



ST MICHAEL'S BRAINTREE



www.stmichaelsbtree.co.uk

25th July 2021- Eighth Sunday after Trinity

An update from Rev Nigel Adams

Dear Friends,

Our focus throughout the coronavirus pandemic has been to continue to be a worshipping and witnessing Christian community, both online and in person. As we have opened the church, we have sought to do so in a way that is Covid-secure. The Government's Step 4 changes have recently eased many of the legal restrictions. We wish to ease restrictions in church, but only in a way that continues to be Covid-secure. We note that infection rates are still rising at present.

We have therefore agreed the following:

- For the time being, please pre-book seats for services in church.
- We will continue to offer socially distanced seating in church and hand sanitiser and keep a record of who attends, for NHS Test & Trace.
- We would encourage 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 can now sing! From this Sunday, we will reintroduce congregational singing (with face covering).
- As we begin to socialise more, please be respectful of one another's space.
- The churchwardens and I will be looking at the church this week, with a view to increasing the number of seats in church, whilst still allowing for social distancing.
- We will also be circulating a questionnaire over the summer, to assist us in making decisions for the autumn.

We hope that these precautions will help improve our worship and fellowship, as well as keeping people safe. We will keep you informed as further changes are made.

Do please be praying for SMASH Club, our children's & families Holiday Club, which is meeting at Church House/garden from Monday to Friday.

Wishing you every blessing,
Nigel

General Information

Vicar	Rev Nigel Adams	01376 807662
	Email: revnigeladams@gmail.com	
	<i>(Nigel's day off will be Saturday)</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/>

Church services:

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

Online

Sunday 25th July

9.45am Children's & Families Service on Zoom

10.00am Morning Worship online (YouTube) and by phone

11.00am Virtual Coffee on Zoom

Sunday 1st August

10.00am SMASH Club Family Service online (YouTube) and by phone

11.00am Virtual Coffee on Zoom

6.30pm Holy Communion on Zoom

Our pre-recorded 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 adult service is also available through "St Michael's by Phone" – 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. The link for our Zoom services is on Nigel Adams' weekly email – please contact Nigel if you need it.

In church

Sunday 25th July

10.00am Holy Communion (bread only) - **please book in advance**

Sunday 1st August

10.00am SMASH Club Family Service - **please book in advance**

You will need to book your seat for the services by midnight on the Thursday before – either via the St Michael's website (Worship tab) or by leaving a message on the church office answerphone (01376 321248). You will be contacted on Friday if you have a seat – please only attend if you have been told you have a pre-booked seat.

If you are coming into church, you will need to comply with the following:

- 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.

Coffee on Zoom: We will be having Zoom virtual coffee after church each Sunday and on the first Thursday of each month, both at 11am. Details of how to sign up will be included in the weekly email on Saturday.

There will be a **Confirmation Service on Sun 19th Sept, 10am** at St Michael's Church with Rt Revd Roger Morris, Bishop of Colchester. If you are interested in being Confirmed, or wish to know more, please speak with Nigel Adams or Rachel Grove Smith.

For your prayers:

Unwell: Emma Wild, Katherine Cridland, Brian Hennessey, Bobby McCaigue, Rev Pam Davies (severe back problems), David Harvey, Elaine Stoodley, Rev Norman Thorp (former curate of St Paul's Braintree), Alan Bass, Alison Davey

Housebound: Anne Harvey

Bereaved: Family and friends of Ron Smith. Please also continue to pray for Margaret St John Coleman and family following the death of Tom.

Mission of the Month: 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.

Bible Reading Group: The readings for Tuesday, 27th July will be Psalm 119, Luke 12:1 - Luke 15:32, Proverbs 28:8 - 28:14. If you want to join us, please let me know and I will make sure to keep you updated with the readings for each week. Dave Terris (Tel: 322870 or email: daveterris@uwclub.net)

SMASH holiday club: is fast approaching!! It is happening from tomorrow (Monday 26th July - Friday 30th July) and is suitable for children of primary school age and their families. This year families will be seated in bubbles for an hour session of fun each day! There will be Bible stories, games, craft and much more. To sign up, please go to our website... www.stmichaelsbtree.co.uk

St Michael's School: The Friends of St Michael's School have organised a fundraising event in the place of the usual summer fete. The Braintree Mystery Trail has clues to follow around the town centre to discover the answer to the mystery. The booklet costs £5 and can be purchased online at www.pta-events.co.uk/hellofasm. You will also be entered into a draw for £100. The closing date is 31st August 2021.