

# NOTICES

**Drainage and tower works.** The eagle-eyed among you will have spotted that the tower has now been scaffolded and that work on the new drains is almost completed. 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!

The **funeral service** for **the late Gill Chapman**, who was one of our organists at St Mary's, will be held on **Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> February at 3.30 p.m. at Hemel Hempstead Crematorium, Bedmond Road, HP3 8LL**. Donations in memory of Gill, if you wish, to Rennie Grove Peace Hospice Care ([renniegrovepeace.org/donate](http://renniegrovepeace.org/donate)) or at the service.

The **funeral service** for **the late Stella Sexton** will take place in St Michael's on **Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> February at 1.30 p.m.**

*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).



St Michael with St Mary

## Services this Week

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

### 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)

### Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> February 2025

0.00 a.m.	Morning Prayer
10.30 a.m.	Holy Eucharist

### Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2025

#### Second 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: <a href="mailto:vicar@parishofstmichaels.org.uk">vicar@parishofstmichaels.org.uk</a>
Parish Office:	Georgie Ray: <a href="mailto:admin@parishofstmichaels.org.uk">admin@parishofstmichaels.org.uk</a> (9.00 a.m.–12.00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday)
Telephone:	01727 835037
Website:	<a href="http://www.stmichaels-parishchurch.org.uk">www.stmichaels-parishchurch.org.uk</a>

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**

Eternal God,  
whose Son went among the crowds  
and brought healing with his touch:  
help us to show his love,  
in your Church as we gather together,  
and by our lives as they are transformed  
into the image of Christ our Lord.

### **Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 17: 5-10**

Thus says the LORD:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength,  
whose hearts turn away from the LORD.

They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD.

They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green;

in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse - who can understand it?

I the LORD test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways,  
according to the fruit of their doings.

### **Between the first and second readings Psalm 118 sung**

BLESSED is the man that hath not walked in the counsel of the ungodly, nor stood in the way of sinners:

and hath not sat in the seat of the scornful.

But his delight is in the law of the Lord:

and in his law will he exercise himself day and night.

And he shall be like a tree planted by the water-side:

that will bring forth his fruit in due season.

His leaf also shall not wither:

and look, whatsoever he doeth, it shall prosper.

As for the ungodly, it is not so with them:

but they are like the chaff, which the wind scattereth away from the face of the earth.

Therefore the ungodly shall not be able to stand in the judgement:

neither the sinners in the congregation of the righteous.

But the Lord knoweth the way of the righteous:

and the way of the ungodly shall perish.

### **Gospel Reading: Luke 6: 17-26**

He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

'Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

'Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

'Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

'Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

'But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

'Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry.

'Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.

'Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

### **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, Cora Marie Varshney, 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: *The Diocesan Cursillo Group*