



This Week

Morning Prayer 8:45am Monday – Friday

Monday	9:30am-4pm	Holly Ring Making, WCC CH
	10am	Craft Group, WCC CH
	2:30pm	MU Committee meeting, WCC1
Tuesday	9:30am-4pm	Holly Ring Making, WCC CH
	10:30am	Funeral of Bob Green
	7:45pm	WLTC rehearsals, WCC CH
	8pm	Alpha 4 Home Group, 1 Chesfield Close
Wednesday	9:30am-4pm	Holly Ring Making, WCC CH
	10am	Holy Communion
	10:45am	Tiny Tots
	8-10pm	Bishop's Stortford Climate Group meeting, WCC1
Thursday	9:30am-4pm	Holly Ring Making, WCC CH
	4-9pm	St Michael's School outsourced booking, St Joseph's Hall
	7:45pm	WLTC rehearsals, WCC CH
Friday	9am	St Michael's Mums Prayer & Fellowship, WCC CH
	10am	Holly Fair set up, WCC CH
	4-6pm	Churches Together Carol Singing, Jackson Square
	6:20pm	Junior Choir rehearsal
	7:30pm	Choir rehearsal
Saturday	9:30am	Prayers for our community
	10:30am – 1:30pm	Holly Fair, Windhill Churches Centre and Tower Open Morning, Church
	Next Sunday	8am Holy Communion, Lady Chapel 10am Parish Communion 3:30pm Carols and Candlelight Service with Daniel Robinson and Sons <i>then refreshments in Windhill Churches Centre</i> No service at 6pm

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Newsletter

Sunday 1st December 2019 First Sunday of Advent

8am • Holy Communion, Lady Chapel
10am • Parish Praise
3pm • Choir Rehearsal
6pm • Choral Advent Procession with Candles

Prayer Ministry. There is an opportunity for personal prayer; for giving thanks, for healing or for other matters at the end of the 10am service. Please go to the Lady Chapel where two members of the church will be available to pray with you. Remember that if you are ill **in hospital or at home** and you would like a member of the ministry team to visit you please contact the Parish Office.

Large Print Versions of this newsletter, the Sunday readings, the service and the hymn book are available from the Welcome Desk.

We welcome all visitors to our services today. Please make yourself known to the clergy and those at the Welcome Desk. Tea and fresh coffee is served in the Windhill Churches Centre after the 10am service to provide visitors and regular members of the congregation with an opportunity to get to know each other better. Leaflets are available in the Publicity Area providing information about many aspects of church life.

School Signing-in Book – Please sign the register at the Welcome Desk if looking to apply for school admissions under church attendance categories.

*Gift Aid is vital to the funding of St Michael's Church.
If you are a taxpayer, please place your offering in a completed
Gift Aid envelope and place it in the Collection. Many thanks.*

Charity Registration Number 1130646

Please turn off and do not use your mobile phones and other electronic devices during our services. Thank you very much.



Notices

Today:

*Once again our travelling crib will be making its way around the parish during Advent; starting today, with a blessing at the 10am service. Hosting the figures for a night is a wonderful chance to share with children the anticipation of Christ's birth and fellowship with other families as the crib is passed on ... and a moment of stillness in an otherwise busy Advent. **We still have NINE spaces to be filled, so PLEASE do add your name to the list today!***

At 6pm tonight we have our candlelit Choral Advent Procession with Candles; a reflective service of readings and music based on the great Advent Antiphons. All welcome! Retiring collection.

Do you have holly in your garden that we could cut for making the Holly Rings for the Holly Fair? Are you able to help with cutting holly this afternoon? If yes to either question, please contact Roger Sudbury on 01279 657593 or email on roger.sudbury@gmail.com

Holly Ring making, 2nd-5th December – All are welcome to join us and help in the WCC at any time between 9:30am-4pm.

Company at Christmas – Every year, Churches Together Bishop's Stortford give a party for anyone in our town who would otherwise be alone on Christmas Day. Please sign the list in the Publicity Area if you can help or drive on Christmas Day and please come to the meeting on **4th December at 8pm** at the Methodist Church. Any queries, do contact Margaret Fox (658638) or Jenny Klincke (833523).

Mums of St Michael's Prayer & Fellowship Group, WCC – Being a mum can be tough. Trade anxiety for hope, joy and peace in a friendly, prayerful environment. Next meeting on **Friday 6th December**. Coffee at 9am; 9:15 start.

Churches Together Carol Singing, Friday 6th December, 4-6pm – Join us and other churches, along with Bishop's Stortford Band, in singing favourite carols (near the top of the travelators in Jackson Square) and raising money for charity. It would be lovely for people to join in the singing, even if only for a few carols, or do stop by and listen.

Holly Fair, 7th December, 10:30am-1:30pm – Holly Fair is fast approaching and there are 2 sign-up sheets on the Welcome Desk for people to say:

- if they can donate items to any of the stalls - and collecting boxes are situated behind the desk to receive donations.
 - We also need volunteers to help make Holly Rings anytime in the week before the Holly Fair.
- Many thanks in anticipation!

Carols and Candlelight, 3:30pm, Sunday 8th December – An informal carol service, in collaboration with Daniel Robinson & Sons. All welcome, but especially those who've experienced bereavement in the past year or so. Free tickets from Daniel Robinsons.

A word of thanks – May I thank you for all the kind thoughts, prayers and support on the occasion of my 'retirement' recently. I was most grateful. Best wishes, Rob.

Notices



Change of date for Company on Sunday – We are going to have our Company on Sunday Christmas Lunch on **Sunday 15th December** - all are welcome and if you have not been before, we would be very pleased to see you. Just put your name down on the list on the table in the Publicity Area as usual. We look forward to seeing you.

Anointing and laying on of hands – At the 10am Parish Communion on **Sunday 19th January** and at the 10am Holy Communion on **Wednesday 12th February** we will offer anointing and laying on of hands for healing.

Families Minister Advert LIVE – The post of Families Minister, to work with children, young people and their families at St Michael's is now being advertised. All information, including Mission Statement, Personal Profile and Job Spec, is on our website: saintmichaelweb.org.uk/Groups/329840/Vacancies.aspx Please feel free to share this information with any individuals and organisations that you think may be appropriate and please pray for possible candidates and for those who are seeking to make this appointment.

Christmas Services – Please see the flyer in the Publicity Area for full details but note the service of Nine Lessons & Carols at 6pm on the 22nd December; Crib Service at 3:30pm and 'midnight' service at 10:30 for 11pm on Christmas Eve; and Communion services at 8am and 10am on Christmas Day.

Congregation Giant Christmas Card – Once again, we offer the opportunity for everyone to send Christmas greetings to friends whilst contributing to The Children's Society. Instead of sending individual good wishes, sign the card and donate your saving to the Society. Please put your donation in the box, or if you are able to Gift-Aid use one of the envelopes provided. The card and box will be in the Publicity Area from 8th December, (for security reasons on Sunday and Wednesday mornings only).

Churches Together Christmas Cards – Please take a pack to deliver, **as soon as possible since events begin today**, to spread the message of Christmas services to homes in our Parish and remind everyone what it is that we are celebrating. Also, we can pray a blessing on each home we deliver to, as we go round.

Invitation for readers at the Crib Service – We'd especially love families to read at this informal service on Christmas Eve at 3:30pm. Please call or email the Office.

#FollowTheStar 2019 – We invite you to sign up now for the Church of England's *12 Days of Christmas Wonder* reflections: www.churchofengland.org/followthestar. There will also be some special content to take us through Advent. Home groups might be interested in the booklet for their Advent or Christmas sessions.

The Rev'd Derwyn Williams (Vicar)	653867	Churchwarden: Rosemary Thomson	758389
The Rev'd Derek Hinge (PTO)	652173	Deputy Churchwardens:	
The Rev'd June Knight (PTO)	771756	Terry Pigram, Peter Rixson, Roger Sudbury	
Rob Klincke (Reader)	833523	Parish Office	01279 654416
Vicar's Email: stmichaelsbvicar@hotmail.co.uk		Email: church@saintmichaelweb.org.uk	