



# Newsletter and Notices

## NO SERVICE AT 8AM

### 10am Parish Communion, in Church

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

## Collect for The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

## A Psalm for today, Psalm 150

**Refrain: Let everything that has breath praise the Lord.**

Alleluia. O praise God in his holiness; praise him in the firmament of his power. Praise him for his mighty acts; praise him according to his excellent greatness. [R] Praise him with the blast of the trumpet; praise him upon the harp and lyre. Praise him with timbrel and dances; praise him upon the strings and pipe. [R] Praise him with ringing cymbals; praise him upon the clashing cymbals. Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Alleluia. [R]

*God of life and love, whose Son was victorious over sin and death, make us alive with his life, that the whole world may resound with your praise; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## An anthem for today, 'The strife is o'er'

*Vulpus*, Arr. Henry George Ley (1887-1962). Ley was the Organist of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford and subsequently Precentor (Director of Music) at Radley College and Eton College.

Text, Originally a 17th-century Latin hymn, "Finita iam sunt proelia"; the popular English-language version is an 1861 translation by the English hymnwriter Francis Pott.

The strife is o'er, the battle done; now is the Victor's triumph won;  
O let the song of praise be sung: Alleluia.  
Death's mightiest powers have done their worst, and Jesus hath his foes dispersed;  
let shouts of praise and joy outburst: Alleluia.  
On the third morn he rose again glorious in majesty to reign;  
O let us swell the joyful strain: Alleluia.  
Lord, by the stripes which wounded thee from death's dread sting thy servants free,  
that we may live, and sing to thee Alleluia.

**The church is open each day, from early morning to mid afternoon.**  
*An opportunity to spend some comforting time in prayer, peace and reflection.*

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2025  
Fourth Sunday of Easter



## A Gospel reading for today, John 10. 22-30

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, 'How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.' Jesus answered, 'I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one.'

## 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 start a short new series, Peter, friend of Jesus;** beginning by finding out that Peter knows who Jesus is, and so can we, (Mark 8. 27-30).



Our [Children & Young People](#) website page has loads of activities to help young people get to know the person of Jesus this Eastertide (including a Lectio Divina each week for young people this Easter season).

## Have you enjoyed our choral music this Easter?

If your child is 7 or over and interested in joining, please contact Nathan Collins ( [stmichaelsbdsdom@gmail.com](mailto:stmichaelsbdsdom@gmail.com) ) We will also be starting choral and organ scholarships for our young people.

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 contact details on the next page. Thank you.



Last week we learned about a journey to Emmaus, (Luke 24. 13. 35) and shared/drew our best Jesus story: Williams's was about Jonah and the whale.



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**Christian Aid Week, 11<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> May** – There will be red buckets and gift envelopes in church, for anyone who would like to make a donation. Your support and kind gifts can protect families and communities from hunger and poverty. Thank you so much.

**Our craft group meets on alternate Mondays in the WCC, 10am - 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 12<sup>th</sup> May**.

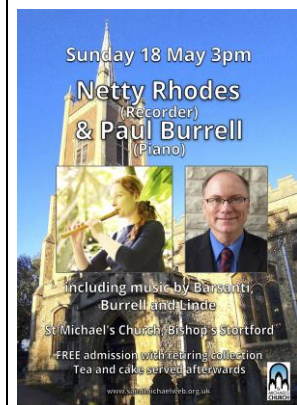
**Holy Communion, Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> May, 10am** – A service of Holy Communion, in church. Refreshments after the service are held in the WCC.

**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 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 17<sup>th</sup> May, 9:30-10am** – A half hour session of informal prayer. All welcome.

**Forthcoming Services using the Book of Common Prayer (1662) – 18<sup>th</sup> May, 11:15am:**  
**Eastertide Prayer Book Communion;** 29<sup>th</sup> May, 7:30pm: Ascension Day Sung Prayer Book Communion; 22<sup>nd</sup> June 6pm: Choral Evensong for St Alban's Day.

**Holy Trinity Night Shelter Presentation, Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May** – During our coffee fellowship after the 10am service we are delighted to welcome Dave Perry, who will tell us more about the work of the Night Shelter and community outreach locally.



**Tower Tours, Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May, 1:30-3pm** – £5 for adults, free for children. Book at bells@saintmichaelweb.org.uk or 07773 572135.

**Recital with Netty Rhodes and Paul Burrell, Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May, 3pm** – All are warmly invited to our next recital, featuring recorder and piano, including music by Barsanti, Burrell and Linde. Please visit our [Music at St Michael's website page](#) for programme notes and biographies (along with details of all forthcoming recitals). Free admission (retiring collection), tea and homemade cakes after.

**Forthcoming 8am services** – We'll celebrate Holy Communion at 8am next on **Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May**, then 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> June, 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> July, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> August.

**Annual Meetings** – Our Vestry Meeting and APCM will be held after worship on the morning of 25<sup>th</sup> May. Over the coming weeks the APCM documentation will be published on the website from the [PCC page](#).



**Quiet Days in Albury, next on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> May** – Places are limited at these days of reflection and contemplation in June's home; contact the Office for more information.

**There won't be a TLC session in the WCC on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June** – A reminder that on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June, our TLC regulars are enjoying a trip out for a cream tea at a surprise venue. We'll be back in July.

**Love Stortford '25, Monday 16<sup>th</sup> – Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> June** – The Churches Together event is taking place once again. Would you like to join the carnival procession (we have 3000 gifts to give!), litter pick or organise your own project? Leaflets are in the Publicity Area.

**HBW 2025, 'Once upon a time...', Monday 4<sup>th</sup> - Friday 8<sup>th</sup> August** – Registration now open for both children and volunteers for this year's event; sign up via the [HBW website](#).

**Are you interested in joining a home group?** Perhaps you'd like to find out about what they can offer? Contact Derwyn in the first instance if you'd like to know more.

**Archivist** – We are looking for someone to take on the church archiving. It is an interesting, important and creative role, which you can make your own, and do in your own time. Please see Gill for details.

**Felsted Aid for Ukraine** – The TLC Club have continued to support the charity following a splendid talk a few months ago and would welcome almost anything that can be sent to help the refugees there. Particularly, they have asked for medical aids, where our NHS do not accept returns (crutches, wheelchairs, support boots etc.) I am more than happy to accept these to forward to the store in Harlow and so speak to me soon. Many thanks Rosemary Thomson (758389 / [r.thomson019@gmail.com](mailto:r.thomson019@gmail.com))

**Christian Basics** – I've had a couple of expressions of interest in a group to think about the basics of the Christian Faith. This could lead on to preparation for baptism and confirmation. I'd like to run 4 1-hour sessions using the 3-2-1 course in the first instance. This could be on Saturday mornings and/or a weekday evening, depending on availability. If you might be interested, or like to know more, do have a word, or email me at [stmichaelsbsvicar@gmail.com](mailto:stmichaelsbsvicar@gmail.com) Thanks, Derwyn.

**Many thanks to all who supported the Quiz on 3<sup>rd</sup> May** raising funds for The Leprosy Mission. Once again a sell out and much enjoyed by all with just over £800 raised and so we are able to send this on via the Charities Support Group to help rebuilding hospitals damaged by recent floods.

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	
<b>Parish Office</b>	<b>01279 654416</b>	Parish Safeguarding Officer: Dotun Akinde	
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