

THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST MICHAEL, ALNWICK

‘ALL ARE WELCOME IN THIS PLACE’



Sunday, 26th February 2023

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

A warm welcome to our worship today.

We hope you will stay for tea/coffee after the 10.00am service.

The wearing of a mask is a personal choice in St Michael's

TODAY'S WORSHIP

8.30am Holy Communion

President : Reverend Robert Chavner Preacher : Annette Playle

10.00am Parish Communion

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Genesis 2 : 15 – 17; 3 : 1 - 7

Our readings at the beginning of Lent are all concerned with doing right or wrong, and knowing the difference. In the ancient tale of how evil came into the world, the first human beings in the Garden of Eden succumbed to temptation.

Matthew 4 : 1 – 11

In the first garden of the world, Eve could not resist the temptation to please herself and not God. When Jesus faced the temptation to bring in his kingdom by using the levers of worldly power, he was strong to resist. He always chose God's ways, not man's.

HYMNS 10.00am

806	There's a wideness in God's mercy
116	Be thou my guardian and my guide
702	Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us
121	Forty days and forty nights

For your prayers this week...

Lord God on this first Sunday in Lent, we remember the trials and temptations of your son Jesus Christ in his journey through the wilderness, and how he triumphed over all.

We think of the difficult journeys in life encountered by so many people in the world. We pray that in their different times of need, they may find discernment to see their way ahead, and strength to overcome whatever problems they face.

Lord God, we think of the troubled parts of the world, where there is so much suffering, where darkness prevails and where the light of the Lord seems so far away.

We pray for people whose humanity is denied by others; for those without homes and food; for those suffering from malnutrition, illness and disease; for those living in fear of war and conflict. On this first anniversary of the war in Ukraine, Lord hear the supplication of our afflicted hearts for the land and people of Ukraine, as they confront foreign aggression and invasion. Open the eyes of those who have been overtaken by a spirit of deception and violence, that they may be horrified by their works. Bless Ukraine with your gifts of liberty, peace, tranquility, and good fortune.

Lord God, we thank you for our neighbours, our friends and for the people around us with whom we work and share our daily lives. We thank you, for all the joys and blessings of family life. Forgive us when we quarrel and make us always ready to forgive one another. We pray for those who are lonely and for those who find it difficult to make friends or be accepted. Show us all what we can do to help, and teach us to be good neighbours and true friends.

We thank you Lord for your miracles of healing, and we pray for all who care for those in need. We pray for those we know or love who are ill or in special need at this time. We pray that your blessing may be upon them; and we pray that they may find encouragement and peace, that

their sorrows and concerns are transformed into comfort, and their loneliness into fellowship with you.

Jesus Christ, you are the Light of the World, a light which no darkness can quench. We remember before God those who have died. We pray for those who mourn and for those who still miss the companionship and care of loved ones.

We pray for us all as we journey through life, that the challenges of Lent and the assurances of Easter will bring us new strength and new purpose. You turn our darkness into light. In your light shall we see light. Amen.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Tuesday 28th

7.00pm St Michael's Bowls Club in the Parish Hall

Wednesday, 1st March

10.15am Holy Communion

Thursday, 2nd

9.30am Mini Michael's

12 noon Lent Lunch in St James's Church Hall

Sunday, 5th **THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT**

10.00am First Sunday Eucharist - 'Night Visitor'
President & Preacher : Reverend Canon Sue Allen

6.00pm Deanery Evensong

LOOKING AHEAD

Tuesday 7th

7.00pm St Michael's Bowls Club in the Parish Hall

7.00pm PCC Meeting – Parish Hall

Wednesday, 8th

10.15am Holy Communion

Thursday, 9th

9.30am Mini Michael's

12 noon Lent Lunch in St James's Church Hall

Please note that :

Sunday, 19th Mothering Sunday will be a First Sunday Eucharist

A message from :

'The Alnwick Homes for Ukraine Community Support Group'

Please note: the message below is being circulated in the hope that it will, at some point, come to the notice of someone who can help. Hosting

people in your home is not for everyone but if enough people can share the information below, hopefully there will be a good outcome. Thank you. *There are two urgent requests locally:*

- 1. Somewhere for a mother and two small children to stay in the area. If we cannot find somewhere by the end of February, they may have to return to Ukraine.*
- 2. Somewhere for a young man (28), the brother of someone who is already here, who is allowed to come to the UK because of family trauma.*

If you can help please contact Andrew Duff (07947 600779).

Our **Annual Parochial Church Meeting** will be held on **Sunday, March 26th** immediately after the 10am Parish Eucharist. New members are needed for the PCC. If you feel this is something you would like to be part of, there are forms at the back of church. Please take one. Any present member of the PCC will be happy to help if you have any questions.

March 9th is the date that **St. Michaels are hosting the Lent Lunch in St James's Church Hall**. If you are able to make soup, help on the day or contribute to the cost of ingredients please speak to Anne or Pat.

Christian Aid Week 14th - 20th May 2023

For the last two years a very successful plant stall has been held during this important week and the response to the request to grow whatever you feel able has been marvellous. So, once again, even if all you have is a warm windowsill, please can you plant a few seeds or grow a few cuttings to help towards this year's effort. The money raised during Christian Aid week is needed more than ever. Thank you, Sue Wiltshire

Churchwardens

Pat Taylor
☎ : 01665 603811

Anne Blades
☎ : 01665 602020

Parish Website: www.alnwickanglican.com

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 envelopes available at the back of church.
Thank you.

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