



ST MICHAEL'S BRAINTREE



www.stmichaelsbtree.co.uk

General Information

Vicar	Rev Nigel Adams	01376 807662
	Email: revnigeladams@gmail.com	
	<i>(Nigel's day of rest will be on 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

3rd October 2021- Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity - Harvest

An update from Rev Nigel Adams

Dear Friends,

This Sunday is our **Harvest Church Family Worship**. I hope many of you will be able to join us in church as we give thanks for the many good gifts that God gives us. We will also have a Harvest offering (see details inside the Notice Sheet) – this year, it will go to the vital work of the Foodbank, who help provide food for many who need it. During October we will be restarting more services in church with an 8am Holy Communion on Sun 10th and All-Age Tonight on Sun 17th Oct at 6.30pm.

On Wednesday, I was leading the assembly in St Michael's School. We were looking at the start of Genesis, how God created everything. As we reflected on the third and fourth days, we saw how God created dry ground and oceans, plants and vegetation, and the sun, moon and stars.

It struck me that, if God had not created each of those things, the world would not be a fit environment for human beings to survive. In fact, of the billions of planets and stars, it is only the earth that comes anywhere near being habitable for human life.

Though we live in a fallen & broken world, that humanity has misused and abused, the earth is still a wonderful gift of God to humankind. This Harvest, I hope we will all be able to pause and thank God for his goodness to us in so many ways.

Wishing you every blessing,

Nigel

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/>

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.

Church Services:

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

Sunday 3rd October

10.00am Harvest Church Family Worship in church, online (YouTube) and by phone

11.00am Virtual Coffee on Zoom

6.30pm Holy Communion on Zoom

Sunday 10th October

8.00am Holy Communion

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 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 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. Please join Nigel & Jo Adams on Zoom, on Thurs 7th October from 11am for our monthly coffee & chat. Details of how to sign up will be included in the weekly email on Saturday.

Harvest Church Family Worship Service on Sunday 3rd October: This year we are collecting harvest items for the Foodbank. They are currently in need of: juice (1l), custard (tinned or packet), sponge puddings, long life milk (1l), tinned spaghetti, tinned fruit, instant mash, chocolate, sugar (1lb), washing up liquid, deodorant, washing detergent (in gel form), baby wipes, shampoo/conditioner and shower gel.

For your prayers:

Unwell: Jeff and Valerie Wise, Brian Hennessy, Ben and Mya Nel, 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,

Housebound: Anne Harvey

Bereaved: The family and friends of Em Wild who died on Wed 15th Sept. and Ling, Victoria, Lisha & Rishon Lingesh following the death of Ling's mother.

Mission of the Month: Operation Christmas Child (OCC): is part of the evangelical Christian relief organisation, **Samaritan's Purse**. Annually they provide filled shoebox gifts to children living in some of the poorest sectors of the world as a practical way of showing God's love to children. Our church has been actively involved in OCC for many years. This year we can collect shoebox gifts from the congregation again. Shoebox gifts can contain items that are considered essential such as toiletries, hat, scarf, gloves and school supplies, and fun items e.g. toys, soft toys and creative activities. There are some empty shoeboxes you can take away to fill, with labels to indicate who it is for or go online to see the latest packing advice and to make a £5 donation to cover transport costs. Please return your completed shoebox gifts to church by **Sunday 14th November**. Alternatively, you can pack a shoebox online. This year we have set up a St. Michaels church web page for our online shoebox donations. Please help us reach our target of 30 online shoeboxes! <https://shoeboxonline.samaritans-purse.org.uk/goal-pages/7730e605> More information can be found in the LINK magazine and online. Any queries to Sue Marriott. Operation Christmas Child (samaritans-purse.org.uk)

There will be a **Thanksgiving Service for Em Wild on Thurs 6th Oct, 2pm at St Peter's Bocking**, and afterwards, for tea & cake, at the White Hart. All are welcome.

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

Men@StMichael's Beer & Chat is starting again on Wed 6th Oct from 8pm at The Picture Palace, Wetherspoons, Fairfield Road, CM7 3HA. All are welcome.

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 or text 07778563465.

Bible Reading Group: The readings for Tuesday, 5th October will be Psalm139, 1 Corinthians 7:1 - 1 Corinthians 16:24, Proverbs 30:15-16. 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)