



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 Epiphany

O God, who by the leading of a star manifested your only Son to the peoples of the earth: mercifully grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face; 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 115. 1-8

Refrain: The Lord has been mindful of us and he will bless us.

Not to us, Lord, not to us, but to your name give the glory,
for the sake of your loving mercy and truth.

Why should the nations say, 'Where is now their God?'

As for our God, he is in heaven; he does whatever he pleases.

Their idols are silver and gold, the work of human hands. **[R]**

They have mouths, but cannot speak;

eyes have they, but cannot see;

They have ears, but cannot hear;

noses have they, but cannot smell;

They have hands, but cannot feel; feet have they, but cannot walk;
not a whisper do they make from their throats.

Those who make them shall become like them

and so will all who put their trust in them. **[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.

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.

A Gospel reading for today, Matthew 2. 1-11

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: "And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel." ' Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

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). **This week we focus on a new topic Talking with God.** In anticipation of next week's service theme of The Baptism of Christ, we learn about John baptising Jesus and discover how God can help us, (*Matthew 3. 1-17*).

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 (stmichaelsbdom@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.





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 5th January**, then 19th January and 2nd and 16th February.

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.

Holy Communion, Wednesday 8th January, 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 11th January, 9:30-10am – All welcome.



Piano Recital, Sunday 26th January at 3pm – Neil Crossland is a distinguished British pianist, composer and recording artist. The recital will include music by Vivaldi, Beethoven, and by Neil himself. Find out more, with programme notes, [on our website here](#). Free admission, retiring collection, tea and homemade cakes afterwards.

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.

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 Retreat House from 21st to 23rd March 2025** and if you are interested, please contact John Emmett (johnemmett2017@gmail.com).

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!

Mary's Meals “would like to thank everyone in the parish for their generosity in response to our Foreign Currency initiative. It raised a terrific £239.24 which means Mary's Meals will be able to feed 12 children one good meal every school day for a whole year because of your support. Please continue to pray for the work of Mary's Meals. God bless you all”. CSG still have an ongoing collection if anyone still has currency to donate. A further amount can be sent once we have 2kg of currency. Please give donations to Martyn Greenwood, Peter Rixson, Claire Conquest, or Val Ashwood.

Thank You in huge measure to all who contributed to our Advent and Christmas worship in December: to wardens and sidespeople, singers, bellringers and musicians, all who cleaned the church and those who arranged hospitality, flowers, the crib and the tree. Thank you to everyone who contributed to worship to praise God at this special time. Thank you too from the Clergy for all our Christmas cards, messages and gifts. Blessings for the new year, Derwyn.

The Charities Support Group is looking for new members – We'd like to find a Deputy Treasurer and Minutes taker but anyone who is interested in charities and the role of our church in supporting them is welcome. Involvement in the Holly Fair is part of the role, as well as four evening meetings a year when we discuss the distribution of the money to charities. Our first meeting of 2025 is 16th January. Please see Val Ashwood, Martyn Greenwood, Gary Jones, Angela Weeks or another group member if you are interested.

Parking At Southmill Arts – Please be aware that if you are visiting South Mill Arts Centre and need to park there, first you need to register car registration details on the screen at the reception area - get a receptionist to help you with this. So PLEASE BE AWARE if you have done everything correctly, and you still receive a parking charge, please see or speak to the South Mill Arts Manager as soon as possible. Pat Woodward (recently fined by mistake, but retraction thankfully achieved.)

Travelling Crib sheep – We hope that you and your families enjoyed sharing in the Crib during Advent! If you have held onto your sheep over Christmas, would you be good enough to return it to Katharine (or put it in the porch post box) as soon as possible? Many thanks!

Holly Rings – If you bought a Holly Ring at the Holly Fair, please could you return just the wire ring and pine cones to be recycled to help save expenses for next time. Thank you.

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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