



ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH, ALNWICK
18TH DECEMBER 2016. THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
The Blessed Virgin Mary

WELCOME!

A very warm welcome to St Michael's – especially if you are with us for the first time. Please do stay behind after the 9.30 and 11.15 am services for tea/coffee and a chat. If you receive Communion at your own church, you are invited to do so here or, if you would prefer, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing.

Large print books and a loop system are available.

This leaflet gives details of readings, services and other events in the near future – please take it home with you to read and then use as a reference for the coming days.

8.00 am HOLY COMMUNION, BCP

President and Preacher The Rev'd Julia Myles
Reader Hilary Atkin

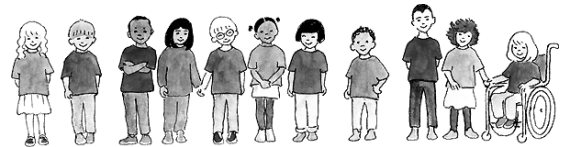
9.30 am PARISH EUCHARIST

Setting: Mass of St Thomas

President The Rev'd Canon Paul Scott

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Parents with babies and very small children are most welcome to take them to the Children's Corner (at the back of church) at any time. For older children, Junior Church is in the Parish Room.



INTROIT HYMN 35 Fling wide the gates, unbar the ancient doors

1ST READING Isaiah 7:10-16 Reader: Richard Dale
(Page 646 of the Old Testament in the pew Bible)

A young woman will give her son the name Immanuel, meaning 'God is with us'. Isaiah's words were meant as encouragement to King Ahaz in dangerous times, but for us they will always have the profound meaning fulfilled in Mary and the birth of Jesus.

2ND READING Romans 1:1-7 Reader: Emma Mavin
(Page 147 of the New Testament in the pew Bible)

On the last Sunday before Christmas Day, we hear a reminder from Paul of the content of the Good News: that prophecy is fulfilled, that Christ is born a son of David, that he died and rose again – and calls us into his company.

GRADUAL 815 Thy kingdom come, on bended knee

THE GOSPEL**Matthew 1:18-25***(Page 1 of the New Testament in the pew bible)*

Mary conceives a child by divine grace, and to the worried Joseph there appears a dreamlike messenger with strange words of assurance. This strange circumstance is safe in divine hands. '...and she will call her son Immanuel.'

SERMON**The Rev'd Julia Myles****PRAYERS****Intercessor Richard Allsop****OFFERTORY HYMN****811 Thou didst leave thy throne and thy kingly crown**

After the Offertory, the service continues with the Eucharistic Prayer which starts on page 9 of the Advent booklet

COMMUNION HYMN**452 Let all mortal flesh keep silence****CLOSING HYMN****394 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!****11.15 am LATE MORNING WORSHIP*****A gentle reflective service of Holy Communion, in the style of the Iona Community*****Leader Emma Mavin****President The Rev'd Canon Sue Allen****6.00 pm****CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT *See separate sheet*****FOR YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK****That, like Mary, we may all be 'God Bearers'****The people of Yemen and Aleppo****Expectant mothers****All who will come to Christmas worship at St Michael's****Alnwick & District Food Bank****WORSHIP AND EVENTS THIS WEEK**

Sun 18 th	12.45 pm 3.00 pm	Christmas Lunch in the Parish Hall <i>(now fully booked)</i> Alnwick & District Choral Society presents; <i>A Celebration of Christmas in Carols and Poetry</i> at St Paul's Church. Admission £10 at the door
Mon 19 th	10.30 am 2.00 pm	Advent with Isaiah at Park Cottage, Hulne Park Carol Concert at Abbeyfield House
Tues 20 th	1.00 pm	Funeral of Norman Pringle

Wed 21st	10.15 am 7.30 pm	Holy Communion Christmas nibbles, chat & craft at the home of Jane Brown <i>Please note change of venue and date</i>
Thurs 22 nd	11.30 am	Funeral of George Brewis
Fri 23 rd	9.30 am	In church we shall be prepping 150 Christingle oranges! Come for a chat and help make the production line faster!
Sat 24 th	4.00 pm 11.30 pm	Christmas Eve Christingle and Family Carols Midnight Mass



Next Sunday: 25th December

Christmas Day



8.00 am Holy Communion

Isaiah 52:7-10
Hebrews 1:1-4
John 1:1-14

(CW 26)
(CW 27)
(CW 28)

9.30 am Christmas Family Eucharist

Readings as for 8.00 am service

**Please note that a fortnight today – Sunday 1st January – there will only be one Act of Worship at St Michael's:
The Parish Eucharist at 10.00 am**

If you haven't already done so, please do take an **ADVENT COLLECTING CANDLE** home with you today and save your change for the Children's' Society. We look forward to receiving filled candles back to church at Candlemas



Anyone who finds that they might be alone on **CHRISTMAS DAY** will be very welcome to have lunch at the Vicarage with Jane and Paul. Please have a word with either – there will be plenty of room!

Thanks to all who helped with the **BIG CLEAN** on Friday – your efforts have made a real difference. This is an appropriate time also to say a special thank-you to Jean Goodfellow, who unfailingly cleans the loo to a high standard every week!



Don't forget, folks, that Sue Wiltshire keeps a supply of some of **TRAIDCRAFT** 'staples' at her home. If anyone wishes to purchase any of the following Sue would be happy to either bring things to church or pop something around to your home. Always available are: white/brown rice, ground coffee, decaffeinated tea bags, dried fruit, brazil and walnuts, castor, demerara and dark brown sugar, cocoa and hot chocolate, kitchen rolls and loo rolls.



FUTURE DIARY DATES – MAKE A NOTE OF THEM NOW

Mon 26 th	10.00 am	St Stephen Holy Communion
Tues 27 th	10.00 am	St John the Evangelist Holy Communion
Wed 28 th	10.15 am	The Holy Innocents Holy Communion
Sun 1 st Jan	10.00 am	The Naming of Jesus Parish Eucharist
Tues 3 rd Jan	9.30 am	Gateway Planning meeting in Parish Room
Thurs 5 th Jan	2.00 pm	Mission Group meeting at the home of Jean Darby
Wed 11 th Jan	2.00 pm	Mothers' Union meeting in church: <i>The Rev'd Julia Myles - Rome</i>
Thur 19 th Jan	11.00 am	Open House at Sue Wiltshire's in aid of the Gallery Youth Project, as part of our mission giving
Sat 21 st Jan	10.00 am	'Easter Comes Early' A day at Church House for those working with children in churches and schools. <i>For details, contact Judith Sadler</i>
23 rd Jan	2.00 pm	Pastoral Visitors at the Vicarage
28 th Jan	11.00 am	Messy Church in the Parish Hall



If you are a UK taxpayer, St Michael's can benefit to the tune of 25p for each £1.00 donated by Gift Aid. Please use the brown envelopes which you will find at the end of each pew. Thank you.

Vicar: The Rev'd Canon Paul Scott paulscott1957@btinternet.com
Curate: The Rev'd Julia Myles juliamyles@btinternet.com
Parish website: www.alnwickanglican.com

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