

NOTICES

Saturday 7th October: St Michael's Churchyard Working Party and Church Cleaning – 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. If you can spare some time to help, it would be greatly appreciated. For more information, please get in touch with Jim on 07770 324375 (churchyard) or Jane on janelarman@sky.com (cleaning).

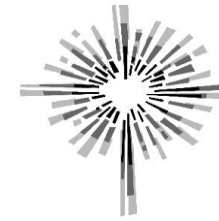
World Homeless Week, which runs from **8th – 15th October**, is a time to reflect on the plight of those affected by homelessness and poverty. Church Homeless Trust is a small charity that supports thousands of homeless individuals throughout England by providing grants, tailored to the specific needs of the person in question, and have helped countless people to get back on their feet. To find out more about this charity, please visit their website at www.churchhomelesstrust.org.uk

Biblical Costumes! Children's church are looking to build a stock of costumes for acting out some of the stories of our faith during their worship. If you have any old togas, tea towels, etc. that would fit the bill please let Pauline, Jo or Jonny know. Thanks! P.S. historical accuracy is **low** on our list of priorities.

Christmas Concert: 19th December, 7.30pm. Join Kate Lindeman for an evening of Christmas classics, beautiful arias, pop-opera favourites and a glass or two of mulled wine. Tickets £16-20, all profits split between Motor Neurone Disease Association and St Michael's Church. Book here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/st-albans-christmas-concert-st-michaels-tickets-704537700227?aff=oddtcreator>

The next **Parish Walk** will be at 11am on Wednesday 25th October, followed by lunch at the Portland Arms. Details to follow.

Driving volunteers needed to support people getting to church and at other times. If you are able to offer some help, however regularly, please chat to the Vicar or Sue Vaughan.



St Michael with St Mary

Services this week

All services take place at St Michael's unless otherwise stated

Sunday, 1st October 2023: Harvest Festival

8.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9.30 a.m. All-Age Parish Eucharist
6.00 p.m. Holy Eucharist (St Mary's)

Wednesday

9.00 a.m. St Michael's School Service
10.30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sunday, 8th October 2023: Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

8.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
9.30 a.m. Parish Eucharist
6.00 p.m. Evensong (St Mary's)

Contact Information:

Vicar: The Rev'd Jonny Lloyd: vicar@parishofstmichaels.org.uk
Address: St Michael's Vicarage, St Michael's Street, St Albans, AL3 4SL
Parish Office: Georgie Ray: admin@parishofstmichaels.org.uk
(9.00 a.m.–12.00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday)
Telephone: 01727 835037
Website: www.stmichaels-parishchurch.org.uk

Welcome to our worship this morning; it is good to be together. Junior Church meets in the Parish Centre today; they go out after the first hymn and return during the peace. In church the *children's corner* in the North Aisle contains themed-worksheets, books and toys. If you need 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. All are welcome to stay for **refreshments** after the service in the Parish Centre. If you are new, we would love to meet you!

Collect

Eternal God, you crown the year with your goodness and you give us the fruits of the earth in their season: grant that we may use them to your glory, for the relief of those in need and for our own well-being; 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.**

Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 8: 7-8

The Lord your God is bringing you into a good land. The land has rivers and pools of water. Springs flow in the valleys and hills. The land has wheat and barley, vines, fig trees, pomegranates, olive oil and honey. It is a land where you will have plenty of food. You will have everything you need there. Then praise the Lord your God. He has given you a good land.

Gospel Reading: Luke 12: 16-30

Then he told them a parable: 'The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, "What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?" Then he said, "I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry." But God said to him, "You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?" So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich towards God.'

He said to his disciples, 'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them.

Prayer Over The Gifts

As the grain once scattered in the fields, and the grapes once dispersed on the hillsides, are now reunited on this altar in bread and wine, so may your Church, Lord, soon be

gathered together from the four corners of the earth to feast in your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Anthem after Communion

Sing to the Lord of harvest!
Sing songs of love and praise!
With joyful hearts and voices
Your alleluias raise;
By Him the rolling seasons
In fruitful order move;
Sing to the Lord of harvest
A song of happy love.

2 By Him the clouds drop fatness,
The deserts bloom and spring,
The hills leap up in gladness,
The valleys laugh and sing;
He filleth with His fulness
All things with large increase,
He crowns the year with goodness,
With plenty, and with peace

3 Heap on His sacred altar
The gifts His goodness gave,
The golden sheaves of harvest,
The souls He died to save;
Your hearts lay down before Him
When at His feet ye fall,
And with your lives adore Him
Who gave His life for all.

Basque Carol

Words by JSB Monsell

Please remember in your prayers:

- Peter and Amy who were married on Saturday
- The recently bereaved and those involved in funeral ministry in this parish
- those who are **ill**, including: Jacqui Follett, Debbie Greenwood, Helen Huson, Rachael Hymas, Ingrid Kluckova, JoAnne Laws, John Polhill, Alice Reardon, Pat Stroud, Cora Marie Varshney
- the recently departed, including Edna Hames (funeral 11th October at 12.00 p.m. in St Michael's) and Richard Morton (funeral 5th October at 2.15 p.m. in St Michael's).
- this week the diocese asks us to pray for: *Church Choirs, Organists and Musicians*