



8am Holy Communion, in Church

10am An Advent Sequence, in Church & [Zoom](#)

A sequence of readings, prayers, hymns and choral music for Advent Sunday

You are welcome to share in our worship in the following ways:

1. Come to Church All are welcome!

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 First Sunday of Advent

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and to put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility; that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him 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 16

Refrain: The Lord is at my right hand; I shall not fall.

Preserve me, O God, for in you have I taken refuge;

I have said to the Lord, 'You are my lord, all my good depends on you.'

All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, upon those who are noble in heart.

Though the idols are legion that many run after, their drink offerings of blood I will not offer, neither make mention of their names upon my lips.

The Lord himself is my portion and my cup; in your hands alone is my fortune.

My share has fallen in a fair land; indeed, I have a goodly heritage. **[R]**

I will bless the Lord who has given me counsel,

and in the night watches he instructs my heart.

I have set the Lord always before me; he is at my right hand; I shall not fall.

Wherefore my heart is glad and my spirit rejoices; my flesh also shall rest secure.

For you will not abandon my soul to Death, nor suffer your faithful one to see the Pit.

You will show me the path of life; in your presence is the fullness of joy

and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore. **[R]**

Give to us, Lord Christ, the fullness of grace,

your presence and your very self,

for you are our portion and our delight,

now and for ever. Amen.



Gospel reading for today, John 16. 16-24

Jesus said to his disciples, 'A little while, and you will no longer see me, and again a little while, and you will see me.' Then some of his disciples said to one another, 'What does he mean by saying to us, "A little while, and you will no longer see me, and again a little while, and you will see me"; and "Because I am going to the Father"?' They said, 'What does he mean by this "a little while"? We do not know what he is talking about.' Jesus knew that they wanted to ask him, so he said to them, 'Are you discussing among yourselves what I meant when I said, "A little while, and you will no longer see me, and again a little while, and you will see me"? Very truly, I tell you, you will weep and mourn, but the world will rejoice; you will have pain, but your pain will turn into joy. When a woman is in labour, she has pain, because her hour has come. But when her child is born, she no longer remembers the anguish because of the joy of having brought a human being into the world. So you have pain now; but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you. On that day you will ask nothing of me. Very truly, I tell you, if you ask anything of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete.'

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. We continue our Advent series:**

Christmas People, and this week we learn about Mary, and hear about the coming of a baby, Jesus (Luke 1. 26-56).

Our [Children & Young People](#) website page has loads of activities to help young people get to know the person of Jesus. **And perhaps you might like to open our [Digital Advent Calendar](#) each day – it's for adults and children alike.**

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.

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 learned about Zechariah, and how God can do impossible things, (Luke 1. 5-25, 57-66).



St Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford

Newsletter and Notices

Forthcoming 8am services – We'll celebrate Holy Communion at 8am **this Sunday 30th November**, then 7th and 21st December.

Travelling Crib for ALL our church family – Our travelling crib will be making its way around the parish during Advent; **beginning with a blessing at the 10am service this Sunday 30th November**. Hosting the figures for a night is a wonderful chance to share the anticipation of Christ's birth and fellowship with your family and others as the crib is passed on ... and a moment of stillness in an otherwise busy Advent. Please chat to Katharine if you'd like to know more about it and to sign up for a night, **we've still got places we'd love to fill!**

Our craft group meets on alternate Mondays in the WCC, 10am - 12noon. Next on this Monday 1st December – All welcome! We might bring along our own current crafting hobby and sometimes one of the group shares a craft. We usually prepare items for sale at the annual St Michael's Church Holly Fair.

TLC Tuesdays, next meeting this Tuesday 2nd December in the WCC, 2:15pm for 2:30pm Join tea and talk and a regular short presentation on wide-ranging interests. This month we are delighted to welcome children from St Michael's School who will be singing carols to and with us.

Holy Communion, Wednesday 3rd December, 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. 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 6th December, 9:30-10am – All welcome.

We're starting our holly ring making in preparation for the Holly Fair this week 1st, 2nd and 4th (and afternoon of 3rd) December. Sign-up sheets on the welcome desk or speak with Peter or Claire.

Holly Fair (and Tower Tours too!), Saturday 6th December, 10-1pm – 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. If you would like to make any donations, there will be boxes in church at the services from Wednesday 12th November for the **unwanted gifts stall, the bottle and chocolate tombola and for any raffle prizes**. There will also be a list for donations for the raffle hampers. Any contributions will be greatly received; thank you very much. All proceeds go to charities. **Also please invite your friends and neighbours to the event to help make it a success.**

School Services – We are once again delighted to welcome many schools to our church for their Advent and Christmas Services these coming weeks. Please be aware that the church (and churchyard) will be busy almost every day, especially week commencing 8th December, so check the website calendar carefully so as not to coincide.

Sunday 30th November 2025

First Sunday of Advent



Service of Nine Lessons and Carols, Sunday 21st December, 6pm – We would welcome volunteers to read at this service, speak to Derwyn if interested.

Bereavement Journey Course, Saturday mornings, 17th January - 21st February For anyone bereaved at any time; with films and discussion groups. It's the chance to explore grief in a safe space. If you are interested and would value a preliminary conversation please contact Alison Jordan [via the Parish Office](#).

Quiet Days in Albury – Days of reflection and contemplation in June's home. We'll be taking a break for a few months, hopefully meeting next on **Thursday 26th March**. We desperately need drivers, please contact the Parish Office if you think you could help.

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.

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 for these, do ask for a score when you pick up your service books.

Charity Christmas Cards for sale – There's a wide range of cards on display in the Charnley Hall, on Sundays and Wednesdays; with profits to the Holly Fair.

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.

Christmas flyer distribution, (if possible before 30th November) – Please help us spread the Christmas message by posting our flyer to brand new homes in Stortford Fields or St Michael's Hurst. They are in bundles at the Cross Aisles in church. Any queries, please speak to Katharine Stanley.

Tower Room Update – Please see the Schedule of Documents on the [Notices page](#) of our website.

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 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)	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	
Parish Office	01279 654416	Parish Safeguarding Officer: Dotun Akinde	
		safeguarding@saintmichaelweb.org.uk / 07921 860862	

Vicar's Email: stmichaelsbsvicar@gmail.com
Charity Registration No. 1130646

Email: church@saintmichaelweb.org.uk
Website: www.saintmichaelweb.org.uk



Scan code for website