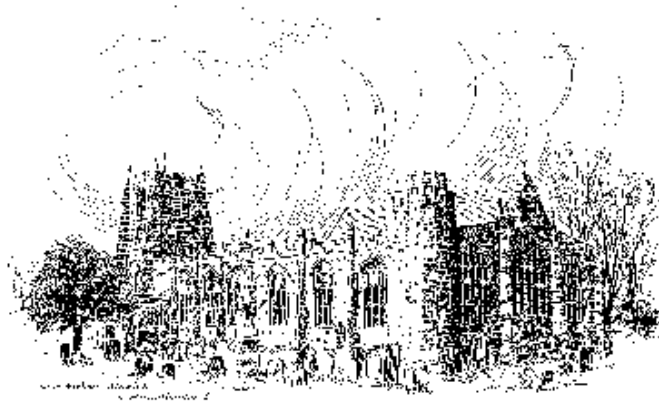


THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST MICHAEL, ALNWICK

‘ALL ARE WELCOME IN THIS PLACE’



Sunday, 26th March 2023
THE FIFTH 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 (BCP)
<i>President & Preacher : Reverend Alison Hardy, Area Dean</i> |
| 10.00am | Parish Communion
<i>President & Preacher : Reverend Alison Hardy, Area Dean</i> |

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting will take place after 10.00am service

Ezekiel 37 : 1 – 14

The thought of God-given new life pervades today's readings. At the time of Ezekiel's vision, Jerusalem was derelict and the land laid waste. He sees nothing but dried-up bones, until the breath of God – the Spirit of God – fills the valley with life. It is a sign that God will give new life to his people Israel.

John 11 : 1 – 45

This is a longer Gospel reading than usual so that we miss nothing of the extraordinary event at Bethany. God in Jesus does indeed bring new life, even to the dead, for he raises his friend Lazarus from the tomb.

HYMNS 10.00am

- | | |
|-----|--|
| 742 | O for a thousand tongues to sing my dear Redeemer's praise |
| 569 | The kingdom of God is justice and joy |
| 144 | How deep the Father's love for us |
| 594 | Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side |

For your prayers, in this Passion Week...

Lord Jesus Christ, as we remember your Passion and death for us, help us to understand how your sacrifice has set us free. The new covenant in your blood is our salvation and our hope; let us rejoice in it, and share the good news.

We pray for all who follow our Lord, and remember his betrayal and suffering. Strengthen and guide churches, especially where they face persecution. Be with our leaders, giving them wisdom to direct church matters under your guidance. We pray for clergy who have recently joined our Deanery - Rich, in Felton, Longframlington and Whittingham; and Mitch, soon to join us here in Alnwick.

As the world then cared little for the life of an innocent man, so we pray for justice and peace. Give us social and political leaders of integrity, and help us to build a society which values all its people. Help those who struggle to find answers to the needs of the poor, the homeless and the refugees - and help us, where possible, to be part of the answer and to make the necessary sacrifices.

Have mercy on the desperate and despairing, whatever the causes of their troubles. Let those who see no future find hope and faith. Be with the sick, and those who care for them. Comfort the bereaved and receive those who have died into your eternal kingdom.

Lord God, we so easily make the Cross a badge or a symbol, but forget its

meaning. Help us to walk through the story once again, and to find the answer of your love to a world of need and distraction.

All these prayers, and our thoughts, we lay before you, Lord Jesus, our Strength and our Redeemer. Amen.

THE WEEK AHEAD

Monday 27th

10.00am Funeral of Sheila Vint

Tuesday 28th

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

Wednesday, 29th

10.15am Holy Communion

2.00pm School Easter Service Rehearsal

Thursday, 30th

9.30am Mini Michael's

12 noon Lent Lunch in St James's Church Hall

2.00pm School Easter Service

Sunday, 2nd April **PALM SUNDAY**

8.30am Holy Communion

President & Preacher : Reverend Canon Peter Askew

10.00am Parish Communion

President & Preacher : Reverend Canon Peter Askew

Those who are able please meet at Castle Barbican at 9.50am

6.00pm Deanery Evensong

LOOKING AHEAD

Wednesday, 5th

10.15am Holy Communion

Thursday, 6th **Maundy Thursday**

12 noon Lent Lunch in St James's Church Hall

7.30pm Eucharist with sermon *Reverend Canon Sue Allen*

Friday, 7th **Good Friday**

2.00pm An hour before the cross *Reverend Colin Perkins*

EASTER FLOWERS Contributions toward the purchase of flowers to decorate the church for Easter will be appreciated. Please give donations to Pat Taylor.

Thanks to our loyal team of stewards the church will be open each afternoon from Easter Sunday.

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