

NOTICES

Do you or someone you know need to hire a hall? We have three very different venues to suit all your requirements. For more information and easy online booking, please visit <https://hallbookingonline.com/stmichaels>

The Friends of St Michael's Church, St Albans are holding a **Summer Event**, hosted by Adam Singer, on Tuesday, **30th May from 5.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. at Kingsbury Manor Barn**, Branch Road, St Albans, AL3 4SE, and drinks and canapés will be provided. **Please note that there is No Parking available at Kingsbury Barn**

During the evening, three short films will be shown in which **Rev'd Canon Dr Kenneth Padley** describes significant objects in St Michael's Church, and he will be present to take questions afterwards.

Entry is **£10 per person** (payable in **cash** on the night). If, however, you are able to sign up in advance to pay the annual membership fee by Standing Order, or become a Life Member, entry to the **Summer Event** would be **FREE**. (Please pick up a Friends of St Michael's Church leaflet from either church to apply to pay by standing Order and register for Gift Aid).

Please make a note of the date in your diary. To find out more or to reserve a place at the event please send an email to Guy Marshall on guymarshall31@yahoo.co.uk and not the Parish Office.

St Michael's Folk Evening: The Mission & Community team are planning to host our contribution to the event, as usual in the churchyard, and details will follow soon, but in the meantime, please save the date - **Wednesday, 5th July**. The bellringers will be opening the event from 7.00 p.m.

If you are planning to attend and can help setup, serve, and clear away in any shape or form, the team would love to hear from you. To find out more about how you can help, please get in touch with Kate on KateFrancesBerry1@outlook.com

Celebrating 60 years of the IOF: The St Albans International Organ Festival will take place from 3rd to 15th July, attracting young organists (under 33) from all over the world, who are accommodated in local households. Supporting a competitor can be a rewarding experience and in grateful thanks the IOF Board offers a range of benefits including invitations to events and complimentary tickets to concerts. If you can offer B&B from 28th June to 16th July, please contact Angela Dixon administrator@organfestival.com or on (01727) 844765.



PLEASE NOTE: All services take place at St Michael's unless otherwise stated

Sunday, 2nd April: Palm Sunday

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion
9.30 a.m. Donkey Procession at St Michael's followed by All-Age Service
President: Rev'd John Bannister
6.00 p.m. Holy Communion (St Mary's)
President: Rev'd Martin Banister

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday

- 8.00 p.m. Compline (by Zoom) - code via Mark Pedroz on wineslodge@gmail.com

5th April Wednesday

- 10.30 a.m. Stations of the Cross - *Jesus' Passion in art*
11.00 a.m. Holy Communion

6th April Maundy Thursday

- 8.00 p.m. Holy Communion and Vigil (time of stillness)

7th April Good Friday

- 1.00 - 1.30 p.m. Children's service - *we build the Easter Garden together*
2.00 - 2.30 p.m. The Good Friday Liturgy
led by Rev'd John Bannister readings, prayers and music
8.00 p.m. Reflection and Compline (St Mary's)

8th April Holy Saturday

- 11.00 a.m. Decorating St Michael's church for Easter
please bring a vase or jug of yellow and white flowers
8.00 p.m. Easter Vigil (St Albans Cathedral)

Sunday, 9th April: Easter Sunday

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion - *a simple said service*
9.30 a.m. Festival Communion - *All-Age celebrations - followed by chocolate egg hunt*
President: Rev'd John Bannister
11.30 a.m. Festival Communion (St Mary's)
President: Rev'd Canon Terry Beaumont

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.

Text for all the services during Holy Week are included in the specific seasonal booklet

Please remember in your prayers

- those who are **ill**, including: Nicola Cann, Sandra Dove, Jacqui Follett, Jo Frost, Rev'd Ruth Goatly, Debbie Greenwood, Edna Hames, Helen Huson, Rachael Hymas, Ingrid Kluckova, JoAnne Laws, John Polhill, Alice Reardon, Pat Stroud, Cora Marie Varshney, Paul Wiggett
- those who mourn the death of Brenda George

NOTICES

The in-person **Lent groups** were well attended and generated a thoughtful exchange of views. In particular, thanks go to Sue Vaughan and her team for tasty convivial lunches on Wednesdays.

Decorating St Michael's for Easter: We will be decorating the church on **Saturday, 8th April** from 11.00 a.m. If anyone would like to bring a vase or jug filled with yellow and white flowers, or make an arrangement in the same colours, please bring them to church on the day.

Earlier this year, **Bishop Alan** opened his garden in Abbey Mill Lane to allow people to view the snowdrops and over £2,000 was raised for the Herts and Beds Historic Churches Trust. Bishop Alan is keen for people to see the garden as the seasons change, and if you wish to see it in all its spring glory, it will be open again on **Easter Monday, 10th April**, after the Easter Pilgrimage, **between 2.00 p.m. and 4.00 p.m.** Entry is **£4 per adult** in aid of Herts and Beds Historic Churches Trust. **Please be aware that there is no parking in the grounds or in Abbey Mill Lane, St Albans (AL3 4HD)**

INSTITUTION AND INDUCTION SERVICE

Our new vicar, Rev'd Jonathan (aka Jonny) Lloyd will be licensed on **Thursday, 11th May at 7.30pm in St Michael's**. A reception in the churchyard after the service is being planned by Mission & Community. Further details of how you can help or support them before, or on the night will be in the pew sheet in the next few weeks. We want to get the church and churchyard in the best order we can, so look out for more details on how you can help if you have some time available in the lead up to the day.

Formal invitations are in the process of being sent to Jonny's guests, including clergy from the diocese and Abbey. In addition, if you wish to attend the service, please add your name(s) to the **sign-up sheets that have now been placed in both churches**. Please make sure that you have added your name(s) to the list **before 17th April** so that we can compile a complete list of attendees for our stewards to use on the night, and ensure that everyone can be accommodated safely,

Sunday, 21st May: The **Annual Parish Meetings** will be held at 10.15am in St Michael's church immediately after the 9.30am service. Important elections are made at these meetings – Churchwardens, PCC members, and Deanery Synod members. If you are interested in serving in any of these roles, please speak with either Val or Mark, or see below for more details about Deanery Synod. Before these meetings, the parish Electoral Roll needs to be revised, and is now **open** for revision. **If you are already a member of the Roll, you do not need to complete a form.** However, if you are a regular worshipper aged 16 and above, and not yet on the Roll but would like to join, please complete an Electoral Roll Application Form (available from both churches) and **return it to the Parish Office at the Vicarage before 28th April**. Membership of the Electoral Roll gives you voting rights at parish meetings and helps keep our pastoral contacts up to date.

ELECTIONS for Lay Members of Deanery Synod are due to take place at the **Annual Meetings on 21st May**, and below is a brief overview of the role of Deanery Synod for your information.

What is Deanery Synod?

The role of Deanery Synod provides a forum for people and churches to discuss ideas, address challenges and share resources. It is comprised of both

Clergy and Lay members. One of the most important things about lay Deanery Synod members is that they are the people who elect the laity to the General Synod. They therefore have a surprisingly large amount of power in shaping the future life of the Church of England.

How Does Deanery Synod Work?

Deanery Synod meets 3 times a year – Spring, Summer, and Autumn. Meetings last about 2 hours and are held at different churches within the Deanery.

If you would like to know more, please speak to Graham Willey who is one of our current Deanery Synod representatives.