



# Newsletter and Notices

**8am Holy Communion, in Church**

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

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 #

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

**We encourage prayer today for our Confirmation candidates, Tracey, Heather and Christine, as they are confirmed this evening.**

## Collect for Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

O Almighty God, whose blessed Son called Matthew the tax collector to be an apostle and evangelist: give us grace to forsake the selfish pursuit of gain and the possessive love of riches that we may follow in the way of your Son Jesus Christ, 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 119. 65-72

**Refrain: I know, O Lord, that your judgements are right.**

You have dealt graciously with your servant, according to your word, O Lord.

O teach me true understanding and knowledge,

for I have trusted in your commandments.

Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I keep your word.

You are gracious and do good; O Lord, teach me your statutes. **[R]**

The proud have smeared me with lies,

but I will keep your commandments with my whole heart.

Their heart has become gross with fat, but my delight is in your law.

It is good for me that I have been afflicted, that I may learn your statutes.

The law of your mouth is dearer to me than a hoard of gold and silver. **[R]**

*God our comforter, send your Holy Spirit to reveal your hidden mercy even in our failures and troubles; for the sake 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.*

**Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September**  
**St Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist**



## A Gospel reading for today, Matthew 9. 9-13

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, 'Follow me.' And he got up and followed him.

And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax-collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, 'Why does your teacher eat with tax-collectors and sinners?' But when he heard this, he said, 'Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, "I desire mercy, not sacrifice." For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.'

## 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 continue the series 'God made the world', discovering how God made animals and people (Genesis 1. 20 - 2. 25).**

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](mailto:stmichaelsbsdom@gmail.com) ) We will also be starting choral and organ scholarships for our young people.

## 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.



Last week we heard about how God made the stars and planets (Genesis 1. 14-19). We wrote thank you prayers on stars and laid them on the dark sky as we offered them to God; then made rockets to remind us of the story.

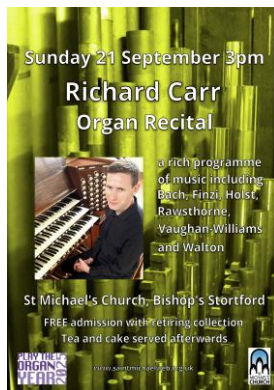


St Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford

# Newsletter and Notices

**Forthcoming 8am services** – We'll celebrate Holy Communion at 8am next on this **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September, then 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> October.**

**Organ Recital with Richard Carr, this Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September, 3pm** – All are warmly invited to this next recital. Richard will play a rich selection of organ music by Bach, Finzi, Holst, Rawsthorne, Vaughan-Williams and Walton. The organ console will be visible to the audience via screen projection. The recital will last approximately 45 minutes. 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 of this and all forthcoming recitals.



**Our craft group meets on alternate Mondays in the WCC, 10am - 12noon. Next on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> September** – All welcome! We might bring along our own current crafting hobby and sometimes one of the group shares a craft.

**Holy Communion, Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> September, 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, 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. Buggy access and baby change available, and you're welcome to bring a packed lunch if you like. It's also ok to be late, we understand!

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

**Prayers for our Community, Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September, 9:30am** – A half hour session of informal prayer. All welcome.

**Patronal Festival Bring & Share Lunch, next Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September** – You are all invited to join us for a celebratory lunch in the WCC after the 10am Patronal Festival service. **Sign up sheets are in the Publicity Area – all are warmly welcome!**

**TLC Tuesdays, next meeting on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October in the WCC, 2:15pm for 2:30pm** Join tea and talk and a regular short presentation on wide-ranging interests. Next month we welcome Paul Burrell, with his talk, 'Musical Mischief - the Art of Creative Composition'.



# Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September St Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist

**Harvest, Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> October** – We'll celebrate Harvest at 8am and 10am services. There will be a Red Bucket for the Bishop's Appeal, *Rewrite their future*. This year the diocese is partnering with Mission Direct who are working towards increasing access to education for some of the world's most under-resourced communities. In Uganda and Zambia alone, Mission Direct will help over 1,170 children this year to have access to a new classroom, and over the next 20 years these new facilities will be used by 23,400 children. We also requesting food gifts for Bishop's Stortford Food Bank.

**Forthcoming Services using the Book of Common Prayer (1662) – Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October, 10am:** BCP Choral Eucharist for Bible/Reformation Sunday.

**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@stmichaelsmi.herts.sch.uk](mailto:chair@stmichaelsmi.herts.sch.uk)

**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.

**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 Churchwarden: Claire Conquest 07944 431873  
The Rev'd Derek Hinge (PTO) 652173  
The Rev'd June Knight (PTO) 07539 058946 Deputy Churchwardens: T Pigram, P Rixson  
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