

## NOTICES

**Centre 33** provides an evening meal service for homeless people and others, operating each evening, Monday to Thursday and Sunday, from the Salvation Army Citadel in Victoria Street, St Albans. They urgently need more volunteers so that they can remain open. If you can help or would like more information, please email the Volunteer Coordinator on [volunteers@centre33.org](mailto:volunteers@centre33.org)

Each Christmas, **St Albans Vineyard Church Care Centre** organises a Gift Collection to support families within the Care Centre, Women's Refuge, the children of prisoners and other vulnerable families and we have been asked if we could support this initiative.

If you feel you are able to purchase a brand-new gift to donate to their Christmas gift collection, it would be appreciated if your gift is suitable for children aged 0-16 years. Please do feel free to buy anything but some ideas are: wooden shape sorter, wooden building bricks, wooden trainset, toy cars/trucks, dolls, dinosaurs, Lego etc.

Also, they would also appreciate some stocking-fillers e.g. sticker books, colouring pencils or felt tip pens, bubbles, hair accessories, small cars, etc.

A Christmas gift collection box will be put into each church next week. Thank you in anticipation of your generosity.

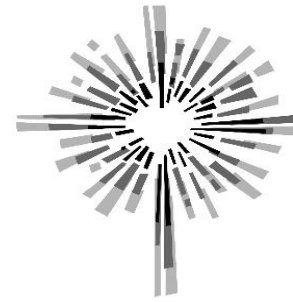
**Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December: St Michael's Churchyard Working Party – 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.** This is the last working party of the year and it would be greatly appreciated if you can spare some time to help to tidy the churchyard before the winter. For more information, please get in touch with Jim on 07770 324375.

**Heating in St Michael's: Update.** Please note that we will not be able to restore the heating until the end of November at the earliest, so the church will be quite cold for the next few weeks. Please take care to bring extra layers or a warm blanket. If anyone has spare blankets and are willing to lend them to us until the heating is available, please talk to the warden on duty or a steward.

**St Albans Methodist Churches** are seeking to appoint a new **Children & Families Worker** and details about the position are shown on the poster in the church porch. Please note that the closing date for applications is **25<sup>th</sup> November**.

Please join us on **Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> November at 5.00 p.m.** in St Michael's for our **Advent Carol Service** for evocative words and music as we journey towards Christmas. Mulled wine and mince pies will be served after the service.

**From the Mission & Community Committee:** 'The Parish Walk and Lunch will start again in the Spring. However, weather permitting, we are planning a foraging walk for Christmas decorations for the church on **Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> December at 11.00 a.m.** If you are interested in joining the walk, please save the date as more details to follow.



*St Michael with St Mary*

### Services this week

#### Sunday, 20<sup>th</sup> November 2022:

##### Christ the King

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (St Michael's)
- 9.30 a.m. Parish Communion (St Michael's)  
*President: The Venerable Dr Jane Mainwaring*
- 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, 27<sup>th</sup> November 2022:

##### Advent Sunday

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Communion (St Michael's)
- 9.30 a.m. Parish Communion with Holy Baptism (St Michael's)  
*President: Rev'd John Bannister*
- 5.00 p.m. Advent Carol Service (St Michael's)
- 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)

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.

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### **Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 23: 1-6 (OT p.659 in the Pew Bibles)**

#### **Between the Lessons: Psalm 46**

God is our hope and strength :

a very present help in trouble.

Therefore will we not fear, though the earth be moved :

and though the hills be carried into the midst of the sea.

Though the waters thereof rage and swell :

and though the mountains shake at the tempest of the same.

The rivers of the flood thereof shall make glad the city of God :

the holy place of the tabernacle of the most Highest.

God is in the midst of her, therefore shall she not be removed :

God shall help her, and that right early.

The heathen make much ado, and the kingdoms are moved :

but God hath shewed his voice, and the earth shall melt away.

The Lord of hosts is with us :

the God of Jacob is our refuge.

O come hither, and behold the works of the Lord :

what destruction he hath brought upon the earth.

He maketh wars to cease in all the world :

he breaketh the bow, and knappeth the spear in sunder,

and burneth the chariots in the fire.

Be still then, and know that I am God :

I will be exalted among the heathen, and I will be exalted in the earth.

The Lord of hosts is with us :

the God of Jacob is our refuge.

### **New Testament Reading: Colossians 1: 11-20 (NT p.185 in the Pew Bibles)**

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or

dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

### **Gospel Reading: Luke 23: 33-43 (NT p.83 in the Pew Bibles)**

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. [[ Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.']] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!' The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!' There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.'

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!' But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.' Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' He replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'

### **During Communion the choir will sing**

Cantate Domino canticum novum,

laus eius in ecclesia sanctorum.

Laetetur Israel in eo qui fecit eum:

et filii Sion exultent in rege suo.

Come ye with joyfulness,

Come sing ye a new song to your Maker.

O praise him with the saintly congregation.

Israel, be joyful and glad in him,

Be glad in him who made Israel,

And children of Sion, ye children of Sion be joyful.

Rejoice and be glad in your King.

Words paraphrased from Psalm 148 Music by Giuseppe Ottavio Pitoni (1657-1743)

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

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