

NOTICES

'Mark'ing Advent This Autumn's study group (9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th November at 8pm, in the vicarage) will be on the Gospel of St Mark. As we prepare for the start of the new church year and a new cycle of readings in our services, we will be delving into the riches of the earliest Gospel, learning about its key themes and thinking about how it might help us to walk the Advent path once again.

Tonight (5th November) at 6.00 p.m. in St Michael's - Service of Commemoration and Thanksgiving for the departed. All are welcome to come and share in this service in which we particularly remember and give thanks to God for those who have died.

Men's night will be taking place in its regular slot this month. Please join us from 8:30pm on **Thursday, 9th November** at the Six Bells.

Thank you to everyone who volunteered and took part in the **Holy Pumpkin Trail**. We lost count of the number of children who took part in the trail, and to finish with a *slightly* chaotic service in the Cathedral Lady Chapel celebrating the light of Christ was very special.

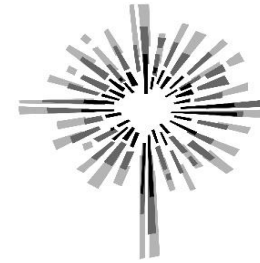
Christmas Wreath Making Workshop during which you will be shown how to create a traditional, moss-based wreath ready to be decorated using seasonal greenery gathered from the grounds of Gorhambury, and a selection of dried fruits, seed-heads and ribbons. No experience is necessary, but it is recommended that you bring gardening gloves with you. The workshops take place in the Garden Hall at Gorhambury House between 10am and 12.00pm on both Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th December. Tickets are £50 per person which includes all materials, tuition and refreshments, and can be booked by contacting Olivia Berry on office@grimstontrust.co.uk

The next **Parish Walk** will be on the **morning of Tuesday 12th December**, followed by Christmas Lunch at the Portland Arms. Details of the walk will follow – during which we'll be looking for greenery to decorate the church. If you're interested in seeing the menu for Christmas Lunch, please let Sue know - suecvaughan@btinternet.com

Coffee break! After each Wednesday 10.30 Eucharist we are now having tea, coffee, biscuits and lots of chat. If you don't already, do come and join us!

Youth Talk, one of the charities we support at Christmas, has launched a fundraising raffle for two tickets to 'Home Alone in Concert' at the Royal Albert Hall for the performance on 3rd December. For more information, and to participate in the raffle, please visit <https://www.justgiving.com/page/home-alone-at-the-royal-albert-hall-raffle>

Christmas Concert: 19th December, 7.30pm. Join Kate Lindeman for an evening of Christmas classics, beautiful arias, pop-opera favourites and a glass or two of mulled wine. Tickets £16-20, all profits split between Motor Neurone Disease Association and St Michael's Church. Book here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/st-albans-christmas-concert-st-michaels-tickets-704537700227?aff=oddtcreator>



St Michael with St Mary

Services this week

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

Sunday, 5th November 2023: All Saints' Sunday

8.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9.30 a.m. All-Age Parish Eucharist
6.00 p.m. Service of Commemoration and Thanksgiving
6.00 p.m. Holy Eucharist (for All Saints, at St Mary's)

Wednesday

9.00 a.m. St Michael's School Service
10.30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sunday, 12th November 2023: Remembrance Sunday

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

Contact Information:

Vicar: The Rev'd Jonny Lloyd: 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
(9.00 a.m.–12.00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday)
Telephone: 01727 835037 Website: www.stmichaels-parishchurch.org.uk

Welcome to our worship this morning; it is good to be together. Today we gather for an all-age service celebrating the Feast of All Saints. The *children's corner* in the North Aisle contains themed-worksheets, books and toys if you'd like to keep little people busy- but there is no obligation to use it! 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 God, you have knit together your elect
in one communion and fellowship
in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord:
grant us grace so to follow your blessed saints
in all virtuous and godly living
that we may come to those inexpressible joys
that you have prepared for those who truly love you;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

New Testament Reading: Revelation 7: 9-10

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, 'Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!'

Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:
'Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
'Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
'Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
'Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
'Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
'Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Prayer Over the Gifts

Merciful God, the perfect sacrifice of Jesus Christ made us your people. In your love, grant peace and unity to your Church. Grant this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Anthem during Communion

Hail glorious spirits, heirs of light, the high-born sons of fire,
Whose souls burn clear, whose flames shine bright: all joy yet all desire.

Hail, all you happy souls above who make that glorious ring.
About the sparkling throne of love, and there forever sing.

Words: John Austin 1613-69

Music: Christopher Tye c. 1500-1573

Last Hymn

○ when the saints go marching in,
○ when the saints go marching in,
○ Lord, I want to be in that number
when the saints go marching in.

○ when the Lord, he calls my name,
○ when the Lord, he calls my name,
○ Lord, I want to be in that number
○ when the Lord, he calls my name,

○ when they crown him Lord of all,
○ when they crown him Lord of all,
○ Lord, I want to be in that number
when they crown him Lord of all.

Please remember in your prayers:

- Give thanks for our church buildings of St Michael's and St Mary's, especially for their ministry as places of holiness and welcome
- the recently baptized, including Harper Vincent at St Mary's on Saturday
- those who are **ill**, including: Jo Barnes, Jacqui Follett, Debbie Greenwood, Helen Huson, Rachael Hymas, Ingrid Kluckova, Alison Munro, John Polhill, Alice Reardon, Pat Stroud, Cora Marie Varshney
- the recently departed, including Beryl Askham (funeral 8th November, New Southgate Crematorium), and those who mourn them
- this week the diocese asks us to pray for: *all who benefit from all forms of Charitable Giving*