

# NOTICES

**Drainage and tower works.** The eagle-eyed among you will have spotted that the tower has now been scaffolded and that work on digging the new drains has begun. The tower works will begin shortly, and everything should be completed by Easter. Costs for both repair projects come in at over £100K, plus additional fees and surveys of various sorts, taking the total up to £150K or thereabouts. Although we are able to meet the costs, we need to continue fundraising so that we do not deplete our funds too much for the future. Watch this space!

*St Michael's needs you! I hope you're all aware by now that we need to elect new wardens and a treasurer at the APCM in May. These are interesting and fulfilling roles as part of the team of paid and volunteer staff who support Jonny to keep the parish running, so please don't assume you haven't the time or skills needed. Instead, talk to Val, Mark or Nigel to find out more about what's involved.*

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 soup for lunch at 1pm. Course info tbc.

**Georgina Kosenovic**, former worshipper at St Michael's is running the Watford Half-Marathon in support of Rennie Grove Peace Hospice. To sponsor her efforts please follow this link: <https://www.justgiving.com/page/georgina-kosanovic-1735674261132>

**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).

We have recently been contacted by **The Vineyard Church VersoCare (FEED)** to update their 'shopping list' for goods to help re-stock their warehouse, and a copy of their latest list is at the back of both churches. If you can help, please place your donations in the FEED box. **Thank you for supporting this initiative.**



St Michael with St Mary

## Services this Week

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

### Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> February 2025

#### Fourth Sunday before Lent

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

### Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> February 2025

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

### Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> February 2025

#### Third Sunday before Lent

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:

Vicar: The Rev'd Jonny Lloyd: [vicar@parishofstmichaels.org.uk](mailto:vicar@parishofstmichaels.org.uk)  
Parish Office: Georgie Ray: [admin@parishofstmichaels.org.uk](mailto: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](http://www.stmichaels-parishchurch.org.uk)

Welcome to our worship this morning. Groups for Junior Church meet today in the parish centre. They process out during the opening hymn, and all are welcome from ages 2-12. Do ask a welcomer if you'd like your children to join and they haven't been before. 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**

Lord of the hosts of heaven,  
our salvation and our strength,  
without you we are lost:  
guard us from all that harms or hurts  
and raise us when we fall;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 6: 1-8**

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said:  
'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;  
the whole earth is full of his glory.'

The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: 'Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!' Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: 'Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.' Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, 'Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?' And I said, 'Here am I; send me!'

### **Between the first and second readings Psalm 138 is sung**

I will give thanks unto thee, O Lord, with my whole heart :  
even before the gods will I sing praise unto thee.  
I will worship toward thy holy temple, and praise thy Name,  
because of thy loving-kindness and truth :  
for thou hast magnified thy Name, and thy Word, above all things.  
When I called upon thee, thou heardest me :  
and enduedst my soul with much strength.  
All the kings of the earth shall praise thee, O Lord :  
for they have heard the words of thy mouth.  
Yea, they shall sing in the ways of the Lord :  
that great is the glory of the Lord.

For though the Lord be high, yet hath he respect unto the lowly :  
as for the proud, he beholdeth them afar off.

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, yet shalt thou refresh me :  
thou shalt stretch forth thy hand upon the furiousness of mine enemies,  
and thy right hand shall save me.

The Lord shall make good his loving-kindness toward me :  
yea, thy mercy, O Lord, endureth for ever; despise not then the works of thine  
own hands.

### **Gospel Reading: Luke 5: 1-11**

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.' Simon answered, 'Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.' When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signalled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, 'Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!' For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.' When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

### **Anthem**

To Thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul, My God, I trust in thee.  
*Psalm 25 v1 Rachmaninov 1873-1943*

### **Prayer Over the Gifts**

Lord, we make this offering in obedience to your word. May it cleanse and renew us and lead us to our eternal reward. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen

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

- For care homes in the parish
- For Maggie Dodd and the Anna Chaplaincy network in St Albans
- Churches of other denominations in St Albans, that we may witness together to the light of 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
- Gill Chapman, Jeff Nelson, Stella Sexton, David Slobom, and all the recently departed, and those who mourn them
- This week the diocese asks us to pray for: *Volunteer street cleaners*