

# NOTICES

**IMPORTANT: TODAY** is the **final day** for acceptance of application forms for inclusion on the church's **Electoral Roll**. **If you are a regular worshipper and haven't filled in a form yet, but wish to join the Roll**, please take an application form and **either** put your completed form through the office letterbox **or, if you wish**, send a scanned copy (pdf preferred, please) to **Georgie** on [admin@parishofstmichaels.org.uk](mailto:admin@parishofstmichaels.org.uk) with **ER FORM** as the title.

**Emily** will be completing her parish placement at St Michael's at the end of May. As she prepares for her ordination to the diaconate and her new ministry as curate at St Saviour's, you are invited to contribute to a monetary gift towards the purchase of clerical clothing as a token of the good wishes of the Parish. Please, pass your donation - cash only please - to John Bannister or Georgie by 16<sup>th</sup> May. Thank you.

**Enquirers' Course:** A five-week course open to anyone who wants to understand what the Christian faith is about. No commitment required at the end, we will simply engage in intelligent exploration. Tuesday evenings, 8pm from 6<sup>th</sup> May. Email Jonny to sign up/know more (see contacts).

**Thursday, 1st May, meeting at 11.00 a.m.** The **first Parish Walk** of the year, led by Kathryn Mathews, will be a flat walk of approximately two miles in the grounds of **Rothamsted Manor**, with lunch at the Research Centre Café. Directions to the meeting place as follows: travelling towards Harpenden on the Harpenden Road (A1081), which becomes St Albans Road, soon after the Redbourn roundabout turn left at the sign 'Rothampsted Research Centre' (it also says 'Rothampsted Conference Centre') and drive up the road past the Conference Centre. Just past the tennis courts we can park on the right. After the walk we can either drive or walk down to the Café, which is a large, airy space with outside seating, serving good hot and cold food. Please let Sue know on [suecvaughan@btinternet.com](mailto:suecvaughan@btinternet.com) if you'd like to join the walk. All welcome!

**Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> May – Quiz Night: 7.30 p.m. for an 8.00 p.m. start at the Memorial Hall, Branch Road, AL3 4SS.** An ideal opportunity to get a team together to test your knowledge. The cost is **£10 per person** and teams are **a maximum of 8 people** per table. Proceeds from the evening will be donated to the **Creaky Tower Fund**. Watch this space for further details.

**Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> July – the annual St Michael's Folk Night event from 7.00 p.m.** St Michael's bellringers will signal the start of the event, and we will once again welcome the SwanVesta Social Club to the churchyard. Delicious food and beer will be available. Proceeds from the evening will be donated to the **Creaky Tower Fund**. Watch this space for further details.

**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> May: 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 either in the churchyard or in the church, it would be very much appreciated. For more information, please get in touch with **Andrew on 07521 955289 (churchyard)** or **Jane on [janelarman@sky.com](mailto:janelarman@sky.com) (cleaning)**.



ST MICHAEL WITH ST MARY

## Services this Week

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

### Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> April 2025: Second Sunday of Easter

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

### Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> April 2025

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

### Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> May 2025: Third Sunday of Easter

8.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist  
9.30 a.m. All-Age 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)  
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.parishofstmichaels.org.uk](http://www.parishofstmichaels.org.uk)

Welcome to our service this morning. Junior church is not meeting today so please feel free to use the children's corner in the north aisle or 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,  
for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred:  
open the doors of our hearts,  
that we may seek the good of others  
and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace,  
to the praise of God the Father.

### **New Testament Reading: Acts 5: 27-32**

When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, 'We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us.' But Peter and the apostles answered, 'We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour, so that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.'

### **Gospel Reading: John 20: 19-31**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

### **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:**

- For all persecuted for their faith
- All feeling a sense of call to ordination as deacon or priest in the church.
- Those who are ill, including: Ben Collins, Jacqui Follett, Helen Huson, Rachael Hymas, Ingrid Kluckova, Sam Mahoney, John Polhill, Cora Marie Varshney
- All the recently departed, and those who mourn them.
- This week the diocese asks us to pray for: *All who work as Street Evangelists*