St Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford

Newsletter and Notices

Sunday 21st April 2024 Fourth Sunday of Easter



8am Holy Communion, in Church 10am Service of the Word, in Church & Zoom

You are welcome to share in our worship in the following ways:

1. Come to Church All are welcome!

Remember to bring your order of service for the 10am service.

2. Join Zoom on your computer

When signed in you can 'Join a Meeting' (ID: 927 480 8728 / Passcode: 889123).

- 3. Join with Audio Zoom via phone
- a) Call 0131 460 1196 b) Enter Meeting ID then #, then enter Meeting Passcode then #

Come and enjoy fellowship and refreshments in the WCC after the 10am service

Collect for The Fourth Sunday of Easter

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

A Psalm for today, Psalm 46

Refrain: The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

- God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble;
- Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains tremble in the heart of the sea;
- 3 Though the waters rage and swell, and though the mountains guake at the towering seas.
- There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place of the dwelling of the Most High.
- 5 God is in the midst of her; therefore shall she not be removed: God shall help her at the break of day.
- 6 The nations are in uproar and the kingdoms are shaken, but God utters his voice and the earth shall melt away. [R]
- 8 Come and behold the works of the Lord, what destruction he has wrought upon the earth.
- 9 He makes wars to cease in all the world: he shatters the bow and snaps the spear and burns the chariots in the fire.
- 10 'Be still, and know that I am God;

I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.' [R]

Romans reading for today:

Romans 8. 26-39 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?

A Gospel reading for today, John 16. 29-33

Jesus' disciples said, 'Yes, now you are speaking plainly, not in any figure of speech! Now we know that you know all things, and do not need to have anyone question you; by this we believe that you came from God.' Jesus answered them, 'Do you now believe? The hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each one to his home, and you will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone because the Father is with me. I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world!'

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

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 also have an older group breakout session on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month

Today, we'll be continuing our Eastertide theme (Matthew 28.20) as

Our Godly Play Easter Display

we consider how Jesus is here: "And remember. I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Our Children & Young People website page has loads of activities to help young people get to know the person of Jesus.

Have you enjoyed our choral music this Easter? We are delighted with the recommencement of our young person's choir - If your child is 7 or over and interested in joining, please contact Nathan Collins (stmichaelsbsdom@gmail.com) We will also be starting choral and organ scholarships for our young people and welcome the support of those who would like to help contribute to these.



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

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

Bereavement Journey Course, Thursdays for 6 weeks from 18th April. 10am-12:30pm - For anyone who has been bereaved at any time and in any way. There is a series of films and discussion groups looking at grief, within a safe space. You are welcome to have a preliminary discussion with a team member: June Knight, Vivienne Emmett, Liz Puller, or email Alison Jordan on alisonfaith1111@gmail.com

Holy Communion, Wednesday 24th April, 10am - A service of Holy Communion, in church. Refreshments after the service are held in the WCC.

Tiny Tots, Wednesday 24th April, from 10:45 for 11:15am - Worship for babies/toddlers; with a story, singing and instruments too! Join us for refreshments, fellowship and a chance for the children to play beforehand in the WCC, if you can. We gather in the WCC and walk across to the Lady Chapel at 11:15am for a short worship.

Prayers for our Community, Saturday 27th April, 9:30am – A half hour session of informal prayer. All welcome.

Quiet Days in Albury, next on Wednesday 1st May -These popular days of reflection and contemplation in June's home have returned. Places are limited. please contact the Parish Office for more information. (Please note that this date has had to change once again due to the funeral of The Rev'd Clive Slaughter on Friday 26th April).

Bishop's Stortford Gospel Choir Concert 4th May 7pm at Holy Trinity - This Spring Concert is to raise money for the Holy Trinity Night Shelter. Tickets are £10 (Concessions £7). Tickets available at ccbs.org.uk

TLC Tuesday, 7th May in the WCC, 2:15pm for 2:30pm - Join tea and talk and a regular 10/15 minute presentation on wide ranging interests. 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! This coming month, Margaret Webb will be our speaker, talking about her work with the charity, Rotary Jaipur Limb.

Ascension Day, Thursday 9th May, 7:30pm – All are warmly invited to share in our special Evensong service of Holy Communion, with music and hymns.

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.

Services for Pentecost, Sunday 19th May - Please note these services in your diary, more information soon! 8am Holy Communion, 10am Pentecost Praise Service of the Word, 11:15am A simple Book of Common Prayer Said Holy Communion at the High Altar to offer Pentecost Communion.

Annual Meetings - Our Vestry Meeting and APCM will be held after worship on the morning of 26th May. The Electoral Roll will be revised until 28th April. See notices/forms for details. If you can consider offering service as a Parochial Church Council (PCC) member for 2024-27 (5 Monday meetings annually, at 7:45pm), please speak to a Churchwarden, Minister, or current PCC member. Many thanks.

The TLC Club invites you to join them on their annual mystery tour on **Tuesday 4th June –** "We leave Bishop's Stortford just after 1pm, arriving back around 5:30/6pm. Cost is £25 covering travel and cream tea at our destination". Speak to Rosemary asap or email/call her for more details and to book (r.thomson019@gmail.com / 758389).

HBW. Monday 5th - Friday 9th August, Windhill21 - This year's theme is 'There's a world out there' Registration for children and volunteer sign up here.

Small part-time job available – We are looking for a cleaner for the WCC: 5 hours a week, flexible hours. If you're interested, please contact Gill or Claire.

Volunteer Chaplaincy – Are you interested in becoming a chaplaincy volunteer visitor? Princess Alexandra Hospital is planning to run a training course for interested potential new chaplaincy volunteers. The ten-week course will run every Tuesday evening starting on Tuesday 16th April, from 6:30-8:30pm. Email paht.chaplaincy@nhs.net or call 01279 973407/973183 to book your space.

St Albans Diocesan Synod Elections - Elections to the Diocesan Synod by the Houses of Laity and Clergy in the Deanery Synods for the triennium 2024-2027 will be held between 1st May and 15th July 2024 this year. Please see the noticeboard for more information and speak to Derwyn, if you'd value his recollections of serving on the Synod.

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The Rev'd Derwyn Williams (Vicar) The Rev'd Derek Hinge (PTO)

The Rev'd June Knight (PTO) 07539 058946 Rob Klincke (Reader)

Vicar's Email: stmichaelsbsvicar@gmail.com Charity Registration No. 1130646

Churchwardens: Claire Conquest 07944 431873 Gill Johnson 07912 432221

Deputy Churchwardens: T Pigram, P Rixson Parish Office

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