



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 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

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

4th April 2021- Easter Day

An update from Rev Nigel Adams

Dear Friends,

May I wish you a **very happy Easter**. I hope you will be able to join us as we remember Jesus' death for us, and his rising to life. We have our **Good Friday Reflections** with Stephen & Jennifer Bailey, still available on YouTube. **Easter Family Praise** will be happening at 10am in church, as well as online (YouTube) and through "St Michael's by Phone". We also have **Zoom Holy Communion** at 6.30pm on Easter Day. Details are inside the Notice Sheet and the Zoom links are on my weekly email.

We are now having **services in St Michael's church each Sunday at 10am**. If you wish to join us, **please pre-book a seat by Thursday at midnight**, either through the website or by leaving an answerphone message on the church office phone – we will confirm whether you have a seat on the Friday. Details of how to book are inside this Notice Sheet.

For those of us who have been Christians for some time, it is hard for us to fully appreciate the **extreme emotions** that the disciples must have felt **that first Easter**. There was the **horror and anguish**, at the sickening way that Jesus was tortured and killed on Good Friday. The most amazing and loving of men, treated shamefully and unbelievably unjustly. Then, on the third day, the stories started to circulate that **the tomb was empty** ... that **angels** had been seen ... that **Jesus was alive!** And bit by bit, different groups of Jesus' followers started to see Jesus again ... truly alive, with a **resurrection body**.

This Easter, as we hear again the amazing accounts of **Jesus dying for our sins**, then **rising from death**, I pray that it will give us **fresh hope** ... hope that comes from having a **loving God**, who stooped down into the world **to deal with our sins**, to give us **purpose in life** and to offer us the **hope of heaven**.

May God bless you this Easter time,

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/>

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.

Church services:

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

Online

Sunday 4th April – Easter Day

10.00am Easter Family Praise (YouTube)

11.00am Virtual Coffee on Zoom

6.30pm Zoom Holy Communion

Sunday 11th April

9.45am Children's & Families Service on Zoom

10.00am Morning Worship online (YouTube)

11.00am Virtual Coffee on Zoom

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

Sunday 11th April

10.00am Morning Worship - **please book in advance**

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. Details of how to sign up will be included in the weekly email from Nigel on Saturday.

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

Bereaved: The family & friends of Phil Coulthard (especially Pat and their daughters, Anne & Nicola).

Mission of the Month: Make Jesus Known (MJK) At the start of the first lockdown, Tim decided to switch all MJK's efforts to spread the Gospel of Christ, onto social media. In April and May over fifty people came to Christ. This has grown and in the last year hundreds of others have been added through MJK's work on Facebook, YouTube, Snapchat, Twitter and WhatsApp. Please pray this will continue. Pray too for the team dealing with the responses. MJK is now working online with people from all around the world, including areas like Pakistan where persecution of Christians is the norm. Pray for wisdom for the team as they communicate online.

MJK were offered the lease of an empty commercial site on the edge of Oldham centre. They plan to set up a film making studio and a recording studio as well as a milk bar as a first point of contact for students to drop into on their way to the bus and tram station which is also a way of introducing them to the gospel. The team have worked hard and it should open this summer. Please pray for the success of this work and for continuing funding. Pray too for a good relationship with the community and council which is Muslim dominated.

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.

Bible Reading Group: this week's readings for Tuesday, 6th April are Psalm 89, Daniel 1:1 - Daniel 7:28, Proverbs 24:1 - 24:7. 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)

We are delighted to be hosting a **Christian Institute presentation on Wed 30th June, 7.30pm on Zoom**. They will be speaking about some of the moral issues facing us today, including gender ideology, the sanctity of human life, as well as the work of their Legal Defence Fund. Please note the date in your diary – we will give more details in due course.