

Welcome to St Michael's Church, Alnwick

"All are welcome in this place"

**Sunday 1st December 2019
Advent Sunday**

A particular welcome if you are with us for the first time.
Please do stay behind after the 9.30 service today 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, to come forward for a blessing.

*Large print books are available, please ask a sidesperson.
We have a Loop System: please switch your hearing aid to the T position.*

8.00 am HOLY COMMUNION – in St Paul's Chapel

President and Preacher The Rev'd Gerard Rundell

9.30 am FIRST SUNDAY EUCHARIST
(with children and young people in church)

President
and Talk The Rev'd Gerard Rundell

HYMNS

28 Come and see the shining hope that Christ's apostle saw
27 Colours of day dawn into the mind
42 Longing for light, we wait in darkness
592 As the deer pants for the water
160 Make way, make way for Christ the King

1ST READING Isaiah 2:1-5 Reader: Emilia Grimes
(Page 641 of the Old Testament in the pew Bible)

The Bible tells us much about God's past dealings with his people. All our readings in the Advent Season speak of the future in God's ultimate will. Even for Isaiah, in turbulent times, there is expectancy and the hope of peace, when all people shall come together to worship the one who comes to us in holiness.

2ND READING Romans 13:11-14 At 8.00 am only
(Page 158 of the New Testament in the pew Bible)

Isaiah and all Israel expected a new age of the Messiah. For Paul's readers, as for us, the new time has come – not yet in its fullness, but begun in the coming of Jesus Christ. Our behaviour must therefore be suitable to these decisive times, nearer every day to the Christ who will come again.

THE GOSPEL**Matthew 24:36-44***(Page 26 of the New Testament in the pew Bible)*

In this new church year, the Gospel on most Sundays will be from that of Matthew. Here, Jesus has some warnings for his disciples about the final coming of the Son of Man. His kingdom will mean a separation between those who are expectant and those left unprepared. God may refuse those who eternally refuse him.

6.00 pm SUNG EVENSONG (BCP, 1662)

Readings: Isaiah 52:1-12
Page 693 of the Old Testament in the pew Bible)
Matthew 24:15-28
(Page 26 of the New Testament in the pew Bible)

Reader Rosie Buxton**Officiant and Preacher The Rev'd Canon Paul Scott****Hymns**

35	Fling wide the gates, unbar the ancient doors
Psalm	9 verses 1-8 <i>Page 354 of the small Prayer Book</i>
51	The Lord will come and not be slow
723	Loved with everlasting love
57	Ye servants of the Lord

WORSHIP AND EVENTS THIS WEEK

Tues 3rd	3.00 pm	Advent Course 'Journeying with the Wise Men'
	7.00 pm	St Michael's Indoor Bowls Club in Parish Hall
Wed 4 th	10.15 am	Holy Communion at St Michael's C of E Primary School
	7.30 pm	Craft night at the home of Michelle Duff
Thurs 5th	9.30 am	Mini Michaels in church
	1.00 pm	'Places of Welcome' at the Community Centre
	7.30 pm	Advent Course 'Journeying with the Wise Men'
Fri 6 th	7.30 pm	Royal Northern Sinfonia concert in church: 'Christmas by Candlelight'

Next Sunday 8th December. The Second Sunday of Advent

8.00 am	Holy Communion	Isaiah 11:1-30	CW 6
		Romans 5:4-13	CW 7
		Matthew 3:1-12	CW 8
9.30 am	Parish Eucharist		
11.15 am	Later Morning Worship		
6.00 pm	Sung Evensong (BCP, 1662)	1 Kings 18:17-39	
		John 1:19-28	

FOR YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

- That, as Advent begins, our hearts may be full of anticipation
- All who work for justice & peace
- Our Advent Course – ‘Journeying with the Wise Men’
- Generosity towards our Advent Appeal for St. Michael’s School
- Our Cathedral Church of St. Nicholas & its Patronal Festival on Saturday

It's Advent and the POSADA will be making its way around the houses of Alnwick. Some of our Mini Michael's parents have already signed up to host the Holy Family on a journey around the town leading up to Christmas Eve. If you can take them overnight, please sign up for a date on the sheet at the back of church and leave a contact number to arrange the handover!



We have **REAL ADVENT CALENDARS** for sale at the back of church. Priced at £3.99 they enable us to share and celebrate the true meaning of Christmas. If you'd like one, please collect and leave your money in the box beside the calendars which are at the back of church.

During Advent please do take the opportunity to spend some more time in reflection, prayer and discussion with the Advent group **JOURNEYING WITH THE WISE MEN**. We will take inspiration from the Magi, and spend time considering how prayer inspires and sustains our action. Details – Tuesdays at 3.00 pm and Thursdays at 7.30 pm - are on the Notice Board and fliers which are available at the back of church.

Next Sunday, 8th December, during the course of the Parish Eucharist we will dedicate the newly installed **ROBERTSON MEMORIAL** and re-hallow the recently restored **ROBERTSON WINDOW**.

We look forward to hosting another **CHRISTMAS BY CANDLELIGHT** concert given by the Royal Northern Sinfonia Orchestra here in St Michael's at 7.30 pm this coming Friday (6th December). Tickets are already selling incredibly quickly so please see Pat Tweed as soon as possible to secure your seat!

Our Choir are now preparing for our '**CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT**' on 22nd December at 6.00pm. Because of retirements and ill health, we're particularly short of men's voices – but ladies are equally welcome. If you are able to read music at sight and could attend a couple of rehearsals beforehand we'd be delighted to hear from you. Please have a word with Enid Brown, Vivienne Graves or Jean Firth Thank You.

The new **GATEWAY** (December/January edition) is now available at the back of church, together with the **DECEMBER PARISH PRAYER DIARY**.

This year we hope to help our Church School via an **ADVENT APPEAL**. There is currently a shortage of books for children to take home each evening. We hope to be able to remedy this by inviting members of St Michael's to sponsor a book – or books – at a cost of £5.00 each. Appeal Envelopes will be available all through Advent. Please help if you can.

CRAFT NIGHT at the home of Michelle Duff will be on Wednesday 4th December at 7:30. We will be making Christmas crackers., all materials provided but please bring your own novelty 2"x1" dimension (please note that we are trying to avoid plastic). Mulled wine and mince pies provided, bring your own Christmas cheer! Telephone Michelle for further information.

Congratulations to the winners in the **NOVEMBER PARISH HALL DRAW**. They are: £20 no 18 – Henry Playle; £10 No.32 D. Ramsay; £5 No 22 Anne Harrison

CLAIRE MEAD IS MOVING TO PASTURES NEW! Claire will be leaving Alnwick later this month to take up a post as Children and Families Mission Leader at Bishop Auckland Parish. Her last service here will be at 11.15 am on 15th December. We wish Claire every blessing in her exciting new post.

FUTURE DIARY DATES – MAKE A NOTE OF THEM NOW

Sun 8 th Dec	9.30 am	Dedication of Robertson Memorial and re-hallowing of Robertson window.
Wed 11 th Dec	10.15 am	Mothers' Union Deanery Advent Service in Church
	6.30 pm	Alnwick Civic Carol Service in Church
Thurs 12 th	1.00 pm	Alnwick Church of England Educational Charity: Meeting of Trustees in the Parish Room. St Michael's Bowls Club Christmas Lunch
Sun. 15 th	12.30 pm	Christmas Lunch in the Parish Hall
	4.00 pm	Carols at Denwick Chapel

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

Curate: The Rev'd Gerard Rundell

Parish website: www.alnwickanglican.com

**For enquiries about The Parish Hall,
please telephone Mariana on 07424272903 or email**

The Parish of St Michael & St Paul is a Registered Charity, No. 1131297