



# ST MICHAEL'S BRAINTREE



www.stmichaelsbtree.co.uk

## General Information

Vicar	Rev Nigel Adams	01376 807662
	Email: revnigeladams@gmail.com	
	<i>(Nigel will be off on Thursday and Friday this week)</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.

### 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/>

**Jeff & Valerie Wise** have now moved to 24 Juniper Close, Godington Park, Ashford, Kent, TN23 3JY; email widejv@aol.com.

**Bible Reading Group:** The readings for Tuesday, 21st September will be Psalms 136, Romans 1:1 - Romans 12:21, Proverbs 30:7 - 30:10. 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: dave Terris@uwclub.net)

## 19th September 2021- Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity

### An update from Rev Nigel Adams

Dear Friends,

This Sunday, we have a **Confirmation service** and Rt Revd Roger Morris, Bishop of Colchester, will be joining us for it. Do please join us in church at 10am, if you can, to support our candidates – **Anne-Marie, Alexandra, Lucky & Noah.**

In a Confirmation service, the candidates are literally “confirming” the promises that were made on their behalf, at their Baptism, by their parents and godparents. And there are some really helpfully worded responses – for example, when the bishop asks if they will seek to serve Christ in all people, loving your neighbour as yourself ... the answer is not “Yes”, but **“With the help of God, I will.”** The Confirmation service articulates well how we want to go God’s way, but can only do so with God’s help.

One of the things I particularly enjoy about a Confirmation service is the testimonies of the candidates ... a testimony in the sense of bearing witness to the work of God in their lives. We will hear some highlights of their testimonies in the service, and will also be giving out a small booklet, with each of the candidates’ testimonies in full. Each of us are unique and, unsurprisingly, God breaks into each of our lives in a unique way. No two testimonies are the same. As we hear the candidates explain what God has done in their lives, I hope we will all reflect on all that God has done for each of us, out of love.

Do please have a good look at the Notice Sheet over the coming weeks – we are re-starting a number of groups in person, including:

- **Junior Church** (3-14s) & **Next Plus** (14-18s) on Sunday mornings
- **Bible study groups**, including White Horse Tavern, Bible Reading Group, Meeting Point and Life Explored
- **Women@StMichael's**

These are in addition to our services on **YouTube and by phone**, and **Zoom Coffee** and **Zoom All-Age Tonight** (this evening).

Wishing you every blessing,

Nigel

### Church Services:

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

#### **Sunday 19th September**

**9.00am Next Plus (14-18s)** breakfast

**10.00am Junior Church (3-14s)**

**10.00am Confirmation Service with Rt Revd Roger Morris, Bishop of Colchester – please note that there is now no need to pre-book seats for the Confirmation Service. The Confirmation will be available on YouTube, as well as being in church**

**11.00am** Virtual Coffee on Zoom

**6.30pm** All-Age Tonight on Zoom

#### **Sunday 26th September**

**9.00am Next Plus (14-18s)** breakfast

**10.00am Junior Church (3-14s)**

**10.00am** Morning Worship in church, online (YouTube) and by phone

**11.00am** Virtual Coffee on Zoom

### Online

Our **pre-recorded YouTube services** can be accessed via the Worship tab on the St Michael's Church website (or though 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 the services in church.
- The church will have "zones" – the central two blocks of seats will be unrestricted, in the sense of not being socially distanced. Other pews at the back and sides will be socially distanced, only using every other pew. 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.

**Life Explored** is an informal and relaxed seven-week course. It will be held in church on Wednesdays, starting **Wed 22nd Sept, 7.30pm**. If you are planning to join us, or would like to find out more, please contact Nigel or Jo Adams via [revnigeladams@gmail.com](mailto:revnigeladams@gmail.com) or on 01376 807662.

### For your prayers:

**Unwell:** Brian Hennessy, Ben and Mya Nel, 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

**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 175. 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. Without financial means, widows and orphans are caught in a cycle of poverty, sickness and ignorance! 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. With the prevalence of COVID, Burkina is fighting two wars and the government is overwhelmed. Only God's love can make lasting change in the lives of those caught in the oppression of poverty and ignorance. For more information visit the website [www.actsburkina.org](http://www.actsburkina.org).

**Women@St Michaels:** Welcome morning in St Michael's church on **Saturday, 9th October 10.00am - 12.30pm**. Refreshments, chat, singing, talk, catch up and more. Do come and enjoy being together again. To sign up email [jennifer.bailey42@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:jennifer.bailey42@tiscali.co.uk) or text 07778563465.

**Meeting Point:** has now resumed. We meet in Church House on Wednesday mornings at 9.45am with refreshments, followed by the study on Daniel. All are welcome, but can you please bring your own Bible, face covering and refreshments. Please contact Helen Kemp for more information.

### Helpers wanted:

1. **Help with services** – as we further open up our church services, we will need more people to assist with welcoming, operating the sound desk and supporting the live streamed services. This will be for the 8am, 10am & 6.30pm services, on a rota basis.
2. **The LINK magazine** – would you consider editing, or co-editing our monthly magazine?
3. **Hall Bookings Secretary** – as we re-open Church House for both church groups and outside hirers, we will need someone to oversee our hall bookings.

If you want to know more about any of these roles, or are able to assist, please speak to **Dave Marriott** or **Lin Terris**, our churchwardens.