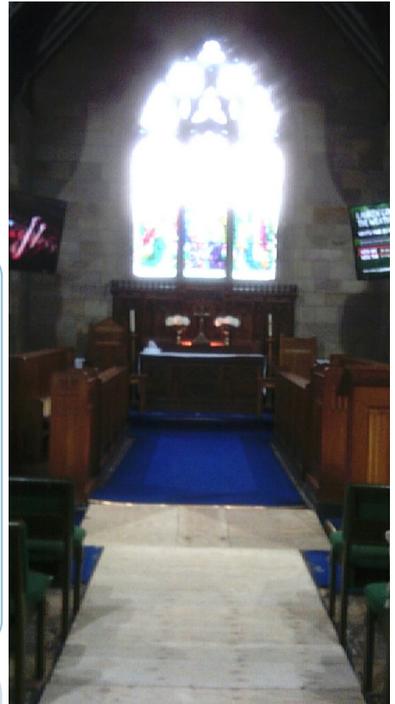
It is normally open Tuesdays, through Friday.
(closed Mondays, and during worship)

Phone: 01332 571143 e-mail: office@alvaston.church

Baptisms & Weddings

The church provides the opportunity to celebrate various stages of life together. Baptisms and weddings are Joyful occasions, If you are interested in getting you or your children Baptized (or Christened) arranging to make the Baptism promises for yourself (Confirm

your baptism promises) or get married in the presence of God, have your civil wedding blessed, reaffirm your wedding vows, please come along to one of our Sunday services and ask to speak to the service leader who will arrange to help you with your celebration.



Funerals

A funeral in St. Michael & All Angels as a celebration of Life can take many forms. They can be before or after burial or cremation. One thing that is always a blessing is the ability to take time and not be rushed.

We regularly lead funerals, celebrations of life, and have facilities for burial and interment of ashes within the churchyard.

Please note a faculty (like planning permission) is required to install any object in the churchyard. Details available from web site or office.