



St. Michael & All Angels – Church of England

16 February, 2025 – 3rd Sunday before Lent

Said Eucharists – Sunday, 8.30a.m., and Tuesday, 10.30a.m.

Sung Eucharist – Sunday, 10a.m.

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

The 10a.m. service will be streamed live, and then be available on

St. Michael's YouTube Channel, <https://www.youtube.com/@stmichaelandallangels/streams>

Hymns for 10a.m.

15 All my hope on God is founded

63 Blest are the pure in heart

516 Through all the changing scenes of life

352 Now let us from this table rise

Readers

Anne Jarvis and Ann Beattie

Collect

Almighty God, who alone can bring order to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity: give your people grace so to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, among the many changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; 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.**

Alternative Collect

Eternal God, whose Son went among the crowds and brought healing with his touch: help us to show his love, in your Church as we gather together, and by our lives as they are transformed into the image of Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Jeremiah 17.5-10

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

Thus says the LORD: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the LORD. They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse – who can understand it? I the LORD test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

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

Psalm 1

Response: For the Lord knows the way, the way of the righteous.

Blessed are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, not sat in the assembly of the scornful.

Their delight is the law of the Lord, and they meditate on his law day and night.

Response

Like a tree planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither, whatever they do, it shall prosper.

As for the wicked, it is not so with them; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

Response

Therefore the wicked shall not be able to stand in the judgment, nor the sinner in the congregation of the righteous.

For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked shall perish.

Response

1 Corinthians 15.12-20

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

If Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ – whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

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

Luke 6.17-26

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

He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. Then he looked up at his disciples and said: 'Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.'

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

Post Communion Prayer

Merciful Father, who gave Jesus Christ to be for us the bread of life, that those who come to him should never hunger: draw us to the Lord in faith and love, that we may eat and drink with him at his table in the kingdom, where he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Forthcoming Activities and Events at St. Michael's

******2025 ELECTORAL ROLL REVIEW******

The big 6 yearly review of the Roll is happening! Everyone currently on the Roll must reapply in order to be included! Emails with links to the new form will be sent out to everyone on the current Roll, and forms will be sent to those not on e-mail and available to those who would prefer to apply offline.

NOT ON THE ROLL BUT WOULD LIKE TO ENROL? Please speak to myself or Rachel via the Church Office (email: office@stmichaelsamersham.org.uk or Tel: [01494 726680](tel:01494726680)) with your contact details, and we will get a form to you.

Chris Leslie
Electoral Roll Officer

LENT COURSE – Wednesday, 12, 19 & 26 March – 7P.M. – On Zoom

This year Lent will run from Ash Wednesday on March 5th. to Good Friday on April 18th. We are proposing to study another book by Paula Gooder, Women of Holy Week. As with the book, which we studied in Advent, there are nine stories in a similar format. Everyone enjoyed the Advent course, which produced some good discussion, so it seems appropriate to look at Paula Gooder's other book.

The price of the book is in the region of £10.

If you would like to join the course on Zoom, or simply study the book privately, please contact Rachel in the church office, so that we can make up a list and order the right number of books.

INVITATION FROM THE REVD. CANON DAVE BULL, BISHOP DESIGNATE OF BUCKINGHAM – “Over the next three months, I will be praying on Zoom on Monday evenings at 5.30p.m./ for 20 minutes, starting on 2 December. Will you join me? Feel free to come along just to listen. You are welcome to join in silently – there will be no pressure to pray out loud. If you are usually doing something else at that time – walking the dog, doing the washing up or travelling home from work – you are welcome to join in, just as you are (with camera on or off!).” Please use the following zoom link to access the session, or ask the office to send you a copy of the original email, so you can just click the link:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89461917418?pwd=5ebxBUseXv5by0HQ8OZzaej6HDFABs.1&utm_source=Diocese+of+Oxford+Mailing+Lists&utm_campaign=3acd1b869f-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_06_07_04_41_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_5e6b832234-3acd1b869f-339849597#success

A CRAFTY CUPPA – 14 & 28 February – 10.30a.m.-12noon. A Crafty Cuppa is a drop-in session for everyone who wants a cuppa and some company. Please do bring your knitting, crochet and sewing, if you would like to. Some organised talks or crafts will also be available for those who prefer to come empty handed. We look forward to seeing you.

MESSY CHURCH – Saturday, 15 February – 11.30a.m.-1p.m. Join us with your children/grandchildren for fun activities, followed by a story or discussion, and a light lunch. The session is free. Donations are welcome.

JIVE TIME Modern Jive Lessons, Dancing and Social – Sunday, 16 February – 2p.m.-5p.m. In the Church Hall. Free entry, but donations towards St. Michael's Welcome. Classes start at 2.30p.m. and 3.30p.m.

REPAIR CAFÉ – Saturday, 1 March – 10.a.m.-1p.m. Come along to SustainableAmersham.org's pop-up Repair Café. Volunteer repairers will help you fix your stuff for free. No appointment required. Free refreshments.

SHROVE TUESDAY – Tuesday, 4 March – 7p.m. SAVE THE DATE! You are invited to join the Shrove Tuesday outing to Pizza Express. £14.95 for a starter and main course + tea or any other hot drink. The menu will be available by the pigeon holes to view from 16 February, when you will also be able to book. Payments can be made by BACS to PCC St Michael & All Angels Church; Sort Code 40-24-17; a/c no 22730928, quoting the reference “Shrove Tues” or by cash to the office.

“POP IN AND PAINT” – Friday, 7 March – 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 come along for a chat and watch the proceedings!

WISE CHOICES FILM CLUB– Friday, 7 March – 2p.m.-4p.m – ANOTHER ROUND Four weary high school teachers embark on a risky experiment to maintain a constant level of intoxication throughout the work day. Subtitles. Running Time: 1hr. 52mins.

FAIR TRADE STALL – Sunday, 9 March – after the 10a.m. Gathered Round Service. The stall regularly offers a range of groceries and seasonal items, with other lines on request. Please come to the stall and support Fair Trade.

Activities and Events beyond St. Michael's

LUNCHBREAK – Amersham Free Church – Tuesdays – 12noon-2p.m. - Tea, coffee and soup are available. The church is open for quiet reflection, and from 1.10p.m-1.30p.m. Community Connex Musicals on 18 February, and Great Sacred Music on 25 February.

INVITATION TO TAKE PART IN AMERSHAM FREE CHURCH'S MONTHLY LUNCH GROUP

Following the COTHA United Communion Service in January, Amersham Free Church (AFC) has invited us to take part in the AFC Lunch group. The invitation says: "The AFC Lunch group meets on the third Friday of every month, apart from August. The idea is that we bring our own sandwiches/food and sit down in the Alfred Ellis Hall at 12.15-12.30. Then at 13.00 we adjourn to the Owen Room where we listen to our speaker. The talks are varied and usually interesting, and recently we have explored the Arctic, heard about Martin Luther and his reformation, whilst also going on a train journey in America. We suggest a donation of £3-£5 to go towards the cost of hiring speakers.

Our next speaker is Dr. Bob Bradnock, a member of AFC's congregation is an expert and will talk on 'India Today' on Friday 21 February.

We would welcome any friends from St Michael's to come and join us for that talk and subsequent talks as well. They should feel free also to bring friends and family.

If you would like any further information, please be in touch with Roland Gillott (roland.gillott@icloud.com or 01494 722674).

THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER The Amersham Churches welcome all to Amersham Free Church, Woodside Road, Amersham, HP6 6AJ, for a World Day of Prayer Service on **Friday 7 March at 10.30a.m.** followed by coffee and cake. A Service for Everyone.

On site parking requires car owners to register their car numberplate details on the pad inside the church vestibule.