



# ST MICHAEL'S BRAINTREE



## General Information

|  |  |              |
|--|--|--------------|
| Vicar                                      | Rev Nigel Adams  | 01376 807662 |
|  | Email: revnigeladams@gmail.com                           |              |
|  | <i>(Nigel's day of rest will be on Monday this week)</i> |              |
| Churchwardens                              | Lin Terris   | 01376 322870 |
|  | David Marriott   | 01376 349257 |
| Honorary Curate                            | Rev Stephen Bailey                                       | 01376 619347 |
| Children's and Youth Worker<br>(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](mailto: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/>

[www.stmichaelsbtree.co.uk](http://www.stmichaelsbtree.co.uk)

## 22nd August 2021- Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

### An update from Rev Nigel Adams

Dear Friends,

I hope that your summer is going well. We are continuing with our **summer series of Family Services**, on the miracles of Jesus. This Sunday (22nd Aug) will be an **Outdoor Service at 10am**, on the grass by the church. It is weather dependent, but I am very much hoping to be outside – if it rains, we will just move into the church building. If you are able to, could you please **bring a chair**, and if possible some spare chairs. We will have a few spare chairs, for those who are unable to bring one. The service will also be available via YouTube and “St Michael's by Phone”.

There has been much in the news recently that has caused grave concern – this includes **the fatal shootings in Plymouth**, the terrible death toll from the **earthquake in Haiti** and the ongoing challenges of the **coronavirus pandemic**. Do please be praying for all who are affected.

But please be praying particularly for the situation in **Afghanistan**. The speed of the collapse of the previous government and security forces, and the advance of the Taliban militants, has caught everyone by surprise. The Open Doors 2021 World Watch List showed Afghanistan as the second most persecuted country in the world, with the same “persecution score” as North Korea. This was before the recent Taliban take-over. Please be praying for the people of Afghanistan, as they face a bleak and uncertain future. Please pray particularly for Christians, as they seek to share the love of Jesus in a dangerous place, and for all in positions of influence, that stable government might be regained.

*“I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way.” (1 Timothy 4:1-2)*

Wishing you every blessing,

Nigel

### **August Family Services**

Sun 22nd **Outdoor service** – “Who’s in charge?”  
– Matthew 8:5-13: the centurion’s servant

Sun 29th – “Thank you, thank you!” – Luke 17:11-19: 10 lepers healed

All of the above services are at **10am on Sundays** and we also have **Virtual Zoom Coffee** at 11am each week.

### **Online**

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 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 and Zoom coffee** is on our weekly email – please contact Nigel if you need it.

### **In church**

- There will be **no requirement to pre-book seats** for services on Sun 22nd or 29th August.
- We are making **every other pew**, rather than every third pew, available. To help with social distancing, anyone attending can take a sticker saying, “**Please give me space**” and/or sheets to place on the seats next to you saying, “**Please do not sit here**”.
- We are encouraging everyone to continue to wear **face coverings** in church, unless you have a medical reason or are a child under 11 years. This is mainly out of respect for the safety of others.
- We will have congregational **singing** (with face coverings).
- As we begin to socialise more, please **be respectful** of one another’s space.

If you have had a **positive Covid test or Covid-19 symptoms** in the last 10 days (fever, continuous cough, loss of sense of smell or taste), please do not attend church, out of respect for others.

**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.

There will be a **Church & Church House Work Party** on Sat 4<sup>th</sup> Sept from 9am, to deal with a number of practical jobs, both inside and outside. If you are able to help, please contact Dave Marriott or Lin Terris, so we can plan a safe and practical day.

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.

### **For your prayers:**

**Unwell:** Dianne Ellam (eye op on 25th Aug), Stan Whitlock, Emma Wild, Katherine Cridland, Bobby McCaigue, Rev Pam Davies (severe back problems), David Harvey, Elaine Stoodley, Rev Norman Thorp (former curate of St Paul’s Braintree), Alan Bass, Alison Davey

**Housebound:** Anne Harvey

**Bereaved:** the friends and family of Mrs Susan Riches (member of St Paul’s and a former deanery treasurer)

**Mission of the Month: Langham Partnership** - trains pastors across the globe; encourages pastors to write books; supports church leaders in higher education. **Please pray for** Emeka Egbo who is Deputy Director of Langham Partnership in Africa. He recently visited Jos in Nigeria and was deeply saddened by the number of refugees fleeing the destruction of their villages and churches in the north of that country. Yet rejoices in the strength that the Bible has brought to the churches. **Please pray for** a young lady called Sirkul Narin of Thailand. She edits a south Asia Christian book programme. Also **please pray for**, and others like her, another young woman, Seblewengel Daniel of Ethiopia, who is becoming a Christian leader in her own country. Lebanon is going through a very bad patch at the moment. Hilmat Kashouh pastors the Resurrection Church in Beirut. He is active in meeting the needs of refugees. He depends on Langham books to help him in his ministry. **Please pray for** Claude Allagbe, and others like him, who is studying to be a minister in Benin.

**Felsted Church Away Day:** Sat 4<sup>th</sup> Sept, 10am-6pm at Holy Cross, Felsted. In the morning, talks from Ephesians 1 & 2 by Lee Gatiss (Church Society, author & speaker) and creche & children’s groups. Bring your own picnic lunch. Choice of swimming, country walk or tennis in the afternoon. Finishing with a BBQ. £5 a head or £20 family ticket – please book via [www.felstedchurch.org.uk](http://www.felstedchurch.org.uk).

**Bible Reading Group:** The readings for Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> August will be Psalms 129-130, John 12:1 - John 21:25, Proverbs 29:10 - 29:18. 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](mailto:daveterris@uwclub.net))

**St Michael’s School:** The Friends of St Michael’s School have organised a fundraising event in the place of the usual summer fete. The Braintree Mystery Trail has clues to follow around the town centre to discover the answer to the mystery. The booklet costs £5 and can be purchased online at [www.pta-events.co.uk/hellofosm](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/hellofosm). You will also be entered into a draw for £100. The closing date is 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021.