



8am Holy Communion, in Church

10am Service of the Word, in Church & [Zoom](#)

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

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 #

Collect for The Third Sunday of Advent

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A psalm for today, Psalm 146. 4-10

Refrain: The Lord shall reign for ever.

Happy are those who have the God of Jacob for their help,
whose hope is in the Lord their God;

Who made heaven and earth, the sea and all that is in them;

who keeps his promise for ever;

Who gives justice to those that suffer wrong and bread to those who hunger. **[R]**

The Lord looses those that are bound; the Lord opens the eyes of the blind;

The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous;

The Lord watches over the stranger in the land; he upholds the orphan and widow;

but the way of the wicked he turns upside down.

The Lord shall reign for ever,

your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.

Alleluia, and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace. **[R]**

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.

A Gospel reading for today, Luke 3. 7-18

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, 'You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.' And the crowds asked him, 'What then should we do?' In reply he said to them, 'Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.' Even tax-collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, 'Teacher, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.' Soldiers also asked him, 'And we, what should we do?' He said to them, 'Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.'

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

Come and share our short session for children and young people during our Sunday 10am service EVERY WEEK!

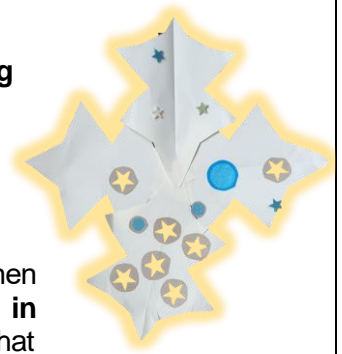
We invite children of all ages, with their adults, to come into the Lady Chapel during part of the service, and share in A Godly Play (a short visual storytelling of scriptures, with wondering questions, stories, crafts, puzzles, and even some acting for those that want ... for all ages to share together; then various age related activities). **We continue our series in Advent: God is Love.** We take time to pause and ponder that

God loves us so much that he became a human being. This week the theme is *Happy birthday, Jesus!* as we enjoy God's love for us (*John 3. 16*).

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.

Children's Activities in the Lady Chapel at Christmas – From Christmas Eve to 3rd January we'll be having our very own Nativity 'festival' with lots of different Nativity Scenes ... from Godly Play to St Michael's School. There will also be a prayer space, puzzle activity sheets, and craft materials to make the Wise Men to complete your own scene.



Last week we celebrated that Jesus came for everyone (Isaiah 60. 1-3; Matthew 2. 1-12) making a beautiful star for all to see.



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.

Forthcoming 8am services – We'll celebrate Holy Communion at 8am **this Sunday 15th December**, then 5th and 19th January and 2nd and 16th February.

Holy Communion, Wednesday 18th December, 10am – A service of Holy Communion, in church. Refreshments after the service are held in the WCC.

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 21st December, 9:30-10am – All welcome.

Churches Together will be singing carols in Jackson Square on Saturday 21st December from 11am-12noon following a rehearsal and prayer in St Michaels from 10am. We will be collecting for the Night Shelter. If you can hold a tune, or could hand out information about what Christmas is truly about and what churches are doing, please join us to make this a powerful witness in our town. Email Nathan for more information at churchestogethercarols@gmail.com

2025 starts at St Michael's with some worship – There will be Holy Communion at **10am on Wednesday 1st January 2025.**

Advent and Christmas Services at St Michael's – [All details are on our website](#) and on flyers in the Publicity Area but note our Service of Nine Lessons and Carols at 6pm next Sunday 22nd December, Holy Communion at 8am, Crib Service at 3:30pm and Midnight Service at 11pm (with Choir Carols from 10:30pm) on Christmas Eve. We'll celebrate Parish Communion at 10am on Christmas Day.

Our craft group meets on alternate Mondays in the WCC from 10am to 12noon – All welcome! We might bring along our own current crafting hobby and sometimes one of the group shares a craft. We next meet, after a Christmas break, **Monday 6th January.**

TLC Tuesdays, next meeting Tuesday 7th January in the WCC, 2:15pm for 2:30pm – Join tea and talk and a regular 10/15 minute presentation on wide ranging interests. Robert Oliver will be our speaker next month, on a subject of his choice.

Quiet Days in Albury, next on Thursday 30th January – Places are limited at these days of reflection and contemplation in June's home; do contact the Office for more information.

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.

St Albans Cursillo is part of a movement within the Anglican church which helps to strengthen our faith and witness, as many St Michael's members have found. Please see the blue leaflets in the Publicity Area for more information. We are holding our **next weekend away at Pleshey from 21st to 23rd March 2025** and if you are interested, please contact John Emmett (johnemmett2017@gmail.com).

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.

Postage stamps for charity – Remember to save your used stamps this Christmas and put them in the bucket in the Publicity Area to go to charity. Please ensure that the stamps have a one inch paper envelope border, otherwise they cannot be used!

Company at Christmas Urgent !! We are still short of drivers to collect and return guests for Company at Christmas. If you can help us this year, please contact Steve Dale (07769 908777) or email: companyatchristmas@gmail.com Many thanks for your help. **ALSO, do sign up to help in other ways if you can! Details in the Publicity Area and our [website](#).**

The Charities Support Group would like to thank everyone who worked hard to make the Holly Fair a big success. We were pleased to see so many people brave the weather to support it and have made approximately £3,600. (£600 more than last year's total). There was a warm, welcoming atmosphere including carol singing led by a group from the Choir.

Giant Christmas Card – Once again the Giant Card will give everyone the chance to send Christmas Greetings to their St Michael's friends, and instead of incurring postal charges making a donation to The Children's Society. The card will be displayed in the Publicity Area on Sundays and Wednesdays. Many thanks for your support.

Donating to the Food Bank – Details on our [website](#) and church noticeboard. You might also wish to consider a 'reverse Advent Calendar' – donating each day in Advent.

Handmade soap – Bars of scented soap are available in WCC from Ray Schone after services up to 22nd December. For donations of £2.50 upwards, please consider £5 if you can - to support refugees at Dzaleka refugee camp in Malawi.

Paintings by Margaret Blascos – There is a selection of paintings in the WCC, available until 22nd December. The Blascos family has kindly offered them for donations to St Michael's.

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 Emeritus)	833523	Parish Office	01279 654416
Vicar's Email: stmichaelsbvicar@gmail.com		Email: church@saintmichaelweb.org.uk	
Charity Registration No. 1130646		Website: www.saintmichaelweb.org.uk	



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