

Welcome to the Parish of Rushall and the Churches of St. Michael the Archangel and Christ the King

Sunday 14th December is the Third Sunday of Advent
Services this week

Sunday Third Sunday of Advent	14 th	8am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
		9am	Holy Communion	Christ the King
		10.30am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
		4pm	CHRISTINGLE SERVICE	St. Michael's
Monday	15 th	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
Tuesday	16 th	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		9.30am	Holy Communion	Christ the King
		10am	Drop In	Christ the King
		1pm	Funeral	St. Michael's
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
Wednesday	17 th	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
Thursday	18 th	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
		10am	Drop In	St. Michael's
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
Friday	19 th		No services	
Saturday	20 th	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
Sunday Fourth Sunday of Advent	21 st	8am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
		9am	Holy Communion	Christ the King
		10.30am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
		4pm	CAROL SERVICE	St. Michael's

Services online

The Sunday 10.30am service at St. Michael's is streamed live on Facebook for those unable to attend in person.

Morning and Evening Prayer take place on Zoom on various days of the week: please contact us for the link if you wish to join us.

Our Christmas services begin this week with the Christingle service at 4pm on Sunday..

Readings for Holy Communion – 14th December

The Collect

O Lord Jesus Christ,
who at your first coming sent your messenger
to prepare your way before you:
grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries
may likewise so prepare and make ready your way
by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom
of the just,
that at your second coming to judge the world
we may be found an acceptable people in your sight;
for you are alive and reign with the Father
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

First Reading

Isaiah 35.1-10

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus² it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.

³Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
'Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you.'

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;

⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

⁸A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people;
no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray.

⁹No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.

¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

The choir will sing a version of the Magnificat

Second Reading *James 5.7-10*

⁷Be patient, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. ⁹Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.

Alleluia.

Gospel *Matthew 11.2-11*

²When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to Jesus, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' ⁴Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. ⁶And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.'

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is the one about whom it is written,
"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you."

¹¹Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.'

Prayer of preparation

As the grain once scattered in the fields and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside are now reunited on this table in bread and wine, so, Lord, may your whole Church soon be gathered together from the corners of the earth into your kingdom. **Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts;
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit
that when your Christ comes again
we may shine as lights before his face;
who is alive and reigns now and for ever.
Amen.

Next week:

Sunday	21 st	8am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
Fourth Sunday		9am	Holy Communion	Christ the King
Of Advent		10.30am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
		4pm	Carol Service	St. Michael's
Monday	22 nd	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
Tuesday	23 rd	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		9.30am	Holy Communion	Christ the King
		10am	Drop In	Christ the King
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
Wednesday	24 th	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
CHRISTMAS EVE		11.30pm	MIDNIGHT MASS	St. Michael's
Thursday	25 th	8am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
CHRISTMAS DAY		9am	Holy Communion	Christ the King
Friday	26 th		No services	
Saturday	27 th		No services	
Sunday	28 th	8am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
First Sunday of		9am	Holy Communion	Christ the King
Christmas/		10.30am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
Holy Innocents		6.30pm	Evening Prayer	St. Michael's