



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

30 December, 2018

1st Sunday of Christmas

Please take this sheet home with you for future reference.

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. 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.

8.00am.: Said Eucharist

Collect

Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us through your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share in our humanity, so we may share the life of his divinity; so who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. **Amen.**

1 Samuel 2.18–20, 26

Samuel was ministering before the Lord, a boy wearing a linen ephod. His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, 'May the Lord repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the Lord'; and then they would return to their home. Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favour with the Lord and with the people.

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

Psalm 148 vv.7-14: **Response: Praise the Lord from the heavens and praise him in the heights.**

Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps;

fire and hail, snow and mist, tempestuous wind, fulfilling his word;

Response

Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars;

wild beasts and all cattle, creeping things and birds on the wing;

Response

Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the world;

young men and women, old and young together; let them praise the name of the Lord. **Response**

For his name only is exalted, his splendour above earth and heaven.

He has raised up the horn of his people and praise for all his faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who are near him.

Response

Luke 2.41–52

Every year the parents of Jesus went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it.

Assuming that he was in the group of travellers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to

look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, 'Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.' He said to them, 'Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?' But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favour.

Peace

Love comes down at Christmas, love all lovely, love divine;
Love is born at Christmas, star & angels give the sign.

Post Communion Prayer

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son shared at Nazareth the life of an earthly home: help your Church to live as one family, united in love and obedience, and bring us all at last to our home in heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Services this week

THE CHURCH AND LADY CHAPEL are usually available for prayer and meditation from 10.00am.

TUESDAY	10.30am.	SAID EUCHARIST. The Naming and Circumcision of Jesus.
NEXT SUNDAY: EPIPHANY	8.00am.	SAID EUCHARIST
	10.00am.	SUNG EUCHARIST. Incense will be used at this service.

Readings for next Sunday: Isaiah 60.1-6; Psalm 72.10-15; Ephesians 3.1-12; Matthew 2.1-12

Forthcoming Activities and Events at St. Michael's

COTHA CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL – St. Michael's – until Sunday, 06 January, while the church is open
Christmas Trees decorated by community groups are on display in the church with visitors encouraged to make donations to this year's charities - Workaid, Street Kids Direct and Amersham Youth Activities / Chiltern Youth Projects. There is also be an opportunity to add your own decoration to 'The Angel Tree'.

OFFICE CHRISTMAS CLOSING

The Church Office will be closed from Monday, 24 December to Tuesday, 01 January inclusive, re-opening on Wednesday. 02 January.

WISE CHOICES FILM CLUB- Wheeler Room- Friday, 04 January- 2.00pm. – 4.00pm.

Woman in Gold: A true story of an elderly Jewish woman, who is on a quest to retrieve family possessions stolen during WWII, starring Helen Mirren. Running time – 105 mins. All welcome. Refreshments served after the showing.

TUESDAY CLUB OUTING – Saturday, 05 January – 7.00pm. – 9.00pm.

The Tuesday Club is going to see the André Rieu New Year concert, relayed from Sydney, Australia, at the Elgiva, Chesham. Not to be missed! Tickets cost £16, and we will be arranging lifts. Further details from David Beattie (725333) or Peter Binns (01296 330836).

HEALING AND WHOLENESS - Lady Chapel – Wednesday, 09 January - 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.

NOT-ONE-FOR-LUNCH - Lady Chapel –Monday, 14 January - 12.45pm. for 1.00pm.

A sandwich lunch for those who live alone and eat alone, and an opportunity to meet old friends and make new ones in a very informal atmosphere.

MESSY CHURCH–St. Michael’s - Saturday, 19 January - 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.

UPDATE FROM TRAIDCRAFT

Following earlier announcements, Traidcraft can now confirm that they will continue trading, but with a reduced product range. They will reduce the craft items they stock because of the losses being made in that area. This is sad news for the producers, as Traidcraft has had a relationship with many of them for several decades, but Traidcraft are working with them to find other buyers in the fair trade world.

Here at St. Michael’s we shall continue to have our monthly sales, albeit with a reduced stock comprising mostly groceries. The next stall will be on Sunday, 13 January, after the 10.00am. service. Special orders should be given to Sue Eames, or left in the Office.

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 the clergy.

Activities and Events beyond St. Michael’s

LUNCH BREAK - Amersham Free Church – Tuesday, 01 January - 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: Coffee and Mince Pies