



ST MICHAEL'S BRAINTREE



www.stmichaelsbtree.co.uk

General Information

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

Contact Margaret Kinniburgh to add items to the Notice Sheet (by noon
Thursday) email: notices@stmichaelsbtree.co.uk. Telephone 01376 330013.

15th August 2021- Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

A message from Rev Stephen Bailey

Dear Friends,

ON-LINE GROCERIES: Maybe you do your weekly shop on-line. The driver of the supermarket you favour rings the door-bell and answering the door you find loaded trays of the things you have ordered.

For some it is a matter of pride to carry the full load to the kitchen. They want to keep the muscles of their arms working. 'Yes, I can lift that' they say to themselves.

God's arm muscles never wear out or weaken. 'Underneath are the everlasting arms'. (Deuteronomy 33:27).

'EVERLASTING': God's arms never atrophy or weaken. He never folds his arms to take forty winks. He never sleeps. Always his arms are like a mother's lovingly holding her child close. Silly illustration, but if you want to move that piano you ask another to help with moving it with their strong arms helping you. God's arms are like that. Whatever comes our way that seems such a task, his arms are always there to support. That is especially when conquering evil which is a hefty job.

'ARMS': Think how often we use our arms. We reach up, we pick up. 24/7 we are using our arms - well not when we are sleeping! But God never sleeps. He is always using his 'arms' for the light touch or the heavy lifting or to fight off our enemies. At the end of his mighty arms are his gentle hands that sooth, wipe away tears and even hold us close.

Deuteronomy 33: 27 is great verse to clasp and hold in our own arms.

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: <https://www.facebook.com/stmichaelschurchbraintree/>

August Family Services

Sun 15th – **“Walk this way!”** – Mark 2:1-12: the paralysed man

Sun 22nd **Outdoor service** – **“Who’s in charge?”**

– Matthew 8:5-13: the centurion’s servant

Sun 29th – **“Thank you, thank you!”** – Luke 17:11-19: 10 lepers healed

All of the above services are at **10am on Sundays** and we also have **Virtual Zoom Coffee** at 11am each week.

Online

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 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 and Zoom coffee** is on our weekly email – please contact Nigel if you need it.

In church

- There will be **no requirement to pre-book seats** for services on Sun 15th, 22nd or 29th August.
- We are making **every other pew**, rather than every third pew, available. 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.

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: Stan Whitlock (dental op on 20th Aug), Emma Wild, 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, Alison Davey

Housebound: Anne Harvey

Bereaved: the friends and family of Mrs Susan Riches (member of St Paul’s and a former deanery treasurer)

Mission of the Month: Langham Partnership - trains pastors across the globe; encourages pastors to write books; supports church leaders in higher education. **Please pray for** Emeka Egbo who is Deputy Director of Langham Partnership in Africa. He recently visited Jos in Nigeria and was deeply saddened by the number of refugees fleeing the destruction of their villages and churches in the north of that country. Yet rejoices in the strength that the Bible has brought to the churches. **Please pray for** a young lady called Sirkul Narin of Thailand. She edits a south Asia Christian book programme. Also **please pray for**, and others like her, another young woman, Seblewengel Daniel of Ethiopia, who is becoming a Christian leader in her own country. Lebanon is going through a very bad patch at the moment. Hilmat Kashouh pastors the Resurrection Church in Beirut. He is active in meeting the needs of refugees. He depends on Langham books to help him in his ministry. **Please pray for** Claude Allagbe, and others like him, who is studying to be a minister in Benin.

Felsted Church Away Day: Sat 4th Sept, 10am-6pm at Holy Cross, Felsted.

In the morning, talks from Ephesians 1 & 2 by Lee Gatiss (Church Society, author & speaker) and creche & children’s groups. Bring your own picnic lunch. Choice of swimming, country walk or tennis in the afternoon. Finishing with a BBQ. £5 a head or £20 family ticket – please book via www.felstedchurch.org.uk.

Bible Reading Group: The readings for Tuesday, 17th August will be Psalms 127-128, John 6:1 - John 11:57, Proverbs 29:1 - 29:29. 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)

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/hellofosm. You will also be entered into a draw for £100. The closing date is 31st August 2021.