

Newsletter and Notices

Sunday 6th June 2021 First Sunday after Trinity



8am Holy Communion, in Church 10am Service of the Word, in Church & via Zoom

You are welcome to share in our worship in the following ways:

1. Come to Church All are welcome! Remember to bring your order of service.

2. Join with Zoom on your computer

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

3. Join with Audio Zoom via phone

a) Call 0131 460 1196 b) Enter Meeting ID: 846 662 9590 followed by #

- c) You may be asked to enter Participant ID: press #
- d) Enter Meeting Passcode: 834900 followed by #

You will be muted automatically when you join the 'meeting' (service).

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-call or communicate with one another.

A Psalm for today, Psalm 130

Refrain: My soul waits for the Lord

Out of the depths have I cried to you, O Lord; Lord, hear my voice;

let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.

If you, Lord, were to mark what is done amiss, O Lord, who could stand?

But there is forgiveness with you, so that you shall be feared. [R]

I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for him; in his word is my hope.

My soul waits for the Lord, more than the night watch for the morning,

more than the night watch for the morning. [R]

O Israel, wait for the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy;

With him is plenteous redemption and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins. [R]

Father, we commend to your faithful love

those who are crying from the depths;

help them to watch and pray

through their time of darkness,

in sure hope of the dawn of your forgiveness and redemption;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Collect for The First Sunday after Trinity

O God, the strength of all those who put their trust in you, mercifully accept our prayers and, because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing without you, grant us the help of your grace, that in the keeping of your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; 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. Amen.

Gospel for The First Sunday after Trinity, Mark 3. 20-27

And the crowd came together again, so that they could not even eat. When Jesus' family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, 'He has gone out of his mind.' And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, 'He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons.' And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, 'How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

An anthem for today, 'I am Alpha and Omega' (John Stainer, 1840-1901)

You might like to listen to this version by Sheffield Chamber Choir at Lincoln Cathedral in 2012. The text comes from Revelation 1.8 and the Sanctus:

I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the ending, saith the Lord; which is, and which was, and which is to come, the Almighty.

Holy, holy, holy,

Lord God of Hosts,

Heav'n and earth are full of thy glory;

Glory be to thee,

O Lord most high.

Amen.

Our Children & Young People – Whilst it's not practical for our families to meet on Sunday, do explore the links on our Children & Young People page.

- There's a <u>printable sheet</u> which offers a prayer/activities that will help young people get to know the person of Jesus. This week's is based on today's Gospel reading.
- You might like to share in this week's **Godly Story**, 'Who Is My Family?' It's a fantastic visual version of the scriptures, with wondering questions for families to share together. The video's here.
- Tiny Tots is back, in a new and exciting way and Bridge Youth meets via Zoom for Bridge Worship this Sunday 6th June, 5:30-6:30pm. Meeting ID: 884 4536 8888. For meeting password, email: bridgeyouthchurch@gmail.com



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The church is open each day for prayer, from early morning to late afternoon. Appropriate Covid precautions are still in place.

An opportunity to spend some comforting time in prayer, peace and reflection.

Piano music is played on Fridays from 12-12.30pm.

Prayers for our Community in Church and via Zoom, Saturday 5th June 9:30am A half hour session of informal prayer (ID 458 034 0358 / Code 435609). All welcome.

CTBS Week of Prayer Service for The Persecuted Church, Monday 7th June, 7pm – One of a number of prayer events on different themes offered by Churches Together in Bishop's Stortford this week, St Michael's will be holding a service of worship and prayer for the 340 million Christians who are suffering persecution: 'One Family Standing Together'. The Daily Prayer service will include relevant bible readings and personal stories and an extended time of led and extempore prayer focusing in turn on some specific countries where Christians are currently being persecuted. Visit our website to see details of other events in our churches this week.

Launch Event 'Prayer Breakfast' for this year's Harvest Appeal, Wednesday 9th June at 8am – We invite you to share in the Launch Event 'Prayer Breakfast' for this year's Bishop of St Albans' Harvest Appeal, 'Water is Life' - more details are on our website and you can register on Eventbrite here.

Holy Communion, Wednesday 9th June, 10am – On Wednesday we will have a service of Holy Communion, in church and via Zoom. You can also dial in by phone; instructions on previous page. (ID 846 662 9590, Passcode 834900).

'All new' Tiny Tots, Wednesday 9th June, 11 for 11:15am – Following the success of our recent launch we're delighted to be meeting each week in term time once again - offering a new style of worship for babies/toddlers and their parents / carers. Social distancing measures and Covid precautions will be in place and we are delighted to be able to offer refreshments before and after the service.

Holiday Bible Week 2021 'Eyewitness', 2nd-6th **August** – The committee continues to meet online to pray and plan for HBW 2021. We are sad that we cannot hold HBW in person this year for all the safety of all involved. HOWEVER - we are feeling **very hopeful** as we plan for an online virtual HBW with entertaining games, crafts, songs and teaching for children of our town! Keep checking <u>our website</u> or Facebook for the registration forms!

Parish Register for May

We remember in our prayers the family of Barbara Bastick, whose funeral took place this last month.

We welcome Myles Oyekunle into the fellowship of faith following his Baptism last week.

Recruitment of a Families Minister – The PCC recently agreed to advertise the Families Minister post again this summer and we hope to be interviewing candidates towards the end of September. A key part of the role will be to help us re-establish our activities for children and young people at the church as we 'recover' from COVID, as well as reimagine and deliver our events at St Michael's. This is a very exciting time as we start to rebuild and renew our work with children, young people and their families!

Notes from Open Forum to discuss music and worship – The notes from the recent forum are available <u>on our website's Music Page</u>. A Working Group from the PCC is meeting on 16th June to take our talks further.

Red Bucket Appeal for St Vincent volcano eruption – The Charities Support Group is delighted to have been able to send a total of £684.25 for the appeal for St Vincent in the Windward Islands (St Albans linked diocese). Thank you to all those who contributed.

Come join our St. Michaels' School Family – We currently still have spaces in both Reception and Nursery for the academic year 2021-22. We are now offering all day provision in Nursery. Do look at our <u>school website</u> and follow the link for the virtual tour to find out more about our thriving school and our 'Outstanding' (OFSTED 2019) EYFS.

Zoom prayer with June on Mondays – A support chat and prayer room each week. If you're interested in joining, do call her for more details (771756).

Recycling – Last year St Michael's School inspired us to collect crisp packets. The school council team collected, sorted and took them (along with other items) to the night shelter collecting point so the shelter benefits from the money and the school benefits by knowing they are doing a tiny bit to keep the planet clean. If you bring your crisp packets (and toothpaste tubes or broken pens) to church, we'll will take them directly to the shelter.

Message from the Chair of Trustees for The Leprosy Mission – "We are seeking to appoint three new Trustees to join us, bringing expertise in either Fundraising, Digital Marketing and Innovation, Mental Health, Global Research or Social Entrepreneurship. <u>More details about the positions can be found here.</u>"

Stort Valley Schools Trust – Click <u>here to visit our media page</u> on our website and play the Spring 2021 video update from SVST. This week we also share a Week of Prayer.

More details of all services and events are available on the <u>Calendar</u> page on our website.

Do follow us on Social Media too, for regular updates.

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