



ST MICHAEL'S BRAINTREE



www.stmichaelsbtree.co.uk

24th December 2023 & 31st December 2023
Fourth Sunday of Advent & Sunday after Christmas



Christmas at St Michael's

Christmas Eve
10am Family Communion
4pm Christingle
11pm Midnight Communion

Christmas Day
8am Holy Communion
10am Christmas Day Family Service

Sunday 31 December
10am Family Service

General Information

Vicar	Rev Nigel Adams Email: revnigeladams@gmail.com <i>(Nigel's day of rest will be on Friday this week)</i>
Churchwardens	Lin Terris Ade Odupitan
Honorary Curate	Rev Stephen Bailey
Children's and Youth Worker (part-time)	Rachel Grove Smith
Pastoral Assistant	Jo Adams
Treasurer	Vacancy

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

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: www.facebook.com/stmichaelschurchbraintree/

If you are new to St Michael's, welcome! If you would like someone to contact you, please leave your details in the collection box by the door.

Name(s)

Address

Telephone

Email

Church Services

All our services are in the church building and a video recording of the 10am services are later uploaded to our YouTube Channel "St. Michael's - Worship on the Web."

Sunday, 24th December Christmas Eve

- 10.00am Family Communion - '*Shepherds and Angels*' – Luke 2: 8-20
- Rev Stephen Bailey
4.00pm Christingle service
11.00pm Midnight Communion - Matthew 1: 18-25; Philippians 2: 5-11
- Rev Nigel Adams

Christmas Day

- 8.00am Holy Communion - '*Word becomes flesh*' - John 1: 1-14
- Rev Nigel Adams
10.00am Christmas Day Family Service - '*Word becomes flesh*' - John 1: 1-14
- Rev Nigel Adams

Sunday, 31st December

- 10.00am Family Service - '*The wise men*' - Matthew 2: 1-12 - Cyril Bamforth

Sunday, 7th January

- 10.00am Church Family Worship – '*Andrew: bringing others to Jesus*'
– John 1: 35-42 – Rachel Grove Smith
4.00pm Holy Communion – Verse of the Year: '*The Word of our God will stand forever*' – Isaiah 40: 1-11 – Rev Nigel Adams
6.30pm Evening Worship – Verse of the Year: '*The Word of our God will stand forever*' – Isaiah 40:1-11 – Rev Nigel Adams

There is a Creche available (for those under the age of 3) in the Main Hall in Church House where there are lots of toys! Creche will start at the same time as Junior Church (usually after the second song), so please bring your creche aged children into church for 10am. Please speak to Rachel Grove Smith if you have any questions.

Hope Explored is a 3 week course, from the Christianity Explored team. It asks the question, "***What's the best future you could ever imagine?***" and looks at where we seek our Hope, Peace and Purpose in life. We will be running it on three Mondays, starting on 8th Jan from 7.30pm. Please speak to Nigel or Jo Adams if you have any questions or would like to join us.

For your prayers:

Unwell: Stephen Siddle, Jeff Wise, Elaine Stoodley, Gill Bass, Michael Latta, Jill Jackson, David Goodwill, Rev Canon Alistair McHaffie (former curate), Pamhi Shonhiwa, Kirsty Huxter, Angela Hibbert-Foy, Terry Clark, Alan (Edward Toussaint's brother), Norma Huxter, Linda (Gloria Boar's daughter), Alan Bass, Jim Roberts, Dennis Buston, Katherine Cridland

Bereaved: Michael Burke, having lost his wife Jenny, her sister and now her brother, in the last four months. Please pray for Barbara Roberts & family following the death of Jim on Tues 19th Dec.

Housebound: David and Anne Harvey

Mission of the Month: ACTS Ministry 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 179. Joanna Ilboudo set up ACTS with a vision to 'bring love and hope to the orphan and the widow'. 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. ACTS works through food support, community health, vocational training, formal education, editions and publications, training in entrepreneurial leadership and discipleship, Human Rights and civic education and protection of the environment. Only God's love can make lasting change in the lives of those caught in the oppression of poverty and ignorance. Please hold ACTS and Joanna in your prayers. The role of St Michael's rep for ACTS is vacant. Please speak to Nigel Adams if you would be interested in the role or wish to know about what the role entails or for more information visit the website www.actsbf.org.

Hymns We Love will be taking place each month, following on from "Carols We Love". The first one will be on Thurs 11th Jan, 10.00-11.30am in Church House. We will enjoy some much-loved hymns and will focus on "How great Thou art", with an explanation of its origins and what it tells us of our amazing and loving Creator God. Includes light refreshments and a time to chat. All are welcome to join us – do consider inviting guests. Any questions, please speak to Nigel or Jo

Parking Permits: From January you will need a new parking permit if you are using church house car park for other than church business. Parking permits will be valid until the end of 2024 and charged at £20 per permit. Permits will only be issued to members on the electoral roll. Application forms can be found in church (in the Welcome Area) and need to be returned with payment to Phil Bartlett-Rawlings.