



Newsletter and Notices

8am Holy Communion, in Church
10am Parish Communion, in Church

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

Collect for The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

O God, you declare your almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity: mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace, that we, running the way of your commandments, may receive your gracious promises, and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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 112

Refrain: The righteous will be held in everlasting remembrance.

Alleluia.

Blessed are those who fear the Lord and have great delight in his commandments. Their descendants will be mighty in the land, a generation of the faithful that will be blest. Wealth and riches will be in their house, and their righteousness endures for ever.

Light shines in the darkness for the upright;

gracious and full of compassion are the righteous. **[R]**

It goes well with those who are generous in lending and order their affairs with justice, For they will never be shaken; the righteous will be held in everlasting remembrance.

They will not be afraid of any evil tidings; their heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord. **[R]**

Their heart is sustained and will not fear, until they see the downfall of their foes.

They have given freely to the poor; their righteousness stands fast for ever;

their head will be exalted with honour.

The wicked shall see it and be angry; they shall gnash their teeth in despair;

the desire of the wicked shall perish. **[R]**

Generous God, save us from the meanness that calculates its interest and hoards its earthly gain; as we have freely received, so may we freely give; in the grace of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The church is open each day, from early morning to mid afternoon.

An opportunity to spend some comforting time in prayer, peace and reflection.

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 next page. Thank you.



Sunday 31st August
The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

A Gospel reading for today, Luke 14. 1, 7-14

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honour, he told them a parable. 'When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honour, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, "Give this person your place", and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, "Friend, move up higher"; then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.' He said also to the one who had invited him, 'When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbours, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.'

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

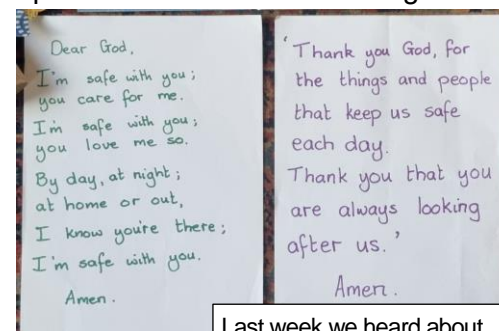
Come and share our short session for children and young people during our Sunday 10am service EVERY WEEK!

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). **Today, we begin a series entitled 'God made the world', discovering how God made light and sky (Genesis 1. 1-8).**

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 (stmichaelsbdsom@gmail.com) We will also be starting choral and organ scholarships for our young people.



Last week we heard about Esther saving God's people (Esther 5-10). learning that we can enjoy feeling safe with God.

Giving Season Responses

Please place responses in the post box in the corner of the North Porch. Thank you for those which have already begun to come in. If you haven't yet received a Giving Season envelope, please take one from the Publicity Area.



St Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford

Newsletter and Notices

Forthcoming 8am services – We'll celebrate Holy Communion at 8am next on this **Sunday 31st August, then Sundays 7th and 21st September.**

Funeral of Norma Symonds – A private service at Holy Trinity this Tuesday 2nd September will be livestreamed at the Methodist Church from midday.

TLC Tuesdays, next meeting this Tuesday 2nd September in the WCC, 2:15pm for 2:30pm. Our speaker in September will be Dave Perry from The Night Shelter. If you have something you could share with us one month, do speak to Rosemary Thomson.

Holy Communion, Wednesday 3rd September, 10am – Refreshments afterwards.

Tiny Tots, Thursdays from 12:30-2/2:30pm, WCC – For parents/carers and babies/preschoolers in term time; plus older children in the holidays. Playtime, tea/coffee, songs, stories, activities and a prayer.

Prayers for our Community, Saturday 6th September, 9:30-10am – All welcome.

Talk after coffee at the 10am service on 7th September – Following a recent meeting about their work, Bill Macdonald will give a short talk about the work of the Stort Valley Schools Trust in local schools. This is one of the many charities supported by the Charities Support Group.

Our craft group meets on alternate Mondays in the WCC, 10am - 12noon. Next on Monday 8th September – All welcome!

The first meeting to start planning the Holly Fair this year is Thursday 11th September at 8pm in WCC. Please come along whether you're new or a regular. We raise money for the charities supported by our Charities Support Group. If you can help but are unable to be at the meeting, please speak to Claire, Carole, Val, Martyn.

Bike 'n Hike 2025, Saturday 13th September 9am-5pm – It would be great to offer a cold drink and a smile to visitors here that day too: so please sign up if you can help for an hour (or perhaps more!).

Forthcoming Services using the Book of Common Prayer (1662) – Sunday 14th September, 6pm: Choral Evensong for Holy Cross Day; **Sunday 26th October, 10am:** BCP Choral Eucharist for Bible/Reformation Sunday.

Organ Recital with Richard Carr, Sunday 21st September, 3pm – All are warmly invited to this next recital. The organ console will be visible to the audience via screen projection. Afterwards, there will also be an opportunity to play our wonderful instrument, regardless of musical experience or ability, as part of the RCO 'Play the Organ Year 2025' initiative. All ages welcome! Free admission (retiring collection), tea and homemade cakes afterwards. Please visit our [Music at St Michael's website page](#) for more details.



Sunday 31st August The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

Quiet Days in Albury, next on Thursday 25th September – Days of reflection and contemplation in June's home; contact the Office for more information.

New PCC Governor for St Michael's School – Would you like to be a school governor? It's a rewarding and important role in a friendly team and we currently have one vacancy for September. There are 7 foundation governors appointed by the PCC at church or St Albans diocese to uphold the Christian ethos of the school as well as taking other responsibilities. See Mark Johnson (chair) or Val Ashwood or email chair@stmichaelsjmi.herts.sch.uk

Clerk for St Michael's School Governors – This is a paid role and involves taking minutes for the 5 Full Governor meetings as well as doing the paperwork for new governor appointments, learning about governance and working with the chair and other governors. See Mark Johnson (Chair) or Val Ashwood or find the full job description and how to apply on the school website job opportunities page [here](#).

Postage stamps and foreign currency collections for charity – Save your used stamps for the bucket in the Publicity Area. The Charities Support Group has an ongoing collection of currency for Mary's Meals.

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.

Communion Music – To help with congregational singing at communion, the Sidespeople have melody versions of some settings available for worshippers. If you'd be helped by having some music, do ask for a score when you come to church.

Holly Fair bulb planting – Please could someone take this on this profitable work for this year's fair? Rosemary Thomson has lots of suitable bowls and a very good contact for hyacinth purchase and would be pleased to help with the initial planting and guidance of what to do from then on. Speak to her on a Wednesday or Sunday.

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
The Rev'd Derek Hinge (PTO) 652173
The Rev'd June Knight (PTO) 07539 058946
Parish Office 01279 654416

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