

NOTICES

ELECTORAL ROLL - The Roll **closed on 27th April** and the new roll is displayed at the back of both churches. New names cannot be added until **after** the Annual Church Meetings on **18th May**. Please take a moment to check if your name is shown and if not, fill in an Application Form (at the back of both churches) and **either** put your completed form through the office letterbox **or, if you wish**, send a scanned copy (pdf preferred, please) to **Georgie** (see contacts) **with ER FORM** as the title. Once the Roll has been re-opened, your details will be added.

Hard copies of the **2024 Annual Report and Accounts** are available at the back of both churches – please only take one if really necessary as we have reduced the number available to save on costs. An electronic copy has been loaded onto the church website and can be found at www.parishofstmichaels.org.uk/news However, if you would like a pdf copy, please send Georgie an email request on admin@parishofstmichaels.org.uk

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 16th May. Thank you.

Sunday 18th May, starting at 3.00 p.m. at the Cathedral. There will be a Farewell Service for Bishop Alan, all are welcome to attend. If you wish to make a contribution towards the gift which will be presented at this service, the information is as follows:
Account Name: St Albans Diocesan Board of Finance **Account Number:** 20776041
Sort Code: 20-05-03 **Reference:** BISH2025 *(please note that without this reference funds will not be allocated to the gift)*

Wednesday, 2nd 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 church. Watch this space for further details.



ST MICHAEL WITH ST MARY

Services this Week

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

Sunday, 11th May 2025: Fourth Sunday of Easter

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

Wednesday, 14th May 2025

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

Sunday, 18th May 2025: Fifth Sunday of Easter

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

Contact Information:

Vicar: The Rev'd Jonny Lloyd: vicar@parishofstmichaels.org.uk
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.parishofstmichaels.org.uk

Welcome to our worship this morning. It's good to be together! Junior church meets in the parish centre and go out during the first hymn for their service. As well the children's corner contains themed-worksheets, books and toys if you'd like to keep little people busy; 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

Risen Christ,
faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep:
teach us to hear your voice
and to follow your command,
that all your people may be gathered into one flock,
to the glory of God the Father.

New Testament Reading: Acts 9: 36-43

Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which by interpretation is called Dorcas: this woman was full of good works and almsdeeds which she did.

And it came to pass in those days, that she was sick, and died: whom when they had washed, they laid her in an upper chamber.

And forasmuch as Lydda was nigh to Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent unto him two men, desiring him that he would not delay to come to them.

Then Peter arose and went with them. When he was come, they brought him into the upper chamber: and all the widows stood by him weeping, and shewing the coats and garments which Dorcas made, while she was with them.

But Peter put them all forth, and kneeled down, and prayed; and turning him to the body said, Tabitha, arise. And she opened her eyes: and when she saw Peter, she sat up.

And he gave her his hand, and lifted her up, and when he had called the saints and widows, presented her alive.

And it was known throughout all Joppa; and many believed in the Lord.

And it came to pass, that he tarried many days in Joppa with one Simon a tanner.

Between the first and second readings Psalm 23 is sung

THE Lord is my shepherd:

therefore can I lack nothing.

He shall feed me in a green pasture:

and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.

He shall convert my soul:

and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness, for his Name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:

for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff comfort me.

Thou shalt prepare a table before me against them that trouble me:

thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full.

But thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

Gospel Reading: John 10:22-30

And it was at Jerusalem the feast of the dedication, and it was winter.

And Jesus walked in the temple in Solomon's porch.

Then came the Jews round about him, and said unto him, How long dost thou make us to doubt? If thou be the Christ, tell us plainly.

Jesus answered them, I told you, and ye believed not: the works that I do in my Father's name, they bear witness of me.

But ye believe not, because ye are not of my sheep, as I said unto you.

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me:

And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.

My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand.

I and my Father are one..

Anthem

These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth,

These were redeemed from among men,

Being the first-fruits unto God and to the Lamb.

And in their mouth was found no guile,

For they are without fault before the throne of God.

Music – John Goss (1800-1880)

Revelation 14 vv4 & 5

Prayer Over the Gifts

Lord, restore us by these mysteries. May the continuing work of our Redeemer bring us eternal joy. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please remember in your prayers:

- All exploring membership of the Christian Church, that they may be strengthened by the Spirit and find a community of support, love, and encouragement in their faith. That God help us in St Michael's and St Mary's to be such a place, each taking responsibility for the flourishing of the church.
- The Roman Catholic Church, and their new leader Pope Leo XIV
- Lisa Finnegan, as she prepares to take up her new role as head of St Michael's C of E Primary next year.
- Alison Rafferty as she prepares to retire.
- Anyone dealing with an unexpected diagnosis, their families and friends.
- 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.
- Stella Sexton whose ashes will be interred today, and her family.
- This week the diocese asks us to pray for: *All who attend Church each Sunday*