

The LINK

30p

September 2019



**The Parish Church of
St Michael Braintree
www.stmichaelsbtrees.co.uk**

WOMEN @ ST MICHAELS

TAKE NOTE

OUR NEXT EVENTS

Make sure you have booked up for:

WEAVER'S RESTAURANT

Bocking End

Wednesday September 4th 2019 at 7:00pm.

OUR NEXT SATURDAY SCHOOL

September 28th 2018 9.00-12.00 in Church House

Miracles and More

AUTUMN PRAYER LUNCH

Thursday October 10th in Church 12:00-2.00 pm.

LAST BUT NOT LEAST IN 2019

AN EVENING WITH

ESTHER THORPE

(Google Origami Est for information and inspiration)

Venue: St Michaels School Hall

Date: Friday November 29th

Time: 7.00 -10.00pm

AND FOR 2020

OUR FIRST EVENT OF THE YEAR

Women @ St Michael's Conference Day

Saturday February 8th: 9.00-3.00pm

Speaker: Rachel Menon

DONT MISS FURTHER DETAILS



Confirmation

Dear Friends,

During September, we have the Right Revd Rod Thomas, Bishop of Maidstone, coming to conduct a Confirmation service at St Michael's.

But what is Confirmation? It is a service where the candidates are confirming (agreeing with) the promises that were made for them, by their parents and godparents, when they were baptised as infants (or that they made themselves as adults). These include turning away from sin (wrongdoing) and turning towards Jesus as Saviour.

The Bishop says some significant things to each of the candidates, addressing them by name and saying:

“God has called you by name and made you his own. Confirm, O Lord, your servant with your Holy Spirit.”

The Bishop then asks them some potentially challenging questions, for example,

“Will you persevere in resisting evil and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?”

The answer isn't “Yes” or “I'll try my best”. The answer is, “With the help of God, I will.” I find this answer both realistic and helpful. In different ways, we all struggle to resist evil and do what is right at times. But if we trust in God, we are promised that the Holy Spirit will come and live in us. We resist evil only with the help of God, not in our own

strength alone. I find it a useful prayer to make my own, as I seek to serve God: “With the help of God, I will.”

Would you consider supporting our Confirmation candidates in two ways? The first is to pray for them, as they publicly declare their faith.

The second is to join us for the Confirmation service – it is on Sunday 22nd September at 10am.

Wishing you every blessing,

Nigel

MISSION OF THE MONTH

ACTS MINISTRY- BURKINA FASO (West Africa)

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. I visited Burkina Faso in 2007 and met with Joanna Ilboudo who set up Acts. 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 like this:-

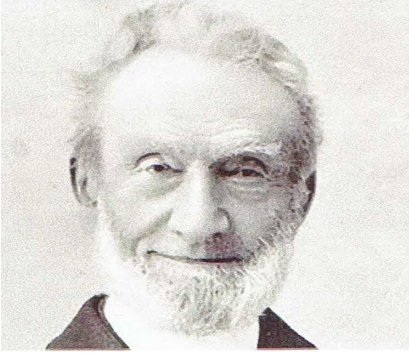
1. Ellet Medical Centre which provides maternity care, maternal and child health and has a dispensary, a laboratory, pharmaceutical depot and odontology. Patient visits have been increasing year on year.
2. Education: It has hundreds of orphans and rural poor children in formal education; many children in vocational training; widows in micro enterprise and literacy training.
3. Nutrition: Acts feeds each day 850 orphans. For some children it is the only meal they have and this makes a difference in their lives.
4. Temple Evangelique El Rosi: Organises evangelical campaigns, trains new disciples, trains Pastors, has brought 1000 people to salvation.
5. Community Development which brings spiritual, economic, social and physical relief.

Acts ministers to the physical and emotional wounds of the desperate while addressing their needs.

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.

Terry Clark

GEORGE MULLER AND HIS ORPHANS



George Muller: born Kroppenstaedt, Prussia 1805
Attended Cathedral School, Halberstadt.
Entered Halle University in 1825 as a student of
divinity. He moved to England in 1829 and lived in
Teignmouth

He admitted to frittering his time away with fellow students, then said, 'then the time came when God would have mercy on me.'

He was a gifted intellectually. A brilliant linguist and a fine mathematician. He kept complicated accounts of institutions in Bristol. He studied Hebrew.

Going to prayer meeting with a friend he heard the gospel for the first time, "It made me happy. If I could have been asked why I was happy I could not have explained it."

He married twice, both very happy marriages. One daughter survived and one baby son, Elijah died.

Many children were left as homeless waifs on the streets he saw. He later took children into his own large house. Babies would be pressed into his arms to be cared for.

He started up five houses on Ashley Down, Bristol. Each had 15 children, a matron and house parents to make a loving family home.

He made himself responsible for the material needs of himself, his wife, his family and the orphans. By believing prayer for regular meals, clothing and education for the children. The money came in just in time to purchase bread.

George recounts, 'One day a lady visitor asked, "Mr. Muller, does God really answer prayer?"

At the time he was completely out of funds. The milkman was outside and due to be paid, he could hear the churns being handled and matron came in with the bill. (While I breath I pray.) The Lady said, "I see you are busy. Before I go, I would like to give you this," she pressed 10 sovereigns into his hands.

His reply to her question was, "You ask, does prayer save us from want? You yourself have supplied it with your kind gift."

Another well-known story:

Table laid before breakfast but no money and an empty larder. He said, "children you must be ready for school." He raised his arms and prayed, "Dear Father, thank you for what you are about to give us to eat." There was a knock on the door, it was the baker. "I could not sleep last night. I sensed you needed bread. I arose at 2 am and baked you bread. I want you to have it."

After the baker left, there was a second knock on the door. Outside stood the milkman. He had broken down outside the house and he asked if George would take the supply of milk he had left so that he could repair the wagon.

`Strains and difficulties, I expected from the beginning, but cheerfully did I pass through them for the Glory of God.

He went to be with his Lord aged 90 years. He preached his last sermon in March 1898.

People said off him: "I remember the feeling of great peace in his presence."

*Taken from a book by Nancy Garton
Compiled by Barbara Kelly*

REMEMBRANCE WEEKEND 8TH-10TH NOVEMBER 2019

We are planning a display linked with World War 2 over this weekend based on people's memories. Thank you everyone who has given us their memories already. If you or a family member have memories you are willing to share with us please can you let us have a copy. If you are in possession of artefacts or photographs you are willing to loan we will be very pleased to hear from you!

Lin Terris and Jenny Chapman

This is one of Jack Green's memories.

At age 16, once a month, I was a runner for the Air Raid Precautions (A.R.P) wardens HQ which was in Braintree Town Hall. It was an overnight job so I had a bed on the first landing half-way up the stairs. The job was to take messages to the Anti-Aircraft machine guns positioned on Lake and Elliot and Crittall towers. Also to other non-gun positions. These guns opened up on low flying positions to give them a better chance of hitting these important factories. (They didn't achieve any direct hits.)



coffee with cops

Your chance to get to know your Local Community Policing Team over a coffee. Ask questions, voice concerns – tell us how we can help you.

Location:

St Michaels Church, Braintree, CM7 1EY

Date / Time:

Saturday 26th October 2019 - 10am to 12pm



Church and Church House Working Party

Saturday 14 September from 9:00am

Please let Dave Marriott know if you want to make
that difference.

Jobs planned include:

Church:

Gutter clearing and checking
Emergency light testing



Church House & Garden:

Clearing out cupboards
Fencing – en garde?!
Cleaning and dusting
Decorating corridors
Emergency light testing
Moving sofa's round
Clear rear footpath



Church House:

Supporting the team with Tea/Coffee
Lunch catering



SEPTEMBER DIARY

1 Sunday

8.00am

10.00am

6.30pm

7.30pm

11th after Trinity

Holy Communion

Church Family Worship - Are we witnesses?

Evening Worship - The one true Gospel

Focus

2 Monday

7.30pm

Bell Ringing

4 Wednesday

8.00pm

Lifebuilder Bible Study

8.30pm

Men@StMichael's beer and chat – Wetherspoons,
Fairfield Rd

5 Thursday

10.00am

Coffee@StMichael's – in church

7.30pm

Rose Hill Bible Study – Check with Jennifer Bailey

8.00pm

Carry on Exploring Bible Study

8 Sunday

12th after Trinity

8.00am

Holy Communion

10.00am

Morning Worship - Reasons to be thankful

6.30pm

Holy Communion - Paul called by God

7.30pm

Focus

9 Monday

5.30pm

4th Braintree Beavers

7.30pm

Bell Ringing

10 Tuesday

OCTOBER LINK SUBMISSION DUE

1.15pm

Tiddlywinks

8.00pm

First Priority prayer meeting – Church House

11 Wednesday

5.30pm

4th Braintree Beavers, Cubs & Scouts

8.00pm

Lifebuilder Bible Study

12 Thursday

7.30pm

Rose Hill Bible Study – Check with Jennifer Bailey

8.00pm

Carry on Exploring Bible Study

14 Saturday

9.00am Church and Church House work party

15 Sunday 13th after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Holy Communion - United we stand ...

6.30pm All-Age Tonight - Mary Magdalene – seeking & sharing Jesus

7.30pm Focus

16 Monday

7.30pm Bell Ringing

8.00pm White Horse Tavern – Church House

17 Tuesday

1.15pm Tiddlywinks

18 Wednesday

5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers, Cubs & Scouts

8.00pm Lifebuilder Bible Study

19 Thursday

7.30pm Rose Hill Bible Study – Check with Jennifer Bailey

8.00pm Carry on Exploring Bible Study

20 Friday

2.00pm Bradbury House Service

21 Saturday

8.00am Mens' Breakfast with Alan Comfort

1.45pm Countryside Walk

22 Sunday 14th after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Confirmation with Bishop Rod Thomas

6.30pm Evening Worship – Gospel unity

7.30pm Focus

23 Monday

7.30pm Bell Ringing

8.00pm White Horse Tavern – Church House

24 Tuesday

1.15pm Tiddlywinks

25 Wednesday

5.30pm 4th Braintree Beavers, Cubs & Scouts

8.00pm Lifebuilder Bible Study

26 Thursday

7.30pm Rose Hill Bible Study – Check with Jennifer Bailey

8.00pm Carry on Exploring Bible Study

27 Friday

7.30pm Flower Club

28 Saturday

9.00am Women@St Michael's Saturday School

29 Sunday 15th after Trinity

8.00am Holy Communion

10.00am Holy Communion – The foolishness of the cross

6.30pm United Service – St. Peters, Bocking – Street Pastors

7.30pm Focus

30 Monday

7.30pm Bell Ringing

8.00pm White Horse Tavern – Church House

FROM THE REGISTERS

WHITE HORSE TAVERN

Monday evenings. 7.30pm Church House

Monday 16th September'	SO WALK WITH HIM'
Monday 23rd September	The LETTER TO THE COLOSSIANS
Monday 30th September	Led by Jenny Chapman
Monday 7th October	With aid of John Woodhouse*
Monday 14th October	
Monday 21st October	Half Term (no meeting)
Monday 28th October	'LAST THINGS FIRST'
Monday 4th November	Studies in the Second Coming of the Lord Jesus Christ
Monday 11th November	Led by Lin Terris
Monday 18th November	With the aid of Graham Benyon*
Monday 25th November	
Monday 2nd December	Christmas party. 64, Bridport Way

* John Woodhouse's book '*Colossians & Philemon*' Christian Focus, and Graham Benyon's '*Last Things First*' are the two books we are looking at.

SHOEBOXES

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



COFFEE MORNING

**Saturday November 2nd
10-12 noon**

**St Michael's Church House
Small Hall**



THE SPORTS QUIZ

WHAT

Multimedia Sports Quiz
with Ploughman's Supper
and Apple crumble!

WHERE

St Michaels Church House
St Michaels Lane, CM7 1EY

WHEN

Saturday, 5th October
5:45pm for 6 o'clock start

CONTACT

Church House Office
01376 321248
vicarspa@stmichaelsbtree.co.uk
or Jenny, Jo, Sue or Lin
in Church

TICKETS:

Adults £5
16s and under: £3



WALK IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

What a delight to live on the edge of such beautiful countryside! You may wish to join us for a 5-mile circular walk taking in the two picturesque villages of Finchingfield and Great Bardfield, affording plenty of wide and extensive views. The route heads across fields and by the little River Pant whilst the return leg is mostly alongside Finchingfield Brook.

We plan to meet by the pond in the centre of Finchingfield on Saturday 21st September from 1.45 to set off at 2pm. It would be a pleasure to have your company!

If you have any questions or you wish to share transport then just have a word with us.



Terry and Miriam Clark

BELFRY BULLETIN

BELL RESTORATION UPDATE

With the kind donations and grants from, in no particular order, St.Michael's P.C.C, All Churches Trust, Essex Heritage Trust, Sharpes Trust, Hawthorne Charitable Trust, Nat West Trust Department, West Anglian Guild and Braintree Bellringers Fund we have got within 10-15% of the total required. This last amount always seems to be the most difficult to raise when funding a project. To help give us the impetus to accomplish the final total we have opened a just giving page: - justgiving.com/crowdfunding/stmichaelsbells

We would welcome your prayers for the success of our fund-raising efforts. Thank you

FROM THE LOG BOOK

To pick up the story in the Log Book we must go back to Sunday 9th June when for Evening Service we rang 1260 changes of St Clements College Bob minor in 43mins. Vicky Elliott 1, Ellie Gray 2, Kath Downs 3, Debbie Hill 4, Maurice Downs 5, Bradley Hill [c] 6. For the anniversary of D Day, the centenary of the foundation of the Northern District EACR, wishing Roy Threadgold a speedy recovery and Peter Smith's 81st birthday.

We were hosts to the Northern District for their Advanced Practice on 2 occasions, welcomed a good number of visitors to our practice night especially Jodie Hill, welcomed Phil Kelly back to ringing following a successful operation, and rang for a wedding on Saturday 3rd August

Prior to the 6.30pm All-Age Tonight Service of Sunday 21st July we rang, jointly conducted, 1260 changes in 43mins of Plain Bob Doubles. Ellie Gray 1, Debbie Hill [c] 2, Lin Ould 3, Peter Smith[c] 4, Bradley Hill [c] 5, Richard Ould 6. To celebrate the birth of Tom Richard Gray 2.6.2019

Grandson of Richard and Lin ringers of 3 and 6. Congratulations to Clare and Russ Gray [Mum and Dad]

For Evening Worship on Sunday 28th July we attempted a Quarter Peal of Plain Bob Major which was unsuccessful but we rang 1344 changes, ringing were Maurice Downs, Ellis Whitehouse, Lin Ould, Ellie Gray, Debbie Hill, Vicky Elliott, Peter Smith, Bradley Hill. We will achieve this QP.

Peter Smith

BRAINTREE MALE VOICE CHOIR

The choir would welcome some additional members.

We practice weekly, on Wednesday evenings from 7.30 to 9.30, in St Peter's church hall, Bocking.

We perform at about 4 concerts a year, in addition to charitable performances at the Racecourse Craft Day and the Hawthorns coming up to Christmas.

We sing in 4 parts, first and second tenor, baritone and bass, so there a part to suit most people's range. If like me, you have difficulty reading music, the parts can be learned with the aid of audio downloads.


We eat together twice a year (not compulsory!)






We have a long summer break after our May concert and resume in September.

If you are interested, you could come along to our first rehearsal after the break on 4th September. If you want more information please speak to me after church or call me on 07986 471927.

David Mahood

PATTERN OF SUNDAY SERVICES

The Book of Common Prayer is used for the services marked 
Common Worship is used for all other services

Sunday in the month	8.00 am	10.00 am with crèche	6.30pm
FIRST	 Holy Communion	Church Family Worship (all-age)	Evening Worship
SECOND	 Holy Communion	Morning Worship	Holy Communion
THIRD	 Holy Communion	Holy Communion	All-Age Tonight
FOURTH	 Holy Communion	Morning Worship	Evening Worship
FIFTH	 Holy Communion	Holy Communion	United Service

FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE:

First Sunday: 10am **Church Family Worship**
 Third Sunday: 6.30pm **All-Age Tonight**
 Other Sundays: 10am in Church House:
 Followers (3-5s), **Adventurers** (5-10s) & **Next** (10-13s)
 Every Sunday: 7.30pm in Church House **Focus** (13-18s)
 Tuesdays: 1.15pm in Church House – **Tiddlywinks** for pre-school children & parents/carers

The above is subject to change at festivals
Please check Diary section for exact details

St. Michael's Church is located in:

St Michael's Road, Braintree, Essex, CM7 1EY

Facebook: stmichaelschurchbraintree
 Web: www.stmichaelsbtree.co.uk