

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

28th November 2021- First Sunday of Advent

December at St Michael's

Please join us, and consider inviting guests, to our Christmas services – no need to pre-book. The Carol services on 12th & 19th will be broadly the same. Junior Church will continue each Sunday, except where there is a family service.

Sun 5 Dec	10am: Church Family Worship 6.30pm: Holy Communion
Sun 12 Dec	8am: Holy Communion 10am: Morning Worship 6.30pm: Carols by Candlelight
Sat 18 Dec	4.30pm: "Join in Nativity"
Sun 19 Dec	10am: Morning Worship 6.30pm: Carols by Candlelight
Fri 24 Dec	4pm: Christingle service 6pm: Christmas Eve Communion
Sat 25 Dec	8am: Holy Communion (with carols) 10am: Family Celebration
Sun 26 Dec	10am: Family Communion
Sun 2 Jan	10am: Church Family Worship

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.

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.

Church Services:

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

Sunday 28th November

- 8.00am Holy Communion** in church
- 9.00am Next Plus** (14-18s) breakfast
- 10.00am Junior Church** (3-14s)
- 10.00am** Morning Worship

Sunday 5th December

- 10.00am** Church Family Worship
- 6.30pm** Holy Communion in church

The 10.00am services will be recorded and uploaded later to YouTube and “St Michael’s by Phone”. Some of our services are now being **video recorded**, using a camera on a pillar, and uploaded to YouTube. Please note that those sitting in the front three rows, in the centre, may be on the video recording.

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.

Advent Book: Finding Hope under Bethlehem Skies by Robin Ham has sold out, but Stephen has 3 copies for sale. It is available, however, as an e-book for £1 from 10ofThose website.

Coffee@Home: Please join Nigel & Jo Adams on Zoom, on Thurs 2nd December from 11am for our monthly coffee & chat. Details of how to sign up will be included in the weekly email on Saturday.

For your prayers:

Unwell: Jack Green, Richard Ould, David Hart, 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, 30th November will be Psalm 150, Revelation 6:1 - 22:21, Proverbs 31:10–31. If you want to join us for our last reading session, please let me know. Dave Terris (Tel: 322870 or email: daveterris@uwclub.net)

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. It would be helpful to know how many men will be attending, for the refreshments – please sign up on the sheet at the back of church, or let Nigel know, if you are planning to join us.

Women@St Michael’s: Christmas Prayer lunch will be on Tuesday, 14th December in church 12.00-2.00pm. Bring your own sandwiches and we will provide some Christmas goodies and hot drinks. Time to relax, chat and pray together and probably sing!

Operation Christmas Child: A big thank you to all those who gave filled shoeboxes, shoebox fillers, online shoeboxes and monetary donations towards this year’s Operation Christmas Child shoebox appeal. We received 21 completed shoeboxes, 9 online shoeboxes and with the generous donations from you all I was able to make up a further 10 shoeboxes, bringing St Michael’s Church total to 40 shoeboxes! We received 147 hand knitted items. The boxes were taken to Kingsland Church in Colchester for processing at the centre in Cambridge. The online shoebox campaign will be delivered to children in Belarus, Nigeria and Liberia. Thank you for helping to send Good News and great joy to children around the world this Christmas!