



St Michael and St Mary

Information for the week beginning

23rd February 2020

Quinquagesima: Sunday Next before Lent

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

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

6.00 p.m. Evensong with celebration for the completion of the extension and refurbishment (St Mary's)

We have been issued guidance by the diocese about public health precautions in relation to **coronavirus**. During Communion services until further notice:

- please refrain from intincting (dipping the bread in the wine); this can introduce germs into the cup
- if you are feeling ill, please receive only the consecrated bread – Jesus meets us equally and fully in both kinds
- there is no need at the present to refrain from shaking hands during the Peace

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

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 readings are:

Exodus 24: 12-18 (p. 66 in the Old Testament section of the pew Bibles)

2 Peter 1: 16-21 (p. 219 in the New Testament section of the pew Bibles)

Matthew 17: 1-9 (p. 17 in the New Testament section of the pew Bibles)

..... and will be read by Anna Padley and Nat Young

Prayers will be led by Anita Lindeman

During Communion the choir sings:

Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face;
Here would I touch and handle things unseen;
Here grasp with firmer hand th'eternal grace,
And all my weariness upon thee lean.

Here would I feed upon the bread of God;
Here drink with thee the royal wine of heav'n;
Here would I lay aside each earthly load;
Here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiv'n.

This is the hour of banquet and of song;
This is the heav'nly table spread for me;
Here let me feast, and, feasting, still prolong
The brief bright hour of fellowship with thee.

Too soon we rise; the symbols disappear;
The feast, though not the love, is past and gone;
The bread and wine remove, but thou art here,
Nearer than ever, still our shield and sun.

Horatius Bonar (1808-1889)

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, 23rd February 2020

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)
	8.00 p.m.	Building Blocks of Faith (Lent Group) 1/6 : God (Parish Centre)

Ash Wednesday, 26th February

	9.00 a.m.	School Service with Ashing (St Michael's)
	10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion with Ashing (St Michael's)
	11.15 a.m.	Building Blocks of Faith 1/6 : God (Parish Centre)
	8.00 p.m.	Parish Communion with Ashing (St Michael's) <i>with music led by the choir</i>
Thursday	9.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer (St Michael's)
Friday	9.00 a.m.	NO Morning Prayer (St Michael's)
	7.45 p.m.	Choir practice (St Michael's)

Next Sunday: 1st March 2020 - First Sunday of Lent

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

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

Genesis 2: 15-17; 3: 1-7
Romans 5: 12-19
Matthew 4: 1-11

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
Paul Wiggett
Barbara Woodward

those who mourn the death of

Roger Schofield
Ronald Truwert

Notices

ELECTORAL ROLL: Before for the Annual Church Meetings in April, the parish Electoral Roll needs to be revised, and will be **open for revision from 25th February**.

- If you are already a member of the Roll, you do not need to complete a form. However, if you are unsure that you are on the Roll, and wish to check, please get in touch with Georgie in the office (01727 835037).
- If you are a regular worshipper aged 16 and above, and not yet on the Roll, please take an Electoral Roll Application Form from the back of either church, fill it in, and return to the Parish Office at the Vicarage. Membership of the Electoral Roll gives you voting rights at parish meetings and helps keep our pastoral contacts up to date.

St Michael's **Lunch Club** is a social gathering of more senior parishioners on the second Tuesday of each month in the Portland Arms. We have space for more to join us and would love to hear from you if interested. Transport can be arranged. Please contact Jo McCullen on 07760 166000 for more information.

For Your Diary

Thursday, 5th March: 7.30 p.m. in the Parish Centre - Eco Evening No. 3 - arranged by Peter Lindeman. The evening will be divided into two parts - the usual focus on generating ideas to reduce our environmental footprint, etc. and in addition, a discussion on what we all can do to positively to impact the environment, and reduce carbon and CO₂.

Saturday, 7th March: 9.30 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. - Churchyard Working Party - first of the new season - more information from the notice in Tower Room and Jim Mann on jimmann147@sky.com

Saturday, 7th March: 9.30 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. - Quiet morning at St Mary's. Contemplative guided reflection for Lent facilitated by Anna Bosatta who has trained in spiritual direction, followed by a **bring-and-share lunch** to finish the morning. To help with planning and refreshments, it's essential that you **contact Charles by 29th February at the latest** if you are intending to attend. (cking.curate@gmail.com or 07944 792827). Thank you.

Sunday, 8th March: 5.00 p.m. Taizé Service at St Michael's - If you would like to help with the musical leadership at the service, please get in touch with Charles on cking.curate@gmail.com or 07944 792827. **Please note that there will be a get-together beforehand on 23rd February for a musical run-through.**

Monday, 9th March: The **funeral of Roger Schofield**, sometime organist at St Michael's, will take place in West Herts Crematorium, Garston at 1.20 p.m.

The bell-ringers are currently running sessions on Saturday mornings for children to learn to ring, and have two girls and one boy in the group. However, there is space for one or two more, aged ten or above. Bell-ringing is great for exercise and team work, and helps build skills in mathematics and music. There are also sessions for other learners on Wednesday evenings before the main practice. If you would like to find out more about these opportunities, please email Alex Sage: alex_sage@hotmail.com.