



8am Holy Communion, in Church

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

***We commission our team of Lay Leaders of Worship:
Christine Solway, Margaret Fox and Rosemary Thomson***

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 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.

A psalm for today, Psalm 40. 1-12

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]**

Do not withhold your compassion from me, O Lord;

let your love and your faithfulness always preserve me. **[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.



A Gospel reading for today, John 1. 29-42

The next day John 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).



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.** We continue our series exploring Jesus' early life and beginning work. This week we hear about Jesus calling his first disciples (*Matthew 4. 18-23*).



Last week we heard about Jesus being baptised by John (*Matthew 3. 1-17*). We told the story together, finding out how God helped Jesus when he was Baptised, and how he can help us too. We made beautiful dove mobiles to take home.

Our [Children & Young People](#) 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.

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.



St Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford

Newsletter and Notices

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

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

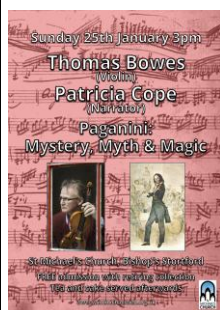
Forthcoming 8am services – We'll celebrate Holy Communion at 8am **this Sunday 18th January**, then 1st and 15th February.

Holy Communion, Wednesday 21st January, 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 24th January, 9:30-10am – All welcome.

Healing Prayers – will be offered in the Lady Chapel after worship on fourth Sundays each month, beginning on **Sunday 25th January**.



Recital, Sunday 25th January at 3pm – Thomas Bowes (Violin) and Patricia Cope (Narrator) present Paganini: Mystery, Myth & Magic. An exceedingly rare chance to hear some of Paganini's astonishing music for solo violin interspersed with narration by Patricia Cope. "A show that will reveal the triumphant and tragic tale of this prototype pop star". You can find out a little more about Thomas and Patricia from our Music at St Michael's website page [here](#). Free admission, retiring collection, tea and homemade cakes afterwards.

There will be a service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity next Sunday 25th January at 4pm at St Joseph's Church. All are warmly invited. This year's theme is "One Body One Spirit." More information can be found on the Churches Together in England website [here](#).

Our craft group meets on alternate Mondays in the WCC, 10am - 12noon. Next on Monday 26th January – All welcome! We might bring along our own current crafting hobby and sometimes one of the group shares a craft.

TLC Tuesdays, next meeting on Tuesday 3rd February 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 Jane Ridler who is a master beekeeper.

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.

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.

Sunday 18th January 2026

The Second Sunday of Epiphany



We're thinking about offering the Bible Society's Bible Course as an online or in person study opportunity by Zoom during Lent – There's a sign-up sheet in the publicity area, as we'd like to see what interest there may be. Monday afternoon and evening are under consideration so please can potential participants indicate whether either or both are feasible. If folk don't have online access we could explore arranging 'screen-sharing' in company with a friend. Information is available at biblesociety.org.uk/the-bible-course-digital-hub (you'll need to register first, it's free). Thanks, Derwyn.

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.

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.

Invitation from the Bishop of Hertford to Young Adults Supper Party – Bishop Jane would like to explore the possibility of inviting members of our congregation who are aged between 18-35 to a Supper Party on Tuesday 3rd February (6:30pm onwards) at Bishopswood. If you might be interested in attending this gathering, or would like a chat about it, please speak to the Vicar.

Mary's Meals foreign currency collection and postage stamps for charity – There is a collection box in church during services for all your foreign currency, no matter how old, obscure or its value. Also, remember to save your used stamps and put them in the bucket in the Publicity Area to go to charity. Please ensure that the stamps have a one inch paper envelope border, otherwise they cannot be used!

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

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

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 the contact details below. Thank you.

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	
Parish Office	01279 654416	Parish Safeguarding Officer: Dotun Akinde	
		safeguarding@saintmichaelweb.org.uk / 07921 860862	

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