



# ST MICHAEL'S BRAINTREE

www.stmichaelsbtree.co.uk



## General Information

Vicar	Rev Nigel Adams	01376 807662
	<i>(Nigel's day off this week will be Monday)</i>	
Churchwardens	Lin Terris	01376 322870
	David Marriott	01376 349257
Honorary Curate	Rev Stephen Bailey	01376 619347
Children's and Youth Worker (part-time)	Rachel Grove Smith	07713 566667
Pastoral Assistant	Jo Adams	01376 807662
Vicar's Personal Assistant (Office hours: Mon - Thurs 9.00am - 1.00pm)	Helen Hopkins	07545 437477
Treasurer	Lesley Davey	01376 326969

Contact Margaret Kinniburgh to add items to the Notice Sheet (by noon **Thursday**) email: [notices@stmichaelsbtree.co.uk](mailto:notices@stmichaelsbtree.co.uk). Telephone 01376 330013.

**26th April 2020 - 2nd Sunday after Easter**

## An update from Rev Nigel Adams

Dear Friends,

I do hope you are keeping well and safe in this on-going period of lock-down and the accompanying restrictions. I find myself noticing, and giving thanks for, small mercies more than usual during the lock-down – for the sunny weather, for the colour and growth in the garden, for the birds and the natural world. Thank you to everyone who is phoning, video conferencing or supporting others in various ways. Thank you as well to all who supported Derek Chapman and family with Jenny's funeral on Wednesday. Please continue to pray for Derek & family, as well as Jack Green & family, Len Dove's family and the many others who have been recently bereaved.

Rod Thomas, the Bishop of Maidstone, who led our Confirmation service last September, has written helpfully to us,

*"I do hope that the current inability to gain access to our church buildings isn't undermining your faith in any way. Ours is an 'invisible' faith (as it says in Hebrews 11:1, "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen"). It doesn't depend on buildings or physical acts; it depends entirely on the person and work of Jesus Christ. He is the One who makes it possible for us to have a loving relationship with the Father and gives us the assured hope of life forever. Despite the hardships of the current restrictions, it would be very good if one side effect was that it helped us individually, in our relative isolation, to look to Christ alone."*

Let's be praying for each other that this lock-down period will not just be something we get through, but will be for each of us a time when we know more of God's love and daily provision and that our walk with him will grow closer through it.

With our love and prayers,

Nigel

## Worship on the Web @ St Michael's

Instead of normal services in church, we are having online services to help you worship at home. They can be accessed via the link on the Home page of the St Michael's Braintree website.

<http://stmichaelsbtree.co.uk/website/index.php/worship/adult-service>  
<http://stmichaelsbtree.co.uk/website/index.php/worship/junior-church>

### Sunday 26th April

'The Wise God'  
(1 Corinthians 1:18-31)

There is both an adult service and a children's & families service

### Sunday 3rd May

'The Ever-present God'  
(Psalm 139)

### 'St Michael's by Phone'

This is for anyone, but particularly for those who can't watch our services via the church website. If you dial 01376 333565 you will be able to listen to this Sunday's online service. You will be offered a number of options, for the Notices, Prayers, Hymns & Songs and Bible reading & sermon. Phone calls will be charged at the local rate. (There may be a short pause before you hear it).

### Christian Radio & TV

Why not listen to Premier Christian Radio (Freeview channel 725 or on the internet) or watch Clayton TV (available on the internet) for some great teaching and worship?

**Bible Reading Group:** this week's readings are Psalm 32, Deuteronomy 3:1 - Deuteronomy 13:19, Proverbs 6:20 - 6:35.

If you want to join us, please let me know and I will make sure to keep you updated with the readings for each week.

Dave Terris (Tel: 322870 or email: [daveterris@uwclub.net](mailto:daveterris@uwclub.net))

**10 of Those** is an excellent place to find and order Christian books online – see [www.10ofthose.com/uk/](http://www.10ofthose.com/uk/). Please consider supporting 10 of Those (who came to St Michael's Church at Christmas) by browsing and ordering Christian books, especially if you find you have more time to read, with the current restrictions. Tel. 0330 223 3423

### Poetry Competition

This Sunday our Poetry Competition will be launched!!

Win £25 of **10 of Those** vouchers!

Write a poem either about the character of God or about the current situation.

You have until Saturday, 16th May 2020 to send your poems to [rgrovesmith@stmichaelsbtree.co.uk](mailto:rgrovesmith@stmichaelsbtree.co.uk) or alternatively send them to The Vicarage. This is a competition for everyone and there are three different age groups; 10 and under, 11-15 and 16+

### For your prayers:

**Unwell:** Christine Hart's nephew Marcus (23) recently diagnosed with an abscess in the brain, Iris Smith, Elizabeth Johnson, Alan Bass, Ron Smith, Alison Davey, Elaine Stoodley

**Bereaved:** Len Dove's daughter Gillian and son Graham, following his recent death; Jack Green and family, following the death of Joyce and Derek Chapman and family, following the death of Jenny.

**Housebound:** David and Ann Harvey

**Mission of the Month: Make Jesus Known (MJK)** This month please pray for MJK's on line work which has been deliberately expanded to make the most of the current situation. Please pray that Tim will be well enough to continue the daily Spirit Boost talks (he has Covid19) and that they would be effective. Please pray that the team would work effectively now they are fragmented and none would feel left out. Please pray for those who see the online material that God's spirit would bring them to Christ and they would make contact with Tim or another Christian who can disciple them.

Tim & Charissa Cooke and team have a helpful website and an iPhone app (iTruth) – they are putting on daily thoughts and other useful material. It can be accessed via <https://makejesusknown.com/itruthapp#/>

### Keeping in touch

**We will be sending out email updates from time to time. If you didn't receive one from Nigel this week, and would like to be added to the circulation list, please send us your email address – to [admin@stmichaelsbtree.co.uk](mailto:admin@stmichaelsbtree.co.uk).**

**Church Office:** Helen Hopkins, the Vicar's Personal Assistant, is still working, but not in the church office. She can be contacted 9am-1pm Mon-Thurs on 07545 437477 or email: [vicarspa@stmichaelsbtree.co.uk](mailto:vicarspa@stmichaelsbtree.co.uk).

St. Michael's Church website is on the following link - <http://stmichaelsbtree.co.uk/website/> (If this does not work, you might need to clear your browsing history/web cache from your browser. In most browsers this can be done using Ctrl+Shift+Del.) On this page you can see our Magazine, Notice sheets, Annual reports and other details and will be able to access our Sunday online services.

Our Facebook page is: <https://www.facebook.com/stmichaelschurchbraintree/>

**Care for the Family** is a Christian charity which aims to promote strong family life and to help those who face family difficulties. They provide Parent, Marriage and Bereavement Support and now include COVID-19 Support – see the following link to their website: [www.careforthefamily.org.uk/family-life/covid-19-support-for-your-family](http://www.careforthefamily.org.uk/family-life/covid-19-support-for-your-family).