



St Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford

Newsletter and Notices

NO SERVICE AT 8AM

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 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 67

Refrain: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us,
That your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations.

All: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

O let the nations rejoice and be glad,
for you will judge the peoples righteously and govern the nations upon earth.

All: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Then shall the earth bring forth her increase, and God, our own God, will bless us.
God will bless us, and all the ends of the earth shall fear him.

All: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

In the face of Jesus Christ your light and glory have blazed forth,

O God of all the nations;

with all your people,

may we make known your grace and walk in the ways of peace;

for your name's sake. 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.

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.

Sunday 16th August 2026
The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity



A Gospel reading for today, Matthew 15. 21-28

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, 'Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.' But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, 'Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.' He answered, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.' But she came and knelt before him, saying, 'Lord, help me.' He answered, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' She said, 'Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.' And her daughter was healed instantly.

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.**

This week we continue our short series:

Stories Jesus Told, finding out about hidden treasure (*Matthew 13. 44*)

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

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 the contact details on the other page.



Last week we found out about two house builders (*Matthew 7. 24-27*), making our own houses, learning how friends of Jesus stay strong and safe even in difficult times, and making a prayer tower on the firm foundations of Jesus and praying we can be more like him.



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Holy Communion, Wednesday 19th August, 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 are most welcome in these school 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! **We would really value some more helpers ... just to assist once a month. Please speak to Shell if you're interested in knowing more.**

Prayers for our Community, Saturday 22nd August, 9:30-10am – All welcome.

Prayer Ministry – for healing, praise or thanksgiving are offered in the Lady Chapel after worship on fourth Sundays each month, **next on Sunday 23rd August.**

Quiet Days in Albury – Days of reflection and contemplation in June's home. We'll be meeting next **on Thursday 27th August.**

Forthcoming 8am services – We'll celebrate Holy Communion at 8am **on Sunday 30th August**, then 6th and 20th September.

TLC Tuesdays, Tuesday 1st September in the WCC, 2:15pm for 2:30pm – Join tea and talk and a regular short presentation on wide-ranging interests. In September we are delighted to welcome Gavin Minter with his talk, 'Camino de Santiago'.

Holly Fair meeting 6th September – Our first meeting for this year's event (on Saturday 5th December at 10am) will take place after coffee in WCC (upstairs) on 6th September. If you can help in any way with planning, publicity and organisation, please come along. If unable to come to the meeting but happy to run your usual stall then do let us know. Thanks. Val Ashwood, Claire Conquest, Carole Macdonald, Martyn Greenwood, Angela Weeks.

Craft group usually meets on alternate Mondays in the WCC, 10am - 12noon. We're taking a short break for summer, returning **Monday 7th September** - all welcome!

Bike 'n Hike 2026, Saturday 12th 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 on the sheet in the Publicity Area if you can help for an hour (or perhaps more!).

Christian Nurture and preparation for Baptism/Confirmation, Saturday 12th September, 10am in WCC – An initial gathering, for anyone who may be interested in this. We'll have a chat over some refreshments, touch base on where people currently are with faith and Christian understanding, and talk about what may work in terms of going forward. I hope this may be helpful. If you can come, please let me know, or if that date isn't possible but you're interested in principle, do email me. I'm having some annual leave but back to work from 24th August. With my prayers and best wishes, Derwyn.



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Choral Evensong, Sunday 13th September, 6pm – All are warmly invited to our special Choral service for the Feast of Holy Cross.

Our next Recital, Sunday 20th September, 3pm – We are delighted to welcome Mezzacapo Mandolin Trio. More information can be found [here](#) and on [their website](#).

Bereavement Journey Course, on seven Saturday mornings from 26th September – 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 alisonfaith1111@gmail.com. Previous guests have found the course to be supportive in their grief.

The Children's Society – Please could anyone with a collecting box bring it to me or to a church service, so the cash can be counted and banked as soon as possible. Thank you very much. Carole Macdonald.

Help raise money towards the Tower Room Appeal – by clicking on and signing up to this easy fundraising link and raise money as you shop: https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?char=428546&invite=7sitbt&referral-campaign=c2s&utm_source=easyfundraising-app&utm_medium=referral&utm_content=copy-link You can also donate through the contactless card machine or by using the form in the Publicity Area.

Churches Together in Bishop's Stortford newsletter – A copy of the latest newsletter can be found on the CTBS website <https://ctbs.org.uk/> **There's lots happening, including a Songs of Praise service on 4th October, 4pm at the URC.**

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

Giving Sunday – 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.

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	

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