

# NOTICES

The service for the **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity** will be held at the newly refurbished Greenwood United Reformed Church in Chiswell Green **tonight at 4.00 p.m.** All welcome.

It's a while 'til Lent but... do put the **Parish Lent group** in your diaries. Starting on **Ash Wednesday (5<sup>th</sup> March)** and for the 4 Wednesdays following we will meet at **11.30 a.m. in the Parish Centre**, finishing with a soup lunch at 1pm. Course info tbc.

The **Thinking Lunches** at Marlborough Road Methodist Church will be restarting on **6<sup>th</sup> February at 12.30 p.m.** with Geoff Sutton, Associate Director of STEP talking about "What Youth Need" – how to make a positive difference to young people.

**Friends of St Michael's Church:** As you may know the Friends was founded as a charity in 1980 with the objective of raising funds to maintain and repair the fabric of this historic church. 100% of the money raised through the Friends goes directly to pay for maintenance and fabric of the building, and this year the focus is on the repair of the clock tower roof.

Annual membership of the Friends of St Michael's costs £10 per person, £20 for a family, or £100 for individual lifetime membership. If you would like to join, please complete a membership form, which can be found at the back of the church, and email it to either the Membership Secretary, Charles Naylor, on [thesallylunn@me.com](mailto:thesallylunn@me.com) or to the Treasurer, Graham Meager, on [grahammeager@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:grahammeager@hotmail.co.uk).



St Michael with St Mary

## Services this Week

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

### Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> January 2025

#### Second Sunday of Epiphany

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

### Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2025

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

### Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> January 2025

#### Third Sunday of Epiphany

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

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#### Contact Information:

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Welcome to our worship this morning. Our young people go out after the first hymn for their services in the Parish Centre - there are groups for ages 0-5 and 5-12. If you would like to know more please do speak to a welcomer or one of the clergy. 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.

Toilets are available in the Parish Centre at the east end of the churchyard; please see a welcomer 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 Lord,  
our beginning and our end:  
bring us with the whole creation  
to your glory, hidden through past ages  
and made known  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **New Testament Reading: I Corinthians 12: 1-11**

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says 'Let Jesus be cursed!' and no one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except by the Holy Spirit. Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

### **Between the first and second readings Psalm 29 is sung**

Thy mercy, O Lord, reacheth unto the heavens:  
and thy faithfulness unto the clouds.

Thy righteousness standeth like the strong mountains:  
thy judgements are like the great deep.

Thou, Lord, shalt save both man and beast; How excellent is thy mercy, O God:  
and the children of men shall put their trust under the shadow of thy wings.

They shall be satisfied with the plenteousness of thy house:  
and thou shalt give them drink of thy pleasures, as out of the river.

For with thee is the well of life:  
and in thy light shall we see light.

O continue forth thy loving-kindness unto them that know thee:  
and thy righteousness unto them that are true of heart.

### **Gospel Reading: John 2: 1-11**

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

### **Today's Anthem**

Listen sweet dove unto my song and spread thy golden wings in me;  
Hatching my tender heart so long till it get wing and flie away with thee.

Such glorious gifts thou didst bestow that the earth did like a heaven appear,  
The starres were coming down to know if they might mend their wages and serve here.

The sunne which once did shine alone, hung down his head and wisht for night  
When he beheld twelve sunnes for one going about the world and giving light.

Lord though we change thou art the same, the same sweet God of love and light;  
Restore this day for thy great name, unto his ancient and miraculous right.

Music: Grayston Ives b.1948      Words: George Herbert 1593-1633

### **Prayer Over the Gifts**

Lord, accept the gifts of your Church, not gold, frankincense and myrrh, but the sacrifice and food they symbolise: Jesus Christ, who is Lord for ever and ever. Amen.

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

- All who are preparing for their own weddings
- All who work in viticulture
- Churches of other denominations in St Albans, that we may witness together to the risen Christ.
- Those who are ill, including: Ben Collins, Jacqui Follett, Helen Huson, Rachael Hymas, Ingrid Kluckova, Sam Mahoney, John Polhill, Alice Reardon, Cora Marie Varshney, Cecily Whitehead, Nat Young
- Alan Allkins, Debbie Greenwood, all the recently departed, and those who mourn them
- This week the diocese asks us to pray for: *Street Angels and Street Pastors*