

# Welcome to St Michael's Church, Alnwick

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



**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2019  
The Fourth 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 – in St Paul's Chapel**

President & Preacher The Rev'd Jane Scott  
Reader The Rev'd Canon Paul Scott

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

INTROIT HYMN 569 The kingdom of God is justice and joy

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 7:10-16 Reader: Dee Ramsay

*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: Richard Allsop

*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** 85 The angel Gabriel from heaven came

**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 Jane Scott**

**PRAYERS**                              **Intercessor    John Cooke**

**OFFERTORY HYMN**              **365 Let us build a house where love can dwell**

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

**COMMUNION HYMN**    **723 Loved with everlasting love**

**CLOSING HYMN**                  **811 Thou didst leave thy throne and thy kingly crown**

<b>11.15 am</b>	<b>LATER MORNING WORSHIP</b>
Leader	Annette Playle
Talk	The Rev'd Canon Dennis Winter

<b>6.00 pm</b>	<b>CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT</b>
	<i>See separate sheet</i>

**WORSHIP AND EVENTS THIS WEEK**

Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	10.00 am	Christingle-making in church
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup>		<b>Christmas Eve</b>
	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>		<b>St Stephen's Day</b>
	10.00 am	Holy Communion

## FOR YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

- That, like Joseph, we may show trust and commitment
- All who will attend Christmas worship over the next few days
- The homeless and all who work to help them
- All expectant mothers
- Those who will an empty space in our homes for the first time this Christmas

## Next Sunday      29<sup>th</sup> December. The First Sunday of Christmas

8.00 am    Holy Communion

Isaiah 63:7-9

CW 30

Hebrews 2:10-18

CW 31

Matthew 2:13-23

CW 32

9.30 am    Parish Eucharist

11.15 am Later Morning Worship

6.00 pm    Sung Evensong (BCP, 1662)      Isaiah 49:7-13;      Philippians 2:1-11

A huge thank-you to all who have contributed to our **ADVENT APPEAL** for books for our Church School. Through your amazing generosity a magnificent £460 has been raised to date. It's not too late to sponsor a book (or books) today at £5.00 each. It would be splendid to reach the £500 mark!

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.

**CHRISTINGLE MAKING** Team needed tomorrow (Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> 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



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

Wed 1 <sup>st</sup> Jan		The Naming of Jesus
	10.00 am	Holy Communion
Tues 7 <sup>th</sup> Jan	3.00 pm	Contemplative Prayer Group
Thurs 9 <sup>th</sup> Jan	9.30 am	Mini Michael's resumes
Tues 14 <sup>th</sup> Jan	7.30 am	P.C.C. meeting
Sat 18 <sup>th</sup> Jan		Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins
Sat 25 <sup>th</sup> Jan	11.00 am	Messy Church

Paul & Jane, Gerard, Karen, Theo & Phoebe send all the good folk of St Michael's the warmest of **CHRISTMAS GREETINGS** and **EVERY GOOD WISH FOR 2020**. Many thanks, too, for cards and messages of goodwill.

### A Prayer For Peace on Earth

O sweet child of Bethlehem,  
grant that we may share with all our hearts  
in this profound mystery of Christmas.

Put into our hearts this peace  
for which we sometimes seek so desperately  
and which you alone can give us,  
help us to know one another better,  
and to live as children of the same Father.  
Reveal to us also, your beauty holiness and purity.  
Awaken in our hearts love and gratitude  
for your infinite goodness.

Join us all together in your love  
and give us your heavenly peace.

Amen.



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  
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