St Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford

Newsletter and Notices

Sunday 15th May 2022 Fifth Sunday of Easter



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

Come and enjoy fellowship and refreshments in 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 Easter

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen 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 today, Psalm 148

Refrain: O praise the name of the Lord.

Alleluia. Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights.

Praise him, all you his angels; praise him, all his host.

Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you stars of light. [R]

Praise him, heaven of heavens, and you waters above the heavens.

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created.

He made them fast for ever and ever;

he gave them a law which shall not pass away. [R]

Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps;

Fire and hail, snow and mist, tempestuous wind, fulfilling his word;

Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;

Wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and birds on the wing; [R]

Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;

Young men and women, old and young together; let them praise the name of the Lord.

For his name only is exalted, his splendour above earth and heaven.

He has raised up the horn of his people and praise for all his faithful servants,

the children of Israel, a people who are near him. Alleluia. [R]

O glorious God, your whole creation sings your marvellous work; may heaven's praise so echo in our hearts that we may be good stewards of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gospel for The Fourth Sunday of Easter, John 13. 31-35

Come and share our short session for children and

During the supper, when Judas had gone out, Jesus said, 'Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, "Where I am going, you cannot come." I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.'

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). We're delighted to say that in this last ten months we've grown enough to enable a fortnightly breakout session for older children/young people too: during the sermon on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, also in the Lady Chapel. There will be a display. in the Lady Chapel most weeks, if you'd like to find out more! You might also like to explore the links on our Children & Young People page. There are loads of activities to help young people get to know the person of Jesus this Easter season.

Some images from our recent Godly Play sessions

GIVING SEASON RESPONSES

Giving information is now available from our website home page
Thank you for responses received so far during our Lent Giving Season.
Further responses, for Time and Talents and/or Financial Giving, can be placed in the wooden post box in the corner of the North Porch, or handed to a Warden. Thank you very much for considering your response to our appeal this year. Derwyn.

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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.

Parish Office - The Parish Office is closed for the duration of the bell restoration works. Katharine is working from home and may be readily contacted by email, or chat to her after the Wednesday Holy Communion service.

Charities Support Group Talk from Red Kite, this Sunday 15th May - Siobhan Nundram. Chair of the charity Red Kite, will be joining our 10am service and will speak to us during refreshments in the WCC afterwards. Red Kite aims to provide comprehensive services to survivors of historic or recent rape, sexual abuse or violence, to enable them to thrive once more in their communities. Siobhan will tell us how this is being worked out in East Herts.

Christian Aid Week, 15th -21st May - Help turn hunger into hope. With every Gift, Every Action, Every Prayer. Every one of us can change lives. If you wish to find out more or to make a donation, go to caweek.org or give via the CA Red Bucket in church on Sunday 22nd May. Why not have fun and try the CA Quiz with family and friends! Thank you so much. Carole Macdonald.

Holy Communion, Wednesday 18th May, 10am - A service of Holy Communion, in church. Due to the bells' restoration, refreshments after the service will be held in the WCC.

Tiny Tots, Wednesday 18th May, 11 for 11:15am in the WCC - 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.

Bishop's Stortford Hospitality Support - St Michael's will be providing space at the WCC for Ukranian refugees and their host families to meet together once a week on Wednesdays between approximately 11:30am - 2pm. commencing this Wednesday 18th May. We need to provide some volunteers to be on hand during this time, hopefully for a two-hour slot each. It is suggested we provide a very light lunch on the first week, but we will have no idea how many people will turn up or for how long they will want to stay. This will be an evolving situation, depending on what amount of support hosts and their quests would like, and hope, as St Michael's rep on the BS Hospitality Support Group, there are other volunteers who I can ask to come along. Please let me know if you are willing to help with these support sessions. Jenny Klincke (833523 / jennyklincke@gmail.com)

Prayers for our Community in Church, Saturday 21st May, 9:30am - All welcome.

A quiet day at Albury, Thursday 26th May, 10:30am-3pm - These popular days of reflection and contemplation in June's home have returned. Places are limited, please contact June on 07539 058946 to book, or for more information.

The local Home-Start network is desperate for volunteers - Could you visit and help a family with young children through their challenging times? Contact Mary Duckworth (07776 267918 / mduckworth1@btinternet.com).

APCM, 29th May after 10am service - We invite nominations for PCC members and Churchwarden elections. Please note that the nomination forms are in church and completed forms should go to Christine Solway, via the Parish Office. The APCM documentation is published on the website from the PCC page.

Flower Festival for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. 2nd-5th June Save the weekend!

- 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). Proceeds to our Bell Restoration Fund.
- If you are able to help during the week of the flower festival please sign up in church.
- Thanks for some excellent offers of hymns to sing at the Festival Songs of Praise at 4:30pm on Saturday 4th June. I'd love to have 3 or 4 more suggestions - and you have the option (no obligation) to say a few words about your hymn choice if you would like. Do come along to join in the praise if you can. Thank you, Derwyn.

TLC Tuesday 7th June, 2:15pm for 2:30pm, WCC - An opportunity 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! We'll begin with a short time of prayer just after 2:15pm before our session at 2:30pm, until about 4:30pm. This coming month, we're planning a Jubilee themed tea party to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee!

Friends of St Michael's, Saturday 2nd July - Family Fun Day, then concert at 7 for 7:30pm: 'The World of Gilbert & Sullivan', performed by The Wandering Minstrels. £17 including finger buffet (£19 on the door). Tickets via TicketTailor here or contact Rob Klincke.

Coronation Memories - Our MP Julie Marson is seeking to gather constituents' memories of Her Majesty's Coronation in 1953. If you have a story you'd like to write down and share, please pass it to Julie via Katharine Stanley. Thank you.

Help - If anyone has Myrtle growing in their garden and are happy for it to be pruned for the flower festival, please contact claire.conquest62@gmail.com

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)

899261 Churchwarden: Rosemary Thomson 652173 Deputy Churchwardens:

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Rob Klincke (Reader)











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