

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 (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

14th November 2021- Second Sunday before Advent (and Remembrance Sunday)

An update from Rev Nigel Adams

Dear Friends,

This week is **Remembrance Sunday** and we will be having two Remembrance services in St Michael's Church. One at 10am and the Civic Service at 3pm. Group Captain Mark Bunting will be speaking at both services and I hope you will be able to join us as we pause and remember.

Remembrance Sunday is a time that we **look back with sadness** – sadness that so many have lost their lives in war and conflict, and still continue to do so.

We also **look back with gratitude** – to those who sacrificed so much for our freedoms. We also give thanks to God for the deliverance of our nation in times of war. At both of our Remembrance services, we will be showing a video titled, **“God's deliverance at Dunkirk”** – a reflection on that time when the King called the nation to prayer for the British Expeditionary Force (most of the British Army) in great danger on the beaches of Dunkirk. And how miraculous circumstances led to over 338,000 being rescued.

We do well to **look back in repentance**. War was not God's intention in creation – it is part of our fallen and broken world. Sadly, healthy pride can become nationalistic jingoism – a love of our country can become a hatred of other nations. We need to repent of unworthy attitudes to war.

As we look back and remember, let us be in prayer for the parts of the world where conflict and the consequences of it, still cost so many lives. And let us remember Jesus' ultimate sacrifice for us ... as Jesus himself said, **“Greater love has no one than this, that they lay down their life for their friends.”** (John 15:13)

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/>

PAT testing – would anyone be able to assist with “PAT testing” (testing of electrical appliances, etc) at church and Church House? Instruction and training could be given. If you might be able to assist, or wish to know more, please contact **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.

Church Services:

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

Sunday 14th November - Remembrance Sunday

8.00am Holy Communion - in church

9.00am Next Plus (14-18s) breakfast

10.00am Junior Church (3-14s)

10.00am Remembrance Sunday service in church with Group Captain Mark Bunting. The service will be recorded and uploaded later to YouTube and "St Michael's by Phone".

3.00pm Remembrance Civic Service in church

Sunday 21st November

9.00am Next Plus (14-18s) breakfast

10.00am Junior Church (3-14s)

10.00am Holy Communion

6.30pm All-Age Tonight - in church

Online

Our **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**" currently updated on a Tuesday – 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.

In church

- There will be **no requirement to pre-book seats** for church services.
- The church is set out in "**zones**" – the central blocks of seats are unrestricted, in the sense of not being socially distanced. Other pews are 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.

We are looking to reintroduce our **refreshments after church** on Sundays. Please contact Ann Mahood if you would be willing to go on the rota for this. Either text or phone Ann on 07952 911672.

For your prayers:

Unwell: David and Norman Huxter, Richard Ould, David Hart, Michelle Adams, Laura Brooks, 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: Jenny & family, following the death of Alan Syder (a former member of St Michael's)

Mission of the Month: Barnabas Fund is an organisation who supports the persecuted church, mainly in Muslim dominated countries. They have felt under attack over the last few years which they shouldn't be surprised about when they are working in so many different countries and helping huge numbers of persecuted brothers and sisters all over the world from helping brick workers to fully repay their debts to the owners and helping with schools in a number of countries. Their work is very diverse and God be praised for His faithfulness towards them despite criticism and accusations, most of which are unfounded. They continue to serve the persecuted church and the needs are growing monthly with resources stretched like never before. Overheads are the lowest in the sector at below 12% of income and they continue to ensure that every pound they receive is used efficiently and effectively.

Bible Reading Group: The readings for Tuesday, 16th November will be Psalm 147, James 1:1 - 2 Peter 3:18, Proverbs 30:29-33. 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)

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.

We will be having a **Gift Day** on Sun 28th Nov, towards essential work needed on our church **crèche** room. More details to follow.

Men's Christmas Cracker! on Sat 11th Dec, 10am-12.30pm, in church – a Christmas-themed morning, with light refreshments, an opportunity to worship and to reflect on why Jesus came.