



# ST MICHAEL'S BRAINTREE



www.stmichaelsbtree.co.uk

## 9th January 2022 - First Sunday after Epiphany

### An update from Rev Nigel Adams

Dear Friends,

I hope you were able to enjoy something of the Christmas season, despite the increasing Covid infection rate and consequent limitations.

As we embark on this New Year, I wanted to bring you up-to-date with what we are doing at St Michael's Church. We are continuing with services in the Church building, and Junior Church in Church House, with some extra measures to help keep everyone safe.

- Following advice from the local Director of Health, we now strongly encourage everyone to take a **lateral flow test** before attending church or other "in person" events.
- **Face coverings** are now mandatory (a legal requirement) in places of worship, unless you are exempt. The requirement includes young people 11 years of age and over. We urge you to continue wearing face coverings when singing please. As usual, face coverings can be removed if leading, reading, praying or preaching.
- For the time being, we will not be having **refreshments** at church. The Next Plus (14-18s) Breakfast has had to go on hold at present.

We will keep these measures under review and will keep you informed of any changes. Thank you for all you are doing to protect one another.

This Sunday, we will be reflecting on our Verse of the Year: **"I will sing of the steadfast love of the Lord, forever."** (Psalm 89:1). Despite our changing world and the difficulties we face, we can rely on the steadfast love of our unchanging God.

Wishing you every blessing for the New Year,

Nigel

### 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

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, 9th January**

- 8.00am** Morning Prayer (Book of Common Prayer)
- 10.00am** Junior Church
- 10.00am** Morning Worship
- 6.30pm** Evening Worship

#### **Sunday, 16th January**

- 10.00am** Junior Church
- 10.00am** Holy Communion
- 6.30pm** All-Age Tonight

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. **There has been a delay in uploading the Christmas/New Year services to YouTube – they will be uploaded early this week.**

### **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 now required by law to wear **face coverings** in church, unless you have a medical reason or are a child under 11 years.
- We will have congregational **singing** (with face coverings).
- 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.

### **For your prayers:**

**Unwell:** Lionel Clark, Richard Hunte (Naj McCaigue’s father), Jack Green, Richard Ould, David Hart, Cyril Bamforth’s sister, Maureen, Lee Evans, 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:** Audrey Hennessey and family & friends, following the death of Brian.

**Mission of the Month: Crosslinks** has ‘Mission Partners’ in Europe, East Asia, the Middle East, across Africa and South & Central America. Notice that the Crosslinks workers are called ‘Partners’. This is because churches in four continents invited men and women to work with them in making Jesus Christ known. We have a link with JIRKA & KEIRA KRALOVI who work with students in Olomouc in the Czech Republic. Also they are involved helping get a new church off the ground. We shall be praying for them in January.

**First Priority Prayer Meeting:** will be on Zoom on Tues 11th January, 8-9pm.

There is much to pray about, for our nation, our world, and for churches. Sign up details are in the weekly email, or contact Nigel on [revnigeladams@gmail.com](mailto:revnigeladams@gmail.com).

**Essentials:** we will be running a 3 week course called “Essentials” which looks at the heart of the Christian faith on Mon 17th, 24th & 31st Jan, from 7.30pm. The course includes some talks by Lee McMunn as well as the chance for discussion and questions. **Due to the increased Covid rate, we will be running this on Zoom.** Please speak to Nigel or Jo Adams if you have any questions or are interested in joining us and we will send you the Zoom link.