



St Michael with St Mary

Services this week
Sunday, 30th January 2022

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (St Michael's)
- 9.30 a.m. Parish Communion (St Michael's)
- 11.15 a.m. Exploring Christianity group (Adults; 3/6; St Michael's)
- 6.00 p.m. Evensong (St Mary's)

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday

9.00 a.m. Morning Prayer (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, 6th February 2022 - Candlemas

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (St Michael's)
- 9.30 a.m. All Age Communion with Christingle-making (St Michael's)
- 6.00 p.m. Holy Communion (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 Church for school years R - 6 is running in the Parish Centre.

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.

Old Testament Reading: Nehemiah 8: 1-3, 5-6, 8-10 (OT p.407 in the Pew Bibles)

The choir will sing words from Psalm 19

The heavens declare the glory of God : and the firmament sheweth his handywork.

One day telleth another : and one night certifieth another.

There is neither speech nor language : but their voices are heard among them.

Their sound is gone out into all lands : and their words into the ends of the world.

In them hath he set a tabernacle for the sun :

which cometh forth as a bridegroom out of his chamber,

and rejoiceth as a giant to run his course.

It goeth forth from the uttermost part of the heaven,

and runneth about unto the end of it again :

and there is nothing hid from the heat thereof.

New Testament Reading: I Corinthians 12: 12-31a (NT p.161 in the Pew Bibles)

Gospel Reading:

Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,

because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives

and recovery of sight to the blind,

to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour.'

And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'

Luke 4: 14-21 (NT page 57 in the Pew Bibles)

Resources for today's 9.30am service

During Communion the choir will sing: The Crown of Roses

When Jesus Christ was yet a child,
He had a garden small and wild,
Wherein He cherished roses fair,
And wove them into garlands there.

Now once, as summer time drew nigh,
There came a troop of children by,
And seeing roses on the tree,
With shouts they pluck'd them merrily.

“Do you bind roses in your hair?”
They cried, in scorn, to Jesus there.
The Boy said humbly: “Take, I pray,
All but the naked thorns away.”

Then of the thorns they made a crown,
And with rough fingers press'd it down,
Till on his forehead fair and young,
Red drops of blood, like roses sprung.

Words – Plechtchéev Music – Tchaikowsky

Please remember in your prayers

- those who are **ill**, including: Jacqui Follett, Jo Frost, Debbie Greenwood, Michaels Hogben, Helen Huson, Rachael Hymas, Ingrid Kluckova, Alice Reardon, Pat Stroud, Cora Marie Varshney, Janice Western, Paul Wigggett, Barbara Woodward
- for **healing and wholeness**: Peter Loyd

Notices

Kenneth will be giving a talk for the Cathedral Study Centre on '**Crete as a microcosm of Europe**: one island as a window onto a continent'. The talk will be by Zoom, 7.30-9pm on **Thursday 3rd February**. For further information and booking, please search the Adult Learning pages of the Cathedral website.

St Albans Deanery Synod has organized an open presentation and discussion about youth welfare and spirituality as we emerge from the pandemic. With **Christian Cole**, Youth Missioner for the Diocese of St Albans, and **David Barker**, CEO of Youth Talk. **Tuesday 8th February at 7.30 p.m. at St Saviour's** (AL1 4DF).

John Bannister is local convener for the **World Community of Christian Meditation**. He is organising a Day of Gathering for any interested in learning more about this form of prayer. 10am – 3.30pm on Wednesday 16th February at St Mary's Childwick. Spaces are limited so booking is required - please contact John on 07788 562488 or johnlbannister@gmail.com

The next season of St Michael's **Churchyard Working Parties** will start on 5th March - are you able to come along and help? There are many small jobs to do, especially at the start of the season, and any help you can give would be very much appreciated. To know more, please contact Jim Mann on 0770324375.

LENT

Like many churches, St Michael's and St Mary's will keep the season of Lent as a time of reflection and repentance. This year we are encouraging you to dig deeper into the things of God through **The Little Book of Lent** (ed. Arthur Howells), a compilation of readings for each day of the season written by famous twentieth- and twenty-first-century Christians. We will be exploring these passages in **Lent Groups**. There will be:

- an **evening group running on Zoom**, five Tuesdays from March 8th to April 5th, 8–9.30pm. Zoom code to be circulated nearer the time. If you would like to go on the notification list for this code, please contact kennethpadley@gmail.com Separate and in addition to this, if anyone has a full Zoom package Kenneth would be grateful if you could let him know.
- a **daytime group running in the Parish Centre**, five Wednesdays from March 9th to April 6th. The group will start at 11.15am but you may wish to begin this morning at the 10.30am Holy Communion in church, and/or conclude with a simple soup and roll lunch at 12.15am. Expressions of interest in the day-time group please to bronwenparr@hotmail.com – especially if you would like to stay for lunch afterwards.

Each group will use the same material so participants are welcome and encouraged to work between the two groups if this suits their busy schedules. We are asking that participants buy their own copy of *The Little Book of Lent*, mindful that some parishioners may already have copies from when we last used this resource in 2016.