



ST MICHAEL'S BRAINTREE



www.stmichaelsbtree.co.uk

General Information

| | | |
|--|---|--------------|
| Vicar | Rev Nigel Adams | 01376 807662 |
| | Email: revnigeladams@gmail.com | |
| | <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 |

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

24th January 2021- Third Sunday after Epiphany

An update from Rev Nigel Adams

Dear Friends,

During this time of continued lockdown, we will be continuing with our pre-recorded services, available **online** and through "**St Michael's by Phone**". We have also decided to try something new. During February, we will be having some of our services live on **Zoom**. These will be:

- **Holy Communion on Sun 7th Feb, 6.30pm** – this will last around 30 minutes and will include a short Bible thought
- **Children's & Families Service – Sun 14th Feb, 9.45am** – this will be instead of the pre-recorded YouTube Children's & Families Service
- **All-Age Tonight – Sun 21st Feb, 6pm**

I will be circulating the Zoom links nearer the time, through my weekly email. It does mean that, if you wish to join us for any of these services, you will need to do so at the times shown, as they won't be available via catch up later on. We hope you will give some, or all of these, services a try.

Please also remember our **Quiz** (on Sat 6th Feb), **Discipleship Explored course** and **Zoom Coffee** on Sundays – details inside the Notice Sheet.

This Sunday, we will be thinking about **the Lord's Prayer**, in both of our online services. The Lord's Prayer was Jesus' gift to his disciples and to us. It reminds us that we have a holy, perfect Heavenly Father, whose kingdom should be our priority. He is a God who gives us what we need, forgives our sins, call us to forgive, helps us when tempted and delivers us from evil. The Lord's Prayer provides a pattern for our prayers ... a rhythm and balance that focuses on a loving Heavenly Father, rather than just us and our needs.

This week, if it's not currently your practice, can I encourage you to pray the Lord's Prayer at some point each day? Pray that we will see more of God's kingdom and rule in our broken and fallen world.

Wishing you every blessing,

Nigel

Keeping in touch

To phone, please leave a message on the church office phone (01376 321248).

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/>

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) or by text (07713 566667)

Church services:

Please note that we are not having any “in person” services at present, but will have online (YouTube) services, as well as “St Michael’s by Phone” and on Zoom.

Sunday 24th January

9.45am: Children & Families Service - on YouTube

10.00am: Morning Worship - on YouTube and by phone

11.00am: Virtual Coffee on Zoom

Sunday 31st January

9.45am: Children & Families Service - on YouTube

10.00am: Morning Worship - on YouTube and by phone

11.00am: Virtual Coffee on Zoom

The online (YouTube) services can be accessed via the Worship tab on the St Michael’s Church website. The services are also available through “St Michael’s by Phone” – just dial 01376 333565 (phone calls are charged at the local rate). The online services are available at any time after they are launched and phone versions of the services are available until the next phone service is uploaded.

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

Discipleship Explored: we will be running this as a whole church course during Lent, on Zoom, on Wednesday evenings, starting on **Wed 10th Feb, 7.30pm**. This 8 week course, based on Philippians, has some excellent video talks and helps followers of Jesus to rejoice in God’s love. **Please let Nigel Adams know, by Sun 31st Jan, if you will be joining us, as we need to order sufficient course**

Five: Fifteen Virtual Quiz

We will be hosting another online quiz night on **Sat 6th Feb, 6.45-9.00pm on Zoom**. The title refers to 5 rounds and 15 questions, with Quizmaster Jeff Clayton. Form yourself into teams of 2-6 players – conferring by phone or messenger is allowed. Do please invite guests to this quiz. For more details, or to register **by Wed 3rd Feb**, please email Nigel Adams at revnigeladams@gmail.com.

New Zoom services: we will be running some of our services on Zoom during February. To join us, follow the Zoom links that will be circulated in Nigel’s weekly email. To be part of these services, you will need to log in at the times shown:
Sun 7th Feb, 6.30pm – Holy Communion (30 minutes)
Sun 14th Feb, 9.45am – Children’s & Families service
Sun 21st Feb, 6pm – All-Age Tonight

For your prayers:

Unwell: Tom St John Coleman, Norman & Joyce Plastow, David Harvey, Elaine Stoodley, David Smith (Becky Gray’s father), Ron Smith, Rev Norman Thorp (former curate of St Paul’s Braintree), Alan Bass, Alison Davey

Housebound: Ann Harvey

Bereaved: Family & friends of Rev Robert & Elizabeth Burden (All Saints Cressing) who both died on Wed 13th Jan. The family and friends of Dorothy Pritchard (who was involved in the Pram Service).

Mission of the Month: Crosslinks - From Chile to Latvia; from Cape Town to Dulwich, ‘Crosslinks’ works in partnership with local churches. New converts are turning to Jesus Christ and new congregations are springing up. The numbers of new Christians is often outstripping the resources of churches to teach them about their new found faith. About a third of ‘Crosslinks’ workers are in training roles and involved in evangelism, with young people, children and school teaching. Others are telling people about Jesus Christ and gathering new believers into new churches

The Kralovis - St Michael’s have a link with Jirka & Keira living in Olomouc in the Czech Republic. They seek to evangelise students, equipping them for Christian service after they graduate. They have a hard job because the countries of Europe, like the UK, are amongst the most secular on the planet.

3, 2, 1 is an opportunity to explore the big issues in life: God, the world and ourselves. Perhaps you’re already familiar with Christian beliefs or maybe they are completely new to you. Whatever the case, this is a fresh telling of the Christian story that assumes no prior knowledge. It lasts just three weeks and is held on **Wednesdays, from 7.30pm on Zoom**. If you’d like to join us or find out more, please contact Nigel & Jo Adams (01376 807662) or by email: revnigeladams@gmail.com

Bible Reading Group: this week’s readings for Tuesday, 26th January are Psalm 79, Jeremiah 1:1 - Jeremiah 11:23, Proverbs 20:1 - 20:11. 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)

Our Email Prayer Chain gives occasional updates on pastoral and other urgent matters for prayer. Please send your email address to Jo Adams (joannamaryadams@gmail.com) if you would like to be added to the Prayer Chain circulation list.

Car parking permits: due to the on-going restrictions, the 2020 car parking permits for the church car park will still be valid for the time being. We will let you know when a new one is required.