



St Michael's Boldmere

## 1st December 2019 Advent Sunday

St Michael's Church is a Christian community in Boldmere where people of every: ability, age, capacity, ethnicity, faith, gender, neurodiversity and sexuality know that all of us are welcome. We won't always get this right, but together we can walk the way of Jesus – which is love, grace, mercy, forgiveness, reconciliation and peace.

**#loveYOUR  
NEIGHBOUR**

**do something kind today**

[loveyourneighbour.org](http://loveyourneighbour.org)

Some notes that might help you:

Whenever you are invited to stand please feel free to remain seated if this is more comfortable for you.

We have a Loop System. If you have a hearing aid with a 'T' setting, simply switch it to 'T'

Please do stay after the service and coffee, tea, squash, biscuits are available in the South Aisle.

Children @ 10.30 Service

Today our children and young people go out to their groups.

Upper Stairs Upper Room FLOK (reception—Year 5)

Downstairs West Room SW:EETS (years 6-9) inclusive)

South Aisle Saints for preschool children and their parents/ carers.

## Diary for the week

The Office will be closed this week

### Monday 2nd December

9.00 am Morning Prayer in the Epiphany Chapel  
7.00 pm Choir Practice

### Tuesday 3rd December

9.00 am Morning Prayer in the Epiphany Chapel

### Wednesday 4th December

9.00 am Morning Prayer in the Epiphany Chapel  
9.00 am—11.30 A place of Welcome in the Church Hall  
10.30 am Holy Communion the Church Hall

### Thursday 5th December

9.00 am Morning Prayer in the Epiphany Chapel  
9.45 am Little Lights in the South Aisle  
2.00 pm Knit and Natter in the Powell Rm Church Hall

### Friday 6th December

9.00 am Morning Prayer in the Epiphany Chapel  
Setting up Christmas Trees

### Saturday 7th December - Christmas Tree Festival

8:30 am - 4:30 pm  
Breakfast Café 8:30 am - 11:30 am  
Tea / Coffee Shop 11:30 am - 4:30 pm

### Sunday 8th December -Christmas Tree Festival

2:00 pm - 4:30 pm With Tea / Coffee Shop

### Matthew's Nativity Narratives in Reverse for Advent 2019

Beginning in Advent the Church of England focuses on Matthew's Gospel in the lectionary readings for the coming year. This year I thought that it would be interesting to explore Matthew's nativity narratives during Advent at the 9.00am Communion service. To add a bit of spice to this, we will be looking at them in reverse. The schedule is below:

Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	Massacre of the innocents Matthew 2:16-18
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Exile and return Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23
Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Adoration of the Magi Matthew 2:1-12
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December	Birth of Jesus Matthew 1:18-25

Rev'd Gary Birchall

## **Collect**

God the Father, help us to hear the call of Christ the King and to follow in his service, whose kingdom has no end; for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit one God, one glory. Amen

## ***First Reading- Isaiah 2:1-5***

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples;

they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

## **Gospel Reading - Matthew 2:16-18**

When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

"A voice was heard in Ramah,

wailing and loud lamentation,

Rachel weeping for her children;

she refused to be consoled, because they are no more."

## Dates for December

### **Saturday 7th December**

8.30 - 4.30 Christmas Tree festival  
8.30 -11.30 Parish Breakfast

### **Sunday 8th December**

#### **Gift of Toys Services at 9.00 & 10.30**

2.-4.30 pm Christmas Tree festival  
6.00pm Holy Communion with Prayer of Examen

### **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December**

9.00 am Holy Communion  
10.30 am Morning Worship Nativity service  
6.00 pm Advent Service of Light

### **Saturday 21st December**

3.00 pm Nativity parade

### **Sunday 22nd December**

9.00 am Holy communion  
10.30 am Morning Worship with Holy Communion  
4.00 pm Carol Service

### **24<sup>th</sup> December**

Christingle Making  
4.00 pm Crib Service  
11.30 pm Midnight Communion

### **25<sup>th</sup> December**

9.00 am Holy Communion  
10.30 am Christingle Service

**Sunday 29th December** Holy Communion 10.00am

## **Looking for the Light in Troubled Times' A Time of Reflection for Advent**

We live in perplexing and difficult times. One of the principal themes of Advent is that of hope, what does that mean for the times in which we live? During Advent there will be an opportunity at St. Michael's to explore together what the advent hope might mean for us today through reflecting on the famous first chapter of St. John's Gospel traditionally read at Midnight Communion on Christmas Eve. We will reflect on the promises of scripture and pray together as we look for the light.

Anyone welcome! We will meet at the home of David & Jane Newsome 36, Highbridge Road, Boldmere, B73 5QB from 7.30-9pm on:

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December:

Light Coming into the World –

*What does Christmas really mean?*

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December

Power to become Children of God –

*How does Christmas Change Anything?*

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December

The Light Shines in the Darkness –

*How do we Find Hope in Dark Times?*

David & Jane Newsome

**If you are intending to come, it would help in terms of numbers if you could let us know please on: 0121 354 9203 or 07981 753084**



**Come to the Boldmere  
Christmas Tree Festival  
at St Michael's Church**

A combined Community  
and St Michael's Church project.

**Saturday 7th December**

**8:30 am - 4:30 pm**

Breakfast Café 8:30 am - 11:30 am

Tea / Coffee Shop 11:30 am - 4:30 pm

**Sunday 8th December**

**2:00 pm - 4:30 pm**

With Tea / Coffee Shop

**All of us are welcome**

## **PARISH BREAKFAST**

The next Breakfast will be on

**Saturday 7th December, in the South Aisle.**

**As part of the Christmas Tree Festival**

For the early birds, we start serving at 8.30 a.m. and continue throughout the morning. Come and enjoy a breakfast of your choice. Full English, Continental or just tea and toast. From 10.30 a.m. onwards we shall also be serving coffee and cakes. Also on sale will be a wonderful selection of cakes, Christmas gifts, paper and cards



**A BIG**

**THANK YOU**

**TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED  
IN SO MANY DIFFERENT WAYS  
TO MAKE A SUCCESS OF**

**'THE 2019 CHRISTMAS MARKET'**

**AND TO HELP RAISE THE GRAND  
TOTAL OF**

**£4165.37**

## **Men's Night**

"A date for your diary men of St Michaels.

Following our previous enjoyable "meeting" we've arranged to meet again on

**Monday 9th December at 8.00pm at the Bishop Vesey.**

Pete has now come through his replacement hip operation successfully and has started his recuperation, as a first target he's hoping he may even be fit enough to join us. If he makes it he may buy everyone a celebratory drink, but don't bank on it, it may give him a relapse!

Look forward to us meeting up again.

Pete & Paul"

## **2020 Stewardship Envelopes**

New Stewardship Envelopes, which start from 1st December 2019, are ready for collection at the back of church for all Church members who kindly donate via the Stewardship Envelope Scheme. If you have any questions or queries please speak to Edwina Connell on 0771 7239904

## **Walk don't run**

It's wonderful that people of all ages are part of the church community at St Michael's. One thing that I have learnt is the importance of walking in church rather than rushing about. This is one of the few 'rules' that I have for visitors to the church. Walk don't run. For everyone to be safe and to avoid accidents I would like to ask everyone to observe this within the church building and to take responsibility for those in their care.



## **Raise Money for St Michaels - whilst shopping.**

We've registered with easyfundraising and we need your help! easyfundraising is a great website where you can help St Michaels Church Boldmere raise funds simply by doing your everyday online shopping with over 4,000 big name retailers like Amazon, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, Booking.com, eBay, Boden, and M&S.

Every time you shop, we receive a small donation to say 'thank you' and it's completely free too! We want to raise as much as possible so please sign up and help us at <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmichaelschboldmere/>

## **~ A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY ~**

SUTTON COLDFIELD COMMUNITY CHOIR will be holding its annual Christmas Concert here at St Michael's on **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30 p.m.** Tickets are £9, which includes a drink, a mince pie and entry into the **Prize Draw**. As in previous years, this is a fund-raising concert, and all money raised will be donated to the Choir's chosen charity of the Year, *Little Hearts Matter*, a Birmingham-based charity which supports families of children born with a single heart ventricle (find out more on their website)

Come along and enjoy a programme of Christmas songs to suit all ages and tastes!

Tickets available from Liz Carr 354 3769

## **An Audio Visual Journey**

Over a hundred people came on the 14th Annual AV Journey and were entertained by an evening of Audio Visual programmes by Malcolm Imhoff and friends from Sutton Coldfield Photography Club, with a fish and chip supper in the interval. All proceeds are going to **Macmillan Cancer Support** and at the time of writing have reached a record **£1517**.

Any more donations gratefully received!

A big Thank You to all the willing helpers from St Michaels to make the occasion go smoothly.

Tickets always sell out a month before the event, so if you missed it, next year's AV Journey will be on Friday 20th November 2020.

## **Autumn Evening Services at St Michael's**

8<sup>th</sup> December      Holy Communion with Prayer of Examen

15<sup>th</sup> December     Advent Service of Light

22<sup>nd</sup> December     Carol Service at 4.00pm

We are still collecting for the Aston and Nechels food bank. Items that the Foodbank most need at present. are:

Tinned fruit   Tinned vegetables   Coffee  
Fruit juice (carton), Squash   Tinned meat   Tinned fish  
Milk (long-life or powdered)  
Pasta sauce (jar)   Tinned rice pudding  
Tinned tomatoes   Instant mashed potato  
Toilet rolls   Hand soap, Toothpaste/toothbrushes  
Feminine hygiene products, Deodorants  
Nappies  
Chocolate/snacks

There is a box at the back of church for your donations.

## ***Sunday's Services— 8th December - Toy Services***

### **9.00 am Holy Communion**

Warden: **Needed**

Sidespeople: Liz Carr, Angela Grudzinski

Communion Assistants: Peter Edmonds.

Jan Peel, Mark Williamson

Intercessions: Peter Edmonds

Readers: Mark Edmonds, Rev'd Gary

AV: Andrew Sykes

Refreshments: John Davis. Vanessa Britton

### **10.30am Morning Worship**

Warden: Jude Leonard

Sidespeople. Mark Williamson, Kevin Dunnington

Intercessions: SW:EETS

Readers: SW:EETS

AV: Matt Lumley

Refreshments: Pat Wilson, Jan Peel

Readings       Romans 15:4-13  
                    Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23

### **6.00 pm Holy Communion with Prayer of Examen**

Warden: Ian Bowden

Sidespeople; Veronica Emms

Communion Assistants Liz Carr

If you are unable to make any of the dates, you are down for **please amend the large Service Team sheet that is on the wall at the back of church and contact someone else to replace you on that date.** If you have been unable to find a replacement then please contact your **team coordinator** as soon as possible.

## **Points of Contact**

**Vicar:** Rev Gary Birchall,  
Tel 354 4501– email revgary@stmichaels.org.uk  
(off Tuesdays)

**Curate:** Rev'd Cath Walker    Tel 07484 111614  
Email revcath@stmichaels.org.uk    day off Friday

**Associate Missioner:**

Rev'd Emma Sykes—revemmas@stmichaels.org.uk

**Children's and Families' Missioner:**

Jeanette Nicholls—cfm@stmichaels.org.uk

**Wardens:**

Judith Leonard    0121 373 0012  
Pete Swaine    07846 401334  
Email: wardens@stmichaels.org.uk

**Treasurer:** Rick Smart    0121 285 0482  
Email: treasurer@stmichaels.org.uk

**Stewardship Secretary :** Edwina Connell    07717 239904

**Church Office:** Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9.30am – 2.30pm  
Liz Claybrook, Parish Administrator- Tel: 373 0207.  
e-mail—liz.claybrook@stmichaels.org.uk

**St Michaels Church-**

**Church Road, Boldmere, Sutton Coldfield, B73 5RX**