



St. Michael & All Angels – Church of England
4 October, 2026 – 18th Sunday after Trinity

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 recorded, then available later on
St. Michael's YouTube Channel, <https://www.youtube.com/@stmichaelandallangels/streams>

We welcome Martin Russell, and Alison Siddle, who will talk about Age UK, our chosen charity for the 2026 Harvest Appeal. Tea and coffee will be served at 9.30a.m. Please join us then and chat with Martin and Alison.

Hymns for 10a.m.

175 God of mercy, God of grace
360 O for a closer walk
148 from heaven you came
32a And now, O Father

Readers:

Margaret Sherlock
Ann Jarvis

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us your gift of faith that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to that which is before, we may run the way of your commandments and win the crown of everlasting joy; 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

God, our judge and saviour, teach us to be open to your truth and to trust in your love, that we may live each day with confidence in the salvation which is given through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Isaiah 5.1-7

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watch-tower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting: he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!
For the word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 80.8-16

**Response: Show the light of your countenance, O Lord God of hosts,
and we shall be saved.**

Turn us again, O God of hosts; show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved. **Response**

You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it.

You made room around it, and when it had taken root, it filled the land.

Response

The hills were covered with its shadow and the cedars of God by its boughs.

It stretched out its branches to the Sea and its tendrils to the River.

Response

Why then have you broken down its wall, so that all who pass by pluck off its grapes?

The wild boar out of the wood tears it off, and all the insects of the field devour it.

Response

Turn again, O God of hosts, look down from heaven and behold;

Cherish this vine which your right hand has planted,

and the branch that you made so strong for yourself.

Response

Philippians 3.4b-14

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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

Matthew 21.33-end

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

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people: 'Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watch-tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, "They will respect my son." But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, "This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance." So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They said to him, 'He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures: "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes"? Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.' When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

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

Post Communion Prayer

We praise and thank you, O Christ, for this sacred feast: for here we receive you, here the memory of your passion is renewed, here our minds are filled with grace, and here a pledge of future glory is given, when we shall feast at that table where you reign with all your saints for ever.

Amen.

Activities and Events at St. Michael & All Angels, Amersham on the Hill

HARVEST APPEAL 2026 - Our Harvest Appeal this year is Age UK Buckinghamshire. This Sunday we are fortunate to have Martin Russell, their Chief Executive, and Alison Siddle, Head of Services, come and speak to us at both the 8.30a.m. and 10a.m. services. Between these services, at 9.30a.m. coffee/tea and biscuits will be available so that both our congregations can mingle and chat to the speakers. So please linger after the early service or come early if you are planning to attend at 10am. Donations can be made by the card readers, by cash or cheques via the envelopes in the church or using this QR code:



FOODBANK HARVEST APPEAL 2026 – The foodbank have asked for donations of tinned ham, tinned minced beef, tinned rice pudding, tinned fruit, jam, tinned tomatoes and small jars of instant coffee. Could you please bring donations to St. Michael's so that they can be collected together and given to the Foodbank after our Harvest Service, which will take place on the second Sunday of October.

CAN YOU HELP? – ‘CAROLS, COFFEE AND CAKE’ – Saturday, 5 December

Are you able to help please, with this fun family event, supporting the Christmas Festival in aid of Wycombe Homeless. 7 local Groups promise an entertaining day!

We need meeters and greeters, coffee makers, cake providers (homemade or bought) and collectors inside and out. Volunteers ideally from 9.45a.m. to 1p.m., and/or 1p.m. to 3.30p.m. Please contact kiki@akipl.com

CHURCH SOUND SYSTEM – we are seeking someone who would like to learn to run the sound system at St. Michael's as part of a team. Please let the church office know if you or someone you know could be interested in this role.

OFFICE HOURS – From 5-23 October the office will be open Monday-Friday from 9a.m.-11a.m.

A CRAFTY CUPPA – Friday, 9 & 23 October – 10.30a.m.-12noon. A Crafty Cuppa is a drop-in session for everyone who wants a cuppa and some company. 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. *If you would like to make poppies for Remembrance Sunday, have wool that can be used for this purpose, or you need a pattern, please come along or contact the church office.*

POP IN AND PAINT – Friday, 2 October – 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 to watch the proceedings!

HARVEST FISH AND CHIPS AND QUIZ NIGHT AT ST. MICHAEL'S – Friday, 9 October 2026 – 7pm. If you're interested, please contact the church office. More details regarding meal choices and cost will follow.

FAIRTRADE – Sunday, 11 October– The stall will be in the North Transept after the 10a.m. service.

MESSY CHURCH – Saturday, 17 October– 11.30a.m.-1p.m. Join us with your children/grandchildren for fun activities, followed by an interactive session and a light lunch. The session is free. Donations are welcome.

COUNTRY MARKETS IN ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH HALL – Saturday, 17 October – 10a.m.-1p.m. Start your Christmas shopping and enjoy a cup of tea or coffee at this new craft market.

REPAIR CAFÉ – Saturday, 7 November – 10a.m.-1p.m. Come along to SustainableAmersham.org's pop-up Repair Café. Volunteer repairers will help you fix your stuff for free. In addition to their usual wide range of repairs, they are now also offering technical advice: mobile phones, laptops and tablets. Bookable bike maintenance slots are also available; details on the noticeboard. No appointment required. Free refreshments. The repair café is on the first Saturday of every second month.

RED KITE CRAFT MARKET – Saturday, 7 November – 9a.m.-1p.m. – St. Michael's Church Hall. Handmade crafts, including, cards, woodwork, knitting, jewellery and more.

ADVENT COURSE – This will start a week before Advent. Times and dates will be confirmed shortly. If you would like to join the course, please contact the office and request a copy of *Walking with Angels*, by Eleanor Sanderson. A voluntary donation of £10 to cover the cost of the book would be welcome.

SNOW WHITE AT THE ELGIVA – 12 December – 3p.m. – Would you, your family and friends, like to join us for an outing to the panto this Christmas? If you are interested, please let the church office know as soon as possible. We have reserved 30 accessible seats until the end of September. If you can't drive, when contacting the office, please let us know that you will need transport. Providing at least 20 people book, we will receive a discount. The full price and discounted prices are shown below:

Full Price £27.00 (£23.17 if discount is applied)

60+/Disabled/Student £26.00 (£22.32 if discount is applied)

U16 £23.00 (£19.77 if discount is applied)

(if we don't reach that minimum number the full cost will be applied)

Activities and Events Beyond St. Michael's

LUNCHBREAK – Tuesday, 6 October – 12 noon, including at 1.10p.m.-1.30p.m. – a short talk, music or a Bite Sized Service. *All welcome.*

LUNCH FORUM – Friday, 16 October - 12.15p.m. – A ready meal hot lunch will be provided. It will be cottage pie, lasagne or something similar followed by a dessert such as apple pie. The food will be served from 12:15pm, followed by a talk at 1pm. Tea/coffee/water are provided. Suggested donation £3-£5 to cover the cost of the speaker. *Members of St. Michael's are very welcome.*