



St Michael's Church, Bishop's Stortford

Newsletter and Notices

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

Collect for The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers of your people who call upon you; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them; 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. 1-8

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

I will exalt you, O God my King, and bless your name for ever and ever.

Every day will I bless you and praise your name for ever and ever.

Great is the Lord and highly to be praised; his greatness is beyond all searching out. **[R]**

One generation shall praise your works to another and declare your mighty acts.

They shall speak of the majesty of your glory, and I will tell of all your wonderful deeds.

They shall speak of the might of your marvellous acts, and I will also tell of your greatness.

They shall pour forth the story of your abundant kindness

and joyfully sing of your righteousness.

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

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.

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.

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 20th September 2026

The Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity



A Gospel reading for today, Matthew 20. 1-16

'For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

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 continue our short series *Old Testament Kings*, learning how Josiah becomes king (2 Kings 22. 1-13, 23. 1-3).

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) We will also be starting choral and organ scholarships for our young people



Last week we found out about how Hezekiah was sad and ill, then made well and gave thanks to God. (2 Kings 20. 1-11). We learned that God is with us and will not let us down.



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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.

Forthcoming 8am services – We'll celebrate Holy Communion at 8am on **this Sunday 20th September**, then 4th and 18th October, 1st, 15th and 29th November.

Tower Tours, this Sunday 20th September, 1-3pm – £5 for adults, free for children. More information via bells@saintmichaelweb.org.uk or 07971 138020.

Craft group meets on alternate Mondays in the WCC, 10am - 12noon. We next meet on **this Monday 21st September** - all welcome!

Holy Communion, Wednesday 23rd 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 26th September, 9:30-10am – 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.

St Michael's Patronal Festival Celebrations, Sunday 27th September – All are warmly invited to share in our festival worship: with a special **10am Michaelmas Communion Service using the Book of Common Prayer (1662)**. Then, why not join us for a celebratory **Bring & Share Lunch** in the WCC after the service. **Sign up sheets are in the Publicity Area and WCC – all are welcome!**

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

Giving Season

Please can **any last responses** be given to the Parish Office, or placed in the post box in the corner of the North Porch **by next Sunday 27th September**.

Thank you for responses which have come in and for thinking and praying about all the ways in which we can, together, resource and contribute to our Church. Derwyn.



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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 30th 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 1st October**.

Harvest, Sunday 4th October – We'll celebrate Harvest at 8am and 10am services. There will be a Red Bucket for Chris' work with CMS. We are delighted that Chris will be joining us via zoom for the 10am service and reflecting on his ministry. We also request food gifts for Bishop's Stortford Food Bank.

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.**

TLC Tuesdays, Tuesday 6th October in the WCC, 2:15pm for 2:30pm – Join tea and talk and a regular short presentation on wide-ranging interests. In October we are delighted to welcome Patricia Meadmore with her talk, 'Once upon a stage'.

The Children's Society – Thanks to the generosity of the box holders, we have raised **£525.90** for the Children's Society which will help to deliver vital support to many young people. **Thank you so much.**

Help raise money for the last push 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.

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. 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

Jam Jars needed – I am now running out of jam jars for church use and would welcome any that you may have in your kitchen cupboard: from 2 to 20! Many thanks. Rosemary.

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	

Vicar's Email: stmichaelsbvicar@gmail.com
Charity Registration No. 1130646

safeguarding@saintmichaelweb.org.uk / 07921 860862
Email: church@saintmichaelweb.org.uk
Website: www.saintmichaelweb.org.uk

