



St Michael with St Mary

Services this week

Sunday, 1st January 2023:

First Sunday of Christmas

- 9.30 a.m. Parish Communion (St Michael's)
President: Rev'd Ruth Goatly
- 6.00 p.m. Holy Communion (St Mary's)

Wednesday

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

Sunday, 8th January 2023:

Epiphany

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (St Michael's)
- 9.30 a.m. Parish Communion (St Michael's)
President: Bishop Stephen Venner
- 6.00 p.m. Epiphany carols, readings and choral music (St Mary's)

PLEASE NOTE: The Parish Office is CLOSED on Wednesdays

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)

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 see a steward for access.

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

New Testament Reading: Galatians 4: 4-7 (NT p.175 in the Pew Bibles)

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Gospel Reading: Luke 2: 15-21 (NT p.54 in the Pew Bibles)

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

Please remember in your prayers

- those who are **ill**, including: Jacqui Follett, Jo Frost, Debbie Greenwood, Edna Hames, Helen Huson, Rachael Hymas, Ingrid Kluckova, JoAnne Laws; Alice Reardon, Pat Stroud, Cora Marie Varshney, Paul Wiggett

NOTICES

PLEASE NOTE: The Parish Office is closed for general and hall booking enquiries until 9.00 a.m. on Monday, 9th January 2023.

The Friends of St Michael's Church will be holding their **Annual General Meeting** on **Wednesday, 25th January 2023 at 6.00 p.m.** The meeting will be held at Maynes Barn, Maynes Farm, Gorhambury, St Albans AL3 6AF.

FOR YOUR DIARY: Sunday, 5th February is Candlemas - a festival of light to mark the close of the greater Christmas season - with Christingle-making taking place during the All-Age Communion at 9.30 a.m. Donations made at this service will be sent to Youth Talk (Registered Charity Number 1063572) which is a counselling and signposting service for young people in St Albans.