

Sunday 6 September 2026: 14th Sunday after Trinity (Trinity 14) Commissioning Sunday

St Michael's & Southam Readings: - Commissioning Sunday 1 Thessalonians 5 (12-28)

WGO-Readings: - Commissioning Sunday 1 Thessalonians 5 (12-28) Matthew 18 (15-20)

Sunday 6 September 2026

9.30 am Morning Prayer - St Michael's Church

9.30 am Holy Communion - Church of the Ascension, Southam

9.30 am Holy Communion - St John the Baptist, Oxenton

11.15 am Contemporary Service - 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!!

Sign up to our Alpha course by scanning the QR code and filling in the form



Alpha Course Starts in Bishop's Cleeve, Gloucestershire on September 9

Got questions about life, faith, or what it all means? So does everyone else.

Alpha starts Wednesday 9 September, running weekly from 7.30–9pm in a home here in Cleeve. Food, a short film, honest conversation — no pressure, no follow-up, just an open table.

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/8yzhj9yrGv?origin=lpLink>

please click the link or scan the QR code or contact the Church Office 07354 874617



CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Children's Groups Resume Week Beginning 7 September

We look forward to welcoming you back to our children's groups week beginning 7 September.

If you would like details regarding days and times of the groups, please contact our children's and families minister Lucy Betts on lbetts@stmichaelsbishopsleeve.co.uk

This Sunday: Back to School Sunday & Commissioning of Ministries

This Sunday we're celebrating the start of the new school year and giving thanks for all our children, young people, teachers and school staff — with a blessing of school bags for anyone who'd like to bring theirs along.

We'll also be commissioning several people beginning or continuing in ministry among us: **Lucy Barbour**, our new High School Chaplain; **Lucy Betts**, continuing her training as an ordinand; and **Phoebe Titley**, our new South West Youth Ministries intern for Youth and Music. We'll be praying for and commissioning the leaders of our **Sunday Explorers, Praise and Play, JAFFA, Bible Brick Club, Bereavement and Alpha** teams too — do come and show your support.

Please join us as we send our children back to school and send out those serving in ministry this year, with prayer, encouragement and blessing.

Revd. Ben Williams

Team Vicar

WHAT'S ON?

Men's Breakfast-Saturday 5 September 8.30am -St Michael's Church

Please join us for September Men's Breakfast. Ian Meredith from Ethical Addictions from whom we purchase our fair-trade coffee will be joining us. This will be followed by breakfast at the pub.

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

The occasion is **Ride and Stride** Day when we support the Gloucestershire Historic Churches Trust, which has always been a good friend to our benefice.

This is our chance to call in and be welcomed and see some features that we never had chance to notice before, such as the wall paintings at Oxenton, the newly restored stonework at Southam, the leaning tower at Woolstone, the porch room at Bishop's Cleeve, and many more.

Refreshments will be available in the village hall at Oxenton and in Bishop's Cleeve Church.

At 11am and again at 3pm, in Oxenton Church, Michael Bower will be giving an informal talk about the history and architecture of the church.

We could visit just one, or all four. We could plan a walk or cycle ride to get round all four, or we could simply use our cars.

Do join us at some point. 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

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 14th September 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 9am 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

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

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

Watch Sermons on YouTube

Watch our Sunday sermons on our YouTube channel. Please do have a look and feel free to share with others. If you Subscribe to the website (which is free) you will receive a notification when a new video is uploaded. Visit the channel here: <https://youtu.be/RjbH3bo5jb8>

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Would You Like to Volunteer?

If you would like to volunteer for a good cause, for as much or as little time as you have available please contact St Michael's Church Office where we can give you further information on the current volunteer need within the benefice. Please email: admin@stmichaelsbishopsleeve.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>

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.

Film Club will Resume in September

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



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