



Newsletter and Notices

The Choir anthem at our 10am service was due to be as follows:

For the beauty of the earth, John Rutter (b. 1945) • Text, F.S. Pierpoint (1835-1917)

*For the beauty of the earth,
for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies:
Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our joyful hymn of praise.*

*For the beauty of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flower,
sun and moon and stars of light:*

*Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our joyful hymn of praise.*

*For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild:*

*Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our joyful hymn of praise.*

*For each perfect gift of thine
to our race so freely given,
graces human and divine,
flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n:*

*Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our joyful hymn of praise.*

[You might like to listen to the anthem via this link](#)

Collect for Mothering Sunday

God of compassion,
whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary,
shared the life of a home in Nazareth,
and on the cross drew the whole human family to himself:
strengthen us in our daily living
that in joy and in sorrow we may know the power of your presence
to bind together and to heal;
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.

Gospel for Mothering Sunday, Luke 2, 33-35

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

Sunday 22nd March 2020 Fourth Sunday of Lent • Mothering Sunday



Psalm for Lent 4, Psalm 23

Refrain: *I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.*

The Lord is my shepherd; therefore can I lack nothing.
He makes me lie down in green pastures and leads me beside still waters. [R]
He shall refresh my soul and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil; for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me. [R]

You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;
you have anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full.
Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Refrain: *I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.*

**O God, our sovereign and shepherd,
who brought again your Son Jesus Christ from the valley of death,
comfort us with your protecting presence and your angels of goodness and love,
that we also may come home and dwell with him in your house for ever.**

Dear Friends,

Have no anxiety about anything, but with prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. Philippians 4.6

It has been heartening to learn how many people are praying in this current testing season, and how many people are so deeply appreciative of and grateful for prayer.
As another layer of the praying life of the church in these days we have set up a simple Prayer Chain.

The idea is simple: a chain of people to whom a prayer request can be made through its coordinator. The coordinator receives the request and prays accordingly before passing it on to a member of the chain who does likewise, until the prayer returns to the coordinator after a number of days being prayed for by a variety of people.

If you would like the Prayer Chain to pray in this way for some concern which is on your heart, please make your prayer request to the coordinator, Diane Pettitt:

Tel. 01279 461845 Email diane.pettitt@hotmail.com

Let me add that requests are strictly confidential to the Prayer Chain, who will simply pray as asked. A request will not lead to any further contact or action.

Do keep praying in all the ways that connect you to Jesus. If a request to the Prayer Chain would help, don't hesitate to make it.

And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and minds in Jesus Christ our Lord. Philippians 4.7

With my prayer and blessing,
Derwyn.

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@gmail.com		Email: church@saintmichaelweb.org.uk	





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Sunday 22nd March 2020 Fourth Sunday of Lent • *Mothering Sunday*



Bishops Stortford Food Bank Lent /Easter Appeal.

Items needed by the Food bank.



- Fruit Juice (long life cartons)
- Tea Bags
- Coffee (Instant)
- Meat (tinned)
- Fruit (tinned)
- Rice Pudding and Custard (tinned)
- Sponge Pudding (tinned)
- Tomatoes (tinned)
- Vegetables (tinned)
- Milk (Long Life/UHT/dried)
- Rice (500g packs)
- Sugar (500g packs)
- Hot chocolate
- Biscuits
- Chocolate/snack bars
- Noodles
- Breakfast Cereals (medium sized packets)
- Washing powder / pellets
- Washing up liquid
- Toiletries (e.g. shampoo, shower gel and deodorant)
- Toilet rolls

Please drop items into the collection box at Sainsbury's, Waitrose or Tesco's (Bishops Park). If you have a large number of items you wish to donate please contact us at bsfoodbank.coordinator@gmail.com

Mothering Sunday flowers – Last week the Junior Church, Junior Choir and Tiny Tots worked hard to produce the floral gifts for Mothering Sunday. These will be in the church porch on Sunday 22nd March. Please take one for a lady who might be heartened by seeing it on her doorstep.

Light a candle of hope:
A national call to prayer



This Mothering Sunday, 22nd March, we are calling all churches to a National Day of Prayer and Action. At such a time as this, when so many are fearful and there is great uncertainty, we are reminded of our dependence on our loving Heavenly Father and the future that he holds. At 7pm this Sunday, light a candle in the windows of your homes as a visible symbol of the light of life, Jesus Christ, our source and hope in prayer. More information on the Churches Together in England website.

Lent reading – Please feel free to borrow any of the Lent books from the bookshelves at the back of the church and perhaps place a small donation in the offertory box.

Foodbank Lent/Easter appeal – Please see the poster opposite for items that are urgently needed for the Foodbank, thank you. The Food Bank have asked us to clarify the position with regard to providing food for the sick or those who are self-isolating. Whilst they are hoping to provide emergency food boxes for people in need, and may be seeking help from the churches to deliver them, these can only be provided for those in poverty. They simply do not have the resources to provide food for other groups. Although many of the agencies, such as Citizens Advice, who normally issue food vouchers have closed - arrangements are being made to continue to allow them refer people to the Food Bank.

Anointing and laying on of hands – At the 10am Holy Communion on **Wednesday 8th April** and at Parish Communion on **Sunday 17th May** we will offer anointing and laying on of hands for healing, **dependent on the Coronavirus situation**.

Electoral Roll – The APCM is on **Sunday 26th April** at 11:40am in the WCC **dependent on the Coronavirus situation**. Anyone wishing to vote must be on the Church Electoral Roll (the only information published will be your name and whether you are resident in the parish or not). Please leave completed forms in the north porch post box. A current copy of the Roll will be in the Publicity Area, along with application forms, until 29th March. We invite you to consider standing for the PCC, Churchwarden or Deanery Synod or as a Sidesperson. Contact the Parish Office for more information. The reports are available to view on the website.

St Michael's School will need a new school governor from September – Experience in finance, education or HR would be particularly helpful but all applications are very welcome. If you are interested in finding out more about this voluntary role, do contact the Parish Office.

The Rev'd Derwyn Williams (Vicar) 653867
 The Rev'd Derek Hinge (PTO) 652173
 The Rev'd June Knight (PTO) 771756
 Rob Klincke (Reader) 833523
 Vicar's Email: stmichaelsbvicar@gmail.com

Churchwarden: Rosemary Thomson 758389
 Deputy Churchwardens:
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