



8am Holy Communion, in Church

10am 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

We continue our series from Paul's letter to the Romans Romans 12. 1-21

Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.' No, 'if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.' Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Collect for The Sixth Sunday of Easter

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; 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 Gospel reading for today, Matthew 5. 43-47

'You have heard that it was said, "You shall love your neighbour and hate your enemy." But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax-collectors do the same? And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

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** Today, we'll be learning about how Jesus loves us and wants us to love others, "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you" (*John 15. 12*).



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

Last week we learned to be encouraged by what Jesus says about those who follow him, (*Matthew 5. 14-16*) and made candles to let our light shine.

Have you enjoyed our choral music this Eastertide? 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 (stmichaelsbsdom@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.

Parish Register for April

We remember in our prayers the family of Beryl Jones, whose ashes were interred in our Garden of Remembrance last month.



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.

TLC this Tuesday, 7th May in the WCC, 2:15pm for 2:30pm – Join 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, Margaret Webb will be our speaker, talking about her work with the charity, Rotary Jaipur Limb.

Holy Communion, Wednesday 8th May, 10am – A service of Holy Communion, in church. Refreshments after the service are held in the WCC.

Tiny Tots, Wednesday 8th May, from 10:45 for 11:15am – Worship for babies/toddlers; with a story, singing and instruments 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.**

Ascension Day, this Thursday 9th May, 7:30pm – All are warmly invited to share in our special Evensong service of Holy Communion, with music and hymns.

Prayers for our Community, Saturday 11th May, 9:30am – A half hour session of informal prayer. All welcome.

Christian Aid Week, 12th-18th May – If you wish to find out more or to make a donation, go to christianaid.org.uk or give via the **Christian Aid Red Bucket in church** at services from 12th May. Why not have fun and try the 2024 CA Quiz with family and friends! Thank you so much. Carole Macdonald.

Services and barbecue lunch for Pentecost, Sunday 19th May – Please note these services in your diary: 8am Holy Communion, 10am Pentecost Praise Service of the Word, 11:15am A simple Book of Common Prayer 'Said' Holy Communion at the High Altar to offer Pentecost Communion. Our coffee time will blend into a celebratory Pentecost barbecue lunch, after coffee and at the conclusion of the BCP service. **Sign up sheets are in the Publicity Area – all are warmly invited!**

APCM, Sunday 26th May after 10am service – Over the coming weeks the APCM documentation will be published on the website from the [PCC page](#). There will be a few hard copies of the papers, along with the finance documents available in the Publicity Area. Any other members who are unable to print their own papers, or read them via the website, please contact Katharine Stanley. **Please email Graziana Maddalozzo (stmichaelsbstreasurer@gmail.com), our Treasurer, with any queries you have about the finance papers in advance of the APCM. Thank you.**

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.

Quiet Days in Albury, next on Thursday 30th May – These popular days of reflection and contemplation in June's home have returned. Places are limited, please contact the Parish Office for more information.

Conversation about Children and Young People – We'll be having a gathering in the Lady Chapel immediately after the 10 am First Sunday service on **2nd June**, for children, young people and their families. We'd love to hear thoughts about what we're now doing with our younger church members, and how this ministry may develop. Further details and publicity to follow, but please note the date! Thank you.

The TLC Club invites you to join them on their annual mystery tour on Tuesday 4th June – "We leave Bishop's Stortford just after 1pm, arriving back around 5:30/6pm. Cost is £25 covering travel and cream tea at our destination". Speak to Rosemary asap or email/call her for more details and to book (r.thomson019@gmail.com / 758389).

Coffee Morning, Saturday 8th June, 10am-12noon – All welcome! Fresh coffee / tea and cakes ... plus a cake stall, a raffle and a good as new / unwanted gift stall. Come and join us for a cuppa! Any helpers and cake bakers would be most appreciated. Please contact Gill.

Love Stortford '24, Monday 10th - Saturday 15th June – The Churches Together event is taking place once again. Would you like to join the carnival procession, litter pick, organise your own project or deliver gifts to schools? Pick up a leaflet in the Publicity Area.

HBW, Monday 5th - Friday 9th August, Windhill21 – This year's theme is 'There's a world out there'. We already have over 280 children signed up! Child registration will stay open until 27th May ... but we have fewer than 40 adults signed up so far (last year we had 85)...so we really need more helpers: please prayerfully consider volunteering. [Registration for children and volunteer sign up here.](#)

Small part-time job available – We are looking for a cleaner for the WCC: 5 hours a week, flexible hours. If you're interested, please contact Gill or Claire.

St Albans Diocesan Synod Elections – Elections to the Diocesan Synod by the Houses of Laity and Clergy in the Deanery Synods for the triennium 2024-2027 will be held between 1st May and 15th July 2024 this year. Please see the noticeboard for more information and speak to Derwyn, if you'd value his recollections of serving on the Synod.

The Rev'd Derwyn Williams (Vicar)	899261	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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