

NOTICES

HARVEST FESTIVAL NEXT WEEK (6th Oct) Gifts of the harvest will be offered at the beginning of the all-age service next week. The food bank has said that packaged food and toiletries with a long shelf-life are most helpful as they (joyfully) receive lots of gifts at this time of year. We will also be having a special collection for the Bishop of St Alban's Harvest Appeal, run in support of The Leprosy Mission in Sri Lanka.

Fleetville Harmony are giving a concert in **St Michael's** church on **Saturday, 5th October at 7.30 p.m.** Fleetville Harmony is an acapella group singing a wide range of popular music, from Verdi to Neil Diamond, spirituals to swing. Donations will be welcomed at the door in support of the "creaky tower" fund.

Stewards/Welcomer Training We are having a refresher training session for all stewards/welcomers on Saturday 26th October at 10am. This is a hugely important ministry for our church community, so please do also come if you would like to become a welcomer on Sundays.

Holy Pumpkin Trail This was hugely successful last year and drew hundreds to join in our safe 'trick or treating trail' between St Michael's and the Abbey, finishing with crafts and a short service giving thanks to God for the gift of the saints, the 'Hallows' who share God's light in the world. We hope to offer this again on the 31st October between 5 and 6, so if you are able to volunteer to be a 'treat station' please let me know.

Knitted Nativity: would you like to knit a Mary, shepherd, king or a couple of sheep? (Other main characters already spoken for!) Please let Sue V know if you'd like to join our happy group - suecvaughan@btinternet.com



St Michael with St Mary

Services this Week

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

Sunday, 29th September 2024 St Michael and All Angels (Michaelmas)

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

Wednesday, 2nd October

9.30 a.m.	St Michael's School Service
10.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
10.30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist

Sunday, 6th October 2024 Harvest Festival

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

Contact Information:

Vicar: The Rev'd Jonny Lloyd: vicar@parishofstmichaels.org.uk
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. All are welcome to stay for refreshments after the service in the Parish Centre. If you are new, we would love to meet you!

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

Our young people go out for Junior Church in the Parish Centre this morning. All young people are welcome to go along and do take an adult if you'd be more comfortable.

The children's corner contains themed-worksheets, books and toys if you'd like to keep little people busy, but there is no obligation to use it! If you need privacy (e.g. nappy change) the Tower Room is available and has sound relay of the service.

Collect

Everlasting God,
you have ordained and constituted the ministries of angels and mortals in a wonderful order:
grant that as your holy angels always serve you in heaven,
so, at your command,
they may help and defend us on earth;
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.

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 28: 10-17

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went towards Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, 'I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.' Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, 'Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!'

And he was afraid, and said, 'How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.'

Gospel Reading: John 1: 47-51

When Jesus saw Nathanael coming towards him, he said of him, 'Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!' Nathanael asked him, 'Where did you come to know me?' Jesus answered, 'I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.' Nathanael replied, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!' Jesus answered, 'Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.' And he said to him, 'Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'

Prayer Over the Gifts

Lord, by the ministry of your angels let our sacrifice of praise come before you. May it be pleasing to you and helpful to our salvation. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please remember in your prayers:

- Delivery drivers and couriers
- All affected by extreme weather
- In the parish: all who live in Jerome Drive, Rowlatt Drive, Windridge Close
- those who are ill, including: Ben Collins, Pam Dickens, Anne Fletcher, Jacqui Follett, Debbie Greenwood, Helen Huson, Rachael Hymas, Ingrid Kluckova, Joanne Laws, Sam Mahoney, John Polhill, Alice Reardon, Cora Marie Varshney
- Anne Fletcher, Susan Tobin, and all the recently departed and those who mourn them
- this week the diocese asks us to pray for: *For the work of the Probation Service*