



12 November, 2023 – Remembrance Sunday & The Third Sunday before Advent



*There will be a short Remembrance Day Service at 10.55 on Saturday, 11 November, on St. Michael's Square.*

Said Eucharists – Sunday, 8.30a.m. and Tuesday, 10.30a.m.  
Gathered Round Remembrance Service – Sunday 10.00a.m.

Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel – Tuesday, 9.00a.m.

*Tea and coffee will be served after the 10.00a.m. service.  
Please stay for a chat with other members of the congregation if you can.*

*The Traidcraft stall will be in the North Transept after the 10am service.*

**Hymns for 10a.m.**

- 40 As we are gathered
- 328 Make me a channel of your peace
- Peace (all verses) - See Notices
- 139 For the healing of the nations

**Collect**

Almighty Father, whose will is to restore all things in your beloved Son, the King of all: govern the hearts and minds of those in authority, and bring the families of the nations, divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin, to be subject to his just and gentle rule; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**Alternative Collect**

God, our refuge and strength, bring near the day when wars shall cease and poverty and pain shall end, that earth may know the peace of heaven through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Wisdom 6 12-16**

*A reading from the book of Wisdom*

Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her. One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for she will be found sitting at the gate. To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care, because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths, and meets them in every thought. For the word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 70**

**Response: O Lord, make haste to help me.**

O God, make speed to save me; O Lord, make haste to help me.  
Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confusion;  
let them be turned back and disgraced who wish me evil.

**Response**

Let those who mock and deride me turn back because of their shame.  
But let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;  
let those who love your salvation say always, 'Great is the Lord!'

**Response**

As for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God.  
You are my help and my deliverer; O Lord, do not delay.

**Response.**

### **Matthew 25.1–13**

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew: **Glory to you, O Lord.***

Jesus spoke this parable to the disciples:

‘The kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps.

As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, “Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.”

Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, “Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.”

But the wise replied, “No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.”

And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut.

Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, “Lord, lord, open to us.”

But he replied, “Truly I tell you, I do not know you.”

Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **Peace:**

1. Put peace into each other’s hands  
and like a treasure hold it,  
protect it like a candle flame,  
with tenderness enfold it.

2. Put peace into each other’s hands  
with loving expectation;  
be gentle in your words and ways,  
in touch with God’s creation.

3. Put peace into each other’s hands  
like bread we break for sharing;  
look people warmly in the eye:  
our life is meant for caring.

4. As at communion, shape your hands,  
into a waiting cradle;  
the gift of Christ receive, reverse,  
united round the table.

5. Put Christ into each other’s hands,  
he is love’s deepest measure;  
in love make peace, give peace a chance,  
and share it like a treasure.

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### **Post Communion Prayer**

God of peace, whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom and restored the broken to wholeness of life: look with compassion on the anguish of the world, and by your healing power make whole both people and nations; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

### ***Forthcoming Activities and Events at St. Michael’s***

#### **REMEMBRANCE DAY – Saturday, 11 November – 10.55a.m.**

Please join us on St. Michael’s Square for a short service to remember all those lost in the line of duty.

#### **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY – Sunday, 12 November – 10.00a.m.**

Please join us for a Gathered Round, family service, during which we will remember all those lost in the line of duty.



**CRAFTY CUPPA – Friday, 10 & 24 November – 10.30a.m.-12noon.**

A drop-in session for everyone who wants a cuppa and some company. If you engage in a craft, such as knitting or embroidery, bring it with you and enjoy some company while you work. All welcome.

**MESSY CHURCH – Saturday, 18 November – 11.30a.m.-1p.m.**

On the third Saturday of each month is a fun, informal activity for all the family, combining creative activities and biblical teaching, followed by lunch. All welcome. No need to book. Just turn up.

**ADVENT COURSE – Tuesday, 28 November, 5 December and 13 December – 7p.m.-8p.m. – On Zoom**

The Advent course, led by our LLM, Katherine, will be based on *Stick with Love*, by Arun Arora, and will focus on stories told by Jesus and men and women, whose lives reflect the love of God. It explores relationships with people from around the world, who are part of the family of the Church and difficulties encountered in relationships. Arun Arora is Bishop of Kirkstall in the Diocese of Leeds. If you would like to join the course **please let Hazel know by 20 November** so that you can be added to the zoom call, and collect a book from the Church Office. A donation to cover the cost of the books is appreciated. Courses run at St. Michael's offer a great way to connect with the other members of the congregation, while at the same time opening up theological pathways you may not have explored before.

**“POP IN AND PAINT” – Friday, 1 December 10.30a.m.-12.30p.m.**

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 – Friday, 1 December – 2p.m.-4p.m. – Wheeler Room**

FISHERMAN'S FRIENDS (1) – A true story about a group of Cornish Fishermen from Port Isaac. Famed for singing sea shanties, who were signed by Universal Records. Stars Daniel May. Running Time 1hr. 52mins.

**REPAIR CAFÉ – Saturday, 6 January – 10.a.m.-1p.m.**

Come along to SustainableAmersham.org's pop-up Repair Café, where volunteer repairers will help you fix your stuff for free. No appointment required, but you may need to wait to see a repairer. Free refreshments are available.

**THE BIG ADVENT PRAYER SWAP**

If you would like to join the *Big Advent Prayer Swap*, please email [communications@stmichaelsamersham.org.uk](mailto:communications@stmichaelsamersham.org.uk). Just before Advent your first name will be given to someone else who has requested to be involved, and you will be given a name to pray for daily throughout Advent.

**CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL – As in previous years, we're looking for support for the Christmas Fayre and Choirs at St. Michael's, raising funds for Wycombe Homeless Connection.**

If you are available on **Saturday, 2 December** between 10a.m. and 4p.m. /**Saturday, 9 December** between 10a.m. and 2.30p.m. please email [kiki@akipl.com](mailto:kiki@akipl.com) saying when you would be available. Thank you.

**CARDS FOR GOOD CAUSES**

Cards for Good Causes are set up in the South Transept. Please come along and support this charity by buying your Christmas cards and other bits and pieces for Christmas from them.

***Activities and Events beyond St. Michael's***

**LUNCHBREAK – Amersham Free Church – Tuesday, 14 November – 12noon-2p.m.**

Tea, coffee and soup are available throughout. The church is open for quiet reflection, and from **1.10p.m.-1.30p.m.** a *Bite Sized Service*.

**COME AND SING – Amersham Free Church – Saturday, 25 November – 10.30a.m.,**

An informal choral workshop **followed by a performance, from 3.45p.m.-4.15p.m., and refreshments.** Ticket price for singers, £10, or £12 on the day. Under 18s Free. Tickets available from [www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk). (search for 'Come and Sing Amersham Free Church')