

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

Sunday 22nd February is the First Sunday of Lent
Services this week

The First Sunday of Lent	22 nd	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 rd	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
		7.15pm	Lent Discussion	Zoom
Tuesday	24 th	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
Wednesday	25 th	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		3pm	Lent Discussion	Zoom
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
		7pm	Pilgrim Course	St. Michael's
Thursday	26 th	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
		10am	Drop In	St. Michael's
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
Friday	27 th		No services	
Saturday	28 th	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
Second Sunday of Lent	1 st	8am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
		9am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
		10.30am	Seeker Service	St. Michael's
		6.30pm	Choral Evensong	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.

The first full week of Lent begins and our various Lent study and discussion groups also begin.

Readings for Holy Communion – 22nd February

The Collect

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the
wilderness,
and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:
give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to
your Spirit;
and, as you know our weakness,
so may we know your power to save;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

First Reading

Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7

¹⁵The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.

¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, 'You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.'

¹Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God say, "You shall not eat from any tree in the garden"?' ²The woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; ³but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die."' ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not die; ⁵for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.' ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

Psalm 32

R: Forgive me, Lord, the guilt of my sin

1 Happy the one whose transgression is forgiven,
and whose sin is covered.

2 Happy the one to whom the Lord imputes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there is no guile. **R**

3 For I held my tongue;
my bones wasted away
through my groaning all the day long.

4 Your hand was heavy upon me day and night;
my moisture was dried up like the drought in summer. **R**

5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you
and my iniquity I did not hide.

6 I said, 'I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,'
and you forgave the guilt of my sin. **R**

7 Therefore let all the faithful make their prayers to you
in time of trouble;
in the great water flood, it shall not reach them.

8 You are a place for me to hide in;
you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with songs of deliverance. **R**

9 'I will instruct you and teach you
in the way that you should go;
I will guide you with my eye.

10 'Be not like horse and mule which have no understanding;
whose mouths must be held with bit and bridle,
or else they will not stay near you.' **R**

11 Great tribulations remain for the wicked,
but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.

12 Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord;
shout for joy, all who are true of heart. **R**

Second Reading

Romans 5.12-19

¹²Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned – ¹³sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

¹⁵But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgement following one trespass brought condemnation but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. ¹⁷If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

¹⁸Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so the act of righteousness of one leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹For just as by the one person's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

Gospel Acclamation

Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

The Lord is a great God, O that today you would listen to his voice.

Harden not your hearts.

All Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory.

Gospel

Matthew 4.1-11

¹Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²He fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished.

³The tempter came and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' ⁴But he answered, 'It is written,

“One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”

⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶saying to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

“He will command his angels concerning you”,
and “On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.”

⁷Jesus said to him, 'Again it is written, “Do not put the Lord your God to the test.”'

⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; ⁹and he said to him, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.' ¹⁰Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

“Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.”

¹¹Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Prayer of preparation

Gracious God,
accept the offering of your Church,
the hearts of your people
joined in praise and thanksgiving,
in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.
Amen

Post Communion Prayer

Lord God,
you have renewed us with the living bread
from heaven;
by it you nourish our faith,
increase our hope,
and strengthen our love:
teach us always to hunger for him who is the
true and living bread,
and enable us to live by every word
that proceeds from out of your mouth;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Readings for Evensong

Psalm 50: 1-15

R: Let the heavens declare his righteousness

1 The Lord, the most mighty God, has spoken
and called the world from the rising of the sun to its setting.

2 Out of Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth;
our God comes and will not keep silence. **R**

3 Consuming fire goes out before him
and a mighty tempest stirs about him.

4 He calls the heaven above,
and the earth, that he may judge his people: **R**

5 'Gather to me my faithful,
who have sealed my covenant with sacrifice.'

6 Let the heavens declare his righteousness,
for God himself is judge. **R**

7 Hear, O my people, and I will speak:
'I will testify against you, O Israel;
for I am God, your God.

8 'I will not reprove you for your sacrifices,
for your burnt offerings are always before me. **R**

9 'I will take no bull out of your house,
nor he-goat out of your folds,
10 'For all the beasts of the forest are mine,
the cattle upon a thousand hills.
11 'I know every bird of the mountains
and the insect of the field is mine. **R**
12 'If I were hungry, I would not tell you,
for the whole world is mine and all that fills it.
13 'Do you think I eat the flesh of bulls,
or drink the blood of goats? **R**
14 'Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving
and fulfil your vows to God Most High.
15 'Call upon me in the day of trouble;
I will deliver you and you shall honour me.' **R**

First Reading

Deuteronomy 6.4-9, 16-25

⁴Hear, O Israel: The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. ⁵You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. ⁶Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. ⁷Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. ⁸Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, ⁹and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.
¹⁶Do not put the LORD your God to the test, as you tested him at Massah. ¹⁷You must diligently keep the commandments of the LORD your God, and his decrees, and his statutes that he has commanded you. ¹⁸Do what is right and good in the sight of the LORD, so that it may go well with you, and so that you may go in and occupy the good land that the LORD swore to your ancestors to give you, ¹⁹thrusting out all your enemies from before you, as the LORD has promised.
²⁰When your children ask you in time to come, 'What is the meaning of the decrees and the statutes and the ordinances that the LORD our God has commanded you?' ²¹then you shall say to your children, 'We were Pharaoh's slaves in Egypt, but the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand. ²²The LORD displayed before our eyes great and awesome signs and wonders against Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his household. ²³He brought us out from there in order to bring us in, to give us the land that he promised on oath to our ancestors. ²⁴Then the LORD commanded us to observe all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God, for our lasting good, so as to keep us alive, as is now the case. ²⁵If we diligently observe this entire commandment before the LORD our God, as he has commanded us, we will be in the right.'

Second Reading*Luke 15.1-10*

¹All the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, 'This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.'

³So he told them this parable: ⁴"Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? ⁵When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. ⁶And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, "Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost." ⁷Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

⁸Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? ⁹When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbours, saying, "Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost." ¹⁰Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.'

Next week:

Second Sunday of Lent	1 st	8am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
		9am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
		10.30am	Seeker Service	St. Michael's
		6.30pm	Choral Evensong	St. Michael's
Monday	2 nd	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
		7.15pm	Lent Discussion	Zoom
Tuesday	3 rd	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
Wednesday	4 th	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		3pm	Lent Discussion	Zoom
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
		7pm	Pilgrim Course	St. Michael's
Thursday	5 th	8am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
		9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
		10am	Drop in	St. Michael's
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
Friday	6 th		No services	
Saturday	7 th	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
Third Sunday of Lent	8 th	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

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