

# Welcome to St Michael's Church, Alnwick

**"All are welcome in this place"**

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2019  
The Third Sunday of Advent**

A particular welcome if you are with us for the first time.  
Please do stay behind after the 9.30 and 11.15 am services 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, BCP – in St Paul's Chapel**

President & Preacher The Rev'd Gerard Rundell  
Reader Win Nicol

**9.30 am PARISH EUCHARIST** *Setting: Thorne – Mass of St Thomas*

INTROIT HYMN 394 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord

President The Rev'd Gerard Rundell

**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.*



**1ST READING** Isaiah 35:1-10 Reader: Pat Taylor

*Page 673 of the Old Testament in the Pew Bible*

Today's Gospel refers to this prophecy. Isaiah's poetry speaks of a world transformed when prisoners are freed, the sick healed, the hungry fed, and all nature bursts with life, as God in person comes to save.

**2ND READING** James 5: 7-10 Reader: Cath. McNally

*Page 228 of the New Testament in the Pew Bible*

We know from the Old Testament how the Jews longed for the Lord's coming, and we know Christ has come, Christ will come again. James urges us never to despair or lose faith in this time of waiting.

**GRADUAL** 36 Hark the glad sound, the Saviour comes

**THE GOSPEL****Matthew 11:2-11***Page 10 of the New Testament in the Pew Bible*

The friends of John the Baptist had expected their Messiah to come with political power, but for them and for us, the evidence of Christ's presence is found in our individual lives as he comes constantly to transform us.

**SERMON**

The Rev'd Gerard Rundell

**PRAYERS**

Intercessor Richard Allsop

**OFFERTORY HYMN**

45

O come, O come Emmanuel

*After the Offertory, the service continues with Eucharistic Prayer which starts on page 8 of the Advent booklet*

**COMMUNION HYMN**

470

We come to this your table, Lord

**CLOSING HYMN**

805

There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son

**11.15 am LATER MORNING WORSHIP WITH HOLY COMMUNION**

Leader &amp; Talk

The Rev'd Canon Sue Allen

President

The Rev'd Gerard Rundell

12.30 pm

St Michael's Christmas Lunch in the Parish Hall

4.00 pm

**CAROLS AT DENWICK****6.00 pm SUNG EVENSONG (BCP, 1662)**

Readings:

Isaiah 5:8-30

*Page 644 of the Old Testament in the pew Bible)*

Acts 13: 13-41

*(Page 128 of the New Testament in the pew Bible)*

Reader

Susan Trafford

Officiant and Preacher

John Cooke

Hymns

50

The advent of our King

Psalm

12 *Page 358 in the small prayer book*

30

Come, thou long-expected Jesus

451

Just as I am, without one plea

24

The day thou gavest, Lord, is ended

**WORSHIP AND EVENTS THIS WEEK**Tues 17<sup>th</sup>

10.15 am

Funeral of Betty Taylor

3.00 pm

Advent Group 'Journeying with the Wise Men'

Wed 18<sup>th</sup>      10.15 am    **Holy Communion**  
                   12.00 pm    In the Parish Room:  
    Active Listening workshop with Patty Everitt

Thurs 19<sup>th</sup>      9.30 am    Mini Michaels in church  
                   1.00 pm    'Places of Welcome' at the Community Centre,  
    Howling Lane  
                   2.00 pm    St Michael's C of E Primary School Carol Service  
                   3.30 pm    Apple Blossom Nursery nativity in church  
                   7.30 pm    Advent Group 'Journeying with the Wise Men'

Saturday 21st    11.00 am    Messy Christmas in church  
    2.00 pm to 5.00 pm    Christmas Cheer at 10 Allerburn Lea

**Next Sunday                    22<sup>nd</sup> December. The Fourth Sunday of Advent**

8.00 am    **Holy Communion**

Isaiah 7:10-16	CW 13
Romans 1:1-7	CW 14
Matthew 1:18-25	CW 14

9.30 am    **Parish Eucharist**

11.15 am    **Later Morning Worship**

6.00 pm    **Carols by Candlelight**

**FOR YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK**

- That we, in some small way, may help prepare the way of Christ
- Our Church School and especially our Advent Appeal
- Our newly elected Prime Minister, Government and Members of Parliament
- Those under severe financial pressure in the run-up to Christmas
- Those killed and injured in the New Zealand volcano eruption

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS**

We shall, as usual, be decorating the church for Christmas. If you are able to make a donation towards the flowers please see Enid Brown or Pat Taylor.

Many thanks

The POSADA is on its final week touring our town. There are still a few empty slots in the run up to Christmas. Do sign up if you can take it for a night!



Gerard and Karen warmly invite anyone who would like to come for some **CHRISTMAS CHEER** at their house, 10 Allerburn Lea, on Saturday 21st December, from 2.00-5.00pm. Please drop in for a mince pie and a bit of mulled wine, they'd love to see you!

An appeal for someone with computer skills. We need someone to take over looking after our **PARISH WEBSITE**. Emma Mavin has kindly done this for a long time but, with her removal to Edinburgh, would like to pass this on to someone living locally. It's not an onerous task and Emma is happy to give some tuition. Please have a word with Paul if you might be able to help.

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Many thanks to all who have already contributed to our **ADVENT APPEAL** for books for our Church School. If you would like to help sponsor a book (or books) at £5.00 each, please place your donation in a white appeal envelope and leave it in the basket near the font. Thank you.

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We have been contacted through the Community Centre by a group who are planning to give special **CHRISTMAS EVE FOOD PARCELS** to those in need. They would very much appreciate help with collecting food from supermarkets, bagging at the Community Centre, or delivering to the homes identified for help. If you think you can offer this act of kindness over Christmas, please speak to Gerard for more details.

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**CHRISTINGLE MAKING TEAM NEEDED.** Monday 23rd December, 10.00 am in church. Please come and help many hands make light work of making 130 Christingles, in a festive atmosphere with seasonal Refreshments. Accompanied children and all adults are very welcome. Sue Allen has details

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**FUTURE DIARY DATES – MAKE A NOTE OF THEM NOW**

Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10.00 am	Christingle-making in church
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	4.30 pm	Family Carols and Christingle
	11.30 pm	Midnight Mass
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup>		<b>Christmas Day</b>
	8.00 am	Holy Communion
	9.30 am	Christmas Parish Eucharist
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup>		St Stephen's Day
	10.00 am	Holy Communion

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](http://www.alnwickanglican.com)**

**For enquiries about The Parish Hall,  
please telephone Mariana on 07424272903 or email  
[bookstmichael@gmail.com](mailto:bookstmichael@gmail.com)**

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