

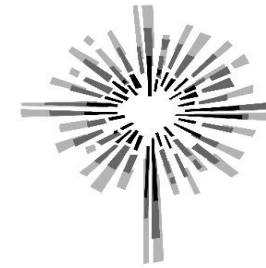
# NOTICES

**DATE FOR DIARIES: Misson Action Planning Day 9<sup>th</sup> September 10-3pm St Mary's, Childwick.**

**Bishop Alan** will be opening his garden at **Abbey Gate House, Abbey Mill Lane, AL3 4HD** to the public from **2.00pm – 4.00pm** every Sunday afternoon between **18<sup>th</sup> June** and **6<sup>th</sup> August**. **Entrance: £4 per person (accompanied children free)** in aid of Herts and Beds Historic Churches Trust.

**Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> August: St Michael's Churchyard Working Party and Church Cleaning – 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 (churchyard) or Jane on janelarman@sky.com (cleaning).

**All-Age Sunday** will be moving to the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month from September. Our all-age on 3<sup>rd</sup> of September will include a **bag blessing** for everyone starting the new academic year (or starting anything new at all!) Bring your school bags, work bags, rucksacks or handbags to be blessed and made ready for their work of carrying our stuff in all that is to come in the year ahead!



*St Michael with St Mary*

## Services this week

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

### Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> July 2023: Eighth Sunday after Trinity

8.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
9.30 a.m. Parish Eucharist  
6.00 p.m. Evensong (St Mary's)

### Wednesday

10.30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

### Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> August 2023: Ninth Sunday after Trinity

8.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
9.30 a.m. Parish Eucharist  
6.00 p.m. Holy Eucharist (St Mary's)

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### Contact Information:

Vicar: The Rev'd Jonny Lloyd: [vicar@parishofstmichaels.org.uk](mailto:vicar@parishofstmichaels.org.uk)  
Address: St Michael's Vicarage, St Michael's Street, St Albans, AL3 4SL  
Parish Office: Georgie Ray: [admin@parishofstmichaels.org.uk](mailto:admin@parishofstmichaels.org.uk)  
(9.00 a.m.–12.00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday)  
Telephone: 01727 835037  
Website: [www.stmichaels-parishchurch.org.uk](http://www.stmichaels-parishchurch.org.uk)

Welcome to our worship this morning; it is good to be together. The **children's corner** in the North Aisle contains themed-worksheets, books and toys. If you need 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. All are welcome to stay for **refreshments** after the service in the Parish Centre. If you are new, we would love to meet you!

### Collect

Almighty Lord and everlasting God,  
we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern  
both our hearts and bodies  
in the ways of your laws  
and the works of your commandments;  
that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever,  
we may be preserved in body and soul;  
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

### Old Testament Reading: I Kings 3: 5-12 (OT p.285 in the Pew Bibles)

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

### New Testament Reading: Romans 8: 26-39 (NT p.146 in the Pew Bibles)

### Gospel Reading: Matthew 13: 31-33, 44-52 (NT p.13 in the Pew Bibles)

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

### Prayer Over The Gifts

God our Creator, may this bread and wine we offer as a sign of our love and worship lead us to salvation. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Please remember in your prayers:

- the diocese asks us to pray for: *Gratitude for the fruits of the Spirit.*
- all pilgrims who visit the church.
- those who are **ill**, including: Nicola Cann, Jacqui Follett, Debbie Greenwood, Edna Hames, Helen Huson, Rachael Hymas, Ingrid Kluckova, JoAnne Laws, John Polhill, Alice Reardon, Pat Stroud, Cora Marie Varshney, Paul Wiggett
- the recently departed, including: Jenifer Blackden, Jo Frost, and those who mourn.
- for Jo Frost whose ashes will be interred on 6<sup>th</sup> August, and her family.