MICHAEL'S CHURCH

Newsletter and Notices

Sunday 19th October The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity



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

Collect for The Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us your gift of faith that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to that which is before, we may run the way of your commandments and win the crown of everlasting joy; 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 119. 97-104

Refrain: Give me life, O Lord, according to your word.

Lord, how I love your law! All the day long it is my study.

Your commandments have made me wiser than my enemies,

for they are ever with me.

I have more understanding than all my teachers,

for your testimonies are my meditation.

I am wiser than the aged, because I keep your commandments. [R]

I restrain my feet from every evil way, that I may keep your word.

I have not turned aside from your judgements,

for you have been my teacher.

How sweet are your words on my tongue!

They are sweeter than honey to my mouth.

Through your commandments I get understanding;

therefore I hate all lying ways. [R]

Lord Christ,

as we sit at your feet, teach us your living way;

for you are our Word and Wisdom,

one God with the Father and the Holy Spirit,

now and for ever. Amen.

Gospel reading for today, Luke 18. 1-8

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, 'In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, "Grant me justice against my opponent." For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, "Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming." And the Lord said, 'Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?'

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 also have an older group breakout session most weeks. Today, we continue our series learning all about

ting for Last week we learned about Noah

Last week we learned about Noah and his special boat (Genesis 6. 9-22); we all loved playing with both the knitted and wooden Noah's Ark and all the animals.

Noah, 'God is good', hearing about Noah and the flood (Genesis 7.1 – 8.12).

Our <u>Children & Young People</u> 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.

Details of all services and events are available on the <u>Calendar</u> 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 next page. Thank you.

St Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford

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Forthcoming 8am services – We'll celebrate Holy Communion at 8am this Sunday **19th October**, then 2nd, 16th and 30th November.

Talk by Embrace ME - The talk about the work of the charity Embrace the Middle East, scheduled for this Sunday 19th October, will not now be taking place at that time.

Our craft group meets on alternate Mondays in the WCC, 10am - 12noon. Next meeting tomorrow, Monday 20th October - All welcome! We might bring along our own current crafting hobby and sometimes one of the group shares a craft.

Holy Communion, Wednesday 22nd October, 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!

Prayers for our Community, Saturday 25th October, 9:30-10am – All welcome.

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

Quiet Days in Albury, next on Thursday 30th October - Days of reflection and contemplation in June's home; contact the Parish Office for more information.

Commemoration All Souls' Service, 10am, Sunday 2nd November - All are welcome to this reflective service, with readings, choral music, prayers and lighting of candles. If you would like loved ones to be remembered by name, enter their names CLEARLY IN CAPITALS in the book by the Lady Chapel entrance and please come to the service if you can. (It will be transmitted by Zoom also).

Holly Fair planning meeting, Sunday 2nd November – Upstairs in WCC after 10am service. The Holly Fair is on 6th December. If you know anyone who could donate a raffle prize please speak to Carole Macdonald or Angela Weeks. We'll make Holly Rings as usual the week before the fair. Plans are going well but we could always do with more help. All proceeds go to charities. Speak to Val, Carole or Claire.

TLC Tuesdays, next meeting on Tuesday 4th November 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 Peter Watson, with his talk, 'Working Abroad'.

Remembrance Sunday, 9th November - During the 10am Parish Communion service we will be gathering round the War Memorial in the churchyard for our Remembrance Ceremonies. Our Godly Play session will include Remembrance crafts to be placed at the foot of the memorial.

At worship on Safeguarding Sunday (16th November) we will seek God's grace to make us ever more a holy, trustworthy, compassionate community, where those who are vulnerable are respected, cared for and protected. Please come and join in our prayers that day. We'll also be sharing information about what Safeguarding means here at St Michael's, and how, in varied ways, we can all be involved. You may like to visit our website for an initial look at Safeguarding in our Parish. Thank you, Derwyn and Dotun (PSO).

Invitation for readers, Sunday 30th November at 10am – Please email the Parish Office if you'd like to read at our special Advent Service.

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@stmichaelsimi.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.

We have a wonderful band of cleaners and are now looking for extras – We have two groups, and it would mean cleaning once every eight weeks. We meet on the final Saturday of the month from 10-11am or earlier if preferred.

Churches Together in Bishops Stortford need a secretary! Can you help? Please visit the CTBS website or see our noticeboards for details.

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

The Rev'd Derwyn Williams (Vicar) The Rev'd Derek Hinge (PTO) The Rev'd June Knight (PTO)

Vicar's Email: stmichaelsbsvicar@gmail.com

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