

St Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford

Newsletter and Notices

Sunday 14th May 2023 Sixth Sunday of Easter



No Service at 8am

10am Parish Communion, in Church

We welcome Bahram Asadi and Atena Omrani to share Communion with us as newly confirmed members of the church.

12:30pm Holy Baptism

6pm Festal Choral Evensong

in Thanksgiving for the Coronation of King Charles III

Come and enjoy fellowship and refreshments in the WCC after the 10am & 6pm services.

A Psalm for today, Psalm 66. 7-end

Refrain: All the earth shall worship you, O Lord.

Bless our God, O you peoples; make the voice of his praise to be heard,

Who holds our souls in life and suffers not our feet to slip.

For you, O God, have proved us; you have tried us as silver is tried.

You brought us into the snare; you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.

You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water;

but you brought us out into a place of liberty. [R]

I will come into your house with burnt offerings and will pay you my vows,

which my lips uttered and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.

I will offer you fat burnt sacrifices with the smoke of rams; I will sacrifice oxen and goats. [R]

Come and listen, all you who fear God, and I will tell you what he has done for my soul.

I called out to him with my mouth and his praise was on my tongue.

If I had nursed evil in my heart, the Lord would not have heard me,

But in truth God has heard me; he has heeded the voice of my prayer.

Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, nor withheld his loving mercy from me. [R]

How generous is your goodness, O God,

how great is your salvation, how faithful is your love;

help us to trust you in trial and praise you in deliverance;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

RESOURCING ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

Please take and ponder a letter from the Vicar, Churchwarden and Treasurer, about giving of time, talents and treasure,

Please help if you can with delivering letters personally addressed to members of HUBB (our Church Management System).

Please take one of the generic Giving Season envelopes if you are not yet registered with HUBB.

Many thanks.

Collect for The Sixth Sunday of Easter

God our redeemer, you have delivered us from the power of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of your Son: grant, that as by his death he has recalled us to life, so by his continual presence in us he may raise us to eternal joy; 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 Gospel reading for today, John 14. 15-21

Jesus said, 'If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you for ever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

'I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.'

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 turning to the Old Testament and starting a series about Isaac (Genesis 18. 1-15, 21. 1-8).



Our Easter Garden

Our <u>Children & Young People</u> website page has loads of activities to help young people get to know the person of Jesus this Easter season.



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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.

Services to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III, this Sunday 14th May, 10am Parish Communion and 6pm Festal Choral Evensong in Thanksgiving for the Coronation of King Charles III, when we're delighted that the new Bishop of Hertford, The Rt Rev'd Dr Jane Mainwaring will be preaching.

Christian Aid Week. 14th-20th May - Help dreams come true this Christian Aid Week: Give. Act. Pray. If you wish to find out more or to make a donation, go to caweek.org or give via the Christian Aid Red Bucket in church at services from 14th May.



Why not have fun and try the CA Quiz with family and friends! Thank you so much. Carole Macdonald.

Holy Communion, Wednesday 17th May, 10am - A service of Holy Communion, in church Refreshments after the service will be held in the WCC.

Tiny Tots, Wednesday 17th May, 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, WCC - Space at the WCC for Ukrainian guests and host families to meet weekly, with informal language lessons.

Ascension Day, Thursday 18th May – All are warmly invited to share in our Joint Deanery Evensong Service at Great St Mary's in Sawbridgeworth at 7:45pm. For those who cannot travel there, do join us at St Michael's for a simple said service of Holy Communion at 10am.

Prayers for our Community in Church, Saturday 20th May, 9:30am - A half hour session of informal prayer. All welcome.

Jill Crossland Piano Recital, Sunday 21st May, 3pm – We are delighted to be hosting the legendary Jill Crossland on piano for a feast of Bach, Mozart, Scarlatti and Beethoven. Jill has an active concert and recording career and has made a number of appearances at London's South Bank and Wigmore Hall. Free admission with retiring collection. Refreshments will be served: this time it will be Victoria sponge and lemon drizzle cake!

APCM, 28th May after 10am service – Nominations for PCC welcomed! Over the coming weeks the APCM documentation will be published on the website from the PCC page.

Thanksgiving and Celebration for the end of the Bells Project, Trinity Sunday 4th June Please save the date in your diary to join us in worship at 10am then enjoy special refreshments afterwards in the Windhill Churches Centre. More details soon.

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 June, 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! This month we welcome Beryl Jones as our speaker.

The TLC Club is offering an open invitation to their event on 4th July – A mystery tour taking you by coach around the local villages and arriving at a secret venue for a cream tea. The cost is £25 to cover coach travel and the tea (cash or cheques payable to R Thomson to be given on booking). If you'd like to come please speak to Blanche or Rosemary as they both have a booking folder with confirmation and pickup details and will be pleased to accept your money!

HBW 'Superheroes' 7th-11th August 2023 – Sign up for helpers and children is open at holidaybibleweek.co.uk Please pray for the success of this year. Do join our launch night which is being hosted at the Baptist Church on the evening of 8th June - with great excitement over the theme song! It's also a chance to meet the tent teams and encourage each other.

Could you help us as a verger for funerals in church? Contact the Office if you're interested. It's not an onerous role and training will be given. We would value some help!

The Church-School Committee of the Governors at St Michael's school really needs one or more Associate Governors - There are only two formal meetings a year. We focus on the SIAMS 'Church school' inspections priorities, RE and Collective Worship, and also promote and encourage Church links, with St Michael's Church in particular. We would appreciate more input from St Michael's Church to complement the excellent work by the headteacher Rachel Griffiths at school. The last inspection feedback (2019) is available on the St Michael's school website. Hopefully we can support the school in this important area. Please speak to us at church or contact by email the co-chairs Val Ashwood and Mark Johnson (chair@stmichaelsimi.herts.sch.uk) or see Katharine Stanley if you are interested.

Charities Support Group News - CSG would like to thank the congregation for donations to our Lent Appeal through the Red Bucket, Lent Lunches and Online donations. The total raised was £663.56 and it has been divided equally between Hope and Homes for Children and Bishop's Stortford Youth Project (includes Thirst Cafe). We also raffled a special bottle of Coronation fizz last Sunday and raised £60. Thanks to Beryl Jones for the kind donation of the bottle.

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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