

NOTICES

From the Mission & Community Committee: 'The next walk and lunch will be on **Wednesday, 28th September**. Led by Kathryn Mathews, we will meet **outside** the **Parish Centre at 11 a.m.** Please bring a bag and secateurs with you as we will be foraging for flowers and greenery to create displays for Harvest Festival in the church. Lunch will be at the **Lower Red Lion at 12.30 p.m.** - all welcome to join us. Please email suecvaughan@btinternet.com to let us know if you're joining us.'

Vacancy Process Update. The last meeting of the PCC included a Section 11 meeting which adopted the Parish Profile and appointed the Churchwardens as Parish representatives in the appointment process which will be made by the Patron and Diocese. It also approved advertising in The Church Times, and the advertisement has now appeared. The process is of course confidential, but help will be required on the day of the Interview, Monday 21st November, and your prayers are invited for the person who is being called to our parish.

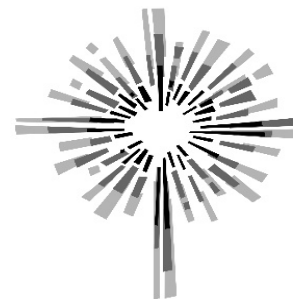
Message from Kenneth: 'Anna, Alex and I would like to express again our gratitude for your huge generosity when we left the parish. The garden bench which you arranged for us has now arrived. It is beautiful, simple, and solid. Please see photos. I am particularly taken by the parish emblem carved into its back: it makes the bench unique and says more than any words. I will think of you whenever I sit on it! Do come and utilise it yourself if you are ever passing this way. With all best wishes, Kenneth.'

We are looking to possibly start a daytime, shared leadership, **Bible Study Group** on Tuesday/Thursday morning, starting mid-September, with the meeting taking place every fortnight at The Dell, off Sandpit Lane, St Albans. If you are interested in joining, please contact **Alan and Ginny Allkins on (01727) 765249**

Harvest Festival will be celebrated on 9th October this year, if anyone would like to help decorate St Michael's on Saturday 8th from 9:00 please come along. This year donations of dried flowers, leaves & greenery would be most welcome. Instead of buying flowers we would really appreciate products for the food bank, anything orange, green, red or yellow preferred. Any questions please contact Kathryn Matthews (07798 538772)

PLEASE NOTE: Georgie is taking some well-earned holiday between **16th September and 30th September inclusive** so cover in the Parish Office will be **extremely limited** during this period. If you have any urgent enquiries during this time, please get in touch with either Mark or Val (wincheslodge@gmail.com or chiesa@btinternet.com) or leave a message on the office answerphone (835037), and your call will be returned as soon as practically possible. The office will be open as usual during this period for any **enquiries about hall bookings** and Danielle can be contacted on 07899 697966 or by email to hallbooking17@gmail.com **THANK YOU**

Lime plastering in St Michael's – Update. Most of the temporary floor covering has been removed and work is now concentrated in the Lady Chapel.



St Michael with St Mary

Services this week

Sunday, 25th September 2022: Fifteenth 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

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

Sunday, 2nd October 2022: St Michael – Our Patronal Festival

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (St Michael's)
- 9.30 a.m. Parish Communion (St Michael's)
President: Rev'd Corniel Quak
- 6.00 p.m. Holy Communion (St Mary's)

PLEASE NOTE: The Parish Office is CLOSED on Wednesdays

Contacts

Key information is available on 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)

Children's Church for those in school years Reception to Year 6 meets alongside the 9.30am service during term time. Please ask a Steward for more information and directions.

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.

Old Testament Reading: Amos 6: 1a, 4-7 (OT p. 780 in the Pew Bibles)

Alas for those who are at ease in Zion,
and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria,
the notables of the first of the nations,
to whom the house of Israel resorts!
Alas for those who lie on beds of ivory,
and lounge on their couches,
and eat lambs from the flock,
and calves from the stall;
who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp,
and like David improvise on instruments of music;
who drink wine from bowls,
and anoint themselves with the finest oils,
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!
Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile,
and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

New Testament Reading: I Timothy 6: 6-19 (NT p.195 in the Pew Bibles)

Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our

Lord Jesus Christ, which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honour and eternal dominion. Amen.

As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

Gospel Reading: Luke 16: 19-31 (NT p.74 in the Pew Bibles)

'There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, "Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames." But Abraham said, "Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us." He said, "Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house—for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment." Abraham replied, "They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them." He said, "No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent." He said to him, "If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.' '

During Communion the choir will sing:

Turn thy face from my sins, and put out all my misdeeds.
Make me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from thy presence, and take not thy Holy Spirit from me.

Music Thomas Attwood

Words: from Psalm 51

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 Wigggett
- those who mourn the death of Susan Fisher