

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
Treasurer	Lesley Davey	01376 326969



ST MICHAEL'S BRAINTREE



www.stmichaelsbtree.co.uk

31st October 2021- Last Sunday after Trinity

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.

Parking Permits: From 1st November 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 2022 and charged at £20 per permit. Permits will only be issued to members on the electoral roll. Application forms can be found in church and need to be returned with payment to Philip Bartlett-Rawlings.

An update from Rev Nigel Adams

Dear Friends,

The Bible speaks of a **wonderful, good God** who, out of love, created everything. He shines in unimaginable light. On one occasion, on the top of a mountain, his Son Jesus was Transfigured and **“his clothes became radiant, intensely white, as no one on earth could bleach them.”** (Mark 9:3).

Yet the Bible also speaks of **the reality of evil**. We see it in our world ... we hear it on the news. The tragic news of **Sir David Amess**, MP, a lovely man, stabbed to death. The news this week of the sentencing of the killer of **Bibaa Henry and Nicole Smallman**, the much-loved daughters of a former Archdeacon in our diocese. In November, our Mission of the Month is the **Barnabas Fund**, supporting Christians around the world who suffer appalling persecution because of their faith.

Speaking of the battles we face, Paul wrote, **“For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.”** (Ephesians 6:12). Behind the physical battles and visible signs of evil is a spiritual battle that we are all engaged in. Paul's advice was to **“put on the full armour of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand.”** (Ephesians 6:13). The last part of the armour is **“the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, praying at all times”** (Ephesians 6:17-18)

As we reflect on those who suffer so much, let us persevere in prayer, particularly for those whose lives have been so affected by the evil in our fallen and broken world.

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 31st October

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

Sunday 7th November

10.00am Church Family Worship in church with Andy Malcolm from the Fishermen's Mission followed by a fish & chip lunch in Church House. The service will be recorded and uploaded later to YouTube and "St Michael's by Phone".

11.00am Virtual Coffee on Zoom

6.30pm Holy Communion 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. Please join Nigel & Jo Adams on Zoom, on Thurs 4th November from 11am for our monthly coffee & chat. Details of how to sign up will be included in the weekly email on Saturday.

Andy Malcolm: Fishermen's Mission Visit: After CFW on Sunday, 7th November we are planning a Fish and Chip lunch with Andy Malcolm in church house. Details are available in church. Janet Bamforth and Chris Hart will be taking orders and payment will be by cash before 31st October. All are welcome.

For your prayers:

Unwell: Cyril Bamforth's sister, Maureen, Lee Evans, Brian Hennessey, 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 Meta Taylor.

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://shooboxonline.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)

Bible Reading Group: The readings for Tuesday, 2nd November will be Psalm 145, 2 Thessalonians 1:1 - Philemon 1:25, Proverbs 30:21-23. 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)

Women@St Michaels Prayer Lunch: in church on Thursday, 4th November 12.30 - 2.00pm. Bring your own lunch and spend time chatting and eating together. There will be singing, short reflections, followed by a time to be quiet and prayer led by different people. Please sign up today if you are able to join us.

St Michael's Quiz Night will be live, on Zoom, on Sat 20th Nov, 5.50pm for 6pm start, with Jeff Clayton, our excellent quiz master. For teams of 2 to 6 players – you don't have to be in the same household: conferring by phone or messenger is allowed. To register, please email Nigel at revnigeladams@gmail.com, with your team name and nominated captain by Wed 17th Nov.