



# ST MICHAEL'S BRAINTREE

www.stmichaelsbtree.co.uk



**16th August 2020 - 10th Sunday after Trinity**

## Update from Rev Stephen Bailey

Dear Friends,

In the late summer of 1945 a Royal Navy aircraft carrier, amongst other ships, arrived at Singapore. The second world war had ended. There were no aircraft in the carrier. Its vast spaces were full of beds. Its mission was to bring home sick and wounded prisoners of war. Japan had surrendered and men were saved from their prison camps. VJ Day was 15th August 1945. The war was over. Men were coming home in the care of crew and medical staff of an aircraft carrier.

### FAR AWAY AND LONG AGO?

Yes and no. For some these melancholic memories are now in the history books. For others they remember grandfathers who came home and were restored to them. So 15th August is important in their family life and story. To quote some ancient words, 'weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes in the morning' (Psalm 30:4).

### FAST FORWARD TO 2020

Few believe in happy endings anymore. The hero and heroine rarely ride off into the sunset. 'Joy comes in the morning'? The cynic smiles. Life is not like that we say. But what does the Christian say? With the Bible open in front me, I am reminded that there are happy ending endings for which we thank God. But books in the Bible like Ecclesiastes in the Old Testament and 2 Corinthians in the New, keep reminding us that for us human beings there are not always happy endings. The Bible tells us it is wise to recognize this and to seek God's far better solution. He has a heaven. Tears are wiped away and grief overtaken by joy.

### THE CHRISTIAN BELIEVER'S BIRTHRIGHT

John the Apostle reports Jesus as saying ' This is eternal life, to know God and Jesus Christ who you have sent'. (John 17:3). We don't have to wait for that day. We can enjoy God our Father now and take pleasure in knowing Jesus Christ today. Why not seek him out?

Stephen

## General Information

Vicar	Rev Nigel Adams	01376 807662
	<i>(Nigel's day off will be Friday)</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 (on furlough from 1st May 2020)	Helen Hopkins	
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.

### Keeping in touch

#### Vicar's Personal Assistant

Helen Hopkins has now been placed on furlough. If you wish to contact us, please leave a message on the office phone (01376 321248 – this will be checked) or phone or email one of the team.

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/>

**Worship on the Web @ St Michael's**

Each Sunday throughout August there will be a Family Service:-

**10.00am** Family service - <http://stmichaelsbtree.co.uk/website/index.php/worship/adult-service>

**Sunday 16th August**

'More than they deserved'  
(Matthew 20: 1-16)

The Family service is also available through '**St Michael's by Phone**'. Just dial 01376 333565 you will be able to listen to the most recent Sunday online service. Both the online and phone versions of the service are available throughout the week. Phone calls will be charged at the local rate.

**Bible Reading Group:** this week's readings for Tuesday, 18th August are Psalm 57, 2 Kings 10:1 - 2 Kings 19:37, Proverbs 12:15 - 12:21.

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))

**Coffee on Zoom:** We will be having Zoom virtual coffee both after church on Sunday at 11am and on Thursday at 11am. Details of how to sign up will be included in the weekly email on Saturday.

**Daily text:** Rachel Grove Smith is sending a few verses and a short thought each day by text message. If you would like to receive this, please let her know either by email ([rgrovesmith@stmichaelsbtree.co.uk](mailto:rgrovesmith@stmichaelsbtree.co.uk)) or by text (07713 566667)

**For your prayers:**

**Unwell:** Richard Richardson, Norma Huxter, Elaine Stoodley, Rev Norman Thorp (former curate of St Paul's Braintree), Alan Bass, Alison Davey

**Housebound:** David and Ann Harvey

**Bereaved:** The family and friends of Roy Smart who died peacefully on Sunday morning (9th August). Roy Demery (retired Church Army Captain) died recently. Please pray for Pat and their family at this sad time, but rejoice that he is with the Lord. If anyone would like to be in touch with Pat & family, please contact Norma Huxter, who has contact details.

**Mission of the Month: ACTS** in Burkina Faso works among the most vulnerable people in one of the poorest countries in the world. On the scale of poorest countries Burkina Faso is 173 out of 175. Joanna Ilboudo set up ACTS, having 'love and hope for mother and child'. Widows and orphans are the forgotten ones. They have no voice and no means of support. They are considered outcasts due to the fear of AIDS. Widows have no opportunity for education and no hope of gaining skills necessary to support a family. Without financial means, widows and orphans are caught in a cycle of poverty, sickness and ignorance. ACTS works to provide maternal care and child health; educating rural poor children in formal and vocational education, training for widows in micro-enterprise and literacy. ACTS feeds 850 orphans each day. Organises evangelical campaigns, trains new disciples, pastors and has brought 1000 people to salvation. Trains Christian writers and promotes and publishes Christian literature and works in community development bringing spiritual, economic, social and physical relief. For more information please visit their website [www.actsburkina.org](http://www.actsburkina.org). Only God's love can make lasting change in the lives of men, women, boys and girls caught in the oppression of poverty and ignorance.

**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?

**Daily Hope**, offers music, prayers and reflections with Justin Welby, the Archbishop of Canterbury, at the end of a telephone line. The line is available 24 hours a day on **0800 804 8044**.