



Newsletter and Notices

8am Holy Communion, in Church

10am Service of the Word, in Church & [Zoom](#)

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

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 #

Collect for The Second Sunday of Epiphany

Almighty God, in Christ you make all things new: transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your heavenly glory; 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.

Gospel for today, John 1. 29-42

John the Baptist saw Jesus coming towards him and declared, 'Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, "After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me." I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.' And John testified, 'I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit." And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.' The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, 'Look, here is the Lamb of God!' The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, 'What are you looking for?' They said to him, 'Rabbi' (which translated means Teacher), 'where are you staying?' He said to them, 'Come and see.' They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas' (which is translated Peter).

Sunday 15th January 2023

The Second Sunday of Epiphany

A Psalm for today, Psalm 40. 1-11

Refrain: Great are the wonders you have done, O Lord my God.

I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry.

He brought me out of the roaring pit, out of the mire and clay;

he set my feet upon a rock and made my footing sure.

He has put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God; many shall see and fear and put their trust in the Lord.

Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord,

who does not turn to the proud that follow a lie.

Great are the wonders you have done, O Lord my God.

How great your designs for us!

There is none that can be compared with you.

If I were to proclaim them and tell of them

they would be more than I am able to express. **[R]**

Sacrifice and offering you do not desire but my ears you have opened; Burnt offering and sacrifice for sin you have not required; then said I: 'Lo, I come. In the scroll of the book it is written of me that I should do your will, O my God; I delight to do it: your law is within my heart.'

I have declared your righteousness in the great congregation; behold, I did not restrain my lips, and that, O Lord, you know.

Your righteousness I have not hidden in my heart;

I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation;

I have not concealed your loving-kindness and truth from the great congregation. **[R]**

Free us from our sins, O God, and may our sacrifices be of praise to the glory of your Son, our Redeemer, Jesus Christ. Amen.

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've lost a few of our helpers recently and sadly we can't offer our fortnightly breakout session for older children/young people BUT WE CAN DO SO ONCE A MONTH!!** There's a display in the Lady Chapel, if you'd like to find out more! Our [Children & Young People](#) website page has loads of activities to help young people get to know the person of Jesus.



The Baptism of Christ:
our session last week.



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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

Holy Communion, Wednesday 18th January, 10am – A service of Holy Communion, in church. Refreshments after the service will be held in the WCC.

Tiny Tots, Wednesday 18th January, 11 for 11:15am in the WCC – Worship for babies/toddlers and their grown-ups; with a story, singing and instruments for little ones too! Join us for refreshments, fellowship and a chance for the children to play beforehand.

Ukrainian Hospitality Support, Wednesdays from 11:30am-2pm – St Michael's is providing space at the WCC for Ukrainian guests and host families to meet together, along with informal language lessons, once a week. St Joseph's Hall is open too, as extra space for teaching or play. We are offering a light lunch / refreshments for adults and children and whatever other support we can.

Prayers for our Community, Saturday 21st January, 9:30am – A half hour session of informal prayer. All welcome.

Thirst Youth Café Wednesday and Thursdays – "We're delighted to let you know that we are now offering FREE hot food at Thirst Youth Café for secondary school children (11-18's) on Wednesdays and Thursdays from 3:30pm as part of the "Warm Spaces" initiative. Food available whilst stocks last. Menu changes weekly."

Oliver King Organ Recital, Saturday 28th January, 7-8:30pm – "A formidable force in organ playing". Oliver played piano at St Michael's as part of a 'four hands' piano recital with Martin Huggett in 2019. You can find out more about him and the evening's programme by visiting the [Music page](#) on our website. We look forward to welcoming Oliver back for this exciting concert.

TLC Tuesday 7th February, 2:15pm for 2:30pm, WCC – An opportunity to be able to join in with 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! Rosemary has written a reflection/plans for 2023 [on the website](#) so do take a look.

St Albans Cursillo weekend 10th-12th February – Our next weekend will take place at Pleshey (near Chelmsford). We already have a couple of participants from St Michael's and if anyone else is interested then please let us know as soon as possible to help with the planning. More explanation is at www.stalbanscursillo.com. Many members of St Michael's would recommend: do speak to the Ashwoods, the Emmetts, the Hinges, Claire Conquest, Pam Johnson-Cook and Audrey Smith. The application form is on the Cursillo website and is to be sent to Mike Ashwood who is the Bookings secretary.

Sunday 15th January 2023
The Second Sunday of Epiphany



Holly Rings – If you bought a Holly Ring, please could you return just the wire ring and pine cones to be recycled to help save expenses next time. Thank you.

Travelling Crib sheep – We hope that you and your families enjoyed sharing in the Crib during Advent! If you have held onto your sheep over Christmas, would you be good enough to return it to Katharine (or put it in the porch post box) as soon as possible? Many thanks!

Tesco blue tokens for Bells restoration project – We have been successful in our application for the Tesco Community Grants Scheme. Please consider using your blue tokens (in Stortford, Stansted and Elsenham Tesco branches) for our Bells Appeal, from mid-January until the end of March. Winning vote wins £1500.

A message from Archdeacon Janet – Derwyn's recovery is continuing. His involvement in parish worship and activity is gradually increasing. Plans are in place for this to continue over the coming weeks and months. Derwyn is looking to take on a manageable amount of pastoral work and is happy to have 1-1 face to face conversations. Electronic enquiries about parish activities and ministry should continue to go to the Parish Office or to June or Derek. For practical Parish matters, please do approach the Churchwardens in the first instance. Please do continue to pray for Derwyn and the family, for one another and for your wider community. With my prayers, thanks and good wishes for you all, Archdeacon Janet.

Food Bank Plea – Increased costs of living are hitting foodbanks hard. Do consider whether you can donate: details on our [website](#) and church noticeboard.

Charges are introduced for Sunday town parking – A fixed all-day rate of £1.50 from Sunday 15th January, including Apton Road and Basbow Lane carparks.

DIGITAL GIVING TO ST MICHAEL'S

While fewer people carry cash, and our donations in the collection plates and offertory box remain much smaller than before the pandemic, the costs of running our parish remain. Please consider using our digital giving facility to support St Michael's.

To give by phone: text **STMIC** (then a number from 2 to 20, e.g. STMIC7 or STMIC15) to **70085**. The most efficient way to give is by Standing Order direct from your bank account: please see the Giving Sunday envelopes from our most recent Stewardship renewal, in the Welcome Area. Thank you for considering your giving to

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.

The Rev'd Derwyn Williams (Vicar)

The Rev'd Derek Hinge (PTO)

The Rev'd June Knight (PTO)

Rob Klincke (Reader)

Churchwardens: Claire Conquest 07944 431873

Gill Johnson 07912 432221

Deputy Churchwardens: T Pigram, P Rixson

01279 654416

Email: church@saintmichaelweb.org.uk



Website: www.saintmichaelweb.org.uk



Scan code
for website