

# NOTICES

**Churchyard Church:** Churchyard church meets next week during the 9.30 a.m. service. On **Palm Sunday (24<sup>th</sup> March)** we will have a dramatic reading of the Passion in the service - there are 9 parts for young people. Please let Jonny know on [vicar@parishofstmichaels.org.uk](mailto:vicar@parishofstmichaels.org.uk) if you would like to take part. This is an excellent way to engage with the most important part of the church's year.

**Palm Sunday - 24<sup>th</sup> March:** We are meeting at Lower School for the 9.30 to start with a procession following a pony (acting very convincingly as a donkey...). If you have large palms, please bring them, but any greenery will do.

Please let Jonny know on [vicar@parishofstmichaels.org.uk](mailto:vicar@parishofstmichaels.org.uk) if you would be prepared to take a part in the dramatized Gospel reading on Palm Sunday. There are 6 speaking parts for adults. We will rehearse on the Saturday before at an agreed time in church.

**Lent Course:** If you haven't had a chance to watch the King's Speech yet, there are 2 copies of the DVD at the back of church to borrow, and one to download if you are on Sky (details from Jim Mann on [jimmann147@sky.com](mailto:jimmann147@sky.com))

**Books for Gaza:** For anyone seeking a non-political way to help a horrendous humanitarian situation we have had this charitable endeavour commended to us. Famous authors have signed copies of their works, which are £35, with proceeds going to help the evacuation of children <https://www.32auctions.com/booksforgaza>

**St Michael's Tots** takes place on Tuesdays in the Parish Centre from 9.30 a.m. until 11.00 a.m. If you would like to help by joining the coffee rota for this on even an occasional basis, please send Jonny an email on [vicar@parishofstmichaels.org.uk](mailto:vicar@parishofstmichaels.org.uk)

**Men's night** will be taking place in its regular slot this month. Please join us from 8:30pm on Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> March at the Six Bells.

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Before for the **Annual Meetings on 19<sup>th</sup> May**, the parish **Electoral Roll** needs to be revised, and **will be open for revision from 31<sup>st</sup> March**. Please note that:

- If you are already a member of the Roll, you do not need to complete a form.
- If you are a regular worshipper aged 16 and above, and not yet on the Roll, please take an Electoral Roll Application Form from the back of either church, fill it in, and return to the Parish Office at the Vicarage. Membership of the Electoral Roll gives you voting rights at parish meetings and helps keep our pastoral contacts up to date.



*St Michael with St Mary*

## Services this week

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

### Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup> March 2024: Mothering Sunday

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

### Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> March

9.00 a.m.	St Michael's School Service
10.30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist
12.00 p.m.	Lent Course – Session 3

### Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> March 2024: Passion Sunday

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

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### Contact Information:

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

Welcome to our service this morning on Mothering Sunday. Junior church meets today in the parish centre; all aged 5 up are very welcome to join for worship and fun. If you are new and would like to know where this is, please ask a member of the clergy. Please feel free to use the Tower Room if you need privacy (e.g. nappy change) which has a 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**

God of love,  
passionate and strong,  
tender and careful:  
watch over us and hold us  
all the days of our life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Old Testament Reading: Exodus 2: 1-10**

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him. The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?' Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because', she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

### **Gospel Reading: Luke 2: 33-35**

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

### **Prayer Over the Gifts**

Lord, we offer you these gifts which bring us peace and joy, increase our reverence by this Eucharist, and bring salvation to the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

### **During communion the choir sings:**

Ave Maria, gratia plena,  
Dominus tecum.  
Benedicta tu in mulieribus,  
Et Benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus.  
Sancta Maria ora pro nobis.

*Hail Mary, full of grace,  
The Lord is with Thee,  
And blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, pray for us.*

Jacques Arcadelt c.1507-1568

### **Please remember in your prayers:**

- Prayers for: Children from St Michael's School preparing for baptism and confirmation this Easter.
- All mothers and carers. For the love we have received from all who have cared for us in our lives.
- All who live in fear for their lives, and those of their loved ones.
- All rehearsing for the Palm Sunday passion in coming weeks.
- those who are **ill**, including: Nicola Cann, Ben Collins, Anne Fletcher, Jacqui Follett, Debbie Greenwood, Daphne Hodges, Helen Huson, Rachael Hymas, Ingrid Kluckova, Joanne Laws, Sam Mahoney, Alison Munro, John Polhill, Alice Reardon, Pat Stroud, Cora Marie Varshney
- the recently departed, including John Facer, Colin Roberts, Eve Souch and those who mourn them
- this week the diocese asks us to pray for: *Parish Prayer Groups*