St Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford

Newsletter and Notices

Sunday 3rd August The Seventh Sunday after Trinity



Last week we concluded our

Wonderful God! The older

series, Good News, with Psalm

95. 1-7, and learning about our

children made an origami sheep as a reminder of a reason we

should praise God: 'The Lord is

our God, and we are his people,

the sheep he takes care of in

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 Seventh Sunday after Trinity

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same; 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 today, Psalm 49. 1-12

Refrain: Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord.

Hear this, all you peoples: listen, all you that dwell in the world.

You of low or high degree, both rich and poor together.

My mouth shall speak of wisdom and my heart shall meditate on understanding.

will incline my ear to a parable; I will unfold my riddle with the lyre. [R]

Why should I fear in evil days, when the malice of my foes surrounds me,

Such as trust in their goods and glory in the abundance of their riches?

For no one can indeed ransom another or pay to God the price of deliverance.

To ransom a soul is too costly; there is no price one could pay for it,

So that they might live for ever, and never see the grave.

For we see that the wise die also;

with the foolish and ignorant they perish and leave their riches to others.

Their tomb is their home for ever, their dwelling through all generations,

though they call their lands after their own names.

Those who have honour, but lack understanding, are like the beasts that perish. [R] Save us from envy, God our Redeemer, and deliver us from the chains of wealth, that, ransomed through your Son, we may inherit the crown of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Parish Register for July

We remember in our prayers the families of Ian Armstrong, Gloria Barber and Terry Heenan whose funerals took place in July, and of Jenny Klincke, whose ashes were interred last month.

We celebrate and give thanks for the Renewal of Vows of Rob and Shell Langston.

A Gospel reading for today, Luke 12. 13-21

Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, 'Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.' But he said to him, 'Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?' And he said to them, 'Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.' Then he told them a parable: 'The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, "What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?" Then he said, "I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry." But God said to him, "You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?" So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich towards God.'

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). **Today, we'll be returning to the Old Testament to learn about Daniel and Esther, starting with Daniel's new life** (Daniel 1).

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

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.

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

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

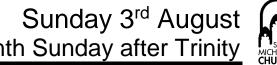
PRAYER, COUNSEL AND SUPPORT

If parishioners would value the prayers, counsel and support of the church, in time of need for themselves or others on their hearts, please do reach out to the ministry team. Do speak to us in person at church services and events, or use contact details on next page. Thank you.

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The Seventh Sunday after Trinity





Forthcoming 8am services - We'll celebrate Holy Communion at 8am next this Sunday 3rd August, then 31st August.

HBW 2025, 'Once upon a time...', Monday 4th - Friday 8th August - Please pray for the children and for all those involved in the event.

TLC Tuesdays, next meeting this Tuesday 5th August in the WCC, 2:15pm for 2:30pm Join tea and talk and a regular short presentation on wide ranging interests. This Tuesday, we'll be having a fundraising afternoon for the charity Breast Cancer Now, with Bingo and a special raffle, tea/coffee and cake: it'll be £5 each for the whole afternoon on this occasion.

Holy Communion, Wednesday 6th August, 10am - A service of Holy Communion. lin church. Refreshments after the service are held in the WCC.

Tiny Tots, Thursdays from 12:30-2/2:30pm, WCC - For parents/carers and babies/preschoolers in term time; plus older children in the holidays. Playtime, tea/coffee. songs, stories, activities and a prayer. Buggy access and baby change available, and you're welcome to bring a packed lunch if you like. It's also ok to be late, we understand! Thank you all for your continued support of Tiny Tots. In these school holidays we look to again welcome older siblings to the group, although we're not meeting on 14th August. If anyone has any puzzles with larger pieces, or games that don't have small parts, such as Buckaroo, draughts, chess and are looking to give them a new home please think of Tiny Tots. We would really appreciate them to keep the slightly older children busy. Thank you so much, Shell and Heather.

Prayers for our Community, Saturday 9th August, 9:30-10am - All welcome.

"Summer of Hope" fundraising Garden Party, Saturday 9th August, 2:30pm – Al members of the congregation are invited to this event to support Mothers' Union, at 21 Cranwell Gardens. Entry £3. Children welcome. Please RSVP to Barbara Eldridge (with dietary requirements) by email (barbaraheleneldridge@gmail.com) or phone 01279 653753 before Monday 4th August.

Quiet Days in Albury, next on Thursday 28th August – Days of reflection and contemplation in June's home: contact the Office for more information.

Our craft group meets on alternate Mondays in the WCC, 10am - 12noon - All welcome! We're taking a short summer break and next meet on **Monday 8**th September.

The first meeting to start planning the Holly Fair (6th December 10am) this year is Thursday 11th September at 8pm in WCC. Please come along whether you're new or a regular. We raise money for the charities supported by our Charities Support Group. If you can help but are unable to be at the meeting please let one of the CSG know (e.g. Claire, Carole, Val, Martyn).

New PCC Governor for St Michael's School - Would you like to be a school governor? It's a rewarding and important role in a friendly team and we currently have one vacancy for September. There are 7 foundation governors appointed by the PCC at church or St Albans diocese to uphold the Christian ethos of the school as well as taking other responsibilities. See Mark Johnson (Chair) or Val Ashwood or email chair@stmichaelsjmi.herts.sch.uk

Clerk for St Michael's School Governors – This is a paid role and involves taking minutes for the 5 Full Governor meetings as well as doing the paperwork for new governor appointments, learning about governance and working with the chair and other governors. See Mark Johnson (Chair) or Val Ashwood as above.

Forthcoming Services using the Book of Common Prayer (1662) – Sunday 14th September, 6pm: Choral Evensong for Holy Cross Day; Sunday 26th October, 10am: BCP Choral Eucharist for Bible/Reformation Sunday.

Archivist – We are looking for someone to take on the church archiving. It is an interesting, important and creative role, which you can make your own, and do in your own time. Please see Gill for details.

The Children's Society - Thank you to everyone who has a Children's Society collecting box. Please could you hand it in to me for counting and banking. I can pick them up if necessary. Carole Macdonald.

Giving Season - Please place responses in the post box in the corner of the North Porch. Thank you for those responses which have already begun to come in. If you haven't yet received a Giving Season envelope, please take one from the Publicity Area.

Is there anyone who would like to take over the very rewarding task of cleaning the church silver? Fae has been working with the silver, quietly and conscientiously for many years and a successor is required. Please speak to Peter if interested.

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) Parish Office

Vicar's Email: stmichaelsbsvicar@gmail.com

Charity Registration No. 1130646

07539 058946 01279 654416

899261

652173

Deputy Churchwardens: T Pigram, P Rixson Churchwardens: T Pigram, P Rixson
Parish Safeguarding Officer: Dotun Akinde
g@saintmichaelweb.org.uk / 07921 860862 safeguarding@saintmichaelweb.org.uk / 07921 860862

Email: church@saintmichaelweb.org.uk

Website: www.saintmichaelweb.org.uk



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