

Please pray for Archbishop Justin, for Bishop Rose, Dean David and the Cathedral, and for the people and clergy of the diocese.

Diocesan Cycle of Prayer

A Prayer for Mothering Sunday adapted from St Anselm of Canterbury

Gather us now before you, O God, as a hen gathers her brood to protect them. Like a mother you gather your people to you; you are gentle with us as a mother with her children. As we meet today and follow your example, protect us, support us, and feed us with your unconditional love. Amen.

Anglican Communion:

The Episcopal Church

Bellringing

The weekly bellringing practice is at 7pm on Thursdays. If you would be interested in joining our merry band please speak to either Elizabeth or David.

There is a contactless card reader in St Michael's Church which can be used to make contributions to the Church in lieu of cash collections.

It simply involves selecting an amount to pay and tapping your card.

Payments may also be made using this QR code, so it is not necessary to attend in person to offer a gift to St Michael's Church.



The Middle East Crisis

The Archbishop of Jerusalem, Hosam Naoum has offered us this prayer:-

O God of all justice and peace, we cry out to you in the midst of the pain and trauma of violence and fear which prevails in the Holy Land. Be with those who need you in these days of suffering; we pray for people of all faiths – Jews, Muslims and Christians and for all people of the land. While we pray to you, O Lord, for an end to violence and the establishment of peace, we also call for you to bring justice and equity to the peoples. Guide us into your kingdom where all people are treated with dignity and honour as your children – for to all of us, you are our heavenly father. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.



PLACE OF WELCOME

**Wednesdays 11.15am to 1pm
All Welcome!**

Ministry Team

VICAR: The Revd David Ridley
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Curate: The Revd Karen Burgess
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Tel: 07394 980673

Honorary Assistant Priest
The Revd Pam Beckinsale

Ordinand in Training
Tracy Williams

Authorised Lay Minister
Elizabeth Sabine



St Michael, Sittingbourne

A very warm welcome from the parish of St Michael Sittingbourne. If you are visiting for the first time, we hope you feel at home among us.

Sunday 10th March 2024

Mothering Sunday

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Sunday:

10am Mothering Sunday Communion

6.30pm Choral Evensong

This Week:

Wednesday 13 March

10am Holy Communion

followed by refreshments

11.15am - 1pm 'Place of Welcome'

17pm Lent Study Group in The Vicarage

Thursday 14 March

12 noon *Ignite* - in St Michael's Church. Food, fun and fellowship. All very welcome. Bring a friend.

7pm Bellringing Practice

Friday 15 March

8.30am - 10am Breakfast Club

1pm *Key (Support) Group*

3pm Lent Group in Church House

7.45pm - 9pm Choir practice

Saturday 16 March

11am Music Recital in St Michael's Church. Doors open at 10.50am for tea and coffee. Retiring collection.

Lent 2024

Our Lent Course this year is a five-week course entitled 'Shapes for Living'.

We are meeting on Wednesday evenings at 7pm in The Vicarage and 3pm on Fridays in Church House. Please do join us.



Next Week:

Sunday 17 March

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Passion Sunday

10am Sung Eucharist

Tuesday 19 March

2pm Ladies' Fellowship

Wednesday 20 March

10am Holy Communion

followed by refreshments

11.15am - 1pm 'Place of Welcome'

1.30pm *Angels and Demons* Toddlers

7.30pm PCC in Church House

Thursday 21 March

12 noon *Ignite* - in St Michael's Church. Food, fun and fellowship. All very welcome. Bring a friend.

7pm Bellringing Practice

Friday 22 March

8.30am - 10am Breakfast Club

1pm *Key (Support) Group*

3pm Lent Group in Church House

7.45pm - 9pm Choir practice

Saturday 23 March

11am Music Recital in St Michael's Church. Doors open at 10.50am for tea and coffee. Retiring collection.



The next meeting of our pre-school group 'Angels and Demons' is on Weds 20 March at 1.30pm, and then meet fortnightly. Please invite friends and family. See details below:



'Angels and Demons!'

Stories, Songs, Prayer,
Games, Craft and Snacks

Alternate Weds 1.30pm-3pm

For Our Prayers

To be Baptised **Recently Baptised**

Finley Wakelen

To be Married

Jack Tickle and Lois Brown; Thomas Shaw and Racquel Lewin

Recently Married

Duane Askew and Rebecca Parrish;
Michael Woodhouse and Leanne Belson

Ill and Housebound

Frances Davis; Tom Mason; Rereoluwa; Justin

Died

Dorothy Eller; Stanley Light; Betty Vasellina; Tony Read

Year's Mind

Olive Naylor; Margaret Matthews

Breakfast Club

Our Friday morning Breakfast Club, serving tea, coffee and bacon butties is open from 8.30am - 10am.

All are very welcome. Please do pop in.

A prayer for Ukraine

(from Archbishops Justin and Stephen)

God of peace and justice, we pray for the people of Ukraine today. We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons. We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them. We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions. Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them. We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace. Amen



St Michael's Church now has a Foodbank Collection Point - a plastic bin near the entrance of the Church. They would particularly like to receive any of the following:

*Long-life Milk
Tinned Vegetables - potatoes, carrots, peas, sweetcorn
Jar Sauces - pasta, curry, chinese etc
Tinned Meats and Tinned Fish - any
Coffee; Tinned Fruit
Custard/Rice Pudding
Squash/Long-life Fruit Juice
Pot Noodles/Instant Snacks*



[www.facebook.com/
StMichaelsSittingbourne](https://www.facebook.com/StMichaelsSittingbourne)

Mothering Sunday

Exodus 2.1-10

A man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him for three months. When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him, and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. 'This must be one of the Hebrews' children,' she said. Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?' Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Yes.' So the girl went and called the child's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.' So the woman took the child and nursed it. When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and she took him as her son. She named him Moses, 'because', she said, 'I drew him out of the water.'

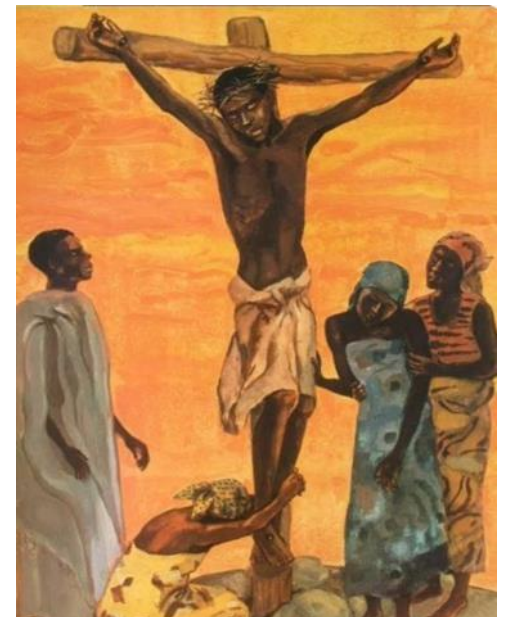
Colossians 3.12-17

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be

thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. .

John 19.25-27

Standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.



Ignite

*Every Thursday -
12 noon to 1.30pm
in St Michael's
Church*