



Though I am absent in body, yet I am with you in spirit, rejoicing to see your good order and the firmness of your faith in Christ. Colossians 2.5

[Zoom](#) Worship

8am-8:30am Morning Prayer

10am-10:30am Service of the Word

When you are signed in you can 'Join a Meeting' (Meeting ID **846 662 9590**, password **834900**).

Whether or not you might like to do this, let's be aware of the prayerful communion in God's Spirit that we all share, wherever we are, whether or not we are able to talk, video-conference or communicate with one another.

I mention you always in my prayers, asking that somehow by God's will, I may succeed in coming to you. For I long to see you, that I may impart some spiritual gift to strengthen you, that is, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith. Romans 1.9-11.

This comes with my prayers and blessing, Derwyn

Zoom meetings are scheduled for fellowship and conversation, after the 10am worship session.

If you'd like to join one, please enter one of the codes below at 10:30/10:45am:

June 822 740 0814 (716922) • Derek 927 480 8728 (889123) • Rob 841 818 2500 (645756)

Collect for Seventh Sunday of Easter

O God the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Psalm for Seventh Sunday of Easter, Psalm 68:1-10. 32-end

Refrain: Sing to God, sing praises to his name.

Let God arise and let his enemies be scattered; let those that hate him flee before him.

As the smoke vanishes, so may they vanish away; as wax melts at the fire,

so let the wicked perish at the presence of God. **[R]**

But let the righteous be glad and rejoice before God; let them make merry with gladness.

Sing to God, sing praises to his name; exalt him who rides on the clouds.

The Lord is his name; rejoice before him. **[R]**

Father of the fatherless, defender of widows, God in his holy habitation!

God gives the solitary a home and brings forth prisoners to songs of welcome,

but the rebellious inhabit a burning desert. **[R]**

O God, when you went forth before your people, when you marched through the wilderness,

The earth shook and the heavens dropped down rain, at the presence of God,

the Lord of Sinai, at the presence of God, the God of Israel. **[R]**

You sent down a gracious rain, O God; you refreshed your inheritance when it was weary.

Your people came to dwell there; in your goodness, O God, you provide for the poor. **[R]**

Sing to God, you kingdoms of the earth; make music in praise of the Lord;

He rides on the ancient heaven of heavens and sends forth his voice, a mighty voice. **[R]**

Ascribe power to God, whose splendour is over Israel, whose power is above the clouds.

How terrible is God in his holy sanctuary, the God of Israel,

who gives power and strength to his people! Blessed be God. **[R]**

Gospel for Seventh Sunday of Easter, John 17. 1-17

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. 'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them in your name that you have given me. I guarded them, and not one of them was lost except the one destined to be lost, so that the scripture might be fulfilled. But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves. I have given them your word, and the world has hated them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them out of the world, but I ask you to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth.

An anthem for the Seventh Sunday of Easter

Last year our Choir sang the anthem 'If ye love me' (Tallis) at our 11:15am Sung Eucharist service. You might like to listen to [this version](#) by the Cambridge Singers.

Children's resources –

With this week's newsletter on the website we attach a copy of 'Look'. Each week the Gospel story is explained in age appropriate language. A prayer and a variety of activities that will engage the children are included, to help each child get to know the person of Jesus.

Or perhaps try a Godly Story? They're fantastic visual versions of the scriptures. This week, the story of Jesus' ascension, with wondering questions for families to think and talk about together. Find it on YouTube at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6PMtjO4N2a8>

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

As another layer of the praying life of the church we have set up a simple Prayer Chain.

If you'd like the Prayer Chain to pray for some concern which is on your heart, please make your prayer request to the coordinator, Diane Pettitt: 461845 / diane.pettitt@hotmail.com

Requests are strictly confidential to the Prayer Chain, who will simply pray as asked and 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.



Newsletter and Notices

Sunday 24th May 2020 Seventh Sunday of Easter



Online Alpha Course via Zoom – We're meeting on Mondays at 7pm for about an hour on Zoom. There are eight more sessions. Please contact the Parish Office today if you'd like to join.

Quiet Day – June is holding another virtual Quiet Reflection Hour via Zoom this **Thursday 28th May at 10:30am**. Log on (Meeting ID 822 740 0814, password 716922) and be transported to the peace and serenity of June's garden for some time of quiet reflection, meditation and prayer. Once again there will be a booklet for those who don't have access to a computer.

Zoom meeting for discussion of church reopening and the prospect of re-commencing some in-person church activities – 10am, Saturday 6th June. Details to follow. It would be good to hear people's thoughts and feelings, urgency, hopes, reticence and worries, as we look to re-open church in some way. We very much hope by then that there will be some official regulations/guidance from authority for us to respond to.

Zoom Worship on Wednesdays – Derek is hosting Holy Communion at home (Meeting ID 927 480 8728, password 889123) each Wednesday whilst we are unable to worship in Church.

Daily Hope free phone line – The Archbishop of Canterbury has launched a free national phone line as a simple new way to bring worship and prayer into people's homes while church buildings are closed because of the coronavirus. *Daily Hope* offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England at the end of a telephone line. The line – which is available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044** – has been set up particularly with those unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions in mind.

HOW TO DONATE:

BISHOP'S STORTFORD FOOD BANK

Put items into boxes near check-outs at Waitrose, Tesco at Lancaster Way or Sainsburys or when doing shopping.

Please don't be put off donating if the box seems full – people are being so generous; sometimes it's difficult for our van to keep up, but every item is desperately needed.

Food Bank at the Methodist Church (Monday and Tuesday only, 10am-2pm)

We will leave a trolley in the doorway at the side path entrance.

MOST NEEDED ITEMS:

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| Long Life Fruit Juice | Tinned Meat & Fish |
| Long life Milk | Biscuits |
| Tea Bags & Coffee | Jam & Marmalade, Marmite & Honey |
| Tinned Vegetables | Beans, spaghetti and soup |
| Pasta and Pasta Sauces | Long dated cereals |
| Washing up liquid | Washing liquid or tablets (for washing machines) |
| Toiletries (shower gel, shampoo, toothpaste, soap, deodorants, shaving foam/razors, sanitary products etc) | |

Donating money: <https://www.justgiving.com/bishopstortfordfoodbank> or send a cheque or make a BACS payment direct to our bank. For further details please contact our Coordinator.

To help with food packing at the Food Bank: email bsfoodbank.coordinator@gmail.com



*With this ordinary, unconsecrated bread
I make remembrance of my last visit to Church
and I remind myself that
the bread that I received there, however long ago,
will keep me in life eternal.*

*And with this ordinary, unconsecrated wine
I remember all those who were there with me
and live in hope to see them all again.*

Bishop's Stortford Money Advice Centre – BSMAS is a voluntary organisation staffed by a trained team of volunteer Christian debt advisers. All advice is free. They offer non-judgmental advice and are supported by local churches. If you might benefit from speaking to them please visit their [website](#) for more information or call 01279 652523.

Zoom Worship involvement – It looks like worship via Zoom may need to continue for some time. It has been good to include a variety of readers, singers, musicians and prayer leaders at the various 'gatherings' recently. If you'd like to offer some involvement, please contact the Parish Office to let us know, and we will bear you in mind as we plan future meetings, for as long as we need to before corporate worship in church can resume. Thank you for considering. Derwyn.

Thy Kingdom Come – Join the global wave of prayer from 21st- 31st May calling all Christians to pray between Ascension and Pentecost, for more people to come to know the love and peace

of Jesus Christ. The website has resources for all ages such as a downloadable daily prayer app, a children's Adventure Prayer Map (online prayer game for primary age children), and a short invitation video that you may like to share to encourage others to download the map, the app and join in. <https://www.thykingdomcome.global/> If you don't have a computer and would be interested in the prayer resource, please contact the Parish Office.

Electoral Roll – The APCM was postponed due to the Coronavirus situation. A new date has been set as 25th October. Most of the reports are available to view on the [website](#).

Prayers for our community – An invitation from Roger Sudbury: Would you like to join a weekly prayer session at 9:30am each Saturday? This usually takes place each Saturday in Church but for now will be via Zoom (Meeting ID: 458 034 0358, p/w 435609). All welcome!

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:	
Terry Pigram, Peter Rixson, Roger Sudbury	
Parish Office	01279 654416
Email: church@saintmichaelweb.org.uk	

