

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

Sunday 15th March – The Fourth Sunday of Lent Services this week

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 Fourth Sunday of Lent	15 th	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 th	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
		7.15pm	Lent Discussion	Zoom
Tuesday	17 th	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		9.30am	Holy Communion	Christ the King
		10am	Drop In	Christ the King
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
Wednesday	18 th	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		3pm	Lent Discussion	Zoom
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
Thursday	19 th	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
		10am	Drop In	St. Michael's
		2pm	Ministry Team	Vicarage
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
Friday	20 th		No services	
Saturday	21 st	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
Fifth 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

Today is the Fourth Sunday of Lent and also Mothering Sunday. We are now halfway through the Lent

Readings for Holy Communion – 15th March

The Collect

God of compassion,
whose Son Jesus Christ, the child of Mary,
shared the life of a home in Nazareth,
and on the cross drew the whole human family
to himself:
strengthen us in our daily living
that in joy and in sorrow
we may know the power of your presence
to bind together and to heal;
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

1 Samuel 1.20-28

²⁰Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, 'I have asked him of the LORD.'

²¹The man Elkanah and all his household went up to offer to the LORD the yearly sacrifice, and to pay his vow. ²²But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, 'As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, that he may appear in the presence of the LORD, and remain there for ever; I will offer him as a nazirite for all time.' ²³Her husband Elkanah said to her, 'Do what seems best to you, wait until you have weaned him; only - may the LORD establish his word.' So the woman remained and nursed her son, until she weaned him. ²⁴When she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine. She brought him to the house of the LORD at Shiloh; and the child was young. ²⁵Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli. ²⁶And she said, 'Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the LORD. ²⁷For this child I prayed; and the LORD has granted me the petition that I made to him. ²⁸Therefore I have lent him to the LORD; as long as he lives, he is given to the LORD.' She left him there for the LORD.

Psalm 23 (Or the choir may sing another version of the psalm)

Refrain: The Lord is my shepherd, there is nothing I shall want.

1 The Lord is my shepherd;
therefore can I lack nothing.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.

3 He shall refresh my soul
and guide me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake. **R**

4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil;

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort me. **R**

5 You spread a table before me
in the presence of those who trouble me;

you have anointed my head with oil
and my cup shall be full. **R**

6 Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever. **R**

Second Reading *2 Corinthians 1.3-7*

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, ⁴who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. ⁵For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ. ⁶If we are being afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation; if we are being consoled, it is for your consolation, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we are also suffering. ⁷Our hope for you is unshaken; for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation.

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.

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

Gospel *John 19.25-27*

²⁵Standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, 'Woman, here is your son.' ²⁷Then he said to the disciple, 'Here is your mother.' And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

Prayer of preparation

God of our journey,
as we walk with you on your path of
obedience,
sustain us on our way and lead us to
your glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Post Communion Prayer

Loving God,
as a mother feeds her children at the
breast
you feed us in this sacrament with the
food and drink of eternal life:
help us who have tasted your goodness
to grow in grace within the household of
faith;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Readings for Evening Prayer

Psalm 31: 1-16

R: I trust in you, O Lord, for you are my God

1 In you, O Lord, have I taken refuge;
let me never be put to shame;
deliver me in your righteousness.

2 Incline your ear to me;
make haste to deliver me. **R**

3 Be my strong rock, a fortress to save me,
for you are my rock and my stronghold;
guide me, and lead me for your name's sake.

4 Take me out of the net
that they have laid secretly for me,
for you are my strength. **R**

5 Into your hands I commend my spirit,
for you have redeemed me, O Lord God of truth.

6 I hate those who cling to worthless idols;
I put my trust in the Lord. **R**

7 I will be glad and rejoice in your mercy,
for you have seen my affliction
and known my soul in adversity.

8 You have not shut me up in the hand of the enemy;
you have set my feet in an open place. **R**

9 Have mercy on me, Lord, for I am in trouble;
my eye is consumed with sorrow,
my soul and my body also.

10 For my life is wasted with grief,
and my years with sighing;
my strength fails me because of my affliction,
and my bones are consumed. **R**

11 I have become a reproach to all my enemies
and even to my neighbours,
an object of dread to my acquaintances;
when they see me in the street they flee from me.

12 I am forgotten like one that is dead, out of mind;
I have become like a broken vessel. **R**

13 For I have heard the whispering of the crowd;
fear is on every side;
they scheme together against me,
and plot to take my life.

14 But my trust is in you, O Lord.
I have said, 'You are my God. **R**

15 'My times are in your hand;
deliver me from the hand of my enemies,
and from those who persecute me.

16 'Make your face to shine upon your servant,
and save me for your mercy's sake.' **R**

First Reading *Micah 7*

¹Woe is me! For I have become like one who,
after the summer fruit has been gathered,
after the vintage has been gleaned,
finds no cluster to eat;
there is no first-ripe fig for which I hunger.

²The faithful have disappeared from the land,
and there is no one left who is upright;
they all lie in wait for blood,
and they hunt each other with nets.

³Their hands are skilled to do evil;
the official and the judge ask for a bribe,
and the powerful dictate what they desire;
thus they pervert justice.

⁴The best of them is like a brier,
the most upright of them a thorn hedge.
The day of their sentinels, of their punishment, has come;
now their confusion is at hand.

⁵Put no trust in a friend,
have no confidence in a loved one;
guard the doors of your mouth
from her who lies in your embrace;

⁶for the son treats the father with contempt,
the daughter rises up against her mother,
the daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;
your enemies are members of your own household.

⁷But as for me, I will look to the LORD,
I will wait for the God of my salvation;
my God will hear me.

⁸Do not rejoice over me, O my enemy;
when I fall, I shall rise;
when I sit in darkness,
the LORD will be a light to me.

⁹I must bear the indignation of the LORD,
because I have sinned against him,
until he takes my side
and executes judgement for me.

He will bring me out to the light;
I shall see his vindication.

¹⁰Then my enemy will see,
and shame will cover her who said to me,
'Where is the LORD your God?'
My eyes will see her downfall;
now she will be trodden down
like the mire of the streets.

¹¹A day for the building of your walls!
In that day the boundary shall be far extended.

¹²In that day they will come to you
from Assyria to Egypt,
and from Egypt to the River,
from sea to sea and from mountain to mountain.

¹³But the earth will be desolate
because of its inhabitants,
for the fruit of their doings.

¹⁴Shepherd your people with your staff,
the flock that belongs to you,
which lives alone in a forest
in the midst of a garden land;
let them feed in Bashan and Gilead
as in the days of old.

¹⁵As in the days when you came out of the land of Egypt,
show us marvellous things.

¹⁶The nations shall see and be ashamed
of all their might;
they shall lay their hands on their mouths;
their ears shall be deaf;
¹⁷they shall lick dust like a snake,
like the crawling things of the earth;
they shall come trembling out of their fortresses;
they shall turn in dread to the LORD our God,
and they shall stand in fear of you.
¹⁸Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity
and passing over the transgression
of the remnant of your possession?
He does not retain his anger for ever,
because he delights in showing clemency.
¹⁹He will again have compassion upon us;
he will tread our iniquities under foot.
You will cast all our sins
into the depths of the sea.
²⁰You will show faithfulness to Jacob
and unswerving loyalty to Abraham,
as you have sworn to our ancestors
from the days of old.

Second Reading *James 5*

¹Come now, you rich people, weep and wail for the miseries that are coming to you.
²Your riches have rotted, and your clothes are moth-eaten. ³Your gold and silver have rusted, and their rust will be evidence against you, and it will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure for the last days. ⁴Listen! The wages of the labourers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, cry out, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. ⁵You have lived on the earth in luxury and in pleasure; you have fattened your hearts on a day of slaughter. ⁶You have condemned and murdered the righteous one, who does not resist you.
⁷Be patient, therefore, 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. ¹¹Indeed we call blessed those who showed endurance. You have heard of the endurance of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.
¹²Above all, my beloved, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your 'Yes' be yes and your 'No' be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.

¹³Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. ¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. ¹⁷Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

¹⁹My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, ²⁰you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Coming up soon:

Fifth Sunday of Lent	22 nd	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
Monday	23 rd	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
		7.15pm	Lent Discussion	Zoom
Tuesday	24 th	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		9.30am	Holy Communion	Christ the King
		10am	Drop In	Christ the King
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
Wednesday	25 th	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		3pm	Lent Discussion	Zoom
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
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
		11am	Spring Market	St. Michael's
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
Palm Sunday	29 th	8am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
		9am	Holy Communion	Christ the King
		10.30am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
		6.30pm	The Cross of Christ	St. Michael's