



ST MICHAEL'S BRAINTREE



3rd July 2022 - Third Sunday after Trinity

An update from Rev Nigel Adams

Dear Friends,

On Tuesday, I had the great privilege of attending the **Evangelical Ministry Assembly (EMA)**, a preaching conference in central London. We were invited to look in-depth at some passages of Scripture and to hear some excellent and uplifting talks. The morning was spent looking at Deuteronomy chapter 32. It includes these words, describing God's care for his people. It speaks of how God found Israel in a desert land ... *"and in the howling waste of the wilderness; he encircled him, he cared for him, he kept him as the **apple of his eye**."* (Deut 32:10)

I learned what that unusual phrase **"the apple of his eye"** actually means. The phrase comes from a Hebrew expression that literally means "little man of the eye." If you stand very close to someone and look at them, you will see yourself reflected in their eye. It speaks of someone who is extremely fond and proud of you. It is saying that God had that closeness and love for his chosen people.

It is a phrase we see elsewhere in the Bible, for example, Psalm 17:8 ... **"Keep me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings."** The same God, who loved and cherished his chosen people, loves and cares for us. He wants to be close to us ... to see his image in us ... to protect us (in life and in death) "in the shadow of his wings." In these difficult times, may you know more of God's love and protection today.

Wishing you every blessing,

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: 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, 3rd July

9.00am Next Plus Breakfast (14-18s)

10.00am Church Family Worship followed by a BBQ - Matthew 9: 27-31

6.30pm Holy Communion - *'Love one another'* (John 15: 12-17)

Sunday, 10th July

8.00am Holy Communion - *'Whose future?'* - Daniel 7

9.00am Next Plus Breakfast (14-18s)

10.00am Junior Church

10.00am Morning Worship - *'Whose future?'* - Daniel 7

Video recording in church

Some of our services are now being video recorded, using a camera on a pillar, and uploaded later to YouTube. 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. People are encouraged to respect other attendees and those working who may wish to adopt a more cautious approach.
- If you wish to be socially distanced, please 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**".
- 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 through the "St Michael's – Worship on the Web" YouTube channel and are generally updated during the week after the Sunday service.

Church Family Worship: Sunday, 3rd July. There will be 'A Ten of Those Bookstall' and a BBQ after the service.

Coffee on Zoom: Please join Nigel & Jo Adams on Zoom, on Thurs 7th July 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: Michael Frater, Alan Bass, Norman Plastow, Rory (Laura Smith's son), Jim Roberts, Margaret Goodchild, Norma Huxter, Dennis Buston, Richard Hunte (Naj McCaigue's father), Cyril Bamforth's sister Maureen, Lee Evans, Katherine Cridland, David Harvey, Elaine Stoodley, Rev Norman Thorp (former curate of St Paul's Braintree)

Housebound: Anne Harvey

Bereaved: Please pray for Rev Pam Davies, family & friends, following Trevor's death.

Mission of the Month: Langham Partnership *Victoria Marsay writes* "Langham Partnership's vision is to see churches equipped for mission and growing to maturity in Christ through the ministry of pastors and leaders who believe, teach and live by the word of God. Our mission is to strengthen the ministry of the word of God through nurturing movements for biblical preaching; fostering the creation and distribution of evangelistic literature; enhancing evangelistic theological education, especially in countries where churches are under resourced."

St Michael's School Family BBQ - many thanks to everyone who helped or supported the event - £3,320 was raised!

St Michael's School: need a minute taker for the Premises and Pupil and Personnel Committees who meet once a term usually September, January and April. The Committees normally meet on the same evening between 6.00 and 8.15pm. Please speak to Jennifer Bailey if you can help.

Memorial Service for Jennifer Chapman: I and my family are holding a memorial service for Jenny at 2 pm on Monday, 11th July, at St Michael's Church followed by refreshments in Church House. We extend a warm welcome to all church members and friends who may wish to remember and celebrate her life to come along to this service and occasion. Please put the date in your diary, and I look forward to seeing you all there.

Jirka & Keira Kralovi, our Crosslinks mission links, will be joining us, with their family on **Sun 21st Aug** for the 10am family service. We will be also having a fish & chip lunch in Church House, which will give us the opportunity to hear more about their work in the Czech Republic. Please note the date for your diary.

Weekend Away – Fri 17th - Sun 19th Feb 2023 at Kings Park, Northampton. Rev Alasdair Payne, Vicar of St Andrew the Great Cambridge and author, will be our main speaker. The weekend is with a group of churches and applications will be on a "first come, first-served" basis. Details to follow.