

NOTICES

Harvey and Grace Massan, two of St Michael's youngest members, have decided to do a fundraising run for our creaky, leaky, tower. We want to say a big thank you from all of us at St Michael's! For details of their run and how to support them see <http://tiny.cc/2bv9001>

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 Stella Sexton** will take place in St Michael's on **Monday, 24th 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 (5th 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.

Saturday 1st March: St Michael's Churchyard Working Party and Church Cleaning – 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.; please see the list on the noticeboard outside the Parish Centre for future dates for your diary. This will be the first session of the new season for the churchyard working party so there will be plenty to do in the churchyard after the winter break and visitors. For more information, please get in touch with Andrew on 07521 955289 (churchyard) or Jane on janelarman@sky.com (cleaning).



St Michael with St Mary

Services this Week

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

Sunday, 23rd February 2025

Second Sunday before Lent

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
- 9.30 a.m. Parish Eucharist with Holy Baptism of Lenie Demain-Haddock
- 6.00 p.m. Evensong (St Mary's)

Wednesday, 26th February 2025

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

Sunday, 2nd March 2025

Sunday Next before Lent

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
- 9.30 a.m. All-Age 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. Groups for Junior Church meet today in the parish centre. They process out during the opening hymn, and all are welcome from ages 5-12. 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

Almighty God,
give us reverence for all creation
and respect for every person,
that we may mirror your likeness
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 2: 4b-9, 15-25

These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created. In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no herb of the field had yet sprung up—for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground; but a stream would rise from the earth, and water the whole face of the ground— then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and the man became a living being. And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Between the first and second readings the choir sings from Psalm 65

THOU, O God, art praised in Sion:

and unto thee shall the vow be performed in Jerusalem.

Thou that hearest the prayer:

unto thee shall all flesh come.

My misdeeds prevail against me:

O be thou merciful unto our sins.

Blessed is the man whom thou chooseth, and receivest unto thee:

he shall dwell in thy court, and shall be satisfied with the pleasures of thy house,
even of thy holy temple.

Thou shalt shew us wonderful things in thy righteousness, O God of our salvation:

thou that art the hope of all the ends of the earth, and of them that remain in
the broad sea.

Who in his strength setteth fast the mountains:

and is girded about with power.

Who stilleth the raging of the sea:

and the noise of his waves, and the madness of the people.

They also that dwell in the uttermost parts of the earth shall be afraid at thy tokens:

thou that makest the outgoings of the morning and evening to praise thee.

Gospel Reading: Luke 8: 22-25

One day Jesus got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them, 'Let us go across to the other side of the lake.' So they put out, and while they were sailing he fell asleep. A gale swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger. They went to him and woke him up, shouting, 'Master, Master, we are perishing!' And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm. He said to them, 'Where is your faith?' They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?'

Prayer Over the Gifts

Lord, as we make this offering, may our worship in Spirit and truth bring us salvation.

We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

Please remember in your prayers:

- The team of volunteers at **The Vineyard Church VersoCare (FEED)**
- Lenie Demain-Haddock who is baptized today at St Michael's, and her parents and godparents as they support her in her journey of Christian faith.
- 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: *Student faith groups*