



ST MICHAEL'S BRAINTREE



www.stmichaelsbtree.co.uk

5th December 2021- Second 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.



The Perfect Gift

- 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**

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

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/>

If you are new to St Michael's, welcome! If you would like someone to contact you, please leave your details in the collection box by the door.

Name(s)

Address

Telephone

Email

Church Services:

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

Sunday 5th December

10.00am Church Family Worship
6.30pm Holy Communion in church

Sunday 12th December

8.00am Holy Communion in church
9.00am Next Plus (14-18s) breakfast
10.00am Junior Church (3-14s)
10.00am Morning Worship
6.30pm Carols by Candlelight

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.

Christmas cards: there is a board at the back of church if you wish to send one Christmas card to everyone at St Michael’s. Donations are being collected in aid of Hope House, a local charity seeking to break the cycle of homelessness.

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

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

Mission of the Month: Stand by Me is a Christian charity committed to rescuing and caring for some of the world’s poorest children, regardless of ethnicity, religious beliefs or social status. Through their children’s homes, schools and care centres they are meeting the individual needs of over 3,000 children who are orphaned, abandoned, abused or victims of war, or disease or living in extreme poverty. “It is our aim to make lasting improvements to children’s lives, caring for them as Jesus would, by restoring their dignity and giving them a sense of self-worth.” Our Junior Church continues to sponsor and support Tsion from Ethiopia through Stand By Me and we receive letters and updates.

Carol Services: we need mince pies please for the 12th and the 19th Dec. Could you speak to Jennifer Bailey or email/text her if you are able to help in this way? jennifer.bailey42@tiscali.co.uk or 07778563465.

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!