

St Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford

Newsletter and Notices

Sundays 14th and 21st August 2022 Ninth & Tenth Sunday after Trinity



The church is open each day, from early morning to mid afternoon.

An opportunity to spend some comforting time in prayer, peace and reflection.

Collect for The Ninth Sunday after Trinity

Almighty God, who sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church: open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace; 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.

A Psalm for Trinity 9, Psalm 82

Refrain: Arise, O God, and judge the earth.

God has taken his stand in the council of heaven; in the midst of the gods he gives judgement:

'How long will you judge unjustly and show such favour to the wicked?

'You were to judge the weak and the orphan; defend the right of the humble and needy;

'Rescue the weak and the poor; deliver them from the hand of the wicked. [R]

'They have no knowledge or wisdom; they walk on still in darkness:

all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

Therefore I say that though you are gods and all of you children of the Most High,

'Nevertheless, you shall die like mortals and fall like one of their princes.'

Arise, O God and judge the earth,

for it is you that shall take all nations for your possession. [R]

God our deliverer, when the foundations are shaken and justice has departed, defend the poor and needy and give your people strength to fight all wrong in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Gospel for The Ninth Sunday after Trinity, Luke 12. 49-56

Jesus said, 'I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on, five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.' He also said to the crowds, 'When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, "It is going to rain"; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, "There will be scorching heat"; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?

Collect for The Tenth Sunday after Trinity

Let your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of your humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions make them to ask such things as shall please 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.

A Psalm for Trinity 10, Psalm 103, 1-8

Refrain: The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless his holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits; [R]

Who forgives all your sins and heals all your infirmities;

Who redeems your life from the Pit and crowns you with faithful love and compassion;

Who satisfies you with good things, so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's. [R]

The Lord executes righteousness and judgement for all who are oppressed.

He made his ways known to Moses and his works to the children of Israel.

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and of great kindness. [R]

Merciful Lord, as we come from dust and return to dust, show us the face of our Redeemer,
that in our frailty we may bless your name and praise you all our days; through Jesus Christ
our Lord. Amen.

Gospel for The Tenth Sunday after Trinity, Luke 13. 10-17

Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, 'Woman, you are set free from your ailment.' When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, 'There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day.' But the Lord answered him and said, 'You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?' When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

Come and share our short session for children and young people during our Sunday 10am service EVERY WEEK! We invite children of all ages, with their adults, to come into the Lady Chapel during part of the service, and share in A Godly Play (a short visual storytelling of scriptures, with wondering questions, stories, crafts, puzzles, and even some acting for

those that want ... for all ages to share together; then various age related activities). We're delighted to say that in this last ten months we've grown enough to enable a fortnightly breakout session for older children/young people too: during the sermon on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month, also in the Lady Chapel. There will be a display in the Lady Chapel most weeks, if you'd like to find out more! You might also like to explore the links on Our Children & Young People website page has loads of activities to help young people get to know the person of Jesus.



We continue with the Gospels for our Godly Play sessions. Last week we heard the parable of the ten waiting women and that we must be ready when Jesus returns to the earth: our lives should show that we are ready to go to heaven with him! We played a game of 'filling-up' to remind us to be prepared. Luke 12. 32-40



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14th August

10am Parish Communion, in Church

21st August

8am Holy Communion, in Church 10am Service of the Word, in Church & Zoom (ID 846 662 9590 / 834900)

We're delighted to offer refreshments in the WCC after the 10am service.

8am services will be fortnightly over the summer holidays - There will be NO 8am service on Sunday 14th or 28th August. There will be Holy Communion available at 10am on 14th and 28th August. Weekly 8am Holy Communion services resume on 4th September and continue onwards.

Holy Communion, Wednesday 17th and 24th August, 10am, in church - A service of Holy Communion, in church. Due to the bells' work, refreshments after the service will be held in the WCC.

TINY TOTS CONTINUES ALL SUMMER! Wednesday 17th and 24th August, 11 for 11:15am in the WCC - Worship for babies/children and their parents / carers; with a story, singing and instruments for little ones too! Join us for refreshments, fellowship and a little chance for the children to play before the service.

Bishop's Stortford Hospitality Support, Wednesdays from 11:30am-2pm - St Michael's is providing space at the WCC for Ukranian guests and their host families to meet together, along with some informal language lessons, once a week. Our volunteer numbers have grown as have attendee numbers, and we have been joined by some members of St Joseph's and others. With the growing numbers, as of 13th July St Joseph's Hall will be open, with more voluntary support as an additional space for teaching or play. We are still providing a light lunch and refreshments for adults and children and whatever other support we can. If you are still considering joining our band of volunteers, please contact Jenny Klincke (833523 / jennyklincke@gmail.com)

Prayers for our Community in Church, Saturday 20th & 27th August, 9:30am - All welcome.

News from the Tower - We will be having an exhibition about the bells in the 'Arts Space' of the museum from Monday 29th August to Monday 12th September. Also, Alan Padgett will be delivering his talk about the bells on Tuesday 20th September at 12:30pm in Bishop's Stortford Museum.

Parish Office - The Parish Office is closed for the duration of the bell restoration works. Katharine is on holiday until Sunday 29th August, returning to work on Tuesday 30th August; but the answerphone will be checked regularly.

More details of all services and events are available on the Calendar page on our website. Do follow us on Social Media too, for regular updates.

TLC Tuesday 6th September, 2:15pm for 2:30pm, WCC - An opportunity to be able to join in with tea and talk, read the paper, play board games ... and then later in the afternoon we welcome families after school for a short while, to share in reading/play and enjoy a biscuit/cake/fruit snack. Do come along ... and tell your friends too (we were delighted to welcome a group from Age Concern to our July session!) We'll begin with a short time of prayer just after 2:15pm before our session at 2:30pm, until about 4:30pm. This coming month, it's an Autumn/Harvest theme!

Bike 'n Hike 2022, Saturday 10th September 2022 - This is the most important fundraising event for the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Historic Churches Trust ride or walk around churches in the area to raise money for the trust, with 50% to our own church. Katharine (and some of the family!) will be hoping to cycle 40 miles and visit about 40 churches that day so please do sponsor her; details in the Publicity Area. It would be great to offer a cold drink and a smile to visitors here that day too: so please sign up if you can help for an hour or two!

Friends of St Michael's Outing to Wimpole Hall, Saturday, 10th September – A National Trust house in Cambridgeshire, with parkland and farm. Pick up at 8:30/8:45am, returning 4:30pm. The cost of the trip is £15 for the coach plus £1 tip for the driver - £16 in total. For non-NT members, the £15 admission fee can be made on the day in the entrance hall. Sign up in church / email robertklincke@gmail.com.

Beds & Herts Historic Churches Trust Church Tour, Saturday 17th September -"We are delighted to be able to run a further Church Tour this year led by a knowledgeable guide. Tickets are £25 to include afternoon tea and coach travel to a few churches in our East Herts locality". Details and booking forms are on a poster in the Publicity Area.

Food Bank Plea - Increased costs of living are hitting foodbanks hard. Please consider whether you can donate food: details on our website and church noticeboard.

Parish Register for July

We welcome Rudy, Fenella & Dickie Thompson and Jasper Barrie into the fellowship of faith following their Baptism in July.

We also remember in our prayers the families of Jacquie Goddard, Shirley Price, Maisie Horsley and Gladys Harris whose funerals took place recently; and John Tarran, whose ashes were interred in our Garden of Remembrance last month.

The Rev'd Derwyn Williams (Vicar) The Rev'd Derek Hinge (PTO) The Rev'd June Knight (PTO) Rob Klincke (Reader)

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