



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

Please take this sheet home with you for future reference.

24 June, 2018

Birth of John the Baptist

8.00am. Said Eucharist

10.00am. Sung 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.

Music before the service (sung by the choir) *God to uphold you.*

Collect

Almighty God, by whose providence your servant John the Baptist was wonderfully born, and sent to prepare the way of your Son our Saviour by the preaching of repentance: lead us to repent according to his preaching and, after his example, constantly to speak the truth, boldly to rebuke vice, and patiently to suffer for the truth's sake; 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.**

Isaiah 40.1–11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: 'In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.' A voice says, 'Cry out!' And I said, 'What shall I cry?' All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand for ever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, 'Here is your God!' See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep. For the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

Psalm 85 vv.8-13.

Response: Show us, O Lord, your mercy.

I will listen to what the Lord God will say, for he shall speak peace to his people and to the faithful, that they turn not again to folly.

Truly, his salvation is near to those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land.

Mercy and truth are met together, righteousness and peace have kissed each other; **Response**

Truth shall spring up from the earth and righteousness look down from heaven.

The Lord will indeed give all that is good, and our land will yield its increase.

Righteousness shall go before him and direct his steps in the way. **Response**

Acts 13.14b–26

On the Sabbath day Paul and his companions went into the synagogue and sat down. After the reading of the law and the prophets, the officials of the synagogue sent them a message, saying, 'Brothers, if you have any word of exhortation for the people, give it.' So Paul stood up and with a gesture began to speak: 'You Israelites, and others who fear God, listen. The God of this people Israel chose our ancestors and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with uplifted arm he led them out of it. For about forty years he put up with them in the wilderness. After he had destroyed seven nations in the land of Canaan, he gave them their land as an inheritance for about four hundred and fifty years. After that he gave them judges until the time of the prophet Samuel. Then they asked for a king; and

God gave them Saul son of Kish, a man of the tribe of Benjamin, who reigned for forty years. When he had removed him, he made David their king. In his testimony about him he said, "I have found David, son of Jesse, to be a man after my heart, who will carry out all my wishes." Of this man's posterity God has brought to Israel a Saviour, Jesus, as he promised; before his coming John had already proclaimed a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. And as John was finishing his work, he said, "What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. No, but one is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of the sandals on his feet." My brothers, you descendants of Abraham's family, and others who fear God, to us the message of this salvation has been sent.' For the word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God.**

Luke 1.57–66, 80

The time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. Her neighbours and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her. On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. But his mother said, 'No; he is to be called John.' They said to her, 'None of your relatives has this name.' Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. He asked for a writing-tablet and wrote, 'His name is John.' And all of them were amazed. Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God. Fear came over all their neighbours, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. All who heard them pondered them and said, 'What then will this child become?' For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him. The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day he appeared publicly to Israel.

Peace

My peace I leave you, my peace I give you, trouble not your hearts;
My peace I leave you; my peace I give you; be not afraid.

Music during Communion (sung by the choir) *Stainer: How beautiful upon the mountains*

Post Communion Prayer

Merciful Lord, whose prophet John the Baptist proclaimed your Son as the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world: grant that we who in this sacrament have known your forgiveness and your life-giving love may ever tell of your mercy and your peace; 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.	SUNG EUCHARIST

Readings for next Sunday: Wisdom 1.13-15 & 2.23-24; 2 Corinthians 8.7-end; Mark 5.21-end

Forthcoming Activities and Events at St. Michael's

BUCKS ART WEEKS – daily until Sunday, 24 June

The Simpatico Art group will once again be exhibiting at St. Michael's. Jenny, Liz, Cecilia, Candy and Beverley will be pleased to see you between 9.30am. and 5.30pm. Mon.-Fri. and until 6.00pm. at the weekends.

OFFICE CLOSED

The Church Office will be closed w/c 18 June, re-opening on Tuesday, 26 June at 9.30am. E-mail and telephone will be monitored during this period, but not necessarily every day.

WHEELER COFFEE –St Michael's – Tuesday, 26 June - 10.00am. – midday

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

"POP IN AND PAINT" - St Michael's – Friday, 29 June– 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.

HEALING AND WHOLENESS - Lady Chapel – Wednesday, 04 July - 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, 08 July, 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. Alternatively, please look at the catalogue on the stall and make your request for the following month.

DEANERY CONFIRMATION SERVICE – St. Michael's – Sunday, 15 July – 6.00pm.

Bishop Alan will be conducting the service when five candidates from St. Michael's will be joined by others from The Benefice of Chalfont St Giles, Seer Green and Jordans. There will be no 10.00am. service at St. Michael's that day.

NOT-ONE-FOR-LUNCH - Lady Chapel –Monday, 16 July - 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, 19 July – 10.00am. – 12noon

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

MESSY CHURCH–St Michael's - Saturday, 21 July - 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.

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 either of the clergy.

Activities and Events beyond St. Michael's

LUNCH BREAK - Amersham Free Church – Tuesday, 26 June - 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: 'A Whirlwind tour of Australia' with Peter King**

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

The Amersham Churches Committee of the WWDP organisation is looking for an Organising Secretary for the annual service in March next year. If you feel that this is something in which you would like to be involved – and please note that men are as welcome as women! – then please get in touch after June 25th, with Valerie Royal, (tel 433193) who will be happy to provide more information.