



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: 927 480 8728 / Passcode: 889123).

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 Presentation of Christ in the Temple

Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh: grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, by your Son Jesus Christ 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 24. 7-end

Refrain: The Lord of hosts: he is the King of glory.

The earth is the Lord's and all that fills it,
the compass of the world and all who dwell therein.

For he has founded it upon the seas and set it firm upon the rivers of the deep. [R]

'Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord, or who can rise up in his holy place?'

'Those who have clean hands and a pure heart,

who have not lifted up their soul to an idol, nor sworn an oath to a lie;

'They shall receive a blessing from the Lord,

a just reward from the God of their salvation.'

Such is the company of those who seek him,

of those who seek your face, O God of Jacob. [R]

Lift up your heads, O gates;

be lifted up, you everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

'Who is the King of glory?'

'The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord who is mighty in battle.'

Lift up your heads, O gates;

be lifted up, you everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in.

'Who is this King of glory?'

'The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.' [R]

*O Lord of hosts, purify our hearts that the King of glory may come in,
your Son, Jesus our redeemer. Amen.*



Gospel for today, Luke 2. 22-40

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.' Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.' And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.' There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

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 have our older group breakout this week! We continue learning about Paul (from Acts 26) with the theme 'Good News' and think about God's followers telling others about Jesus.





Newsletter and Notices

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

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

Forthcoming services of Holy Communion at 8am – Holy Communion will be celebrated at 8am **this Sunday 29th January and 5th and 19th February.**

Holy Communion, Wednesday 1st February, 10am – A service of Holy Communion, in church. Refreshments after the service will be held in the WCC.

Tiny Tots, Wednesday 1st February, 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 guests 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.

Prayers for our Community, Saturday 4th February, 9:30am – A half hour session of informal prayer. All welcome.

Christingle Service with St Michael's School, Sunday 5th February – Please do come and share in our worship in church next Sunday at 10am. This is the one occasion when all members of St Michael's School family are formally invited to join us in worship at church and it would be lovely to see many members of our own church family here to welcome them!

TLC Tuesday 7th February, 2:15pm for 2:30pm, WCC – An opportunity to be able to join in with tea and talk and a regular 10/15 minute presentation on wide ranging interests ... 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! Rosemary has written a reflection/plans for 2023 [on the website](#).

Mothers' Union meeting, Wednesday 8th February – There will be a final Mothers' Union meeting on Wednesday 8th February from 2pm. We will start with an AGM, followed by a tea party.

St Albans Cursillo weekend 10th-12th February – Our next weekend will take place at Pleshey (near Chelmsford). We already have a couple of participants from St Michael's and if anyone else is interested then please let us know as soon as possible to help with the planning. More explanation is at www.stalbanscursillo.com. Many members of St Michael's would recommend: do speak to the Ashwoods, the Emmetts, the Hinges, Claire Conquest, Pam Johnson-Cook and Audrey Smith. The application form is on the Cursillo website and is to be sent to Mike Ashwood who is the Bookings secretary.



Sunday 29th January 2023 The Presentation of Christ (Candlemas)

HBW 'Superheroes' 7th-11th August 2023: We need you to be a tent leader! Will you be a superhero and help the children of our town learn about Jesus and his love for us? You don't have to be an expert because we have people willing and able to help you lead a fun and exciting week for the children. You won't be alone in the tent. All you need is an openness to let God use you to help the children have a great time during this super week! Please contact: davidholidaybibleweek@gmail.com

Holly Rings & Travelling Crib sheep – If you bought a Holly Ring, please could you return just the wire ring and pine cones to be recycled to help save expenses next time. We hope that you and your families enjoyed sharing in the Crib during Advent! If you have held onto your sheep over Christmas, would you be good enough to return it to Katharine (or put it in the porch post box) as soon as possible? Many thanks!

Tesco blue tokens for Bells restoration project – We have been successful in our application for the Tesco Community Grants Scheme. Please consider using your blue tokens (in Stortford, Stansted and Elsenham Tesco branches) for our Bells Appeal, from mid-January until the end of March. Winning vote wins £1500.

Food Bank Update – Bill Macdonald, Chair of Trustees, has written an article sharing news from the last couple of months. It's on our [website](#) and church noticeboard.

Coats for local asylum seekers – Care4Calais would be grateful for men's puffer/waterproof warm coats in S, M, L XL with hoods if possible (no leather or wool). Please check they are clean, no rips or stains and that the zips work and take them to Mione Goldspink at 9 Avenue Road, Bishop's Stortford. They may be left in the porch in a bag or phone 656634 to arrange a time. Thank you in advance.

DIGITAL GIVING TO ST MICHAEL'S

While fewer people carry cash, and our donations in the collection plates and offertory box remain much smaller than before the pandemic, the costs of running our parish remain. Please consider using our digital giving facility to support St Michael's.

To give by phone: text **STMIC** (then a number from 2 to 20, e.g. STMIC7 or STMIC15) to **70085**. The most efficient way to give is by Standing Order direct from your bank account: please see the Giving Sunday envelopes from our most recent Stewardship renewal, in the Welcome Area. Thank you for considering your giving to

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)		Churchwardens: Claire Conquest	07944 431873
The Rev'd Derek Hinge (PTO)	652173	Gill Johnson	07912 432221
The Rev'd June Knight (PTO)	07539 058946	Deputy Churchwardens: T Pigram, P Rixson	
Rob Klincke (Reader)	833523	Parish Office	01279 654416



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Scan code for website