



*St. Michael & All Angels – Church of England*

**17 March, 2024 – 5th Sunday of Lent**

**Said Eucharists – Sunday, 8.30a.m. & 10.00a.m. and Tuesday, 10.30a.m.**

**Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel, - Tuesday 9a.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.**

293 Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us

124 Father of heaven, whose love profound

8 Ah, holy Jesu

352 Now let us from this table rise

**Collect**

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; 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**

Gracious Father, you gave up your Son out of love for the world: lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion, that we may know eternal peace through the shedding of our Saviour's blood, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Jeremiah 31.31–34**

*A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.*

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt – a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, 'Know the LORD,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

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

**Psalm 119.9-16**

**Response: Lead me, O Lord, in the path of your commandments.**

How shall young people cleanse their way to keep themselves according to your word?

With my whole heart have I sought you; O let me not go astray from your commandments.

**Response**

Your words have I hidden within my heart, that I should not sin against you.

Blessed are you, O Lord; O teach me your statutes.

**Response**

With my lips have I been telling of all the judgements of your mouth.

I have taken greater delight in the way of your testimonies than in all manner of riches.

**Response**

I will meditate on your commandments and contemplate your ways.

My delight shall be in your statutes and I will not forget your word.

**Response**

## Hebrews 5.5–10

*A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.*

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, 'You are my Son, today I have begotten you'; as he says also in another place, 'You are a priest for ever, according to the order of Melchizedek.' In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

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

## John 12.20–33

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

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour. 'Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say – "Father, save me from this hour"? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.' Then a voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, 'An angel has spoken to him.' Jesus answered, 'This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.' He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

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

## Post Communion Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ, you have taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for you: give us the will to be the servant of others as you were the servant of all, and gave up your life and died for us, but are alive and reign, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

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

**RIP. BASIL MACNAB.** The funeral of Basil Macnab will be on Tuesday, April 2nd. at 1.15pm. at the Chilterns Crematorium, Hampden Chapel.

### **CHURCH OFFICE CLOSURE: 25 MARCH – 22 APRIL**

Emails and phone calls will be monitored during this time but may take a little longer to reply to than usual. Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

### **LENT COURSE – WEEKLY FROM TUESDAY, 5 MARCH to TUESDAY, 19 MARCH – ZOOM – 7.30p.m.**

The group will follow the text in *Transfiguration* by Rob Marshall.

**LENT APPEAL 2024** – The beneficiary for the St. Michael and All Angels Church Lent Appeal will once again be the "Friends of St. Anne's Hospital, Liuli" in Tanzania, a charity we have supported for over 10 years, which brings much needed medical services to a remote part of Africa. Envelopes for cash and cheques with gift aid forms are attached or available in the Narthex. Cheques should be made payable to "Friends of St. Anne's Hospital". Alternatively, donations can be made through the church's card reader or made directly through the charity's website: "<https://friends-of-st-annes.com/>" If you donate this way, please use the option "Leave a message" as follows "From a member of the congregation of St. Michael's Church, Amersham".

## **EASTER SERVICES 2024**

**Passion Sunday**, 17 March—8.30a.m. & 10a.m., **Palm Sunday**, 24 March—8.30a.m. & 10a.m.

**Maundy Thursday**, 28 March—8p.m., **Good Friday**, 29 March—10a.m., followed by a COTHA service at 11.30a.m. on St. Michael's Square., **Easter Vigil**, Saturday, 30 March—8p.m., **Easter Sunday**, 31 March—8.30a.m. & 10a.m.

## **REVISION OF ELECTORAL ROLL**

The electoral roll will be closed for revision prior to the APCM (Annual Parochial Church Meeting) on Sunday, 28 April. Anyone who lives in the parish, and/or is a regular attendee at church services is entitled to be on the roll. If you meet the qualifying criteria, and wish to be included on the roll in time to be able to vote at the APCM at the end of April, you should ensure that your completed form is submitted to the Church Office, by Friday, 12 April.

## **LUNCH IN CHURCH TO CELEBRATE FR. PETER BINNS' 80TH BIRTHDAY – Tuesday, 23 April 2024**

There will be a lunch in church to celebrate Fr. Peter Binns' 80th Birthday on Tuesday, 23 April 2024. All members of the congregation are invited. It will help with the catering arrangements if you will let the Church Office know by Friday, 22 March if you would like to be at the lunch ([email: office@stmichaelsamersham.org.uk](mailto:office@stmichaelsamersham.org.uk); tel: 01494 726680). Tickets will be issued in due course to those who do so. Please will you at the same time let the Office know about any allergies or dietary requirements. If you wish to speak to Hazel Miller about this, as it is a Church Office matter, please will you do so during Office opening hours during the week, and not on a Sunday. There will be no charge for the lunch, but donations towards the cost (which may be made on the day) will be appreciated, although not required.

## **MESSY CHURCH – Saturday, 16 March – 11.30a.m.-1p.m.**

The third Saturday each month. This 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.

## **LEARN TO DANCE MODERN JIVE – Every Saturday – from 7.30p.m. – In the Church Hall – 16 March**

The classes are free, albeit donations towards St. Michael's are welcome! You don't need to know how to dance or even turn up every week, just drop in any week and have fun!

## **CRAFTY CUPPA – Friday 22 March & 12 April – 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.

## **THE TOWN COUNCIL CLIMATE ACTION DAY EVENT – St. Michael's Square – March 23<sup>rd</sup> – 10a.m.-1p.m.**

Including a fashion show of recycled/repaired items, a toy swap, a clothes swap and interactive environmental displays. Amersham Town Council in partnership with Amersham School, Dr Challoner's H"POP IN AND PAINT" – Friday, 5 April – 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, 5 April – 2p.m.-4p.m. – Wheeler Room – THE QUIET GIRL**

Irish Cait, a quiet neglected young girl, is sent away from her dysfunctional family to live with relatives for the summer. Cait senses that something is plaguing her new foster parents. Introducing Catherine Clinch as 'Cait'. Running Time 1hr.30mins.

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

**LUNCHBREAK – Amersham Free Church – Tuesday, 19 March – 12noon-2p.m.** - Tea, coffee and soup are available. The church is open for quiet reflection, and 1.10p.m-1.30p.m. a Bite Sized Service for Lent.

## **ST. ANDREWS LITERATURE FESTIVAL – 21-22 JUNE**

"Join us in Great Missenden for the St. Andrews Literature Festival! Listen to captivating stories and wisdom from some of the UK's best loved Christian authors, right on your doorstep. Don't miss this opportunity to engage with great Christian literature and find out how God is changing lives through the written word. Find out more - <https://stalitfest.co.uk/>"