



Newsletter and Notices



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 Epiphany

Almighty God, whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power; 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 36. 5-9

Refrain: With you, O God, is the well of life.

Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens
and your faithfulness to the clouds.

Your righteousness stands like the strong mountains,
your justice like the great deep;
you, Lord, shall save both man and beast.

How precious is your loving mercy, O God!

All mortal flesh shall take refuge under the shadow of your wings.

They shall be satisfied with the abundance of your house;
they shall drink from the river of your delights.

For with you is the well of life and in your light shall we see light.

All: With you, O God, is the well of life.

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, John 2. 1-11

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

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 theme *Talking with God*. This week, we discover how prayer is a two-way process: we hear that God wants us to talk with him and that he listens to us, (*Luke 11. 5-13*).

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 (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.



Last week we heard about Jesus talking with God and learned to use Jesus' words to talk and listen to God, (*Luke 11. 1-4, Matthew 6. 5-15*) We learned actions for the Lord's Prayer and began little books to keep, with our own version.



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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.

Forthcoming 8am services – We'll celebrate Holy Communion at 8am **this Sunday 19th January**, then Sundays 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 tomorrow, **Monday 20th January**.

Holy Communion, Wednesday 22nd 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 25th January, 9:30-10am – All welcome.



Piano Recital, next 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.

Churches Together in Bishop's Stortford United Service – also Sunday 26th January at 3pm at the Baptist Church.

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.

TLC Tuesdays, next meeting Tuesday 4th February in the WCC, 2:15pm for 2:30pm – Join tea and talk and a regular 10/15 minute presentation on wide ranging interests. Bill Macdonald will be our speaker next month, on a subject of his choice.

Lunchtime Recitals, Thursdays 6th, 13th, 27th February and 6th March, 1:30pm – We are delighted to welcome back students from Bishop's Stortford College to St Michael's for a series of half hour/forty minute recitals. Free admission, retiring collection.

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.

Donating to the Food Bank – Increased costs of living continue to hit foodbanks hard. Do consider whether you can donate: details on our [website](#) and church noticeboard.

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.

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, please would you 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.

Giant Christmas Card – Thank you to everyone who signed the card and donated to The Children's Society. We raised £196.50 (+ £31.25 in gift aid). Many thanks also to everyone who donated on line. Your generosity will help to support many young people.

A thank you from Company at Christmas, sent to our Charities Support Group – “On behalf of us all at Company at Christmas, we would like to thank you for your generous donation which we used to buy all the turkey crowns and sausages. The day was an enormous success and next year we will celebrate our 40th year”. Deb Hunt, Chairperson

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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