



St Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford

Newsletter and Notices

NO SERVICE AT 8AM

10am Parish Communion, in Church

At our 10am service we are delighted to share our worship with students from St Hilda's School, Tokyo, who are visiting Bishop's Stortford College's International Summer School.

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

Collect for The Tenth Sunday after Trinity

Let your merciful ears, O Lord, be open to the prayers of your humble servants; and that they may obtain their petitions make them to ask such things as shall please you; 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 85. 8-13

Refrain: Show us your mercy, O Lord.

I will listen to what the Lord God will say,
for he shall speak peace to his people and to the faithful,
that they turn not again to folly.

Truly, his salvation is near to those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.

All: Show us your mercy, O Lord.

Mercy and truth are met together, righteousness and peace have kissed each other;
Truth shall spring up from the earth and righteousness look down from heaven.
The Lord will indeed give all that is good, and our land will yield its increase.
Righteousness shall go before him and direct his steps in the way.

All: Show us your mercy, O Lord.

Most holy God, when we come to you fearing that truth condemns us, show us that truth is one with love in your Word made flesh, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

An anthem for today, *Jubilate Deo (Britten)*, from Psalm 100

*O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands;
Serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.
Be ye sure that the Lord he is God:
It is he that hath made us and not we ourselves;
We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving,
And into his courts with praise.
Be thankful unto him and speak good of his name.
For the Lord is gracious, His mercy is everlasting;
And his truth endureth from generation to generation.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

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 9th August 2026
The Tenth Sunday after Trinity



A Gospel reading for today, Matthew 14. 22-33

Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking towards them on the lake. But when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified, saying, 'It is a ghost!' And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, 'Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.'

Peter answered him, 'Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.' He said, 'Come.' So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, 'Lord, save me!' Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, 'You of little faith, why did you doubt?' When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, 'Truly you are the Son of 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). **We also have an older group breakout session most weeks.** This week we begin a short series: *Stories Jesus Told*, finding out about two house builders (*Matthew 7. 24-27*).

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 (stmichaelsbdsdom@gmail.com) We will also be starting choral and organ scholarships for our young people

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.



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



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

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

Holy Communion, Wednesday 12th 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 15th 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 23rd August.**

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

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

TLC Tuesdays, Tuesday 1st September in the WCC, 2:15pm for 2:30pm – Join tea and talk and a regular short presentation on wide-ranging interests. In September we are delighted to welcome Gavin Minter with his talk, 'Camino de Santiago'.

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.

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!

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 annual leave but back to work from 24th August. With my prayers and best wishes, Derwyn.

Choral Evensong, Sunday 13th September, 6pm – All are warmly invited to our special Choral service for the Feast of Holy Cross.

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.

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.

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 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.

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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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