

# THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST MICHAEL, ALNWICK

## ‘ALL ARE WELCOME IN THIS PLACE’



### Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup> November 2023

### THE SECOND SUNDAY BEFORE ADVENT

A warm welcome to our worship today.  
We hope you will stay for tea/coffee after the 10.00am service.

#### TODAY'S WORSHIP

8.30am	<b>Holy Communion</b> <i>President : Reverend Mitch    Preacher : Annette Playle</i>
10.00am	<b>Parish Communion</b> <i>President : Reverend Mitch    Preacher : Annette Playle</i>
5.00pm	<b>Iona Style Evening Prayer</b> <i>Officiant : Sal Howard</i>

Gluten Free : If you would prefer to receive a gluten free wafer at communion, please advise one of the stewards on duty before the start of the service.
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READINGS	<b>Zephaniah 1 : 7, 12 - 18</b>
	<b>1 Thessalonians 5 : 1 - 11</b>
	<b>Matthew 25 : 14 - 30</b>

HYMNS	<b>10.00am</b>
648	God of grace and God of glory
595	Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart
546	O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
588	And can it be that I should gain

## FOR YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK...

Loving God, I offer my prayers for all people and their situations; for lives that are going through upheaval or distress; for circumstances which only you can change.

God of justice, I pray for peace in the world, for understanding between nations, religions and factions and for an end to old scores which remain unsettled. I especially pray for the peoples of the Middle East as the conflict continues; and for Christian, Muslim and Jew, that they may live alongside one another in mutual respect and harmony. I pray for hostages and their families and loved ones from whom they are separated. I pray too for fair shares and fair trade, and that the talents of the workers of the world are fairly rewarded. I pray for the Government of the United Kingdom - for stability, good leadership, and a collective conscience that attends to the needs and aspirations of all citizens.

Lord of the Church, I pray for the Church throughout the world, remembering those Christians in countries where their beliefs make them vulnerable and in danger. Uphold and strengthen all who are persecuted for their faith. I give thanks for St Michael's Church and I pray for all who make up our church-family. May we point the way to God's Kingdom in our community and welcome through our doors all who are seeking.

Generous God, I thank you for the gifts, talents and abilities you have given each of us, praying for a deeper understanding of how those talents can be used and shared within our church and the wider community. Set me free from the fear that can make me inward looking. Give me a renewed generosity with my time, my talents and my treasure. Give me a renewed concern for those who are struggling in our congregations and our communities. Give us all a renewed vision of what it is for us to be your Church, in this place, at this time.

Forgiving God, send your healing forgiveness to all who are suffering feelings of guilt, shame or regret. Help to mend broken relationships. Be with all who feel that, through advancing years or failing health, they cannot enjoy life as it used to be. May those who are learning to live a new pattern of life feel that you are walking beside them. I especially pray for the sick and suffering, and give you thanks for those who are on the road to recovery.

Merciful God, I remember those who have died, and pray for those who are bereaved. May the light of Christ which eternally shines bring hope to their dark places.

Gracious God, forgive me when I only turn to you when things trouble me and when I forget to thank you for your blessings and bounty. Help me to recognise all the wonderful things in your world for which I should be grateful, and enable me to show my gratitude in all that I do and say. **Amen.**

## THE WEEK AHEAD

### Tuesday, 21<sup>st</sup>

8.30am Morning Prayer  
10.00am Organ Tuning  
7.00pm St Michael's Bowls Club in the Parish Hall

### Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup>

10.15am Holy Communion *Reverend Mitch*  
4.00pm Pastoral Care Team meet in Parish Room

### Thursday, 23<sup>rd</sup>

8.30am Morning Prayer  
9.30am Mini Michaels

### Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup>

10.00am Winter Market

### Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> **CHRIST THE KING**

8.30am Holy Communion  
*President : Reverend Mitch Preacher : Sal Howard*  
10.00am Parish Communion  
*President : Reverend Mitch Preacher : Sal Howard*  
5.00pm Evening Prayer  
*Officiant : Reverend Mitch*

## LOOKING AHEAD

### Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup>

8.30am Morning Prayer  
7.00pm St Michael's Bowls Club in the Parish Hall

### Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup>

10.15am Holy Communion with St Michael's School  
*Reverend Mitch*

### Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup>

8.30am Morning Prayer  
9.30am Mini Michaels

**WHITE RIBBON SUNDAY** is a time for the church to mark the White Ribbon campaign to end male violence against women. This November WRS will especially remember and honour 108 victims killed in the UK in 2022. There will be a time of reflection held at **St Michael's and All Angels Church in Felton on Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 4.00pm** (this time of reflection is not suitable for children).

**ADVENT AWAY DAY** At St Bartholomew's Church, Whittingham on Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup> December, 10.00am - 4.00pm. There is no charge for the day just a donation towards the heating.  
Please see Annette Playle for more details.

**St Michael's Pastoral Care Team** This newly forming group will meet for the first time on Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> November at 4.00pm in the Parish Room. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Sue Allen.

## **CHRISTMAS FAYRE**

Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> November

2.00pm – 4.00pm

Salvation Army Hall

Hotspur Street

All welcome

You can now give on-line to the church by scanning this QR code, or you are welcome to use our new cashless machine at the back of church. Thanks for your support.



**The Reverend Christian Mitchell**

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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