

## NOTICES

**Parish Profile Update.** Work on compiling the document, which is sent out with the job application, is continuing. There is still time for you to contribute **a single line on what you like about St Michael's** to the draft document, so please get in touch with Val on [chiesa@btinternet.com](mailto:chiesa@btinternet.com) before the end of next week.

Also, we are looking for photos of parish and community activities to go into the profile, so if you have any you would like to share, please send them to Val on the email address shown above.

**From the Mission & Community Committee:** The next walk and lunch will be on **Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> August**. Led by Kathryn Mathews, we will meet as usual at 11am at the Six Bells for a walk through Verulamium, past the Fighting Cocks and along the Ver to Holywell Hill, returning via the lower part of the Abbey Orchard. A shorter walk will be on offer. All welcome to walk or to join us for lunch at 12.30 in the Six Bells marquee - please email [suecvaughan@btinternet.com](mailto:suecvaughan@btinternet.com) to register your interest.

**Date for your diary:** The **Animal Service** will take place at **St Mary's on Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> September at 11.30 a.m.**

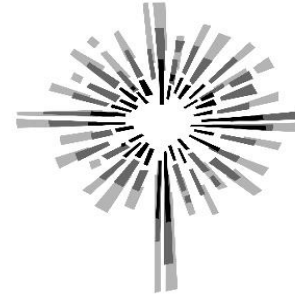
**Centre 33** provides an evening take-away meal service for homeless people and others, which operates from the Salvation Army Citadel. They urgently need more volunteers for all evenings Sundays to Thursdays from 6.30 to 8.15 p.m. If you can help or would like more information, please contact Peter Graham at [volunteers@centre33.org](mailto:volunteers@centre33.org)

**The Vineyard Church** is recruiting for an Assistant Caretaker and an Administrator and Operations Assistant. If you are interested in either of these posts, please see <https://www.thevineyardchurch.co.uk/careers>

**Lime plastering in St Michael's – Update.** The expert plasterers are still hard at work in the church with work now being concentrated on the Sanctuary, Lady Chapel and some other smaller areas. It is a natural process and has no fixed timescale, so please be patient while the works proceed and take care around the building; we are determined to keep the church open.

**We'd love to stay in touch:** if you would like our monthly magazine and highlights email, please email [admin.stmichaels@btconnect.com](mailto:admin.stmichaels@btconnect.com) If you have signed up but have not received emails recently, please check that your spam filters are not blocking [admin.stmichaels@btconnect.com](mailto:admin.stmichaels@btconnect.com)

The ministry and heritage of St Michael's and St Mary's cost over £2000 a week. If you are not a member of the Parish Giving Scheme, **please support us** generously as you leave the building by cash (or - St Michael's only – contactless card reader). To become a **regular giver**, please collect a Parish Giving Scheme pack from the back of either church. Thank you for your support.



*St Michael with St Mary*

## Services this week

### Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> August 2022: Ninth Sunday of Trinity

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (St Michael's)
- 9.30 a.m. Parish Communion (St Michael's)  
*President: Rev'd John Bannister*
- 6.00 p.m. Evensong (St Mary's)

### Wednesday

- 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion (St Michael's)

### Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup> August 2022: Tenth Sunday of Trinity

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (St Michael's)
- 9.30 a.m. Parish Communion (St Michael's)  
*President: Rt Rev'd Stephen Venner*
- 6.00 p.m. Evensong (St Mary's)

**PLEASE NOTE: The Parish Office is CLOSED on Wednesdays**

### Contacts

Key information is available on [www.stmichaels-parishchurch.org.uk](http://www.stmichaels-parishchurch.org.uk) or via the Parish Office: 01727 835037 (9.00 a.m.–12.00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday)

The **children's corner** in the North Aisle contains themed-worksheets, books and toys. Parents: please remain responsible for your children in this space. If your child needs time-out or privacy (e.g. nappy change) the Tower Room is available and has sound relay of the service.

**Toilets** are available in the Parish Centre at the east end of the churchyard; please see a steward for access.

Please stay for **refreshments** after the service in the Parish Centre.

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### **Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 23: 23-29 (OT p. 660 in the Pew Bibles)**

Am I a God near by, says the Lord, and not a God far off? Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the Lord. I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, 'I have dreamed, I have dreamed!' How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the Lord. Is not my word like fire, says the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

### **New Testament Reading: Hebrews 11: 29 to 12: 2 (NT p.209 in the Pew Bibles)**

By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets— who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched raging fire, escaped the edge of the sword, won strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death, they were sawn in two, they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats,

destitute, persecuted, tormented— of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, without us, be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

### **Gospel Reading: Luke 12: 49-56 (NT p.70 in the Pew Bibles)**

'I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on, five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.'

He also said to the crowds, 'When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, "It is going to rain"; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, "There will be scorching heat"; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?'

### **Please remember in your prayers**

- those who are **ill**, including: Jacqui Follett, Jo Frost, Debbie Greenwood, Edna Hames, Michael Hogben, Helen Huson, Rachael Hymas, Ingrid Kluckova, Alice Reardon, Pat Stroud, Cora Marie Varshney, Paul Wiggett
- those who mourn the deaths of Peter Bell and Brian Lawrence