



ST MICHAEL'S BRAINTREE



www.stmichaelsbtree.co.uk

General Information

Vicar	Rev Nigel Adams	01376 807662
	Email: revnigeladams@gmail.com	
	(Nigel's day off will be Monday)	
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.

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/>

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) will be held on **Tues 25th May from 7.30pm** on Zoom. Please note the date in your diary.

There will be a **Confirmation Service on Sun 19th Sept, 10am at St Michael's Church** with Rt Revd Roger Morris, Bishop of Colchester. If you are interested in being Confirmed, or wish to know more, please speak with Nigel Adams or Rachel Grove Smith.

28th March 2021- Palm Sunday

An update from Rev Nigel Adams

Dear Friends,

I am pleased to be able to inform you that, from **Easter Day**, we will be re-opening the church each Sunday for a 10am service. We will also be continuing, for the time being, with our pre-recorded **YouTube services**, "**St Michael's by Phone**" and **Zoom** services. We have **Good Friday Reflections** with Stephen & Jennifer Bailey on Friday from 3pm (YouTube) as well as a **children's Easter Party** on Zoom (Sat from 4pm). Details of all our Easter events are inside the Notice Sheet. We hope you will be able to join us, either remotely or in person, as we remember the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ this Easter time.

Our services in church will be run on a very similar basis to the services we had in the autumn. If you wish to join us for one of our "in person" services, you will need to **pre-book a seat** by midnight on the Thursday before. Details of how to book are also in the Notice Sheet. As before, the seating is arranged to maintain **2 metre social distancing**, we have to wear **face coverings** (unless exempt) and we are not able to have **congregational singing**. However, we will seek to make our services as enjoyable and engaging as we can. You would be most welcome to join us on Easter Sunday or any Sunday after that.

This week is **Palm Sunday**, as we recall "The Triumphal Entry" – Jesus making his way into Jerusalem, with great rejoicing and praise, yet humbly, on a donkey. It is a week when we remember how Jesus went willingly into Jerusalem, knowing that an agonising death on a cross awaited him.

Let us pause, to praise Jesus, as the crowds did, "**Blessed is the King who comes in the name of the Lord!**" Let us praise him for his love for us ... love that led him to the cross, in our place ... the same love that seeks each of us ... as the old hymn puts it, "**O love that wilt not let me go.**" May you have a fresh sense of God's love for you, this Easter time.

Wishing you every blessing,

Nigel

Church services:

We are having services via YouTube, by phone, on Zoom and in the church building. Our forthcoming services will be:

Online

Sunday 28th March – Palm Sunday

9.45am Children's & Families Service on Zoom

10.00am Morning Worship online (YouTube)

11.00am Virtual Coffee on Zoom

Friday 2nd April – Good Friday

3.00pm Good Friday Reflections (YouTube)

Saturday 3rd April

4.00pm Easter Party on Zoom (please contact Rachel Grove Smith for details)

Sunday 4th April – Easter Day

10.00am Easter Family Praise (YouTube)

11.00am Virtual Coffee on Zoom

6.30pm Zoom Holy Communion

Our pre-recorded **YouTube services** can be accessed via the Worship tab on the St Michael's Church website (or through the "St Michael's – Worship on the Web" YouTube channel). The latest adult service is also available through "**St Michael's by Phone**" – just dial 01376 333565 (phone calls charged at the local rate). Both the online and phone versions of the service are available throughout the week. The link for our **Zoom services** is on Nigel Adams' weekly email – please contact Nigel if you need it.

In church

Sunday 4th April – Easter Day

10.00am Easter Family Praise in church.

You will need to book your seat for the services by midnight on the Thursday before – either via the St Michael's website (Worship tab) or by leaving a message on the church office answerphone (01376 321248). You will be contacted on Friday if you have a seat – **please only attend if you have been told you have a pre-booked seat.**

If you are coming into church, you will need to comply with the following:

1. That you have not had COVID-19 symptoms in the last 10 days (fever, continuous cough, loss of sense of smell or taste)
2. That you are fit to attend the church, in line with government guidance on shielding and isolating
3. That you agree to maintain a 2 metre social distance from others and to wear a face covering in church, unless exempt

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. Please join Nigel & Jo Adams for Coffee@Home on Thurs 1st April from 11am for our monthly coffee & chat. The Zoom link will be included in the weekly email on Saturday or contact Nigel or Jo.

For your prayers:

Unwell: Tom St John Coleman, Rev Pam Davies (severe back problems), Brian Hennessey, Lorraine Hollis (fractured ankle), Jennie Roughan (ex-Chairwoman of The Hut (BYPC) who is seriously ill with cancer), David Harvey, Elaine Stoodley, Ron Smith, Rev Norman Thorp (former curate of St Paul's Braintree), Alan Bass, Alison Davey

Housebound: Ann Harvey

Mission of the Month: Tearfund is a Christian charity called to follow Jesus where the need is greatest. It works tirelessly to help communities around the world escape the very worst effects of poverty and disaster. They work in over 50 countries alongside local Christians to bring whole-person transformation. Not only does Tearfund offer emergency aid when disaster strikes, they stay to ensure communities develop. Their church-based partners help people access the material things they need to survive but they also offer spiritual hope through God, loving the whole person. Churches both at home and abroad are mobilised to speak out for righteousness and justice on behalf of the poor.

If you would like to give to the work of **Tearfund** (the focus of our Mission Sunday), you can do so either via their website (www.tearfund.org) or through Miriam Clark (01376 341331).

Bible Reading Group: this week's readings for Tuesday, 30th March are Psalm 88, Ezekiel 40:1 - Ezekiel 48:35, Proverbs 23:19 - 23:36. 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)

The Identity Course looks at who we are and who God is and runs over seven Fridays, beginning on **16th April**. Each session reveals more about the identity and mission of Jesus, as well as examining some big questions, such as: Are science and Christianity enemies or friends? What about other religions? Why do we suffer? It will run **on Zoom, starting at 7.30pm**. Everyone is welcome, whether you consider yourself a Christian or just want to find out more. If you would like to come or have any questions, please contact Nigel or Jo Adams.

The Kralovis - Ade Adeoye of Crosslinks writes to thank us for £525 sent to help meet the Kralovis' financial needs. I pass on that thanks from Ade to us. It is good that folk like Ade and Helen Burns take financial concerns off Jirka and Keiras' shoulders and enlist us in supporting them. Many thanks to those who gave. We thank God for answering prayer for funds and in thanksgiving we continue to pray for their support. It is still not too late if you want to help!
Stephen Bailey