



St Michael and St Mary
Information for the week beginning
9th December 2018

Please take home this sheet

Second Sunday of Advent

8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (St Michael's)

9.30 a.m. Parish Communion (St Michael's)

6.00 p.m. Compline (St Mary's)

Contacts

Key information is available on www.stmichaels-parishchurch.org.uk/ or via the Parish Office: 01727 835037 (9.00 a.m.–12.00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday)

Resources for today's 9.30am service

Children's groups are running in the Parish Centre and school. If you have children with you in church who need to take a break, the tower room contains toys and books.

Today's readings are:

Baruch 5: 1-9

Philippians 1: 3-11 (p. 182 in the New Testament section of the pew Bibles)

Luke 3: 1-6 (p. 55 in the New Testament section of the pew Bibles)

Prayers are led by Di Edworthy and today's readers are Anna Padley and Anke King

*Between the first and second readings the choir sings **The Benedictus:***

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel : for he hath visited, and redeemed his people;

And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us : in the house of his servant David;

As he spoke by the mouth of his holy Prophets : which have been since the world began;

That we should be saved from our enemies : and from the hands of all that hate us;
To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers : and to remember his holy Covenant;

To perform the oath which he sware to our forefather Abraham : that he would give us;

That we being delivered out of the hands of our enemies : might serve him without fear;

In holiness and righteousness before him : all the days of our life.

And thou, Child, shalt be called the Prophet of the Highest :

for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;

To give knowledge of salvation unto his people : for the remission of their sins,

Through the tender mercy of our God :

whereby the day-spring from on high hath visited us;

To give light to them that sit in darkness, and in the shadow of death :

and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

During communion the choir sings:

"Into this world of sorrow" - Percy C. Buck

Into this world of sorrow,
Into this valley of rue and sadness
Came Christ our dear consoler
And brought men gladness.

Now is the time of his coming,
Now are our hearts with joy replete;
But, to lead men to heaven,
He bread of tears did eat.

Toilets are available in the Parish Centre at the east end of the churchyard.

Please stay for refreshments after the service in the Parish Centre.

Week beginning Sunday, 9th December 2018

Monday	9.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer (St Michael's)
Tuesday	9.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer (St Michael's)
	9.45 a.m.	Tiny Tots (Parish Centre)
	from 8.00 p.m.	Quiet Evening, ending with Compline at 9.00 p.m. (St Michael's)
Wednesday	9.00 a.m.	School Service (St Michael's)
	10.00 a.m.	Holy Communion (St Michael's)
	8.00 p.m.	Bell-ringing practice (St Michael's)
Thursday	9.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer (St Michael's)
Friday	9.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer (St Michael's)
	7.45 p.m.	Choir practice (St Michael's)

Next Sunday: 16th December 2018 - Third Sunday of Advent

8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion (St Michael's)
9.30 a.m.	All-Age Communion and Children's Nativity Play (St Michael's)
6.00 p.m.	Community Carols (St Mary's)

... and for reflection, next Sunday's reading will be

Luke 3: 15-18

Please remember in your prayers

those who are ill

Jacqui Follett
Jo Frost
Desmond Gaskell
Debbie Greenwood
Helen Huson
Alice Reardon
Cora Marie Varshney
Barbara Woodward

Notices

Advent Quiet Evenings will take place **from 8.00 p.m. in St Michael's on 11th and 18th December**. Icons, candles, silence – just call in; an island of tranquillity in the run-up to Christmas. Each evening will end with **Compline at 9.00 p.m.**

Christmas Card tree: share community, save time, support charity. There will be a small Christmas tree inside St Michael's **from the beginning of December**, together with labels made from old Christmas cards on which worshippers and visitors are invited to write a message to the whole congregation. Money saved might be donated to your preferred charity, if you wish!

This year, the **Christmas Retiring Collections at St Michael's Church** will be sent to the following charities:

Carol Service	Children of Peace
Crib Service	Keech Cottage Children's Hospice
Midnight /Christmas Day	Open Door and Centre 33

Christmas is a time when the FEED foodbank faces particularly heavy demand and when they want to make available some of the seasonal goods which others take for granted. They are keen to encourage specific donations at this time of year of Christmas goodies such as Christmas crackers, chocolates, chocolate coins, nuts, crisps, cheese biscuits, selection boxes, cakes, biscuits, non-alcoholic fizzy drinks as well as the staples such as coffee, long-life milk, fruit juice, squash, tinned meat/pies, rice/noodles/cooking sauces, cleaning products and toiletries. If you can help with any of these items, please put your donations into the box by St Michael's font on Sunday mornings, and in the Tower Room on Wednesdays. Many thanks for your support for this important local charity.

Parish News: If there are any subscribers who have not yet signed up for a centrally printed copy and would like to receive one, it is not too late. Copies will be available to collect from a box (with names in alphabetical order) at the back of St Michael's Lady Chapel or St Mary's (£10 per annum), or by post (£17 per annum). If you wish to subscribe, please send a cheque payable to "St Michael's PCC" to Sandie North, 23 Deva Close, St Albans AL3 4JS, or leave it in the communications box at the back of St Michael's Lady Chapel. Thank you.

You may recall that earlier this year, we hosted a visit to St Michael's for ladies from the local mosque and the Hertfordshire Asian Women's Association (HAWA). The next get together is planned for **15th January** with a visit to the Islamic exhibition at the British Museum in London – we aim to be at the museum for 10.30am or 11.00 am

Dione Verulam has very kindly offered to host a subsequent meeting at her home to discuss the visit over a 'bring and share' lunch, which will be on the 30th January, meeting at 12 noon to chat, with lunch at 1pm. **Any ladies from St Michael's** are invited to attend these events. It would be very helpful to have an idea of numbers as soon as possible. If you are interested, please let **Rachel Naylor** know by **Friday, 14th December** (email: thesallylunn@hotmail.com or telephone: 07768362239).