



NO SERVICE AT 8AM

10am Parish Communion, in Church

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

A Collect for The Second Sunday of Lent

Almighty God, you show to those who are in error the light of your truth, that they may return to the way of righteousness: grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may reject those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Romans reading for today:

Romans 2. 9-3. 25 (excerpts) *God shows no partiality*

A Psalm for today, Psalm 67

Refrain: *Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.*

All: *Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.*

God be gracious to us and bless us, and make his face to shine upon us, That your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations.

All: *Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.*

O let the nations rejoice and be glad, for you will judge the peoples righteously and govern the nations upon earth.

All: *Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.*

Then shall the earth bring forth her increase, and God, our own God, will bless us.

God will bless us, and all the ends of the earth shall fear him.

All: *Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.*

A Gospel reading for today, Luke 2. 25-32

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.'

An anthem for today, *Nunc dimittis in E major*

Arranged Herbert Murrill (1909-1952)

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace: according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen: thy salvation,

Which thou hast prepared: before the face of all people;

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles: and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

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 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month.** We continue the story of Moses from last Autumn, looking at Moses the Leader. This week we learn about ten rules from God (*Exodus 19. 16-20. 17*).



Last week we learned about the Israelites living in the desert and we said thank you for food, homes, families and friends. (*Exodus 16. 1-17. 7*)

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) 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.



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 Maintenance, weekdays until Friday 1st March – Please note that, **apart from during Tuesday Lent Reflections and Wednesday Communion**, it won't be possible to park in the churchyard, due to work vans needing constant access, whilst Quinquennial plasterwork repairs take place.

Lent Reflections, Tuesdays until 19th March, 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. **This Tuesday 27th February, we consider 'A Wristwatch'**. Each session is 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.

Holy Communion, Wednesday 28th February, 10am – A service of Holy Communion, in church. Refreshments after the service are held in the WCC. **The service will be held in the Lady Chapel this week.**

Tiny Tots, Wednesday 28th 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 2nd March, 9:30am – A half hour session of informal prayer. All welcome.

Home Communion Meeting, Saturday 2nd 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.

TLC Tuesday, 5th 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 talking about his life as a Met Police dog trainer.

Recital, Sunday 17th March at 3pm – You are warmly invited to this Voice and Piano Recital, featuring Titika Maragoula and Richard Carr. Free admission, (retiring collection) and tea and cake served afterwards.

Easter Monday Pilgrimage, 1st April – Every year hundreds of people from across the diocese and beyond journey together to St Albans Cathedral for an Easter celebration: with picnics on the grass, then an informal service of Holy Communion at 3pm led by Bishop Jane. Visit the [St Albans Diocese website](#) for more information.

Bereavement Journey Course, Thursdays for 6 weeks from 18th April, 10am-12:30pm – For anyone who has been bereaved at any time and in any way. There is a series of films and discussion groups looking at grief, within a safe space. You are welcome to have a preliminary discussion with a team member: June Knight, Vivienne Emmett, Liz Puller, or email Alison Jordan on alisonfaith1111@gmail.com

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.

Lent Worship and Prayer – [See our Lent flyer on our website](#) for information; there are a few copies in the Publicity Area too, along with some prayers and devotions which you might wish to use during this season.

Lent Red Bucket Appeal from the Charities Support Group – The proceeds will be added to the money raised through the Tuesday Lent Lunches this year. We will split the Lent money between **Bishop's Stortford Child Contact Centre** and **Embrace the Middle East**. Embrace is a Christian development charity tackling poverty and injustice in the Middle East. It supports, enables and partners with Christians in the Middle East as they work to transform lives and restore the dignity of the most excluded and marginalised in their communities, through education, community support and healthcare. BSCCC is a 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. Further information about the charities and details of online donations to CSG can be found on our [website page](#) or ask the Parish Office for a copy.

Church Management System – HUBB has informed us of an intermittent issue delivering email to TalkTalk customers (including tiscali, lineone, pipex, ntlworld etc. email addresses). TalkTalk are aware of the issue, affecting other mailing platform senders as well as HUBB, and are working on a permanent solution but don't have a timescale for a fix yet. HUBB suggests that all people with an affected email address complain to TalkTalk (the more of their own customers complaining the more likely this is to get fixed).

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	Gill Johnson	07912 432221
The Rev'd June Knight (PTO)	07539 058946	Deputy Churchwardens: T Pigram, P Rixson	
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