

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

**Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> February is the Sunday next before Lent**  
**Services this week**

The Sunday Next before Lent	15 <sup>th</sup>	8am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
		9am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
		10.30am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
		6.30pm	Evening Prayer	St. Michael's
Monday	16 <sup>th</sup>	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		3pm	Chavasse Trustees	tbc
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
Tuesday	17 <sup>th</sup>	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
ASH WEDNESDAY	18 <sup>th</sup>	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		7.30pm	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
Thursday	19 <sup>th</sup>	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
		10am	Drop In	St. Michael's
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
Friday	20 <sup>th</sup>		No services	
Saturday	21 <sup>st</sup>	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
First Sunday of Lent	22 <sup>nd</sup>	8am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
		9am	Holy Communion	Christ the King
		10.30am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
		6.30pm	Evening Prayer	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.

With Lent starting on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> there will be pancakes in the church hall after the 10.30am service.

Sung Holy Communion with the imposition of ashes will be held at 7.30pm on Wednesday evening.

## Readings for Holy Communion – 15<sup>th</sup> February

### The Collect

Almighty Father,  
whose Son was revealed in majesty  
before he suffered death upon the cross:  
give us grace to perceive his glory,  
that we may be strengthened to suffer with him  
and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

### First Reading

*Exodus 24.12-18*

<sup>12</sup>The LORD said to Moses, 'Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.' <sup>13</sup>So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup>To the elders he had said, 'Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them.'

<sup>15</sup>Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. <sup>16</sup>The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. <sup>17</sup>Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel.

<sup>18</sup>Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

### Psalm 2

#### **R: Happy are all who take refuge in him**

1 Why are the nations in tumult,  
and why do the peoples devise a vain plot?

2 The kings of the earth rise up,  
and the rulers take counsel together,  
against the Lord and against his anointed:

3 'Let us break their bonds asunder  
and cast away their cords from us.' **R**

4 He who dwells in heaven shall laugh them to scorn;  
the Lord shall have them in derision.

5 Then shall he speak to them in his wrath  
and terrify them in his fury:

6 'Yet have I set my king  
upon my holy hill of Zion.' **R**

7 I will proclaim the decree of the Lord;  
he said to me: 'You are my Son; this day have I begotten you.  
8 'Ask of me and I will give you the nations for your inheritance  
and the ends of the earth for your possession.  
9 'You shall break them with a rod of iron  
and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.' **R**  
10 Now therefore be wise, O kings;  
be prudent, you judges of the earth.  
11 Serve the Lord with fear, and with trembling kiss his feet,  
lest he be angry and you perish from the way,  
for his wrath is quickly kindled.  
12 Happy are all they  
who take refuge in him. **R**

**Second Reading**                      *2 Peter 1.16-21*

<sup>16</sup>We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. <sup>17</sup>For he received honour and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, 'This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'  
<sup>18</sup>We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

<sup>9</sup>So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. <sup>20</sup>First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, <sup>21</sup>because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia.  
Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening.  
You have the words of eternal life. **Alleluia.**

**Gospel**                                      *Matthew 17.1-9*

<sup>1</sup>Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. <sup>2</sup>And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. <sup>3</sup>Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. <sup>4</sup>Then Peter said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.' <sup>5</sup>While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!' <sup>6</sup>When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. <sup>7</sup>But Jesus came and touched them, saying, 'Get up and do not be afraid.' <sup>8</sup>And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.  
<sup>9</sup>As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, 'Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.'

### **Prayer of preparation**

Blessed be God,  
who feeds the hungry,  
who raises the poor,  
who fills our praise.

**Blessed be God for ever.**

### **Post Communion Prayer**

Holy God,  
we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ:  
may we who are partakers at his table  
reflect his life in word and deed,  
that all the world may know his power to  
change and save.  
This we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### **Readings for Evensong**

#### **Psalm 84**

**R: How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts**

1 How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!  
My soul has a desire and longing to enter the courts of the Lord;  
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God. **R**

2 The sparrow has found her a house  
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young:  
at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. **R**

3 Blessed are they who dwell in your house:  
they will always be praising you.

4 Blessed are those whose strength is in you,  
in whose heart are the highways to Zion, **R**

5 Who going through the barren valley find there a spring  
and the early rains will clothe it with blessing.

6 They will go from strength to strength  
and appear before God in Zion. **R**

7 O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer;  
listen, O God of Jacob.

8 Behold our defender, O God,  
and look upon the face of your anointed.

9 For one day in your courts  
is better than a thousand.

10 I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God  
than dwell in the tents of ungodliness. **R**

11 For the Lord God is both sun and shield;  
he will give grace and glory;  
no good thing shall the Lord withhold  
from those who walk with integrity.

12 O Lord God of hosts,  
blessed are those who put their trust in you. **R**

**First Reading**                      *Ecclesiasticus 48.1-10*

<sup>1</sup>Then Elijah arose, a prophet like fire,  
and his word burned like a torch.  
<sup>2</sup>He brought a famine upon them,  
and by his zeal he made them few in number.  
<sup>3</sup>By the word of the Lord he shut up the heavens,  
and also three times brought down fire.  
<sup>4</sup>How glorious you were, Elijah, in your wondrous deeds!  
Whose glory is equal to yours?  
<sup>5</sup>You raised a corpse from death  
and from Hades, by the word of the Most High.  
<sup>6</sup>You sent kings down to destruction,  
and famous men, from their sickbeds.  
<sup>7</sup>You heard rebuke at Sinai  
and judgements of vengeance at Horeb.  
<sup>8</sup>You anointed kings to inflict retribution,  
and prophets to succeed you.  
<sup>9</sup>You were taken up by a whirlwind of fire,  
in a chariot with horses of fire.  
<sup>10</sup>At the appointed time, it is written, you are destined  
to calm the wrath of God before it breaks out in fury,  
to turn the hearts of parents to their children,  
and to restore the tribes of Jacob.

**Second Reading**                      *Matthew 17.9-23*

<sup>9</sup>As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, 'Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.' <sup>10</sup>And the disciples asked him, 'Why, then, do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?' <sup>11</sup>He replied, 'Elijah is indeed coming and will restore all things; <sup>12</sup>but I tell you that Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him, but they did to him whatever they pleased. So also the Son of Man is about to suffer at their hands.' <sup>13</sup>Then the disciples understood that he was speaking to them about John the Baptist.  
<sup>14</sup>When they came to the crowd, a man came to him, knelt before him, <sup>15</sup>and said, 'Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and he suffers terribly; he often falls into the fire and often into the water. <sup>16</sup>And I brought him to your disciples, but they could not cure him.' <sup>17</sup>Jesus answered, 'You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you? How much longer must I put up with you? Bring him here to me.'  
<sup>18</sup>And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him, and the boy was cured instantly.  
<sup>19</sup>Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, 'Why could we not cast it out?' <sup>20</sup>He said to them, 'Because of your little faith. For truly I tell you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, "Move from here to there", and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.'  
<sup>22</sup>As they were gathering in Galilee, Jesus said to them, 'The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into human hands, <sup>23</sup>and they will kill him, and on the third day he will be raised.' And they were greatly distressed.

# **Ash Wednesday**



**Sung Eucharist with imposition of ashes**

**7.30pm**

**St. Michael the Archangel**

**Leigh Road**

## Lent groups

A change to our usual Lent groups this year:

**A pilgrim course** for those relatively new to church will be held on Wednesday evenings at 7pm in the church hall starting on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup>. Led by Bob and Jan the group is limited to 8 in total and there are only 2 places left; the list is at the back of church. The subject is "The Bible".

**Colin is offering an online discussion using Zoom.** Using five paintings by Caravaggio (one each week) we will discuss the texts on which the painting is based and other insights gained from details in the paintings themselves, the people who commissioned them and other surrounding details. Each session is a simple chat, the picture will be shared on the screen as will the Bible text (a desktop, laptop or tablet is probably better for this than a mobile phone). The same session will be offered on Monday evenings at 7.15pm and Wednesday afternoons at 3pm. No previous knowledge of the paintings (or the Bible text) is required and there will be plenty of time just to chat. Email Colin at [colinsuch01@gmail.com](mailto:colinsuch01@gmail.com) for the link for the meeting stating Monday or Wednesday.

**The members of the former "Ladies Group"** usually arrange a course, (Men who are brave enough are welcome too!) Details of what, where and when will be given once the decisions have been made.

## Next week:

First Sunday of Lent	22 <sup>nd</sup>	8am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
		9am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
		10.30am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
		6.30pm	Evening Prayer	St. Michael's
Monday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
		7.15pm	Lent reflection	Zoom
Tuesday	24 <sup>th</sup>	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
Wednesday	25 <sup>th</sup>	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		3pm	Lent reflection	Zoom
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
		7pm	Pilgrim Course	Church Hall
Thursday	26 <sup>th</sup>	8am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
		9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
		10am	Drop in	St. Michael's
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
Friday	27 <sup>th</sup>		No services	
Saturday	28 <sup>th</sup>	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
Second Sunday of Lent	1 <sup>st</sup>	8am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
		9am	Holy Communion	Christ the King
		10.30am	Seeker Service	St. Michael's
		6.30pm	Choral Evensong	St. Michael's

**Vicar:** Revd Colin Such Tel: 01922 624677 Email colinsuch01@gmail.com

**Safeguarding Officer:** Mrs Gill Clark Tel: 01922 624583

**Churchwardens:** Mr Bob Barnard Tel: 01922 624943 Mrs Jan Firth (Lay Reader) Tel: 01922 449089

**Lay Reader & Dementia Lead** Mrs Carol Beckwith Tel: 01922 648138

**To hire the hall:** Mrs Gill Clark Tel: 01922 624583. Email clagilli@aol.com

**Wedding Enquiries:** Mrs Glenys Barnard Tel: 01922 624943 Email glenysbarnard@btinternet.com