St Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford

Newsletter and Notices

Sunday 18th September 2022 Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity



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. The Johnson family have kindly prepared a cake to celebrate William's Baptism last Sunday.

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 Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

Almighty God, whose only Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence: give us pure hearts and steadfast wills to worship you in spirit and in truth; 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 today, Psalm 113

Refrain: From the rising of the sun to its setting let the name of the Lord be praised.

Alleluia. Give praise, you servants of the Lord, O praise the name of the Lord. Blessed be the name of the Lord, from this time forth and for evermore.

From the rising of the sun to its setting let the name of the Lord be praised.

The Lord is high above all nations and his glory above the heavens. [R]

The Lord is high above all nations and his glory above the heaven

Who is like the Lord our God, that has his throne so high,

yet humbles himself to behold the things of heaven and earth?

He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ashes,

To set them with princes, with the princes of his people.

He gives the childless woman a place in the house

and makes her a joyful mother of children. Alleluia. [R]

From the rising of the sun to its setting we praise your name, O Lord; may your promise to raise the poor from the dust and turn the fortunes of the needy upside down be fulfilled in our time also, as it was in your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gospel for The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity, Luke 16. 1-13

Jesus said to the disciples, 'There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, "What is this that I hear about you? Give me an account of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer." Then the manager said to himself, "What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes." So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, "How much do you owe my master?" He answered, "A hundred jugs of olive oil." He said to him, "Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty." Then he asked another, "And how much do you owe?" He replied, "A hundred containers of wheat." He said to him, "Take your bill and make it eighty." And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes. 'Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.'

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). We've lost a few of our helpers recently and sadly we can't offer our fortnightly breakout session for older children/young people on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month; please do contact Katharine if you'd like to help. There's a display in the Lady Chapel, if you'd like to find out more! Our Children & Young People website page has loads of activities to help young people get to know the person of Jesus.



We continue with the Sunday Gospel for our Godly Play sessions. Last week we shared the parable of the lost sheep. We also shared our thoughts about The Queen, said a prayer and talked about how Jesus is there for us always, especially if we feel lost or sad. Luke 15. 1-10

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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

Church opening on Monday 19th September - The church will be opened especially on this bank holiday for private prayer and reflection.

News from the Tower - Alan Padgett will be delivering his talk about the bells on Tuesday 20th September at 12:30pm in Bishop's Stortford Museum. Entry is free but places must be booked (click here or visit museum). Please try to get along to see the exhibition or the talk as it's really good to have the museum helping to promote our bell restoration project and the heritage of the bells.

Holy Communion, Wednesday 21st September, 10am - A service of Holy Communion, in church. Refreshments after the service will be held in the WCC.

Tiny Tots, Wednesday 21st September, 11 for 11:15am in the WCC - Worship for babies/toddlers and their grown-ups; with a story, singing and instruments for little ones too! Join us for refreshments, fellowship and a chance for the children to play beforehand.

Ukrainian Hospitality Support, Wednesdays from 11:30am-2pm - St Michael's is providing space at the WCC for Ukrainian quests and host families to meet together, along with informal language lessons, once a week. St Joseph's Hall is open too, as extra space for teaching or play. We are offering a light lunch/ refreshments for adults and children and whatever other support we can. If you are considering joining our helpers, please contact Jenny (833523/jennyklincke@gmail.com)

Prayers for our Community, Saturday 24th September, 9:30am - All are welcome!

Grove Cottage coffee morning, Saturday 24th September, 9:30-10:30am, WCC - A fundraising walk as part of the Great Big Walk for Herts (12 charities walking the Hertfordshire Way in one day by doing different sections). The Way goes right past our church, so walkers are starting here at 10am. We're hosting coffee/cake for them and our congregation, with donations to Grove Cottage, to welcome and set the walkers off.

St Michael's Patronal Festival Lunch, Sunday 25th September - All are welcome to join us for a celebratory lunch in the WCC after the 10am service. If you are happy to contribute to the food or help set up/down please sign up in the Publicity Area. For further information contact Claire Conquest 07944 431873.

Harvest, Sunday 2nd October - We'll celebrate Harvest at 8am and 10am services. There will be a Red Bucket for the Bishop's Appeal, Not Forgotten: for those in Mozambique who have been traumatised and displaced by conflict. Your support will help on-the-ground, local church partners to reach the most vulnerable; helping to change lives, transform communities and show God's love where it is needed most. We are also requesting food gifts for Bishop's Stortford Food Bank.

TLC Tuesday 4th October, 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 were delighted to welcome a group from Age Concern to our July session!) 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 going to have a Bingo game!

Following Jesus Today - Exploring Contemporary Discipleship - I'd like to hold some evening meetings, for fellowship over a light meal, followed by the chance to do some learning, sharing, praying and thinking about what following Jesus means for us in the world of today. Dates are planned for Tuesdays: October 11 and 25, November 8 and 22. Probably gathering from 7pm, sessions ending around 9:30. Please note the dates if you may be interested and look out for further details. Thanks for considering this opportunity, Derwyn.

Governors at our Church School: we have a couple of opportunities! Would you be interested or do you know somebody who might be? Would you like to join as a Governor appointed by the PCC, or perhaps as a Co-opted Governor if you have premises experience? Please speak to Val Ashwood or the Vicar for information.

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.

Food Bank Plea - Increased costs of living are hitting foodbanks hard. Please consider whether you can donate food: details on our website and church noticeboard.

Public notice regarding plaque proposal for bell headstocks - Notice is given that we are applying to the Consistory Court of the diocese for permission to carry out works outlined in documents on the website (also available to view in church).

Rosemary's Jams - "Thanks to all those buying the home-made jams which I have been making during the summer. Profits are for the much-needed WCC maintenance and I hope to hand over around £100 by the end of Autumn. But I need more jars please! Many thanks, Rosemary Thomson"

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)

n Social Media 100, 101 regular.

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