

NOTICES

Before the **Annual Meetings on 19th May**, the parish **Electoral Roll** needs to be revised, and it is **now open for revision**. 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.

Stewardship Sunday: Every year St Michael's keeps a Sunday of thanksgiving for the generosity of all who give to the parish; of the financial and personal gifts that so many make towards the upkeep and ministry of our churches. In the season of Easter we as a church rejoice in the gift of Jesus Christ, whose risen life gives us life, and who shows us the depth of God's love for us and for the world. It is a time to reflect on the blessings we receive from God's hand, and for us as a church to recognise how those blessings are shared among us.

As Vicar this is my chance to say thank you. Thank you to God with you for his continual and many gifts. And thank you to you, for your generosity and continued giving in response to God's goodness. Our church receives no financial support from the state or diocese - we function because you give, and I know that in times of financial stress this must not be taken for granted. So, thank you. If you would like to talk about your level of giving, or to start making a regular contribution to the work and upkeep of our churches please speak to Nigel our treasurer, who will speak to you enthusiastically about the Parish Giving Scheme. And again, thank you.



St Michael with St Mary

Services this Week

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

Sunday, 14th April 2024: Third Sunday of Easter

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

Wednesday, 17th April

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

Sunday, 21st April 2024: Fourth Sunday of Easter

- 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 service this morning. 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 or one of the welcomers on the door. 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

Risen Christ,
you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope:
strengthen us to proclaim your risen life
and fill us with your peace,
to the glory of God the Father.

New Testament Reading: Acts 3: 12-19

When Peter saw the people's excitement at his healing of the lame man, he addressed the people, 'You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

'And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way .God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out,

Gospel Reading: Luke 24: 36b-48

While they were talking, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.' And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the

third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

Prayer Over the Gifts

Lord, through faith and baptism we have become a new creation. Accept the offerings of your people and bring us to eternal redemption. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please remember in your prayers:

- the Stewardship Committee, especially their work in ensuring that the gifts of our congregations are used fruitfully and well, and for their work in claiming Parish Gift Aid.
- all who give to support the ministry and mission of our Parish
- everyone preparing reports for the APCM, that they may be given perseverance and strength!
- Frederick, Ann, and Audrey, worshipping again at St Michael's after many years
- those who are ill, including:, Nicola Cann, Ben Collins, Anne Fletcher, Jacqui Follett, Debbie Greenwood, Helen Huson, Rachael Hymas, Ingrid Kluckova, Joanne Laws, Sam Mahoney, Alison Munro, John Polhill, Alice Reardon, Pat Stroud, Cora Marie Varshney
- the recently departed, and those who mourn them
- this week the diocese asks us to pray for: *All who offer support to those who are housebound.*