



07 August, 2022

8th Sunday after Trinity

Said Eucharists – Sunday 8.30am. and 10.00am. Tuesday 10.30am.

Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel – Tuesday-Thursday 9.00am.

The 10.00am. service will be live-streamed, and then available on St. Michael's YouTube Channel, https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-KJtHzLo0w2CM6RQI_50yg

Collect

Almighty Lord and everlasting God, we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments; that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever, we may be preserved in body and soul; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Alternative Collect

Lord God, your Son left the riches of heaven and became poor for our sake: when we prosper save us from pride, when we are needy save us from despair, that we may trust in you alone; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Genesis 15.1–6

The word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, 'Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.' But Abram said, 'O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?' And Abram said, 'You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.' But the word of the LORD came to him, 'This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.' The Lord brought Abraham outside and said, 'Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your descendants be.' And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness. For the word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God.**

Hebrews 11.1–3, 8–16

Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible. By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old – and Sarah herself was barren – because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, 'as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.' All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

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

Luke 12.32–40

Jesus said to his disciples, 'Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For

where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves. But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.'

Post Communion Prayer

Strengthen for service, Lord, the hands that have taken holy things; may the ears which have heard your word be deaf to clamour and dispute; may the tongues which have sung your praise be free from deceit; may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your love shine with the light of hope; and may the bodies which have been fed with your body be refreshed with the fullness of your life; glory to you for ever. **Amen.**

Forthcoming Activities and Events at St. Michael's

RIP PAT WRIGHT

Pat's funeral will take place in St. Michael's on Thursday, 25 August at 1.00pm followed by committal at Chilterns Crematorium.

NAPPY DAYS - North Transept – Wednesday, 10 August– 1.30pm.-3.00pm.

A church-sponsored drop-in group for parents with new babies, offering a cuppa and a chat with other parents.

TRADCRAFT STALL –Sunday, 14 August, after the 10.00am. service

The monthly Traidcraft stall has returned to its former place in the North Transept. A selection of products is available on the day. Special orders should be given to Sue Eames, or left in the Office, to ensure availability.

AMERSHAM PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY EXHIBITION - Tuesday, August 23rd - Saturday, August 27th.

10.00am - 6.00pm

St. Michael's is once again hosting the Society's annual exhibition, which provides an opportunity to show the best work of its members, from beginners to seasoned pros. There is no entry charge, so come along and have a look around.

CRAFTY CUPPA – North Transept – Friday, 26 August – 10.30am. – 11.30am.

A twice monthly drop-in session for everyone, especially those on their own. If you engage in a craft such as knitting or embroidery, bring it with you and enjoy some company while you work. Fancy just a cuppa, or an opportunity to chat? Then come along. You will be very welcome.

By popular demand, Crafty Cuppa is now taking place twice a month, on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month.

“POP IN AND PAINT” – Friday, 02 September – 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!

WISE CHOICES FILM CLUB – Wheeler Room - Friday, 02 September – 2.00pm. – 4.00pm.

Belfast Written & directed by Kenneth Branagh. Starring Ciaran Hinds and Judi Dench. Introducing Jude Hill as 'Buddy' *Belfast* is a poignant story of Love, Laughter & Loss in one boy's childhood amid the music & social turmoil of the late 1960s. Running Time - 1hr 34 mins. All welcome. Refreshments served after the showing.

CHURCH OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER

The church is open for private prayer, from 10.00am. to 4.00pm. Mon.-Fri. The Lady Chapel has been set aside as a quiet space. The votive candle stand and the Prayer Tree are in front of the sanctuary.

Activities and Events beyond St. Michael's

LUNCH BREAK – Amersham Free Church – Tuesday, 09 August- Midday to 2pm.

Tea, coffee and soup are available throughout. The church is open for quiet reflection and offers a varied programme of music, worship, meditation and speakers between 1.10pm. and 1.30pm. **This week: Bite-sized service**

RESTORE HOPE APPEAL

The charity is looking for people and organisations who can offer support either financially or through volunteering to help them maintain their outreach to local families. Current projects include delivery of fresh fruit and vegetable boxes fortnightly to 160 families in the area and running courses, cafes, lunches, toddler groups, school groups and an outside Fire Kitchen for men on site at Latimer House. If you, or others you know, would like to be involved, please contact Restore Hope for more information.

Email: info@restorehopelatimer.org)

WYCOMBE HOMELESS CONNECTION NEEDS CAKE!

The Beaconsfield Country Fayre is a wonderful community event held on bank holiday Monday 29th August. Wycombe Homeless Connection are running a fundraising and awareness-raising stand and we need donations of lots of **cakes and bakes, preserves, sweets, treats, tray-bakes and allotment produce**. This is a simple, generous way you can help us serve people who are homeless in our community. Anything you make, bake or grow we will willingly take – we will be arranging drop off points and collections of donations.

Get in touch: Please let us know if you are able to donate by emailing communications@wwns.org.uk or call 01494 447699 and we'll be back in touch with details. Thank you.