

St Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford

Newsletter and Notices

Sunday 13th October 2024 Twentieth Sunday after Trinity



NO SERVICE AT 8am 10am Parish Communion 12:30pm Holy Baptism 6pm Choral Evensong for St Luke's Tide

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

The Apostles' Creed

Our services until 8th December 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.

This week we continue with, 'I believe in Jesus Christ, who suffered under Pontius Pilate, crucified, dead and buried'.

Collect for The Twentieth Sunday after Trinity

God, the giver of life, whose Holy Spirit wells up within your Church: by the Spirit's gifts equip us to live the gospel of Christ and make us eager to do your will, that we may share with the whole creation the joys of eternal life; 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 Psalm for today, Psalm 22 Refrain: Be not far from me, O Lord.

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me,

and are so far from my salvation, from the words of my distress?

O my God, I cry in the daytime, but you do not answer;

and by night also, but I find no rest.

Yet you are the Holy One, enthroned upon the praises of Israel.

Our forebears trusted in you; they trusted, and you delivered them.

They cried out to you and were delivered;

they put their trust in you and were not confounded. [R]

But as for me, I am a worm and no man, scorned by all and despised by the people.

All who see me laugh me to scorn;

they curl their lips and wag their heads, saying,

'He trusted in the Lord; let him deliver him;

let him deliver him, if he delights in him.'

But it is you that took me out of the womb and laid me safe upon my mother's breast.

On you was I cast ever since I was born;

you are my God even from my mother's womb.

Be not far from me, for trouble is near at hand and there is none to help. [R]

A Gospel reading for today, Mark 15, 33-46

When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice, 'Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?' which means, 'My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?' When some of the bystanders heard it, they said, 'Listen, he is calling for Elijah.' And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to him to drink, saying, 'Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down.' Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, 'Truly this man was God's Son!'

There were also women looking on from a distance; among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. These used to follow him and provided for him when he was in Galilee; and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem. When evening had come, and since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he had been dead for some time. When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. Then Joseph bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb.

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 return to our series on God's

Last Sunday we collected 'treasures' from the churchyard as we celebrated our Harvest of plenty and thanked God for the wonder of creation.

Champions as we learn about Timothy (Acts 16. 1-5, 1 and 2 Timothy).

Our <u>Children & Young People</u> 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 (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.

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

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

Choral Evensong, Sunday 13th October at 6pm – This lovely service will have a St Luke's tide theme with a focus on healing. Prayers with a laying on of hands for healing will be available at the end of the service.

Our craft group meets on alternate Mondays in the WCC from 10am to 12noon, next on Monday 14th October. All welcome! We might bring along our own current crafting hobby and sometimes one of the group shares a craft. We usually prepare items for sale at the annual St Michael's Church Holly Fair.

Holy Communion, Wednesday 16th October, 10am - A service of Holy Communion, in church. Refreshments after the service are held in the WCC.

Tiny Tots: new way, new day, new time! Thursdays from 12:30-2/2:30pm - Held weekly in the Windhill Churches Centre, Tiny Tots is for parents/carers and babies/preschoolers in term time; and older children/siblings are very welcome during inset days and school holidays. We start with playtime and tea/coffee, then songs, stories, activities and a prayer. There's easy buggy access and baby change facilities. It's also ok to be late, we understand We look forward to welcoming you soon!

Prayers for our Community, Saturday 19th October, 9:30am – A half hour session of informal prayer. All welcome.

Autumn Coffee Morning: Saturday, 19th October at 10am - 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.

Forthcoming 8am services - We'll celebrate Holy Communion at 8am on Sunday 20th October, 3rd and 17th November and 1st December.

A short presentation from the Leprosy Mission, Sunday 20th October – The Charities Support Group has arranged a talk by Matt Henderson, our relatively new area contact. after coffee in the WCC. Please come and find out about this charity we support.

Quiet Days in Albury, next on Thursday 31st October – These popular days of reflection and contemplation in June's home have returned. Places are limited, please contact the Parish Office for more information.

Commemoration All Souls' Service, 10am, Sunday 3rd November – All are welcome to this reflective service, with readings, choral music, prayers and lighting of candles.

TLC Tuesdays, next meeting Tuesday 5th November in the WCC, 2:15pm for 2:30pm - Join tea and talk and a regular 10/15 minute presentation on wide ranging interests. This month we welcome June Milne, past secretary of the historic Dunmow Flitch Trials.

Quiz Night, Saturday 9th November, 7 for 7:30pm prompt in the WCC - Tickets are £15 which includes a fish and chip supper (or chicken), a raffle and funds being raised for The Holy Trinity Night Shelter. Please bring your own drinks and glasses. Tables of 8 as a group or individuals welcomed. Tickets from Angela Weeks, Caroline Galway, Lynn Graseman and Rosemary Thomson as soon as possible.

Remembrance Sunday, 10th November – During the 10am Parish Communion service we will be gathering round the War Memorial in the churchyard for our Remembrance Ceremonies. Our Godly Play session will include Remembrance crafts to be placed at the foot of the memorial.

Message from Company at Christmas - If anyone would like to help on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day there is a meeting at the Methodist Church on 28th November at 7:30pm. Also, if anyone knows of a single person who would either like to join us for Christmas lunch, entertainment and afternoon tea or a meal delivered to their home please ask them to contact Deb Hunt: 07900 916243 / deb@mrhunt.co.uk.

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://stmichaelsimi.herts.sch.uk/aboutus/job-opportunities/ to find out more.

A request for toys for Tiny Tots – We are looking for excellent quality toys for 3-4 year olds, and games for older children for inset days/holidays. Please speak to Heather Tanner.

CTBS - A reminder that there are lots of events and courses in our churches locally. Visit the CTBS website or see their Facebook account.

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.

PRAYER, COUNSEL AND SUPPORT

If parishioners would value the prayers, counsel and support of the church, in time of need for themselves or others on their hearts, please do reach out to the ministry team. Do speak to us in person at church services and events, or use the contact details below. Thank you.

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The Rev'd Derwyn Williams (Vicar) The Rev'd Derek Hinge (PTO)

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