

Diocese of Newcastle partners Christian Aid to give thanks for our vaccines

We are supporting Christian Aid's Covid 19 response work in some of the world's poorest countries. As you give thanks that you or a family member is protected, please give to help protect those without access to vaccines.



To find out more and donate, go to <https://giving.tapsimple.org/online/christian-aid/giving-thanks-for-our-vaccines-in-the-diocese-of-newcastle>

Living with Covid 19

Prayer requests and candles

Please phone Mark, or email or text prayer requests to pray@mailmark.co.uk or 07474 830229.

To light a virtual candle, go to www.churchofengland.org/our-faith/light-candle

Pastoral care

If you know anyone who needs pastoral care, please let me know. I'm always happy to talk, or listen.

Alston Moor Support Phone Number

For support with shopping, prescriptions and other NON medical help, phone **01434 647247**



Practical support

For support, advice, to get supplies or prescriptions delivered etc, see www.alstonmoorhealth.org
N.B. the Alston Essentials Van is no longer running (but do contact us if you still need deliveries).

Alston Moor Food Bank

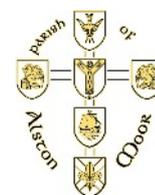
For the **Alston Moor Food Bank** phone 07890 345901 or email alstonfoodbank@gmail.com

Financial help

The Alston United Charities exists to help residents of Alston, Garrigill and Nenthead. Help may also be available for those in Knarsdale and Kirkhaugh from the John Stephenson trusts. Contact Mark, or email charities@alstonmoorcofe.org.uk for details.

Parish of Alston Moor

Sunday, 2nd May:
Fifth Sunday of Easter



Notices for this week

This week's readings

Acts 8.26-40

This is the first instance of anyone reading the passage about the suffering servant of God in Isaiah 53 as a picture of the meaning of Jesus. It leads this foreigner (perhaps a marginal Jew) to baptism by the hand of Philip.

1 John 4.7-21

'God is love'. Familiar to the point of cliché, but a major breakthrough. God might be chiefly just or even vengeful or endlessly demanding. But it is not so. Love is the key to his whole being, through and through.

John 15.1-8

The image of the vine sets out a picture of the Christian community as, first, joined together totally, and, second, as wholly dependent on Christ who is himself the vine as a single entity. And then the task is to bear fruit.

Thoughts for prayer & reflection:

- ✘ Give thanks to God for the strange circumstances that can bring us to him.
- ✘ Can we accept God as totally marked by love?
- ✘ Pray to embrace our dependence on one another as Christian people.

Collect for this week

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. Amen.

Next week's readings

Acts 10.44–48; 1 John 5.1–6; John 15.9–17

Acknowledgements

Reflections on the readings are from *Praying the Lectionary*, copyright © 2007 James Woodward, J Leslie Houlden

Collects, Psalms etc are from *Common Worship: Services & Prayers for the Church of England*, copyright © 2006 The Archbishops' Council

Find this notice sheet each week at www.alstonmoorcofe.org.uk/whatson
or see the Parish Calendar at www.alstonmoorcofe.org.uk/calendar
www.facebook.com/alstonmoorchurches



Calendar for this week

Despite Covid-19, the Church is alive and well: finding new ways to worship, pray and serve the community.

This week we will be meeting, live or online using Zoom (<https://zoom.us>) as follows:

Password is always 111 - if it doesn't work, keep trying!

Sunday 2nd May – Easter 5

9.30am Said Eucharist *St Augustine, Alston*
11.00am Online Eucharist *ID 357 123 751*

Sunday 9th May – Easter 6, Rogation Sunday

9.30am Said Eucharist *St Augustine, Alston*
11.00am **All Age Celebration** *ID 357 123 751*

Coming up soon

Thursday 13th May – Ascension Day

7.30 pm Eucharist *St Augustine, Alston*

Saturday 22nd May

10am-1pm Plant Sale *St Jude, Knarsdale*

Wednesday 26th May

7.30 pm APCM (Annual Meeting) *ID 864 7631 4432*

Mark's availability

I'm travelling to Newcastle daily for radiotherapy at present. So please bear with me if I'm less available than usual, or need time off.

Weekday Services (Zoom ID 357 123 751)

Please note – this week:

- ✘ Wednesday-Saturday, 9am: Morning Prayer
- ✘ Wednesday-Saturday, 5pm: Evening Prayer
- ✘ Friday, 9pm: Night Prayer (Compline)

Open for private prayer & reflection

All our parish churches are now open:

St Augustine, Alston:

Wed & Sun, 10.30am – early evening

All the other churches:

open all day, every day



Sunday Services

- There is now a weekly 9.30am service (normally a Eucharist) at St Augustine's.
- Our main services continues on Zoom at 11am
- We intend to resume worship in the other churches in June/July – please let Mark, your Churchwardens or PCC/DCC members know what pattern of services would be best for your church.



Going for Green - Garden tips 1



As you enjoy your garden this spring, how could your garden be more eco friendly? Consider

1. growing some native wild flowers
2. planting a tree

More information and tips from the Woodland Trust: <https://alstonmoor.tiny.us/garden1>

This week the Church celebrates ...

- 2nd Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria, Teacher of the Faith, 373
4th English Saints and Martyrs of the Reformation Era
8th Julian of Norwich, Spiritual Writer, c.1417

Safeguarding

We're committed to the wellbeing of everyone involved in our church family, especially those who are vulnerable (which may be any of us at times).

If you have any concerns, please speak to **Karen Morsman**, our new safeguarding officer, or Mark.

More info at alstonmoorcofe.org.uk/safeguarding

Fancy a new challenge?

We're looking for volunteers to take on important roles in the life of our churches. In particular ...

- Six or more Churchwardens
- Faith in the Moor editorial team member

If you're interested in knowing more, please speak to one of the existing team, or to Mark.



The May issues of **FAITH IN THE MOOR** and **THE LINK** are out!



Go to

alstonmoorcofe.org.uk/fitm:
and newcastle.anglican.org/link



Supporting your parish church financially

During lockdown we can't fundraise or receive collections – but we still have costs to meet. To make a donation, go to our Online Giving Page (www.alstonmoorcofe.org.uk/donate)

Or to set up a standing order, please ask Mark or your church treasurer for our bank account details.



Support your church by shopping online!



Just register with www.easyfundraising.org.uk, select your favourite church as your cause, (search for Lambley, Knarsdale, Kirkhaugh, Alston, Nenthead or Garrigill) and we'll receive a small donation for every purchase you make via **EasyFundraising**, at any of over 4,400 retailers.