



**St. Michael & All Angels – Church of England
17 November, 2024 – 2nd Sunday before Advent**

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

Sung Eucharist – Sunday 10.00a.m.

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

The 10.00a.m. service is streamed live, then available on, <https://www.youtube.com/@stmichaelandallangels/streams>

Hymns for 10a.m.

46a At the name of Jesus

35 Around the throne of God

422 Praise my soul, the King of heaven

26 Alleluia, sing to Jesus

Readers

Ann Jarvis

Ann Beattie

Collect

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son was revealed to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the children of God and heirs of eternal life: grant that we, having this hope, may purify ourselves even as he is pure; that when he shall appear in power and great glory we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Alternative Collect

Heavenly Lord, you long for the world's salvation: stir us from apathy, restrain us from excess and revive in us new hope that all creation will one day be healed in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Daniel 12.1–3

A reading from the book of Daniel.

In the third year of King Cyrus a word was revealed to Daniel. 'At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish, such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars for ever and ever.'

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

Psalm 16

Preserve me, O God, for in you have I taken refuge;

I have said to the Lord, 'You are my lord, all my good depends on you.'

All my delight is upon the godly that are in the land, upon those who are noble in heart.

Response

Though the idols are legion that many run after, their drink offerings of blood I will not offer, neither make mention of their names upon my lips.

Response

The Lord himself is my portion and my cup; in your hands alone is my fortune.

My share has fallen in a fair land; indeed, I have a goodly heritage.

Response

I will bless the Lord who has given me counsel, and in the night watches he instructs my heart.

I have set the Lord always before me; he is at my right hand; I shall not fall.

Response

Wherefore my heart is glad and my spirit rejoices; my flesh also shall rest secure.

For you will not abandon my soul to Death, nor suffer your faithful one to see the Pit.

Response

You will show me the path of life; in your presence is the fullness of joy

and in your right hand are pleasures for evermore.

Response

Response: In your presence, O Lord, is the fullness of joy.

Hebrews 10.11–14, 19–25

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, 'he sat down at the right hand of God,' and since then has been waiting 'until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet.' For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

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

Mark 13.1–8

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

As Jesus came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, 'Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!' Then Jesus asked him, 'Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.' When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, 'Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?' Then Jesus began to say to them, 'Beware that no one leads you astray. Many will come in my name and say, "I am he!" and they will lead many astray. When you hear of wars and rumours of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.'

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

Post Communion Prayer

Gracious Lord, in this holy sacrament you give substance to our hope: bring us at the last to that fullness of life for which we long; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Amen.

Forthcoming Activities and Events at St. Michael's

LATEST UPDATE ON HELPING WITH THE COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

If you are able to help fill the last few slots, please email: kiki@akipl.com.

Tuesday, 26 November – setting the Trees up in Church ready for Groups to decorate the next day – **11a.m. to 1p.m.**

Saturday, 7 December – at the 'Choirs, Cake and Coffee' event, welcoming and collecting donations from our visitors, from **9.45a.m. to 12.30p.m.** or **12.30p.m. to 3.15p.m.** Do please come along, even if you're not able to help, and support the Choirs and Wycombe Homeless Connection.

CARDS FOR GOOD CAUSES will be open every Monday-Saturday, from 10a.m.-4p.m. (16 November and 21 December 1.30p.m.-4p.m.) and Sundays from 11.30a.m./12noon-4p.m., until 21 December, in the South Transept.

LEARN TO DANCE MODERN JIVE – Every Friday from **4 October-22 November** – **7.30p.m.** – **St. Michael's Church Hall**
Come and learn to dance for FREE! Just turn up. Donations to St. Michael's welcome.

CRAFTY CUPPA – **Friday, 22 November & 14 December** – **10.30a.m.-12noon**. 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.

SUSTAINABLE AMERSHAM & BUCKS COMMUNITY ENERGY EVENT – **Saturday, 23 November** (AWAITING DETAILS)

AMERSHAM JUPITER SINGERS – A FESTIVE EVENING – **Wednesday, 27 November** - **7.30p.m.** – **St. Michael & All Angels**

Join the Jupiter Singers for a heartwarming evening of Christmas singalong favourites. Tickets £5 on the door.

AMERSHAM ACTION GROUP CHRISTMAS FAYRE AT ST. MICHAEL'S – **Saturday, 30 November** - We are very much in need of welcomers throughout this busy event, when we'll be collecting for Wycombe Homeless Connection at the Festival Angel Tree in the Narthex. Times by arrangement. Please contact contact kiki@akipl.com

ADVENT PRAYER SWAP – Sunday, 1 December-Christmas Day. Please join the 2024 advent prayer swap, all are welcome from St. Michael's, the Amersham Free Church, and the whole community. The swap will start on 1 December when Advent commences. All that is required of you is that you give your first name and email address to Rebecca via communications@stmichaelsamersham.org.uk (if you don't use e-mail, please leave a message with the office). On Thursday, 28 November, you will be given the first name of someone to pray for daily throughout advent and someone will be given your name so you too will be prayed for daily.

WISE CHOICES FILM CLUB – Friday 6th December – 2p.m.-4p.m. – A PRAIRIE HOME COMPANION Starring Meryl Streep and Garrison Keller. The story of a much loved US radio show, the last ever live recording of one of America's broadcasting institutions. Running Time 1hr. 41mins.

"POP IN AND PAINT" – CHANGE OF DATE: Friday, 6 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 come along for a chat and watch the proceedings!

CHOIRS COFFEE & CAKE AT ST. MICHAEL'S – Saturday, 7 December – 10a.m.-3p.m.

5 Choirs will each be performing for 45 minutes in the Church. Free entry – just pop in for as long as you wish. This is a family friendly occasion with refreshments available throughout. Donations are requested for Wycombe Homeless Connection.

10a.m. The Heatherton Singers.

11a.m. The Ukeholics

12p.m. AmChor

1p.m. The Knights of Harmony

2p.m. Amersham Community Choir

FAIR TRADE STALL – Sunday, 8 December – After the 10a.m. Eucharist. 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.

MESSY CHURCH – Saturday, 21 December – 11.30a.m.-1p.m. Join us with your children/grandchildren for a fun session centered around the theme, 'The light of Christ', and based on Luke 11.33. Fun activities will be followed by a story or discussion, and a light lunch. This session is offered for free, but donations to cover costs are gratefully received.

REPAIR CAFÉ – Saturday, 4 January – 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.

Activities and Events beyond St. Michael's

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNCIL TAXI TRANSPORT CONSULTATION - CLOSING 24 NOVEMBER

Please consider participating in this consultation, which includes provision of wheelchair accessible local taxis. Amersham & Chesham are currently poorly served in this respect. For more information and to participate in the consultation, please visit: <https://yourvoicebucks.citizenspace.com/regulatory-services/taxi-licensing/> Should you have any questions about this consultation, please contact taxilicensing@buckinghamshire.gov.uk

LUNCHBREAK – Amersham Free Church – Tuesday, 19 November– 12noon-2p.m. - Tea, coffee and soup are available. The church is open for quiet reflection, and from 1.10p.m-1.30p.m. a short talk, a bite sized service or a recital.

BEYOND DIFFERENCE – SCRIPTURAL REASONING – Sunday, 24 November, 2p.m.-4p.m. (doors open 1.45p.m.)

Speakers include Edward Bowes-Smith, Team Rector, St. Mary's, Chesham; Thea Gomelauri, Director, Oxford Interfaith Forum, and Imam Arif, Senior Imam, Chesham Mosque. Scriptural Reasoning is a fresh approach to modern day inter-faith dialogue, which puts scripture at the heart of the conversation. For more information please contact info@beyonddifference.org. Location: Chesham Mosque, 212 Bellingdon Road, HP5 2NN.

QUIET GARDEN – ONLINE ADVENT REFLECTIONS – Monday, 2, 9 & 16 December – 7.30p.m.-8p.m. Three evenings of reflection, silence, music and prayer and poetry during Advent, which will follow Mary, The Kings and Shepherds as they make their own journeys towards Bethlehem. For tickets: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/journeys-through-advent-tickets-1058151081369>.