

### General Information

Vicar Rev Nigel Adams 01376 807662  
Email: revnigeladams@gmail.com  
*(Nigel's day of rest will be on Friday this week)*

Churchwardens Lin Terris 01376 322870  
David Marriott 01376 349257

Honorary Curate Rev Stephen Bailey 01376 619347

Children's and Youth Worker Rachel Grove Smith 07713 566667  
(part-time)

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



# ST MICHAEL'S BRAINTREE

www.stmichaelsbtree.co.uk



**1<sup>st</sup> May 2022**  
**Third Sunday of Easter**

Greetings from Rev Stephen Bailey

Dear Friends,

Having more Bank Holidays are in the news. There is talk of increasing the number of such days. Once we used to have a holiday on Ascension Day. Why not restore it? This year it falls on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May.

The great value of ear-marking one day to celebrate the ascension of the Lord Jesus Christ is to enjoy being reminded of his triumph.

We don't think of him only dying on the cross. (Although he gave us a meal to remember his death constantly). Whilst we are glad that he rose from the dead, and that is cause of endless celebration (every Sunday is a mini Easter Day), yet he also the living Lord Jesus ascended into heaven. That is a coronation worth celebrating!

This is what it can mean, amongst other things, for you and me:

*'Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need'* (Hebrews 4:16).

With my prayers and best wishes,

Stephen Bailey

### 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:

[www.facebook.com/tmichaelschurchbraintree/](http://www.facebook.com/tmichaelschurchbraintree/)

**YouTube services and "St Michael's by Phone"**: we have not been able to upload either the video or phone services in recent weeks. We will let everyone know when they are being uploaded again. Our apologies for this.

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 1<sup>st</sup> May**

**9.00am** Next Plus Breakfast (14-18s)

**10.00am** Church Family Worship – “Why are you weeping?” (John 20:11-18)

**6.30pm** Holy Communion – The True Vine (John 15:1-11)

#### **Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> May**

**8.00am** Holy Communion -

**9.00am** Next Plus Breakfast (14-18s)

**10.00am** Junior Church

**10.00am** Morning Worship -

### Video recording in church

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

### In church

- **Legal requirements** for most Covid restrictions have now been dropped and replaced with guidance and advice. Government guidelines recommend **face coverings** in enclosed or crowded places, particularly where you come into contact with people you don’t normally meet. We therefore encourage the wearing of face coverings in church, unless you are exempt, including when singing.
- 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**”.
- Government guidance says, “**Social distancing** in a place of worship is now a personal choice. People are encouraged to respect other attendees and those working who may wish to adopt a more cautious approach.”
- If you have had a recent **positive Covid test**, **Covid-19 symptoms** or **feel unwell**, please do not attend church, out of respect for others.

### 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.

**Coffee on Zoom:** Please join Nigel & Jo Adams on Zoom, on Thurs 5th May 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:** Janet Bamforth, Malcolm Timms, Norma Huxter, Dennis Buston, Lionel Clark, Richard Hunte (Naj McCaigue’s father), Cyril Bamforth’s sister Maureen, Lee Evans, Katherine Cridland, Rev Pam Davies, David Harvey, Elaine Stoodley, Rev Norman Thorp (former curate of St Paul’s Braintree), Alan Bass

**Housebound:** Anne Harvey

**Bereaved:** Please pray for the family & friends of Roger Twaites (St Michael’s School Site Manager) who died recently. Please continue to pray for Najette, Harrison & Teagan McCaigue and family & friends, following the death of Bobby.

**Mission of the Month: The Chain Foundation** was set up to deal with the high number of children who were left orphaned in Uganda and to assist with the health and education of others in the area. Today, the Chain Foundation have a Home for Children, farms which help make produce to keep the foundation self-sufficient and schools for all ages and abilities including the blind. The children utilize devotions that are held every evening to know more about Jesus’ love and also strengthen their covenant with God.

**Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting** will be on **Tues 24<sup>th</sup> May from 7.30pm in church.**

If you are not on our Electoral Roll (which allows you to vote at the annual meeting), you can join by completing a form by **Sun 8<sup>th</sup> May.**

We will have **elections** for 2 churchwardens and 4 Parochial Church Council members – nomination forms will be at the back of church and should be returned to Jennifer Bailey by **Sun 8<sup>th</sup> May.**

You should be receiving **information** about the annual meeting either by email or as a hard copy. If you do not receive this information, or have any questions, please contact Rev Nigel Adams.

### **Jubilee Weekend Memorabilia and Write Ups of When I saw the Queen?**

Could we have Write Ups of experiences and Memorabilia by Sunday May 15th please. Could you sign the list at the back of the Church to say that you are contributing. Any queries to Jennifer or Lin.

**Hope Explored** is a new three week course, about the person and work of Jesus, and the hope that can be found in him. We will be running it on **Mondays 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> May from 7.30pm on Zoom.** It has some excellent talks by Rico Tice, as well as time for discussion, and looks at the importance of hope, peace and purpose in our lives. Please speak to Nigel or Jo Adams if you have any questions or would like to join us for it.

**Living Out** is holding an event in **Colchester on Saturday 14 May** – described as follows : ‘.... will offer a positive biblical vision and practical steps forward as we seek to model both grace and truth in our Christ-like love for all those who experience same-sex attraction. For this event in Colchester, we are also spending one of the sessions thinking through questions around transgender.’ Free of charge - book here:

[https://www.livingout.org/events/16/colchester-living-out-course.](https://www.livingout.org/events/16/colchester-living-out-course)