

NOTICES

As part of the **Coronation Weekend** celebrations, your Mission & Community Committee are holding a litter pick on **Monday, 8th May from 2pm-4pm**, in response to King Charles' request for Coronation Monday to be a Community Day! Everyone is welcome to participate across the Parish. We will be at the Parish Centre during the above time, where refreshments will be on offer to all supporters. If you are unable to meet up during that time but still intend to participate, send your photos of your team to Steph on stephanie.rainbow@me.com. We would love to see support across the village and City. What you will need: gloves, high vis jacket, hand sanitiser, black bag, and, if you have it a litter picker & hoop. Let's help keep our beautiful City litter free!

Electoral Roll: The Roll is now closed, and new names cannot be added until **after** the Annual Church Meetings on **21st May**, and the **new Roll** will be displayed in both churches **from next Sunday, 7th May**.

Wednesday, 10th May: St Michael's Church Cleaning – 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. (f you can spare some time to help, it would be greatly appreciated. For more information, please get in touch with Jane on janelarman@sky.com

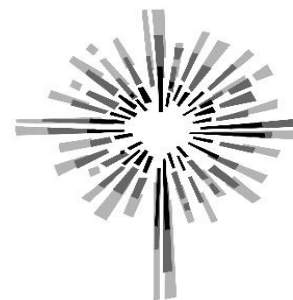
Saturday 6th May: St Michael's Churchyard Working Party – 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. If you can spare some time to help, it would be greatly appreciated. For more information, please get in touch with Jim on 07770 324375.

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. Nomination forms for these posts can be found in both churches.

An art exhibition - **Threads through Creation** - is on show at St Albans Cathedral, from 3rd May until 11th June. It consists of twelve huge silk panels re-imagining the story of creation from Genesis and took textile artist Jacqui Parkinson three years and eight million stitches to complete. Admission is free but donations are welcome.

Thank you to everyone who lent us blankets when we had no heating. Please feel free to pick yours up from the tower room after the service or ask one of the Wardens to get it for you.

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.



St Michael with St Mary

Services this week

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

Sunday, 30th April: Fourth Sunday of Easter

8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
9.30 a.m.	Parish Communion <i>President: Rev'd Corniel Quak</i>
6.00 p.m.	Evensong (St Mary's)

Wednesday

9.00 a.m.	School Service
10.30 a.m.	Holy Communion

Sunday, 7th May: Fifth Sunday of Easter

8.00 a.m.	Holy Communion
9.30 a.m.	Parish Communion <i>President: Rev'd John Bannister</i>
6.00 p.m.	Holy Communion (St Mary's) <i>President: Rev'd Martin Banister</i>

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)

Children's Church for those in school years Reception to Year 6 meets alongside the 9.30am service during term time. Please ask a Steward for more information and directions.

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.

For the Old Testament Reading: Acts 2: 42-47 (NT p.111 in the Pew Bibles)

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

New Testament Reading: 1 Peter 2: 19-25 (NT p.216 in the Pew Bibles)

For it is to your credit if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, where is the credit in that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

'He committed no sin
and no deceit was found in his mouth.'

When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

Gospel Reading: John 10: 1-10 (NT p.96 in the Pew Bibles)

'Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not

follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.' Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

Please remember in your prayers

- those who are **ill**, including: Nicola Cann, 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 Sandra Dove, Peter Limebear and Sue Thompson

NOTICES

Jonny, Emily and their family have now moved into the Vicarage so if you see them about, please say 'hello', but do be mindful that Jonny is not yet our vicar. He will be spending the next couple of weeks to settle into his new home, and will not start dealing with parish business until after 11th May. **Please also note** parking in front of the Vicarage should be restricted to those on church business **only**, as it was prior to the vacancy.

The attendance lists for the Institution and Induction Service for our new vicar on Thursday, 11th May have now closed. If you did not sign up but would still like to come, please contact Val (chiesa@btinternet.com) or Mark (wincheslodge@gmail.com) by 4th May at the very latest to see if there are any places available. Anyone missing out on attending the service will have the opportunity to meet Jonny at our services on 14th May and at coffee afterwards.

Thank you to all those who signed up to provide food for the evening. If you did not sign up but wish to make or buy something or give some money towards the cost of food for the evening event, please speak to, or contact, Val (chiesa@btinternet.com), Sue Vaughan (suecvaughan@btinternet.com) or Jane Larman (janelarman@sky.com) by 8th May.