



### NO SERVICE AT 8AM

### 10am Parish Communion, in Church

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

#### A Collect for The Sunday next before Lent

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; 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 50. 1-6

**Refrain: Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving.**

- 1 The Lord, the most mighty God, has spoken and called the world from the rising of the sun to its setting.
- 2 Out of Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth; our God comes and will not keep silence.
- 3 Consuming fire goes out before him and a mighty tempest stirs about him.
- 4 He calls the heaven above, and the earth, that he may judge his people:
- 5 'Gather to me my faithful, who have sealed my covenant with sacrifice.'
- 6 Let the heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge.

**All: Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving.**

Mighty God, dwelling in unapproachable light, forgive our vain attempts to appease you, and show us your full salvation in Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. Amen.

#### A Gospel reading for today, Mark 9. 2-9

Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

#### An anthem for today, *Christ, whose glory fills the skies*

Harold Darke, 1888-1976; Text, Charles Wesley (1740)

*Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true, the only Light,  
Sun of Righteousness, arise, triumph o'er the shades of night;  
Dayspring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart appear.*

*Dark and cheerless is the morn unaccompanied by Thee;  
Joyless is the day's return till Thy mercy's beams I see;  
Till they inward light impart, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.*

*Visit then this soul of mine, pierce the gloom of sin and grief;  
Fill me, Radiance divine, scatter all my unbelief;  
More and more Thyself display, shining to the perfect day.*

#### CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

**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 also have an older group breakout session on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month. **This 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.

Last week we shared our celebration of Christingle with St Michael's School in a joyful service filled with light.

**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.



# 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.*

**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.

**Tiny Tots, Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February, from 10:45 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 at 11:15am for a short worship.**

**Prayers for our Community, Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February, 9:30am** – A half hour session of informal prayer. All welcome.

**Bishop's Stortford Child Contact Centre** – The Charities Support Group has invited the Child Contact Centre to offer a brief presentation after coffee next **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February**, as one of the Charities we support. Come along and find out more about the community based, not for profit, child-focused charity that supports families directly impacted by separation or divorce. They currently offer supported contact and are soon to introduce supervised contact between the child and the parent/family member they don't usually live with, in a safe, neutral, family orientated space.

**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, along with some **prayers and devotions**, which you might wish to use during the coming season.

**Lent Lunch helpers, 20<sup>th</sup> February-19<sup>th</sup> March** – Would you be able to provide soup for after one of our Lent reflections? If you can help please contact Gill Johnson to fix a day on the rota.

**Home Communion Meeting, Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 10am** – If you're involved in our ministry offering Holy Communion at home, or are interested in finding out more about this ministry, please come along to this meeting in the Lady Chapel.

**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.

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.

**TLC Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> March 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! This coming month we welcome Andy Gibson to talk about his life as a Met Police dog trainer.

**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.

**Hyacinth bowls** – Did you buy some of Rosemary's lovely potted hyacinths at the Holly Fair? If yours have finished their first (or second flowering if you were lucky), please return the bowl to church so that it can be reused this year.

**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.

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