St Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford

## **Newsletter and Notices**

### Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2022 Passion Sunday



# 8am Holy Communion for Passion Sunday, in Church 10am Service of the Word for Passion Sunday, in Church & Zoom with music from Bach's Double Violin Concerto in D Minor

Come and enjoy fellowship and refreshments in (or outside) the WCC after the 10am service.

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 for the 10am service.

2. Join Zoom on your computer

When signed in you can 'Join a Meeting' (ID: 846 662 9590 / Passcode: 834900).

3. Join with Audio Zoom via phone

a) Call 0131 460 1196 b) Enter Meeting ID then #, then enter Meeting Passcode then #

### Collect for The Fifth Sunday of Lent

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; 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.

### A Psalm for Passion Sunday, Psalm 126

Refrain: The Lord has indeed done great things for us.

When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, then were we like those who dream.

Then was our mouth filled with laughter and our tongue with songs of joy. [R]

Then said they among the nations, 'The Lord has done great things for them.'

The Lord has indeed done great things for us, and therefore we rejoiced. [R]

Restore again our fortunes, O Lord, as the river beds of the desert.

Those who sow in tears shall reap with songs of joy.

Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed,

will come back with shouts of joy,

bearing their sheaves with them. [R]

Lord, as you send rain and flowers even to the wilderness, renew us by your Holy Spirit, help us to sow good seed in time of adversity and to live to rejoice in your good harvest of all creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Parish Register for March**

We remember in our prayers the families of Roy Sykes and John Tarran, whose funeral took place this last month.

#### **LENT 2022 AT ST MICHAEL'S**

A Season for Living in God A Season for Giving our time A Season for Giving our treasures

We invite you to return your Giving Season responses to the Parish Office.

Please see our Giving Season Envelopes in the Publicity Area or on our website's <u>Lent Page</u> for more information.

Thank you for considering your giving to St Michael's.

### Gospel for The Fifth Sunday of Lent, John 12. 1-8

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, 'Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?' (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, 'Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.'

### Come and share our short session for children and young people during our Sunday 10am service EVERY WEEK!

We invite children of all ages, with their adults, to come into the Lady Chapel during part of the service, and share in A Godly Play (a short visual storytelling of scriptures, with wondering questions, stories, crafts, puzzles, and even some acting for those that want ... for all ages to share together; then various

age related activities). There will be a display in the Lady Chapel most weeks, if you'd like to find out more!

Thank you to all the children in our church family who helped us to create such beautiful posies for the ladies in our congregation on Mothering Sunday.

You might also like to explore the links on our <u>Children</u> & Young People page. There are loads of activities to

help young people get to know the person of Jesus this Lent and Easter.

A request for small, wrapped Easter Eggs – After two years without the opportunity, we're delighted to be able to offer an Easter Egg hunt for the children and young people of St Michael's after the 10am service on Easter Day. We'd be most grateful for donations of small (Creme Egg size) individually wrapped chocolate Easter Eggs. Please place them in the box in the Publicity Area, thank you!

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### The church is open each day, from early morning to mid afternoon.

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

#### Passiontide and Easter -

This Sunday, 3rd April, at 10am we'll share a Service of the Word for Passion Sunday with music from Bach's Double Violin Concerto in D Minor. Also from this Sunday onwards, there will be an opportunity to journey the 'Way of the Cross', with stations for reflection for all ages.

Next Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April is Palm Sunday and we'll celebrate Holy Communion at both 8am 10am, with palm crosses and a Choral Evensong for Holy Week at 6pm. From 10<sup>th</sup> April onwards, our 'Way of the Cross' reflections will include a special prayer corner if you'd like to pray, light a candle or write a prayer on a paper cross and hang it by the cross. At 7:30pm on Maundy Thursday 14th April we'll share Holy Communion with music and a Good Friday Sequence with music on 15th April from 1:45-3pm.

On Easter Sunday, 17th April, we'll celebrate Holy Communion at 8am and 10am, with an Easter egg hunt after the 10am service. Throughout Easter week share our Easter Resurrection story, with flowers and prayers.

TLC Tuesday 5th April from 2pm, WCC - An opportunity for anyone who wishes to attend to be able to join in with tea and talk, read the paper, play board games ... and then later in the afternoon we welcome families after school for a short while, to share in reading/play and enjoy a biscuit/cake/fruit snack. Do come along ... and tell your friends too! This Tuesday, the theme is Easter and the children will be invited to decorate a chocolate item!

Holy Communion, Wednesday 6th April, 10am - A service of Holy Communion, in church and via Zoom (ID: 846 662 9590 / Passcode: 834900). You can also dial in by phone.

Tiny Tots, Wednesday 6th April, 11 for 11:15am - Worship for babies/toddlers and their parents / carers; with a story, singing and instruments for little ones too! Join us for refreshments, fellowship and a little chance for the children to play before/after the service.

Free Clarinet & Piano Lunchtime Recital, Thursday 7th April, 1-2pm - All are invited to this recital featuring Guildhall School of Music & Drama graduates, Angela Novy and Andy Mellor.

Prayers for our Community in Church, Saturday 9th April, 9:30am - All welcome.

Funeral of Richard Lewin, Monday 11th April, 12:30pm - Elspeth and family would like to invite all who knew Richard to the funeral and then afterwards to refreshments in the WCC.

The bells restoration begins on 19<sup>th</sup> April – The Church kitchen area and toilet will not be available for some time. However, we are very fortunate to have alternative facilities in the Churches Centre, so Wednesday morning refreshments will take place there from 20th April until the bells project is complete. This will enhance our social time with more space and during the summer we will aim to serve tea and coffee outside in the sunshine!

Roger & Rowena Sudbury farewell, Sunday 24th April - The Sudburys have settled into their new home in Suffolk and are coming to say a proper 'goodbye' to us all, sharing in worship and fellowship at the 10am service, followed by refreshments in the WCC. Do join!

#### Lent Reflection

#### How are you feeling? - Meeting God in our emotion Tuesday 5th April at 12pm in the Lady Chapel

All are warmly invited to join this last Lent session. We'll explore the feeling of 'Hope' and theologically reflect on it in the light of Christ; through a meditative blend of Scripture, prayer, song, music and a talk.

The session will be followed by a frugal lunch at 12:30pm in the WCC, in aid of the three charities supported by our Charities Support Group Lent Appeal this year.

APCM, 29th May after 10am service - Electoral Roll revision starts on 3rd April and ends on 1st May, if you'd like to join our electoral roll and/or nominate for PCC election.

Flower Festival for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> June - We need your help! Are you a flower arranger? Can you help arrange sponsorship? Please contact Claire (07944 431873 / claire.conquest62@gmail.com) or Jenny (jennyklincke@gmail.com) 833523) and do save the date! Proceeds to St Michael's Church Bell Restoration Fund.

Friends of St Michael's, Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> July – Another date for your diary! Family Fun Day, then Gilbert & Sullivan Concert. More details in due course.

Holiday Bible Week, 1st - 5th August - After two years, we're delighted to be able to host a live HBW for 2022. This year's theme is all about celebration and we hope your children (ages 5-11) will be able to join us to celebrate an action-packed week full of stories, puppets, music and games. More details on Facebook and Instagram over the coming weeks. Places are allocated according to our Child Allocation Policy. So don't miss out, register now! Please may we also emphasise the importance of adults volunteers signing-up too so that we can offer places to as many children as possible (usually about 500).

Lent Red Bucket Appeal from the Charities Support Group UPDATE - The proceeds will be added to the money raised through Lent Lunches this year. We will split the money three ways between Hope & Homes for Children (who we regularly support through the CSG), Portland Child Contact Centre and the Delhi Brotherhood Society. Members of the CSG have put together information about the charities and ways to donate: please see our website page or ask the Parish Office for a copy.

Support Ukraine: how you can help - The Diocese of St Albans has put together some useful pointers on its website and initiatives are also being taken locally through Churches Together in Bishop's Stortford, more details available soon.

#### Please note that the Parish Office is closed next week.

More details of all services and events are available on the Calendar page on our website. Do follow us on Social Media too, for regular updates.

The Rev'd Derwyn Williams (Vicar) The Rev'd Derek Hinge (PTO) The Rev'd June Knight (PTO)

Rob Klincke (Reader)

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