

# **Newsletter and Notices**

## Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2025 Bible/Reformation Sunday



### **NO SERVICE AT 8am** 10am Choral Eucharist. using the Book of Common Prayer (1662)

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

#### Collect for The Last Sunday after Trinity

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: help us so to hear them, to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them that, through patience, and the comfort of your holy word, we may embrace and for ever hold fast the hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ, 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 46

- 1 God is our hope and strength: a very present help in trouble.
- 2 Therefore will we not fear, though the earth be moved: and though the hills be carried linto the midst of the sea:
- 3 Though the waters thereof rage and swell: and though the mountains shake at the tempest of the same.
- 4 The rivers of the flood thereof shall make glad the city of God: the holy place of the tabernacle of the most Highest.
- 5 God is in the midst of her, therefore shall she not be removed : God shall help her, and that right early.
- 6 The heathen make much ado, and the kingdoms are moved: but God hath shewed his voice, and the earth shall melt away.
- 7 The Lord of hosts is with us: the God of Jacob is our refuge.
- 8 O come hither, and behold the works of the Lord: what destruction he hath brought lupon the earth.
- 9 He maketh wars to cease in all the world: he breaketh the bow, and knappeth the spear in sunder, and burneth the chariots in the fire.
- 10 Be still then, and know that I am God: I will be exalted among the heathen, and I will be exalted in the earth.
- 11 The Lord of hosts is with us: the God of Jacob is our refuge.

#### 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 opposite page. Thank you.

#### Gospel reading for today, John 8. 31-36

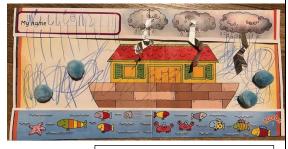
Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, then are ve my disciples indeed: And ve shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. They answered him, We be Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free? Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin. And the servant abideth not in the house for ever: but the Son abideth ever. If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.

#### 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 most weeks. Today we conclude our series God is Good, hearing about Noah and the rainbow (Genesis 8. 13 - 9.17, learning how God is kind and that he keeps his promises.



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

Last week we learned about Noah and and the flood (Genesis 7. 1-8.12); we all enjoyed sitting in a great boat made of cushions.

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.

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

652173 The Rev'd June Knight (PTO) 07539 058946 Parish Office 01279 654416

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

Churchwarden: Claire Conquest 07944 431873 899261

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

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### Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2025 Bible/Reformation Sunday



Holy Communion, Wednesday 29th October, 10am – Refreshments afterwards.

Quiet Days in Albury, next on this Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> October – Days of reflection and contemplation in June's home; contact the Office for more information.

**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!

Prayers for our Community, Saturday 1st November, 9:30-10am – All welcome.

**Forthcoming 8am services –** We'll celebrate Holy Communion at 8am next **on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> November (All Saints')**, then 16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> November.

**Commemoration All Souls' Service, 10am, Sunday 2**nd **November –** All are welcome to this reflective service, with readings, choral music, prayers and lighting of candles. If you would like loved ones to be remembered by name, enter their names CLEARLY IN CAPITALS in the book by the Lady Chapel entrance and please come to the service if you can. (It will be transmitted by Zoom also). There will be the opportunity for prayers for Wholeness and Consolation with laying on of hands after the service.

**Holly Fair planning meeting, Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> November –** Upstairs in WCC after 10am service. **The Holly Fair is on 6<sup>th</sup> December.** If you know anyone who could donate a raffle prize please speak to Carole Macdonald or Angela Weeks. We'll make Holly Rings as usual the week before the fair. Plans are going well but we could always do with more help. All proceeds go to charities. Speak to Val, Carole or Claire.

Our craft group meets on alternate Mondays in the WCC, 10am - 12noon. Next on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November - All welcome!

**TLC Tuesdays, next meeting on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> November in the WCC, 2:15pm for 2:30pm** Join tea and talk and a regular short presentation on wide-ranging interests. Next month we welcome Peter Watson, with his talk, 'Working Abroad'.

**Remembrance Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> November –** During the 10am Parish Communion service we will be gathering round the War Memorial in the churchyard for our Remembrance Ceremonies. Our Godly Play session will include Remembrance crafts to be placed at the foot of the memorial.

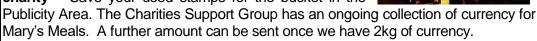
At worship on Safeguarding Sunday (16<sup>th</sup> November) we will seek God's grace to make us ever more a holy, trustworthy, compassionate community, where those who are vulnerable are respected, cared for and protected. Please come and join in our prayers that day. We'll also be sharing information about what Safeguarding means here at St Michael's, and how, in varied ways, we can all be involved. You may like to visit our <a href="website">website</a> for an initial look at Safeguarding in our Parish. Thank you, Derwyn and Dotun (PSO).

A free "Explore Cursillo" afternoon at Christ Church, St Albans AL3 6DJ on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2-4.30 pm. Cursillo is a movement within the Anglican Church which aims to deepen our faith and witness. This event is part of the Diocesan Year of Spiritual Renewal and Wellbeing. For more information and to book, <u>click here</u>. If you need a lift/help booking, please contact John Emmett or Val Ashwood.

**St Michael's Recital, Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 3pm –** Aleksandra Pykacz ('cello) and Shirley Wu (piano) will play a selection of music including Fauré, Rachmaninov and Shostakovich. Listen to a taster via YouTube <a href="here">here</a>. Free admission, retiring collection, tea and homemade cakes afterwards.

A Bereavement Journey Course, Saturday mornings, 17<sup>th</sup> January - 21<sup>st</sup> February – for anyone who has been bereaved at any time, to explore grief in a safe space. Please talk to June, Alison or Viv, or email the Office.

Postage stamps and foreign currency collections for charity – Save your used stamps for the bucket in the



**Felsted Aid for Ukraine –** The charity has urgent need of men's warm clothes, for another delivery before Christmas. Please bring items to Rosemary, 17 Stane Close.

**Communion Music** – To help with congregational singing at communion, the Sidespeople have melody versions of some settings available for worshippers. If you'd be helped by having some music, do ask for a score when you come to church.

A huge thank you to all who helped make our Coffee Morning on Saturday the most successful and joyful so far. It reflects the enormous effort everyone put into the event. We raised approximately £320, which will go to the upkeep of the WCC.

We have a wonderful band of cleaners and are now looking for extras – We have two groups, and it would mean cleaning once every eight weeks. We meet on the final Saturday of the month from 10-11am or earlier if preferred.

**Harvest Appeal thanks –** We raised £279.75 in Red Buckets (plus Donr donations and direct giving) for the Bishop's Harvest Appeal, *Rewrite their future*. Thank you all!

**Churches Together in Bishops Stortford need a secretary!** Can you help? Please visit the <u>CTBS website</u> or see our noticeboards for details.

Details of all services and events are available on the <u>Calendar</u> page on our website.

Do follow us on Social Media too, for regular updates.

