



St Michael and St Mary

**Information for the week beginning
15th December 2019**

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. **Christmas Carol Service** (St Mary's)
Congregational singing; mince pies and sherry afterwards

Contacts

Key information is available on <http://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

The children's corner in the North Aisle contains themed-worksheets, books and toys. Parents, please remain responsible for your children in this space. If your child needs time-out or privacy (e.g. nappy change) the Tower Room is available and has sound relay of the service.

Today's reading is Matthew 11: 2-11 (p. 10 in the New Testament section of the pew Bibles) and will be read by Astrid Williams.

The Children's Nativity Play, performed by members of Children's Church is:

God's Angels

Prayers will be led by Anita Lindeman.

During communion the choir will sing:

Gaudete! Gaudete! Christus est natus ex Maria Virgine
Rejoice! Rejoice! Christ is born of the Virgin Mary
from Piae Cantiones 1582

Toilets are available in the Parish Centre at the east end of the churchyard - please see a steward for access.

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

Week beginning Sunday, 15th December 2019

Monday	9.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer (St Michael's)
	10.00 a.m.	Prae Wood School Christmas Service (St Michael's)
	10.45 a.m.	Prae Wood School Christmas Service (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.	St Michael's School Christmas Service (St Michael's)
	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion (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: 22nd December 2019 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion (St Michael's)
9.30 a.m.	Parish Communion (St Michael's)
4.00 p.m.	Community Carols (St Mary's)

A traditional service of congregational and choir carols with readings led by groups that meet in the Parish Centre and Memorial Hall. NB - this whole-parish celebration replaces the regular 6pm service at St Mary's.

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

Isaiah 7: 10-16
Romans 1: 1-7
Matthew 1: 18-25

Please remember in your prayers

those who are ill

Jacqui Follett
Jo Frost
Debbie Greenwood
Helen Huson
Rachael Hymas
Beryl Milnes
Alice Reardon
Cora Marie Varshney
Barbara Woodward

those who mourn the death of

Dorothy Allistone
Geoff Moir

Notices

Saturday 21st December from 11.00 a.m. Wendy May bmay@i-c-a.demon.co.uk / 01727 853695 would be very grateful for help in **decorating St Michael's** in preparation for Christmas. If you have any evergreen foliage, especially with berries on it and can spare some time to help, please bring it along with you. **ALSO**, if you could stay to help with church cleaning, **Jane Larman** jlchurchevents@gmail.com / 07973 215955 and her team would be very grateful.

SUNDAY 22ND DECEMBER

4pm Community Carols – at St Michael's

The traditional service of Nine Lessons and Carols; congregational and choir carols with readings by groups that meet in the Parish Centre and Memorial Hall.

TUESDAY 24TH DECEMBER: CHRISTMAS EVE

4pm Crib Service – at St Michael's

Ideal for younger children: please come dressed as a character from the story – shepherd, angel, donkey, star...

11.30pm Midnight Mass – at St Michael's

Seasonal wonder and hearty singing

WEDNESDAY 25TH DECEMBER: CHRISTMAS DAY

9.30am All Age Communion and Carols – at St Michael's

11.30am All Age Communion and Carols – at St Mary's

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

The Living Room and Centre 33

Exploring Christianity. At least once a year we run a small group for adults to look at the major building blocks of Christianity. Those who do this course may wish to proceed to Confirmation in the Cathedral next Easter. Six one-hour sessions; venue and timings to suit participants. Please make contact if interested: kennethpadley@gmail.com

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; or in the box in St Mary's Schoolroom.

PLEASE NOTE: The Parish Office will **close** for Christmas around **12.00 p.m. on Christmas Eve** and will **re-open at 9.00 a.m. on Thursday, 2nd January 2020.**