



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

At worship this Sunday, Safeguarding Sunday

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 today. 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 [website](#) for an initial look at Safeguarding in our Parish. Thank you.

A Psalm for today, Psalm 91

Refrain: Keep me as the apple of your eye.

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High and abides under the shadow of the Almighty, Shall say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my stronghold, my God, in whom I put my trust.' For he shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler and from the deadly pestilence. He shall cover you with his wings and you shall be safe under his feathers; his faithfulness shall be your shield and buckler. **[R]**

You shall not be afraid of any terror by night, nor of the arrow that flies by day; Of the pestilence that stalks in darkness, nor of the sickness that destroys at noonday. Though a thousand fall at your side and ten thousand at your right hand, yet it shall not come near you.

Your eyes have only to behold to see the reward of the wicked. **[R]** Because you have made the Lord your refuge and the Most High your stronghold, There shall no evil happen to you, neither shall any plague come near your tent. For he shall give his angels charge over you, to keep you in all your ways. They shall bear you in their hands, lest you dash your foot against a stone.

You shall tread upon the lion and adder; the young lion and the serpent you shall trample underfoot. **[R]**

Because they have set their love upon me, therefore will I deliver them; I will lift them up, because they know my name.

They will call upon me and I will answer them; I am with them in trouble, I will deliver them and bring them to honour.

With long life will I satisfy them and show them my salvation. **[R]**

Keep us, good Lord, under the shadow of your mercy and, as you have bound us to yourself in love, leave us not who call upon your name, but grant us your salvation, made known in the cross of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



A Prayer for Safeguarding Sunday

Help us to be a church that:

Loves, welcomes, protects.

Listens, learns, serves.

Repents, restores, transforms.

Values, cares, believes.

God of Justice and compassion, hear our prayer.

Help us, heal us, guide us, we pray. In Jesus name, Amen.

Gospel reading for today, Mark 12. 28-34b

One of the scribes came near and heard Jesus and the Sadducees disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, 'Which commandment is the first of all?' Jesus answered, 'The first is, "Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength." The second is this, "You shall love your neighbour as yourself." There is no other commandment greater than these.' Then the scribe said to him, 'You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that "he is one, and besides him there is no other"; and "to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength", and "to love one's neighbour as oneself", - this is much more important than all whole burnt-offerings and sacrifices.' When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' After that no one dared to ask him any question.

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. This week we learn more about the Bible and hear how Jesus read from God's book, (Luke 4. 16-30, Isaiah 61. 1,2).

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



Last week, as part of our Remembrance worship and reflections in *A Godly Play*, our young people placed poppies on and alongside our 'Remembrance Tree'.

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.



St Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford

Newsletter and Notices

Sunday 16th November 2025

Safeguarding Sunday



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

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

Forthcoming 8am services – We'll celebrate Holy Communion at 8am **this Sunday 16th November**, then 30th November, and 7th and 21st December.

Our craft group meets on alternate Mondays in the WCC, 10am - 12noon. Next on this Monday 17th November – All welcome! We might bring along our own current crafting hobby and sometimes one of the group shares a craft. We usually prepare items for sale at the annual St Michael's Church Holly Fair.

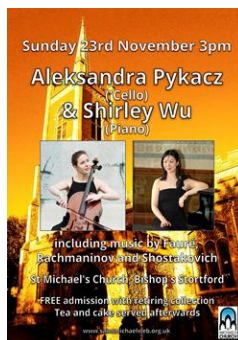
Holy Communion, Wednesday 19th November, 10am – Refreshments afterwards.

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 22nd November, 9:30-10am – All welcome.

St Michael's Recital, Sunday 23rd 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 [here](#). Free admission, retiring collection, tea and homemade cakes afterwards.

A plea for help – We'll be serving tea and cake in the WCC afterwards. In order to manage two venues, we would love some volunteers to help with catering, either to a bake cake or to help in the kitchen on the day. Please email stmichaelsbsdom@gmail.com if interested. Many thanks, Nathan.



Holly ring making – We're starting our holly ring making in preparation for the Holly Fair. Mossing up from 9am **25th November**, Ring making **1st, 2nd and 4th (and afternoon of 3rd) December**. Sign-up sheets on the welcome desk or speak with Peter or Claire.

Travelling Crib – Once again we are delighted that our travelling crib will be making its way around the parish during Advent; **beginning with a blessing at the 10am service on 30th November**. Hosting the figures for a night is a wonderful chance to share the anticipation of Christ's birth and fellowship with other families as the crib is passed on ... and a moment of stillness in an otherwise busy Advent. Please chat to Katharine if you'd like to know more about it and to sign up for a night.

Christmas flyer distribution – Please help us spread the Christmas message by posting our flyer to brand new homes in Stortford Fields or St Michael's Hurst. They are in bundles at the Cross Aisles in church. Any queries, please speak to Katharine Stanley.

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.

Holly Fair (and Tower Tours too!), Saturday 6th December, 10-1pm – 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. If you would like to make any donations, there will be boxes in church at the services from Wednesday 12th November for the **unwanted gifts stall, the bottle and chocolate tombola and for any raffle prizes**. There will also be a list for donations for the raffle hampers. Any contributions will be greatly received; thank you very much. All proceeds go to charities. **Also please invite your friends and neighbours to the event to help make it a success.**

TLC Tuesdays, next meeting on Tuesday 2nd December in the WCC, 2:15pm for 2:30pm Join tea and talk and a regular short presentation on wide-ranging interests. This month we are delighted to welcome children from St Michael's School who will be singing carols to and with us.

Bereavement Journey Course, Saturday mornings, 17th January - 21st February For anyone bereaved at any time; with films and discussion groups. It's the chance to explore grief in a safe space. If you are interested and would value a preliminary conversation please contact Alison Jordan [via the Parish Office](#).

Quiet Days in Albury – Days of reflection and contemplation in June's home. We'll be taking a break for a few months, hopefully meeting next on **Thursday 26th March**. We desperately need drivers, please contact the Parish Office if you think you could help.

Postage stamps and foreign currency collections for charity – Save your used stamps for the bucket in the Publicity Area. Stamps must have a one inch paper envelope border, or they can't be used! The Charities Support Group has an ongoing collection of currency for Mary's Meals. A further amount can be sent once we have 2kg of currency.

Are you interested in joining a home group? Perhaps you'd like to find out about what they can offer? Contact Derwyn in the first instance if you'd like to know more.

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 for these, do ask for a score when you pick up your service books.

Charity Christmas Cards for sale – There's a wide range of cards on display in the Charnley Hall, on Sundays and Wednesdays; with profits to the Holly Fair.

The Rev'd Derwyn Williams (Vicar) 899261 Churchwarden: Claire Conquest 07944 431873
The Rev'd Derek Hinge (PTO) 652173
The Rev'd June Knight (PTO) 07539 058946 Deputy Churchwardens: T Pigram, P Rixson
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