

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT 10TH DECEMBER 2017

Vicar - The Revd Gavin Knight | tel. 01865 556079 / 07833 251939
Email vicar@stmichaels-summertown.org.uk (day off on Monday)
Parish Manager - Leah Mattinson | tel. 01865 311762 / 07745 130956
email office@stmichaels-summertown.org.uk
Church Hall bookings - bookings@stmichaels-summertown.org.uk

WELCOME TO OUR INCLUSIVE, CHURCH FAMILY

St Michael & All Angels is a church where people are called to come together to explore the mystery of God's love. All of us, without exception, are called by God. A special welcome to all visitors and newcomers. May God bless you this day and every day. Please help yourself to a *Welcome Pack* before you leave.

CAROL SINGING

Dates have been arranged with Green Gates Nursing Home and the Lady Nuffield Home for St Michael's to sing carols with the residents.
Monday 18th December Green Gates Nursing Home 6.15pm for a 6.30pm start .
Tuesday 19th December Lady Nuffield Home 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start.

THE GUARDIAN ANGEL - CHRISTMAS EDITION

The community newsletter is ready for distribution to the households of the parish. We will be combining the partnership Christmas card with the Guardian Angel delivery. Please make space in your diaries to help with bundling and deliveries. Many hands make light work.

SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS

Our candlelit service will be held at 6:30pm on Sunday, 17th December. Traditionally, we offer mulled wine and mince pies afterwards . Could you bring 6 mince pies along to the Sunday morning service to help defray the costs? Baked or bought, all donations will be welcome. Thanks, from the church wardens.

2017 CHRISTMASTIDE QUIZ

Copies are on sale now from Partnership churches at £1 a copy. Last year's raised £120 for charity. Asylum Welcome is this year's charity - but what will the theme be? The Quiz closing date is 6 January. *Jenny Gerrard*

SERVICES THIS ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS

- ◆ December 17th, 6.30pm—Candlelit Lessons & Carols at St Michael's
- ◆ December 24th, 8am & 10am Eucharists, 4pm Crib service, 11.30pm Midnight Mass
- ◆ December 25th, 8am & 10am Eucharists

Please see the Partnership Christmas Card with a full listing of church services this Advent and Christmas. Please help to publicise these events. Take some flyers to post in your road. Keep the rumour of Christ alive this Christmas.

THANKS TO ALL WHO HELPED CLEAN THE CHURCH THIS WEEK

A demonstration of love for our well-loved church. Thank you!

THIS IS AN EMPTY(ISH) SPACE FOR YOU TO FILL THIS ADVENT

Advent is a penitential season when we seek to serve Christ and one another in new and creative ways. What will you give this season?

WHY I LIKE ST MICHAEL'S

Some recent comments from those in the know!

"... thought provoking and God inspired, Bible-based sermons"

SUNDAYS

8.00 am Holy Eucharist
Traditional Language

10.00 am Parish Eucharist
1st Sunday of the month:
All-Age Family Eucharist
5th Sunday of the month:
Rotation with partnership churches

6.30pm Contemplative Prayer
In the Lady Chapel

WEEKDAYS

Silent Prayer
9.00am

Morning Prayer
9.30am

Holy Eucharist
Thursdays 10.00am
1st Thursday of the month: Healing -
the laying on of hands and anointing.

Choir Practice
Thursdays 6.30-7.45pm
Contact Steve Allen - 07717 852020

Men's Breakfast
1st Saturday of the month
Contact Steve Hunter - 01865 552475

For information on courses
Contact Gavin - 01865 556079

FOR CHILDREN

'Children's Church' on Sunday
meets in the vestry during
10.00am Parish Eucharist (term time only)

Godly Play
every 4th Sunday
at 10am with a crèche provided

St Michael's Choristers Age 3+
practise Thursdays in church
in term-time at 5.30 pm and sing on the
1st Sunday of the month
Contact Alice - 07791 328108

Baby & Toddler Group
Tuesdays 10.00 - 12.00 noon
Play for children and chat for carers
Contact Juliet - 01865 552640



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Prepare the way of the Lord: make his path straight.
(Matthew 3:3)

COLLECT

O Lord, raise up, we pray, your power
and come among us,
and with great might succour us;
that whereas, through our sins and wickedness
we are grievously hindered
in running the race that is set before us,
your bountiful grace and mercy
may speedily help and deliver us;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honour and glory, now and for ever.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

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.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO

Mark 1: 1-8

'The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.
As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,
'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
"Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight" ',
John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a
baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people
from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of
Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in
the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed
with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he
ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, 'The one who is
more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to
stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have
baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy
Spirit.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Father in heaven,
who sent your Son to redeem the world
and will send him again to be our judge:
give us grace so to imitate him
in the humility and purity of his first coming
that, when he comes again,
we may be ready to greet him
with joyful love and firm faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



The Threshold Project

Building a place of welcome
for the local community

NEXT WEEK: *THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT*

Readings: Isaiah 61.1-4,8-11 / John 1.6-8,19-28

8am - Celebrant & Preacher: Gavin Knight

10am - Celebrant & Preacher: Gavin Knight