

St Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford

Newsletter and Notices

Sunday 10th November 2024

Third Sunday before Advent • Remembrance Sunday



NO SERVICE AT 8am

10am Parish Communion for Remembrance Sunday, in Church including Remembrance Ceremonies at the War Memorial in our Churchyard

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

12:30pm Holy Baptism

The Apostles' Creed

Our services until 1st 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: ascended into heaven, who sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty.'

Collect for Remembrance Sunday

Almighty Father, whose will is to restore all things in your beloved Son, the King of all: govern the hearts and minds of those in authority, and bring the families of the nations, divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin, to be subject to his just and gentle rule; 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 110

Refrain: The Lord is king and has put on glorious apparel.

The Lord said to my lord, 'Sit at my right hand,

until I make your enemies your footstool.'

May the Lord stretch forth the sceptre of your power;

rule from Zion in the midst of your enemies.

'Noble are you on this day of your birth;

on the holy mountain, from the womb of the dawn

the dew of your new birth is upon you.' [R]

The Lord has sworn and will not retract:

'You are a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.'

The king at your right hand, O Lord,

shall smite down kings in the day of his wrath. [R]

In all his majesty, he shall judge among the nations,

smiting heads over all the wide earth.

He shall drink from the brook beside the way; therefore shall he lift high his head. [R]

A Gospel reading for today, Luke 24, 44-52

Jesus said to the disciples, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.' Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy;

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. This week our messages come from John 15, Matthew 5, and James 3, as we consider the themes of love and peace. We'll be making poppies so that the children can share in the Remembrance Ceremonies. later in the service.

Our <u>Children & Young People</u> website page has loads of activities to help young people get to know the person of Jesus.

Last week, we found out more about ourselves as we weighed and measured each other, recorded other facts and drew our pictures. We learned how much God knows and loves us (*Psalm 139*) and how he wants us to knows him too.

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.

This Sunday 10th November is Remembrance Sunday - 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.

Our craft group meets on alternate Mondays in the WCC from 10am to 12noon. next on this Monday 11th November. 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 13th November, 10am - A service of Holy Communion, in church. Refreshments after the service are held in the WCC.

Holly Fair, Saturday 7th December - Boxes for donations to the Holly Fair will be available from Wednesday 13th November. We are collecting chocolate. unwanted gifts, bottles and items for raffle hampers (list in Publicity Area). If you are able to donate a raffle prize, or obtain one from a local business, these are also welcome (we will advertise list of prize donors). Also please invite your friends and neighbours to the event to help make it a success.

Tiny Tots, 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, and you're welcome to bring a packed lunch if you like. It's also ok to be late, we understand! We look forward to welcoming you soon!

Prayers for our Community, Saturday 16th November, 9:30-10am – All welcome.

Forthcoming 8am services – We'll celebrate Holy Communion at 8am on Sundays 17th November and 1st December.

Our next recital features Natalie Bleicher, Sunday 24th November, 3pm - Natalie is a classical pianist and composer living in Hertfordshire. She has a particular passion for contemporary music and performs new works regularly. She studied music at New College, Oxford and composition at King's College London. We look forward to welcoming her for a recital of exciting and accessible contemporary works.

Holly ring making – We're starting our holly ring making in preparation for the Holly Fair. Mossing up from 9am 26th November, Ring making 2nd, 3rd and afternoon of 4th December. Sign-up sheets on the welcome desk or speak with Peter or Claire.

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 28th November - These popular days of reflection and contemplation in June's home have returned. Places are limited, please contact the Parish Office for more information.

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 a person who would like to join us for Christmas lunch, entertainment and afternoon tea or have a meal delivered to their home please ask them to contact Deb Hunt: 07900 916243 / deb@mrhunt.co.uk.

Travelling Crib - Once again we are delighted that our travelling crib will be making its way around the parish during Advent; beginning with a blessing at the 10am **service on 1st December**. Hosting the figures for a night is a wonderful chance to share with children the anticipation of Christ's birth and fellowship with other families as the crib is passed on ... and a moment of stillness in an otherwise busy Advent. Please chat to Katharine if you'd like to know more about it and to sign up for a night.

TLC Tuesdays, next meeting Tuesday 3rd December in the WCC, 2:15pm for 2:30pm - Join tea and talk and a regular 10/15 minute presentation on wide ranging interests. This coming month, since she was unable to attend last week, we welcome June Milne, past secretary of the historic Dunmow Flitch Trials.

Charity Donations from St Michael's congregation - After our Patronal festival meal in September, £143.50 was collected and donated to The Bishop's Stortford Child Contact Centre. The Bishop's Harvest Appeal total for the Leprosy Mission (£376.46) was donated to their project in Sri Lanka. Following the excellent talk by Matt from the Leprosy Mission, including highlighting the Nepal emergency, our CSG giving of £500 and money donated then went to that appeal. Thanks to everyone for their generosity.

Mary's Meals Foreign Currency Collection - There will be a collection box in church during services for all your foreign currency, no matter how old, obscure or its value. There are also individual envelopes available for you to take home and fill, if you prefer.

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.

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

The Rev'd June Knight (PTO) Rob Klincke (Reader)

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