



## 8am Holy Communion, in Church 10am Parish Communion, in Church

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

### Collect for The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

Almighty God, who called your Church to bear witness that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself: help us to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may be drawn to you; through him who was lifted up on the cross, and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

### A Psalm for today, Psalm 26. 1-8

**Refrain: Lord, I love the place where your glory abides.**

- 1 Give judgement for me, O Lord,  
for I have walked with integrity;  
I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.
- 2 Test me, O Lord, and try me;  
examine my heart and my mind.
- 3 For your love is before my eyes;  
I have walked in your truth.
- 4 I have not joined the company of the false,  
nor consorted with the deceitful.

**All: Lord, I love the place where your glory abides.**

- 5 I hate the gathering of evildoers  
and I will not sit down with the wicked.
- 6 I will wash my hands in innocence, O Lord,  
that I may go about your altar,
- 7 To make heard the voice of thanksgiving  
and tell of all your wonderful deeds.
- 8 Lord, I love the house of your habitation  
and the place where your glory abides.

**All: Lord, I love the place where your glory abides.**

*Have mercy on us and redeem us, O Lord,  
for our merits are your mercies  
and in your judgement is our salvation;  
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.



### A Gospel reading for today, Matthew 16. 21-28

Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, 'God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.' Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? 'For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.'

### 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 short series: *Stories Jesus Told*, finding out about yeast (*Matthew 13. 33*) and how God's family grows.



Last week we found out about a beautiful pearl (*Matthew 13. 45, 46*), learning that being part of God's family is the best thing ever.

**Could you help A Godly Play once a month?** Due to one of our team needing to step down, we **urgently** need some extra help: please speak to Katharine if interested.

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](mailto:stmichaelsbsdom@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.



St Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford

# Newsletter and Notices

**Forthcoming 8am services** – We'll celebrate Holy Communion at 8am on **this Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August**, then 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> September, 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> October.

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

**Holy Communion, Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 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 on inset days and 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 5<sup>th</sup> September, 9:30-10am** – All welcome.

**Holly Fair meeting 6<sup>th</sup> September** – Our first meeting for this year's event (on Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 10am) will take place after coffee in WCC (upstairs) on 6<sup>th</sup> 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 meets on alternate Mondays in the WCC, 10am - 12noon.** We next meet on **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September** - all welcome!

**Bike 'n Hike 2026, Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September 9am-5pm** – It would be great to offer a cold drink and a smile to visitors here that day too: so please sign up on the sheet in the Publicity Area if you can help for an hour (or perhaps more!).

**Christian Nurture and preparation for Baptism/Confirmation, Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> 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. With my prayers and best wishes, Derwyn.

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

**Our recital on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> September is CANCELLED** – With apologies, and for reasons beyond anyone's control, the Mezzacapo Mandolin Trio recital is cancelled.



Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August 2026  
The Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

**Bereavement Journey Course, on seven Saturday mornings from 26<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:alisonfaith1111@gmail.com). Previous guests have found the course to be supportive in their grief.

**Prayer Ministry** – for healing, praise or thanksgiving are offered in the Lady Chapel after worship on fourth Sundays each month, **next on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September**.

**Bishop's Stortford Town Council Children's Logo & Tagline Competition** – for children/young people up to age 18, to help create a brand-new identity for the town, replacing the current 'Historic Market Town' logo. Deadline 30<sup>th</sup> September. See more information in Publicity Area.

**Quiet Days in Albury** – Days of reflection and contemplation in June's home. We'll be meeting next on **Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October**.

**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](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.

**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](mailto:chair@stmichaelsjmi.herts.sch.uk)

**Thank you** to everyone who generously donated to the appeal to help the earthquake victims in Venezuela. We are pleased to report that together we have donated £358.20.

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|-----------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------------|--------------|
| 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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