



NO SERVICE AT 8am
10am Parish Communion, in church

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

Collect for The Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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.

The Apostles' Creed

From 8th September to 8th December inclusive our services will feature hymns, readings, prayers and preaching enabling us to explore articles of the Apostles' Creed. Hopefully our worship will take us a bit more deeply into what we believe, why it matters, and how it can shape our lives. The Creed series will be interspersed with our usual Autumn festivals (e.g. Michaelmas and Harvest).

This week we begin with 'I believe in God, the Father Almighty'.

A Psalm for today, Psalm 103. 8-end

Refrain: The Lord is full of compassion and mercy

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and of great kindness.

He will not always accuse us, neither will he keep his anger for ever.

He has not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness. **[R]**

For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is his mercy upon those who fear him.

As far as the east is from the west, so far has he set our sins from us.

As a father has compassion on his children,

so is the Lord merciful towards those who fear him. **[R]**

For he knows of what we are made; he remembers that we are but dust.

Our days are but as grass; we flourish as a flower of the field;

For as soon as the wind goes over it, it is gone, and its place shall know it no more.

But the merciful goodness of the Lord is from of old

and endures for ever on those who fear him,

and his righteousness on children's children; **[R]**

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

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

A Gospel reading for today, Matthew 6. 7-15

'When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

'Pray then in this way:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one.

For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you; but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.'

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 most weeks.** Today, we continue a short series about David, with David and Jonathan (*1 Samuel 18. 1-5*).

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

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.

Giving Season

Please can **any last financial responses** be given to the Parish Office, or placed in the post box in the corner of the North Porch **by this Sunday 8th September.**

Any **final responses of Time and Talents** can be made by signing up on the sheets in the Church Publicity Area or the WCC Charnley Hall, **also by Sunday 8th September.**

Thank you for responses which have come in and for thinking and praying about all the ways in which we can, together, resource and contribute to our Church. Derwyn.



Last week we heard about David the Shepherd boy (*1 Samuel 16. 1-13*), learning how God loves and cares for us.



Newsletter and Notices



Holy Communion, Wednesday 11th September, 10am – A service of Holy Communion, in church. Refreshments after the service are held in the WCC.

St Michael's Tiny Tots is looking to relaunch soon on a new day and at a new time: Thursdays at 12:30pm – Held weekly at the Windhill Churches Centre, Tiny Tots will be for parents/carers and 0yrs - preschool children during term time, plus older children/ siblings are very welcome during inset days and school holidays. We're proposing around 1.5-2 hours duration, starting with playtime and tea/coffee, then songs, stories, activities and a prayer. We'd love some occasional help from other members of the congregation, to assist with refreshments, and support the parental leadership. If you could consider lending a hand on a monthly basis, please speak to the Vicar, a Churchwarden, or Heather Tanner.

St Michael's Bellingers are taking part in Arts in East Herts – with bellringing demonstrations on **Thursdays 12th and 19th September**. Visitors are invited to call in any time between 7.45pm and 9pm. St Michael's parishioners will be particularly welcome if they would like to come up and see what we do.

Holly Fair preparation meeting, Thursday 12th September, 7:30pm, WCC – This year the **Holly Fair will be 7th December 10am-1pm**, to coincide with the town Christmas Fayre. As well as people who are happy to run stalls, we would welcome anyone to the meetings with ideas on publicity and anyone who would like to take a role in the overall organisation. If you are happy to run your stall but unable to come to the meeting please let us know. Thanks from Val A, Carole M, Mireille B, Claire C and the rest of CSG.

Prayers for our Community, Saturday 14th September, 9:30-10am – All welcome.

Bike 'n Hike 2024, Saturday 14th September 9am-5pm – It would be great to offer a cold drink and a smile to visitors here that day too: so **please sign up if you can help for an hour. We only have one person on the list to help so far!** Sponsorship packs are also available if you'd like to take an active part.

Open meeting about Lay Leaders of Worship – You may know that we've been considering creating a team of Lay Leaders of Worship (LLW) at St Michael's, to contribute to future provision of Sunday Worship. This was raised at the APCM in May, for instance. There will be an Open Meeting on the subject on **Monday 16th September, at 7.30 pm**, in the WCC. If you'd like to come to find out more, whether you might be considering offering to become a LLW, or you have some ideas or questions about the proposal, you'll be very welcome. The Diocesan Handbook on LLW ([link here](#) and via the forthcoming events page on our website) may be of interest, if you're thinking of coming to the meeting or would just like to know more. Please hold this in your prayers. Thank you, Derwyn.

A Sunday Recital, 15th September 2024, 3pm – At our next recital we welcome Boglárka György and Amy Butler (Violin and Piano). Please visit our [Music at St Michael's page](#) for a glimpse of the programme and a short biography of both artists.



Craft group meets on alternate Mondays in the WCC from 10am-12noon, next on Monday 16th September. All welcome!

St Michael's Patronal Festival Lunch, Sunday 29th September – All are welcome to join us for a celebratory lunch in the WCC after the 10am service. **Sign up sheets are in the Publicity Area – all are warmly invited!**

TLC Tuesdays, next meeting Tuesday 1st October in the WCC, 2:15pm for 2:30pm – Join tea and talk and a regular 10/15 minute presentation on wide ranging interests. In October, we'll have a talk about a Punjabi wedding.

Harvest, Sunday 6th October – We'll celebrate Harvest at 8am and 10am services. There will be a Red Bucket for the Bishop's Appeal, *Thrive: Nutrition and Sustainable Agriculture in Sri Lanka*. This year the diocese is partnering with The Leprosy Mission to support the Kaveri Kala Manram (KKM) project in Sri Lanka. The country is suffering from a huge economic crisis and families are struggling with soaring prices and shortages of food and fuel. For those affected by leprosy, life is especially hard, with the added burden of being shunned by their community. The Appeal will support a project run by Reverend Joshua, who helps families affected by leprosy to start their own vegetable gardens. We also requesting food gifts for Bishop's Stortford Food Bank.

We are running a Bereavement Journey Course – It is for anyone bereaved at any time; with films and discussion groups. It will be **on Saturday mornings starting 19th October**. If you are interested and would value a preliminary conversation please contact Alison Jordan. Alisonfaith1111@gmail.com

Paid Opportunity: Clerk to the Governors – St Michael's School has a vacancy for the Clerk to the Governors (and other roles), supporting governors by preparing for, attending and minuting meetings up to six times per year (equivalent to two hours per week). Please speak to Mark Johnson / Val Ashwood or visit <https://stmichaelsjmi.herts.sch.uk/about-us/job-opportunities/> to find out more.

Fundraising for (recycled plastic) benches for our WCC garden – Any last donations may be given by bank transfer to the PCC account referencing 'benches' or please see me/churchwardens **by this Sunday 8th September**. Huge thanks again, Katharine

Thanks from Justin & Heather – for your prayers and support for Mikey's Baptism last Sunday. It was a very precious day.

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)	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	
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