



### 8am Holy Communion for Second Sunday before Lent, in Church 10am A Christingle Service of the Word, in Church & [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 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 #

*Come and enjoy fellowship and refreshments in the WCC after the 10am service.*

### Collect for The Second Sunday before Lent

Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever. Amen.

### A Psalm for The Second Sunday before Lent, Psalm 104. 26-37

**Refrain: I will sing to the Lord as long as I live.**

O Lord, how manifold are your works!

In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

There is the sea, spread far and wide,

and there move creatures beyond number, both small and great.

There go the ships, and there is that Leviathan which you have made to play in the deep.

All of these look to you to give them their food in due season. **[R]**

When you give it them, they gather it; you open your hand and they are filled with good.

When you hide your face they are troubled

when you take away their breath, they die and return again to the dust.

When you send forth your spirit, they are created,

and you renew the face of the earth. **[R]**

May the glory of the Lord endure for ever; may the Lord rejoice in his works;

He looks on the earth and it trembles; he touches the mountains and they smoke.

I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;

I will make music to my God while I have my being.

So shall my song please him while I rejoice in the Lord.

Let sinners be consumed out of the earth and the wicked be no more.

Bless the Lord, O my soul. Alleluia.

*Creator God, send your Holy Spirit to renew this living world, that the whole creation, in its groaning and striving, may know your loving purpose and come to reflect your glory; in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

### A Gospel reading for Christingle, John 12. 44-50

Then Jesus cried aloud: 'Whoever believes in me believes not in me but in him who sent me. And whoever sees me sees him who sent me. I have come as light into the world, so that everyone who believes in me should not remain in the darkness. I do not judge anyone who hears my words and does not keep them, for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world. The one who rejects me and does not receive my word has a judge; on the last day the word that I have spoken will serve as judge, for I have not spoken on my own, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment about what to say and what to speak. And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I speak, therefore, I speak just as the Father has told me.'

### CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

**Come and share our short session for children and young people during our Sunday 10am service EVERY WEEK! *Almost every week – this week we all share in Christingle with children from St Michael's!***

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 also have an older group breakout session on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month. **Next week we conclude our series *Jesus starts work*:** as a new year begins, we can have the expectation that God will meet us and help us, as he equipped Jesus for his ministry.

We'll ask the question 'Who is Jesus?' (*Matthew 11. 1-6*).

Our [Children & Young People](#) website page has loads of activities to help young people get to know the person of Jesus.

**We are delighted with the recommencement of our young person's choir –** If your child is 7 or over and interested in joining, please contact Nathan Collins ([stmichaelsbdsdom@gmail.com](mailto:stmichaelsbdsdom@gmail.com)) We will also be starting choral and organ scholarships for our young people and welcome the support of those who would like to help contribute to these.



Last week we learned about the presentation of Jesus at the temple, in preparation for our Christingle service this week at Candlemas (*Luke 2. 22-40*).



# 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.*

**Christingle Service with St Michael's School, this Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February, 10am**

Please come and share in our worship! 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!

**There will be a service of Prayer for Christian unity this Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February at 7pm in the St Barnabas Centre, Thorley.** All are warmly invited. This years theme is "You shall love the Lord your God....and your neighbour as yourself." More information can be found on the Churches Together in England website [here](#).

**TLC Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> February in the WCC, 2:15pm for 2:30pm** – An opportunity 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! Our own James Hellis will be playing the guitar for us.

**Holy Communion, Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February, 10am** – A service of Holy Communion, in church. Refreshments after the service are held in the WCC.

**Tiny Tots, Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February, 11 for 11:15am** 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 in the WCC, if you can. **We gather in the WCC and walk across to the Lady Chapel for worship.**

**Prayers for our Community, Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February, 9:30am** – A half hour session of informal prayer. All welcome.

**Ash Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> February** will offer Holy Communion with optional imposition of ashes, at 10am and 7:30 pm. There will be hymns and music at both services.

**Lent Reflections, Tuesdays from 20<sup>th</sup> February, 12-12:30pm in the Lady Chapel** – All are warmly invited to join these sessions during Lent. This year our theme is *Lent Reflections on Everyday Objects*, with a reading, reflection, hymn and prayer. We begin on 20<sup>th</sup> February with 'A Safe'. Each session will be followed by a frugal lunch at 12:30pm in the WCC, in aid of the two charities supported by our Charities Support Group Lent Appeal this year. [See our Lent flyer on our website](#) for more information; there are a few copies in the Publicity Area too.

**Bishop's Stortford Child Contact Centre** – The Charities Support Group has invited the Child Contact Centre to offer a brief presentation after coffee on **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February**, as one of the Charities we support. Come along and find out more.

**Food Bank Plea** – Increased costs of living continue to hit foodbanks hard. Do consider whether you can donate: details on our [website](#) and church noticeboard.

**We are collecting used postage stamps for charity** – Please cut off your address leaving an inch border of envelope and place in the bucket in the Publicity Area. Any questions to Christine or Samuel Solway.

**FINAL PLEA! 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 expenses next time. We hope that you and your families enjoyed sharing in the Crib during Advent and if you held onto your sheep, please would you return it to Katharine (or put it in the porch post box) as soon as possible? Many thanks!

**Advent Appeal thank you** – To everyone who donated for Care4Calais locally and the Holy Trinity Night Shelter & Community Outreach. The final total was £665.26 and has been divided between the charities. Please pray for both charities and their work. The Night Shelter is in need of more volunteers and the sleeping accommodation for overnight volunteers is much improved. The shelter is usually open until March. Contact Dave Perry who runs the shelter ([htnsmanager@outlook.com](mailto:htnsmanager@outlook.com)) or speak to Val Ashwood if you'd like more information about what it involves.

**Sunday/Wednesday Coffees** – Would you like to join the coffee rota for Wednesday or Sundays? Please ask Gill or Claire.

### DIGITAL GIVING TO ST MICHAEL'S

We know that fewer people carry cash, and whilst our donations in the collection plates and offertory box are much smaller, the costs of running our parish remain. Please consider using our **Card-Giving facility (contactless or with PIN)** 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 Season envelopes from our most recent Stewardship renewal, in the Welcome Area.

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

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.

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The Rev'd Derek Hinge (PTO) 652173  
The Rev'd June Knight (PTO) 07539 058946  
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