



St Michael with St Mary



Services this week

Sunday, 12th December

- 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)
The traditional nine lessons with popular carols for all to sing.

Weekday Morning Prayer — NB this week on Monday only
9 a.m. by Zoom - code via kennethpadley@gmail.com

Wednesday

- 9.00 a.m. School Service (St Michael's)
10.30 a.m. Holy Communion (St Michael's)

Sunday, 19th December

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (St Michael's)
9.30 a.m. Parish Communion (St Michael's)
4.00 p.m. Carol Service (St Michael's)
Congregational and choir carols with the nine lessons read by representatives of local community life
6.00pm Evensong (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

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.

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.

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John the Baptist, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Luke 3: 15-18

During communion the choir sings:

The Lord at first did Adam make
Out of the dust and clay,
And in his nostrils breathed life,
E'en as the Scriptures say.
And then in Eden's Paradise
He placed him to dwell,
That he within it should remain
To dress and keep it well.

*Now let good Christians all begin
An holy life to live,
And to rejoice and merry be,
Rejoice and merry be.*

Resources for today's 9.30am service

Now for the blessings we enjoy,
Which are from Heaven above,
Let us renounce all wickedness
And live in perfect love.
Then shall we do Christ's own command,
Ev'n his own written word,
And when we die in Heaven shall
Enjoy our living Lord.

Now let good Christians...

Trad.

Please remember in your prayers

- those who are **ill**, including: Jacqui Follett, Jo Frost, Debbie Greenwood, Helen Huson, Rachael Hymas, Allan Plumpton, Shoba Ponnappa, Alice Reardon, Pat Stroud, Cora Marie Varshney, Janice Western, Paul Wiggett, Barbara Woodward
- for healing and wholeness: Peter Loyd

Notices

FEED foodbank are keen to encourage specific donations of Christmas goodies such as non-alcoholic mince pies, Christmas puddings, Christmas cakes, chocolate logs etc. as well as other staples such as coffee, long-life milk, tinned meat/pies but NO pasta, please. This year they would also appreciate donations of **NEW** children's toys, books and games for children aged 3 years and under and for teenagers aged 12-16 years. **At the moment**, the foodbank is particularly short of laundry and cleaning products and toiletries, so if you can provide any of these, it would be greatly appreciated.

Chris Allen

18th December from 10.00 a.m. - Decorating St Michael's for Christmas. We would be very grateful for help in decorating the church 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 afterwards, **Jane** and her team would be very grateful.

The Friends of St Michael's Church have been allocated tickets by the Abbey Theatre to sell and raise funds. The play **One Man, Two Guv'nors** will be performed on the Main Stage at the Abbey Theatre on **Thursday 24th February 2022**. For more information about how to order/purchase tickets, please visit <http://www.stmichaels-parishchurch.org.uk/friends-of-st-michaels-theatre-night-one-man-two-guvnors-24-feb-2022>

Do check out the homepage of the parish website for recent posts, including:

- Kenneth's sermon on **Advent Hope** (and the plague in Unna)
- The powerpoint from the **Introduction to St Luke** evening
- The **Time and Talents survey** – please complete **by 13th December**

Christmas Retiring Collections at St Michael's Church will support:

Carol Service (19th December) Children of Peace: Conflict resolution among children and young people in Israel and the Palestinian territories (Registered Charity Number 1112301)

Crib Services (23rd and 24th) Keech Hospice Care: Local hospice care for children (Registered Charity Number 1035089)

Midnight /Christmas Day (Split 50/50)

Living Room and Centre 33: Addiction Support and Homelessness Support (respectively) in St Albans
(Registered Charity Numbers :1080634 and 1146438 respectively)

The Mission and Community Committee write:

After the success of last year, we're restarting our **Christmas Pop-Up Shop**. After the success of last year, we're restarting our pop-up shop in St Michael's church. Please leave donations to be sold in the boxes at the back of Church. They can be anything you think someone might like to buy to treat themselves during the festive period or to gift to a loved one (no alcohol please).