



Welcome to St. Michael and All Angels, Amersham on the Hill.

Please take this sheet home with you for future reference.

04 March, 2018
8.00am. - Said Eucharist

3rd. Sunday of Lent
10.00am. Said Eucharist

We invite you to stay for tea, coffee or juice, served in the area to the left of the altar after the 10.00am. service.

You can follow the service in the booklet given to you as you came in. This week's readings are printed out below. Please use the time before the service to be quiet and to prepare for worship.

Introit (sung by the choir) Lent Prose v.3

Collect

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; 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. **Amen.**

Alternative Collect

Eternal God, give us insight to discern your will for us, to give up what harms us, and to seek the perfection we are promised in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Exodus 20.1–17

Then God spoke all these words: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments. You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labour and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work – you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it. Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour. You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.

For the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

Psalm 19 vv.7-14

Response: The heavens are telling the glory of God.

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

Response

The statutes of the Lord are right and rejoice the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is pure and gives light to the eyes.

Response

The fear of the Lord is clean and endures for ever;
the judgements of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether.

Response

More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold,
sweeter also than honey, dripping from the honeycomb.

Response

By them also is your servant taught and in keeping them there is great reward.

Who can tell how often they offend? O cleanse me from my secret faults!

Response

Keep your servant also from presumptuous sins, lest they get dominion over me;
so shall I be undefiled, and innocent of great offence.

Response

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,
O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

Response

1 Corinthians 1.18–25

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, 'I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.' Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling-block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. For the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

John 2.13–22

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money-changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, 'Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a market-place!' His disciples remembered that it was written, 'Zeal for your house will consume me.' The Jews then said to him, 'What sign can you show us for doing this?' Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' They then said, 'This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

Peace

Peace, perfect peace, in this dark world of sin?

The blood of Jesus whispers peace within.

Post Communion Hymn

1. Before the throne of God above
I have a strong, a perfect plea:
a great High Priest whose name is Love,
who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands,
my name is written on His heart;
I know that while in heaven He stands
no tongue can bid me hence depart,
no tongue can bid me hence depart.

2. When Satan tempts me to despair,
and tells me of the guilt within,
upward I look and see Him there
who made an end of all my sin.
Because the sinless Saviour died,

my sinful soul is counted free;
for God the Just is satisfied
to look on Him and pardon me,
to look on Him and pardon me.

3. Behold Him there! The risen Lamb!
my perfect, spotless Righteousness,
the great unchangeable I AM,
the King of glory and of grace!
One with Himself I cannot die;
my soul is purchased with His blood;
my life is hid with Christ on high,
with Christ, my Saviour and my God,
with Christ, my Saviour and my God.

Post Communion Prayer

Merciful Lord, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Services this week

THE LADY CHAPEL is available for prayer and meditation from 9.30am. Monday-Saturday.

MONDAY-SATURDAY 9.00am. MORNING PRAYER from 'Celebrating Common Prayer' - Lady Chapel

A gentle 20 minute service of prayer, psalms and readings. All welcome at any time. There is a simplified service booklet available in the Lady Chapel, which can be used by anyone, should no priest be present.

TUESDAY 10.30am. SAID EUCHARIST

NEXT SUNDAY 8.00am. SAID EUCHARIST

10.00am. 2GETHER Mothering Sunday All-age Worship.

Readings for next Sunday: 1 Samuel 1.20-end; John 19.25b-27

Forthcoming Activities and Events at St. Michael's

EASTER LILIES

Easter Lilies will be £2 each this year, given in memory of relatives or friends. If you would like to order any or make a contribution to the flower fund, please order from Hazel Adamson by Palm Sunday at the latest.

WHEELER COFFEE –St Michael's – Tuesday, 06 March - 10.00am. – midday

Hot drinks and/or squash with biscuits, with an opportunity for a chat.

TUESDAY CLUB AGM – Lady Chapel – Tuesday, 06 March – 11.30am.

The formal business will start after the conclusion of the Eucharist, followed by lunch at Ramon's for those who would like to come.

HEALING AND WHOLENESS - Lady Chapel – Wednesday, 07 March - 3.00pm. 3.30pm. & 4.15pm.

Sessions last 30 minutes. Please arrive before the start of your preferred time. Appointments are not necessary. If you would like to come but need transport, please call Joy Johns on 729061.

TRAIDCRAFT STALL –Sunday, 11 March– after the 10.00am. service

Orders for items should be given to Sue Eames, or left in the Office to ensure availability on the monthly stall.

MESSY CHURCH–St Michael's - Saturday, 17 March - 11.30am. – 1.00pm.

Family Fun Saturday! Crafts. Song and Dance. Lunch for everyone. You choose what you want to do. No need to book in advance. Just come along. No charge.

NOT-ONE-FOR-LUNCH - Lady Chapel –Monday, 19 March - 12.45pm. for 1.00pm.

For those who live alone and eat alone, run by the Pastoral Care Team - an opportunity to meet old and new friends in a very informal atmosphere. If you would like to come, but have difficulty with transport, please call Alison Woodnutt on 721420.

"QUIET MORNING" – St. Michael's - Wheeler Room – Thursday, 22 March – 10.00am. – 12noon

A time of reflection and silence, a space to relax gently with God. Any queries to Joy Tobler Tel. 818172.

"POP IN AND PAINT" - St Michael's – Friday, 23 March– 10.30am. – 12.15pm.

Join Jenny Thompson and Liz Grammenos from Simpatico. No experience needed - only enthusiasm and interest. All materials supplied, but you are welcome to bring your own paints. If you prefer just to come along for a chat and to watch the proceedings, that's fine too! Further information from Judy Redpath on 725271.

CORRECTION – Monday, 19 – Friday, 23 March

Since the publication of the March newsletter, it has been decided that there will not be Compline in the week before Holy Week. In the past, this service has been held Monday-Wednesday in Holy Week itself. This year, there will be a said communion on each of those days.

WISE CHOICES FILM CLUB- Wheeler Room- Friday, 06 April – 2.00pm. – 4.00pm.

I, Daniel Blake - Directed by Ken Loach. A thought-provoking film, which highlights the government's bureaucracy inherent in claiming benefits. Stars Dave Johns and Hayley Squires. Running Time – 100mins

DEANERY CONFIRMATION SERVICE – Sunday, 15 July

St. Michael's will be running classes to prepare candidates for confirmation prior to this service. Anyone interested in attending is asked to contact Rev. Debbie.

AN INVITATION FROM NIGEL SPOOR

Dear Friends, I now have confirmation that my Ordination as Deacon will be at Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, on Saturday 30 June. The Ordination Service is at 10am. (the doors open at 9am.). I am told that there will be plenty of seats for everyone who would like to come. I am then arranging a buffet lunch from 2pm onwards at Holy Trinity Church, Wycombe Road, Prestwood, HP16 0HJ, the church where I am in training and where I shall be serving my initial curacy. It would be lovely if friends from St Michael's were able to share with me in this special day, either by coming to the Cathedral service or to the buffet afterwards, or both! If you are able to come to the buffet, it would be helpful for catering purposes to have an idea of numbers by Easter. You can let me know either by email nigel@htprestwood.org.uk or text or call to 07724 122981. Do please remember me in your prayers as I prepare for this next chapter in my life and ministry.

COTHA WEEK OF ACCOMPANIED PRAYER – 13-19 May

You may have read about the Week of Accompanied Prayer in the February edition of the newsletter (<http://www.stmichaelsamersham.org.uk/welcome/monthly-newsletter/>). Next Sunday, Diane Rutter will be speaking at both the 8.00am. and 10.00am. services about her own prayer journey as part of our preparation for this initiative. Forms to sign up to take part will be available from 22 March.

PRAYER CHAIN AND PRAYER WITH LAYING ON OF HANDS

A number of people pray at home for St. Michael's and for specific needs or thanksgivings that people may have. If you would like to be part of this network or have a prayer request, please contact Joy Tobler on 818172. If anyone would like prayer with laying on of hands, either for themselves or for someone else, this ministry is available after church services. Please ask a member of the healing team, whose names are on the 'Healing Board', or any of the clergy.

Activities and Events beyond St. Michael's

CHURCH OF ENGLAND LENT COURSE – LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

Let your light shine is a Lent journey through the Gospel of John, offering a short daily reading, a pause for reflection and prayer and a challenge to act. Material for use by individuals is available in various formats – as a printed booklet, in the form of a daily e-mail/text message or via an app. For further information see <https://www.churchofengland.org/lent>

LUNCH BREAK - Amersham Free Church – Tuesday, 06 March - Midday to 2pm.

Lunch Café with coffee, speciality teas and snack lunches, daily newspapers. The church is open for quiet reflection and offers a varied programme of music, worship, meditation and speakers between 1.10pm. and 1.30pm. We are open for anyone who wants a bit of an oasis during the week at lunch time every Tuesday. **This week:**

COTHA OPEN MEETING – The Owen Room, Amersham Free Church – Tuesday, 06 March – 3.00pm. – 4.30pm.

This is to discuss the ongoing work amongst the churches of St. Michael's, St. John's and Amersham Free Church. Tea will be served from 3.00pm. The meeting starts at 3.30pm.

'CALLED TO BE CHRIST- LIKE' - Buckingham Area Day Conference with the Bishop of Oxford - Sir Henry Floyd Grammar School, Oxford Road, Aylesbury HP21 8PE - Saturday 24th. March – 10.00am. - 4.30pm.

We have been encouraged by Revd. Gill Lovell, the person who has spoken to us about our Mission Action Plan, to attend this conference. The day is FREE but booking is essential, either through Eventbrite at ['bucksareaconference.eventbrite.co.uk'](http://bucksareaconference.eventbrite.co.uk) or by email to ['bucksareaconference@oxford.anglican.org'](mailto:bucksareaconference@oxford.anglican.org). Bishop Steven, the Bishop of Oxford, will be there, together with Bishop Alan, our area bishop. We are called to be contemplative, compassionate, courageous people, and churches of the Beatitudes. There will be an opportunity at the conference to learn more about that. Tea and coffee will be provided throughout the day, but please bring a packed lunch. Our intention is to share transport, so please book individually, and then advise Roland Gillott (Tel: 722674 e-mail: roland.gillott@btinternet.com) or the Church Office, so that we can arrange shared transport. Any questions to Roland.