

Sunday 13 September 2026: 15th Sunday after Trinity (Trinity 15) Vision Progress Sunday

St Michael's & Southam Readings: - Vision Progress Psalm 127

WGO-Readings: - Vision Progress Psalm 127

Sunday 13 September 2026

9.30am Holy Communion - St Michael's Church

9.30am Holy Communion - Church of the Ascension, Southam

9.30am Morning Praise - The Old Chapel, Gotherington

11.15am Contemporary Worship - St Michael's Church

1.00pm Baptism of Seraphina McMahon Walsh & Henry McMahon Hunt - St Michael's Church

Next Thursday Morning Communion at St Michael's Church: 1 October at 10.45 am

For the complete list of services see <https://www.stmichaelsbishopsleeve.co.uk/whats-on>



Bereavement Journey – starting Monday 14 September 2026 7pm until 9pm at Bishops Cleeve Parish Council Offices

Nat Garrett and Pete Muir are hosting a series of evenings based on the Bereavement Journey starting Monday 14 September, (and these following dates, 21 September, 28 September, 5 October, 12 October, 19 October and 26 October).

The Bereavement Journey® is an award-winning series of films and discussion groups that gently guides people bereaved at any time through the most common aspects of grief and bereavement, enabling them to process the implications for themselves and discern next steps. If you would like to join us, please scan the QR code, or contact the church office at: admin@stmichaelsbishopsleeve.co.uk or Tel: 07354 874617



Maggie & John Celebration – Thursday 17 September 2026 7.30pm

2026 is a very significant year for John and Maggie Sharpe. Over this Easter weekend they are celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary and then in September they celebrate 50 years of Ordained Ministry.

Please put Thursday 17 September at 7.30pm in your diaries, for a drinks reception at St Michael's to thank them and celebrate them!!



Introducing Phoebe Titley!

Phoebe is serving as an intern with St Michaels over the coming year for some 32 hours a week. The PCC have paid for her course fees to enable her to receive training in Christian leadership and discipleship - specifically around Youth Work and Worship Leading. We see this course as an investment in her and in the future of God's kingdom - rather than a paid job. As such, her course fees are covered and she remains living with her parents - but part of her serving this year, is fund-raising for some living expenses. If you felt you could sponsor her that would be wonderful (!) - please do get

in touch with Tim.

To learn about Phoebe and her story, please scan the QR code to read her blog.



CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Request for Nativity Costumes

Do you have any nativity costumes that are too small for your children? If they are in good condition, we would be very grateful for them for our Christmas events. Please email Lucy Betts on lbetts@stmbsc.uk or message on 07756101782. Thank you

Children's Groups Are Back!

We're delighted to announce that **all of our children's groups have now restarted for the new term!** 🌟

Our teams are excited to welcome children back and are looking forward to a fantastic term filled with fun, friendship, learning, and growing in faith together.

🙏 **Please pray for:**

- The children attending our groups
- Our leaders and volunteer teams
- Opportunities for children and families to encounter God's love
- A safe, joyful, and fruitful term ahead

♥ **Could you help?** We are always grateful for people willing to support our children's ministry. Whether you can help regularly or occasionally, we'd love to hear from you. There are many ways to get involved, and your support can make a real difference.

Please speak to Lucy if you'd like to find out more about serving in any of our children's groups.

"Let the little children come to me..." (Mark 10:14)

WHAT'S ON?

VISION 2030 PROGRESS – Sunday 13 September 11.15 Service St Michael's Church

Please do try and get to church this coming Sunday (13th Sept) because we are pausing our regular programme at all of our church services to update the church family on our progress with our Vision 2030. We will also be talking about the areas where we still need to keep moving forward - and continuing to listen to God for how He is guiding us forward. This will include an update on our financial position and the changes to our staff and leadership that we began to talk about last week. Please continue to pray God's clarity and provision.

Our Four Churches are Open - 10am to 4pm on Saturday 12th September.

All four benefice churches will be open from **10am to 4pm on Saturday 12 September** for **Ride and Stride Day**, supporting the Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust.

Visitors can explore special features at Oxenton, Southam (newly restored stonework), Woolstone (leaning tower) and Bishop's Cleeve (porch room and much more), with refreshments available at Oxenton Village Hall and Bishop's Cleeve Church.

Michael Bower will give informal talks at Oxenton Church at **11am and 3pm**. Visitors may tour one or all four churches on foot, by bicycle or by car. It will be a happy day. Ann Jessop

Safeguarding Training Monday 14 September 1pm – St Michael's Church and 7.30pm – St Michael's Centre- **Postponed to 16 November 2026-1pm St Michael's Church and 7.30pm St Michael's Centre**

The Gloucestershire Diocese requires everyone who works as a volunteer within the church needs to have the "Basic Awareness Safeguarding Training". If you have any doubt as to whether you need to complete this training, please speak to your group leader. Lucy Betts will be running two sessions, the first in **St Michael's Church** on Monday 16 November at 1pm and the second at 7.30pm in the **St Michael's Centre** for anyone who needs to complete the training and would prefer to watch the presentation and discuss as a group rather than logging on at home to access the training. However, if you prefer to do the training independently, please contact the office and we will send you the details and assist you as necessary.

Connect Chatter – Every Friday-Community Hall 1 (next to Bishops Cleeve Library)

Every Friday 11am to 1pm – free entry – no sign up needed.

For anyone feeling lonely, bereaved (including pet loss), overwhelmed as a carer. Please contact John Barton: 07500 003680 or for more information.

Affirmation of Lay Ministry – Saturday 19 September 2026

Gloucester Cathedral – 12.30 – 4.00pm

You are invited to attend the new look Diocesan Affirmation of Lay Ministry with Admission and Licensing of Readers at **Gloucester Cathedral** on **Saturday 19 September 2026**. The new 'Celebration' format will see the licensing and admission of Readers taking place within a context of a broader celebration of lay ministry. No booking required, turn up from 12.30pm and enjoy the afternoon of celebration! See: <https://gloucester.anglican.org/event/celebration-of-lay-ministry-with-the-admission-and-licensing-of-readers-2026/>

Patronal Festival Weekend Saturday 26 & Sunday 27 September

Macmillan Coffee Morning -Saturday 26 September 2026

St Michael & All Angels 10am to 12 Noon

Please join us to raise money for the Macmillan Cancer Charity. Enjoy refreshments while supporting the 3.5 million people in the UK living with cancer, from the moment they are diagnosed, throughout treatment and beyond. There will also be a book and cake stall. Any donations of books or cakes will be gratefully received. **If you are available to help with the coffee morning, please contact Fee Hall.**

Patronal Choral Evensong – Sunday 27 September 2026

St Michael & All Angels 4pm

Join us for song, prayer and reflection in celebration of St Michael our Patron Saint. Refreshments will be served, everyone is welcome.

Worship Band Night -Monday 28 September - 7.30pm.

Any musicians or singers who are interested in potentially serving in the worship music team at 11.15am services are very welcome to come to St Michael's for a "jamming" evening – playing music and learning some worship songs together. Speak to Ben if you have questions or want a further discussion.

Save the Date – 10 October 9am-Women's Breakfast St Michael's Church

Friends of St Martin de Tours Church Woolstone – 'JUST DESSERTS'

Saturday 24 October in Gotherington Village Hall

An entertainment offering monologues, sketches and a melodrama from 'Bishop's Cleeve' Players, on Saturday 24 October in Gotherington Village Hall, starting at 7.30pm (doors open at 7.15pm). During the interval a selection of desserts will be offered along with wine and soft drinks.

Tickets, priced at £12.50 will be on sale from the start of September from: George Lewis Shoe Shop, Jean Wickens (01242 679345) or the Church Office.

NOTICES

SAFETY COURSES

Being careful and caring of our welfare, the PCC has authorised some safety training in October. There is a course for Fire Safety, including the use of extinguishers. There is also a First Aid course, including resuscitation and the use of a defibrillator. Both are accredited courses, run by approved organisations, leading to a certificate. Several of us have already signed up for these courses. At the time of writing this, there are just 3 spaces left on each course. If you think you would like to serve our church and our community by doing the training in either or both of these areas, or if you would like to obtain more information, please contact Ann Jessop on 07974037668 or ann.jessop@btopenworld.com by 30th September. We look forward to hearing from you.

- A Fire Safety course (3.5 hours). Weds 21st Oct 9.30am in St Michael's church.
- A First Aid course (6.5hours). Fri 23rd Oct 9.30am in St Michael's church.

Services in WGO for September 2026

For the service rotas to be manageable it is essential for Tim and Ben to be able to take two services on a Sunday morning. To facilitate this we need to trial having all WGO services at 9.30 am, this will be trialled during September and a final decision made at the October WGO PCC meeting.

Thursday Morning Communion - St Michael's Church at 10.45 am

From August, these services will be on the first Thursday of the month, the next month's being:

Thursday 1 October

Thursday 5 November

Anna Chaplaincy-Christmas Craft – Snowman Knitting Project 2026

The Anna Chaplaincy Christmas Craft this year is a snowman knitting project. If you would like to knit for this charity, there will be some copies of the pattern at the back of the church with a box to put in your finished snowmen. All snowmen need to be put in the box or handed into the church office, no later than 27 November 2026.

Watch Sermons on YouTube

Visit the channel here: <https://youtu.be/RjbH3bo5jb8>

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Would You Like to Volunteer?

Please email: admin@stmichael'sbishopsleeve.co.uk or telephone **07354 874617**

OUR MISSION PARTNERS - NEWS

Mission Partners

At St Michael's, we have three Mission Partners with which we have strong ties. Our three Mission Partners are: **North Cotswold Foodbank, Grassroots Rwanda and Mission Macedonia.**

For more information visit: <https://www.stmichaelsbishopsleeve.co.uk/world-mission>

Harvest Appeal-Help Support Your Food Bank This Harvest

Please donate an item or two from our shopping list to support your community, it will be greatly received: **Tinned meat/fish, tinned veg/fruit, cooking sauces, coffee/tea, milk (long life) fruit juice (long life), rice pudding/custard, jam/spread, tinned potatoes, table sauces.** For more information regarding the food bank please click the link or scan the QR Code:

<https://northcotswold.foodbank.org.uk/>



UPCOMING TRAINING COURSE FROM THE DIOCESE OF GLOUCESTER

For the latest training courses on offer from the Diocese of Gloucester [Please Click Here for Information.](#)

ECO-CHURCH - SEPTEMBER

Terra-cycling-Please Note:

Cake and biscuit wrappers can be recycled in the soft plastic collection bin in Tesco.

Blister packs **can still be brought for recycling.** Boxes available in the church porch and the parish office.

Our Energy Saving Tip This Month

Boil smarter: Only fill the kettle with the exact amount of water you need for your hot drinks.

Wash at lower temperatures: Run your washing machine on a 30-degree cycle and try to cut down by one wash per week.

FROM BISHOP'S CLEEVE METHODIST CHURCH

To find out **What's on** at Bishop's Cleeve Methodist Church, please follow the link: https://www.methodist-bishopsleeve.co.uk/page_2275125.html

Sunday: Worship at 10.30am followed by refreshments.

Monday: Meeting for Prayer at 12.45 pm.
Meet Up Monday 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm.

Tuesday: Prayer and Bible Study at 7.45 pm on alternate Tuesdays

Wednesday: Communion Service with other churches at 9.00 am.
Fellowship Group with a speaker at 2.00 pm on alternate Wednesdays.

Thursday: **Film Club at 2.00 pm on the first Thursday of each month. (See below)**
Bible Study at 2.00 pm on the second and fourth Thursday of each month.

Saturday: Coffee mornings 10am - 12 noon as announced.

If you no longer wish to receive Weekly News, please email admin@stmichaelsbishopsleeve.co.uk

Keep up to date with church news, diary dates and more on our website.

www.stmichaelsbishopsleeve.co.uk

Service times: stmichaelsbishopsleeve.co.uk/worship-services

Safeguarding: stmichaelsbishopsleeve.co.uk/safeguarding

Church Office: stmichaelsbishopsleeve.co.uk/contact

Donate: [Bishop's Cleeve - Parish Giving Scheme](#)

[Southam - Parish Giving Scheme](#)

[WGO - Parish Giving Scheme](#) Or ring 03330021260

Watch Sermons: youtube.com/@StMichaelsBishopsCleeveChurchOffice

[Telephone Number and Opening Times](#)

07354 874617 Kate for all enquiries including weddings. Monday to Friday

07871 602525 Tracy for enquiries relating to funerals, baptisms and DBS. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.

Church Office Opening Times: Monday – Thursday 10am – 2pm

Friday: Kate sometimes works from home, please ring to check before coming to the office

Different
ways to pray
at St
Michael's

