



St Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford

Newsletter and Notices

8am Holy Communion, in Church

10am Service of the Word with Holy Baptism, 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 Ninth Sunday after Trinity

Almighty God, who sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your Church: open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit in love and joy and peace; 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 145. 8-9, 15-22

Refrain: Great is the Lord and highly to be praised.

The Lord is gracious and merciful, long-suffering and of great goodness. **[R]**

The Lord is loving to everyone and his mercy is over all his creatures.

The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up all those who are bowed down.

The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord, and you give them their food in due season.

You open wide your hand and fill all things living with plenty. **[R]**

The Lord is righteous in all his ways and loving in all his works.

The Lord is near to those who call upon him, to all who call upon him faithfully.

He fulfils the desire of those who fear him; he hears their cry and saves them.

The Lord watches over those who love him, but all the wicked shall he destroy.

My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord,

and let all flesh bless his holy name for ever and ever.

King of the universe, you show the bright glory of your reign in acts of mercy and enduring love; raise the spirits of the downcast and restore those who have fallen away, that we may sing for ever of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

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

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.

Sunday 2nd August 2026

The Ninth Sunday after Trinity



A Gospel reading for today, Matthew 14. 13-21

Jesus withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, 'This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.' Jesus said to them, 'They need not go away; you give them something to eat.' They replied, 'We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.' And he said, 'Bring them here to me.' Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

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 conclude our series from the Old Testament: *Friends of God*, finding out about Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego (*Daniel 3*).

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

Parish Register for July

We remember in our prayers the families of Oliver Pemberton and Doreen Richardson, whose funerals took place last month. We also hold in our prayers the family of John Howard whose funeral and burial of ashes took place in July. We celebrate the Baptism of Elsie Burt, Tamsin Cole and Margot Hogg last month.

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 on the other page.



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Forthcoming 8am services – We'll celebrate Holy Communion at 8am on this Sunday 2nd August, then 30th August, 6th and 20th September.

HBW 2026, 'Rescue!', Monday 3rd-Friday 7th August (Herts & Essex High School) – Please pray for the children and for all those involved in the event and support us at our **Dedication Service this Sunday 2nd August at 4pm** and **Open Evening Thursday 6th August at 6:30pm**

TLC Tuesdays, next on Tuesday 4th August in the WCC, 2:15pm for 2:30pm – In August, we'll be having a fundraising afternoon for the charity *Prostate Cancer UK* with Bingo and a special raffle, bric-a-brac stall, tea/coffee and cake: it'll be £5 each for the whole afternoon on this occasion. Donations welcome if you can't attend.

Holy Communion, Wednesday 5th August, 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 are most welcome in these school 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! **We would really value some more helpers ... just to assist once a month. Please speak to Shell if you're interested in knowing more.**

Prayers for our Community, Saturday 8th August, 9:30-10am – All welcome.

Prayer Ministry – for healing, praise or thanksgiving are offered in the Lady Chapel after worship on fourth Sundays each month, **next on Sunday 22nd August**.

Quiet Days in Albury – Days of reflection and contemplation in June's home. We'll be meeting next **on Thursday 27th August**.

Craft group usually meets on alternate Mondays in the WCC, 10am - 12noon. We're taking a short break for summer, returning **Monday 7th September** - all welcome!

Bereavement Journey Course, on seven Saturday mornings from 26th September – 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 alisonfaith1111@gmail.com. Previous guests have found the course to be supportive in their grief.

Holly Fair meeting 6th September – Our first meeting for this year's event (on Saturday 5th December at 10am) will take place after coffee in WCC (upstairs) on 6th September. If you can help in any way with planning, publicity and organisation, please come along. If unable to come to the meeting but happy to run your usual stall then do let us know. Thanks. Val Ashwood, Claire Conquest, Carole Macdonald, Martyn Greenwood, Angela Weeks.

The Children's Society – Please could anyone with a collecting box bring it to me or to a church service, so the cash can be counted and banked as soon as possible. Thank you very much. Carole Macdonald.

Sunday 2nd August 2026
The Ninth Sunday after Trinity



Christian Nurture and preparation for Baptism/Confirmation, Saturday 12th September, 10am in WCC – An initial gathering, for anyone who may be interested in this. We'll have a chat over some refreshments, touch base on where people currently are with faith and Christian understanding, and talk about what may work in terms of going forward. I hope this may be helpful. If you can come, please let me know, or if that date isn't possible but you're interested in principle, do email me. I'm having some annual leave but back to work from 24th August. With my prayers and best wishes, Derwyn.

Help raise money towards the Tower Room Appeal – by clicking on and signing up to this easy fundraising link and raise money as you shop: https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/support-a-good-cause/step-1/?char=428546&invite=7sitbt&referral-campaign=c2s&utm_source=easyfundraising-app&utm_medium=referral&utm_content=copy-link You can also donate through the contactless card machine or by using the form in the Publicity Area.

Churches Together in Bishop's Stortford newsletter – A copy of the latest newsletter can be found on the CTBS website <https://ctbs.org.uk/> **There's lots happening, including a Songs of Praise service on 4th October, 4pm at the URC.**

New arrangements for PCC Invoices / Payments – Please note that all invoices, expenses claims, and claims for re-imbursement from the PCC now need to be sent to: invoices@saintmichaelweb.org.uk. Please be patient as the new system beds in. Thank you!

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

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

Double knitting yarn for charity squares – Barbara Eldridge would be grateful for donations please.

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	
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