

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

Sunday 20th September – Sixteenth Sunday after Trinity Services this week

Thirteenth Sunday After Trinity	20th	8am 9am 10.30am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion Holy Communion Evening Prayer	St. Michael's Christ the King St. Michael's St. Michael's
Monday <i>Matthew, Apostle</i>	21st	8am 6pm	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer	Zoom Zoom
Tuesday	22nd	8am 6pm	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer	Zoom Zoom
Wednesday	23rd	8am 6pm 7.30pm	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer Deanery Synod	Zoom Zoom St. Matthew's
Thursday	24th	9.30am 10am 6pm 7.30pm	Holy Communion Drop In Evening Prayer PCC	St. Michael's St. Michael's Zoom St. Michael's
Friday	25th		No services	
Saturday	26th	8am 6pm	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer	Zoom Zoom
Michaelmas	27th	8am 9am 10.30am 6.30pm	Holy Communion Holy Communion Holy Communion Evening Prayer	St. Michael's Christ the King St. Michael's 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.

It's beginning to feel more autumnal as the nights draw in.

Readings for Holy Communion – 20th September

The Collect

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers of your people who call upon you; and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them; 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

Jonah 3.10-4.11

¹⁰When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. ¹But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ²He prayed to the LORD and said, 'O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. ³And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.' ⁴And the LORD said, 'Is it right for you to be angry?' ⁵Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, 'It is better for me to die than to live.'

⁹But God said to Jonah, 'Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?' And he said, 'Yes, angry enough to die.' ¹⁰Then the LORD said, 'You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labour and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?'

Psalm 145: 1-9

R: I will bless you and praise you for ever, O God my King

1 I will exalt you, O God my King,
and bless your name for ever and ever.

2 Every day will I bless you
and praise your name for ever and ever.

3 Great is the Lord and highly to be praised;
his greatness is beyond all searching out. **R**

4 One generation shall praise your works to another
and declare your mighty acts.

5 They shall speak of the majesty of your glory,
and I will tell of all your wonderful deeds. **R**

6 They shall speak of the might of your marvellous acts,
and I will also tell of your greatness.

7 They shall pour forth the story of your abundant kindness
and joyfully sing of your righteousness. **R**

8 The Lord is gracious and merciful,
long-suffering and of great goodness.

9 The Lord is loving to everyone
and his mercy is over all his creatures **R**

Second Reading *Philippians 1.21-30*

²¹For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. ²³I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

²⁷Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well – ³⁰since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.

The word of the Lord endures for ever.

The word of the Lord is the good news announced to you.

Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 20.1-16

Jesus said to his disciples: ¹'The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; ⁴and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" ⁷They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." ⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." ⁹When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." ¹³But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

Prayer of preparation

As the grain once scattered in the fields
and the grapes once dispersed on the
hillside
are now reunited on this table in bread
and wine,
so, Lord, may your whole Church soon
be gathered together
from the corners of the earth
into your kingdom. **Amen.**
. **Amen.**

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty God,
you have taught us through your Son
that love is the fulfilling of the law:
grant that we may love you with our whole
heart
and our neighbours as ourselves;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Readings for Evening Prayer

Psalm 119.121-128

R: Lead me, O Lord, in the path of your commandments

121 I have done what is just and right;

O give me not over to my oppressors.

122 Stand surety for your servant's good;

let not the proud oppress me. **R**

123 My eyes fail with watching for your salvation

and for your righteous promise.

124 O deal with your servant according to your faithful love

and teach me your statutes. **R**

125 I am your servant; O grant me understanding,

that I may know your testimonies.

126 It is time for you to act, O Lord,

for they frustrate your law. **R**

127 Therefore I love your commandments

above gold, even much fine gold.

128 Therefore I direct my steps by all your precepts,

and all false ways I utterly abhor. **R**

First Reading

Ezekiel 33.23,30-34.10

²³The word of the LORD came to me:

³⁰As for you, mortal, your people who talk together about you by the walls, and at the doors of the houses, say to one another, each to a neighbour, 'Come and hear what the word is that comes from the LORD.' ³¹They come to you as people come, and they sit before you as my people, and they hear your words, but they will not obey them. For flattery is on their lips, but their heart is set on their gain. ³²To them you are like a singer of love songs, one who has a beautiful voice and plays well on an instrument; they hear what you say, but they will not do it. ³³When this comes – and come it will! – then they shall know that a prophet has been among them.

¹The word of the LORD came to me: ²Mortal, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel: prophesy, and say to them – to the shepherds: Thus says the Lord God: Ah, you shepherds of Israel who have been feeding yourselves! Should not shepherds feed the sheep? ³You eat the fat, you clothe yourselves with the wool, you slaughter the fatlings; but you do not feed the sheep. ⁴You have not strengthened the weak, you have not healed the sick, you have not bound up the injured, you have not brought back the strayed, you have not sought the lost, but with force and harshness you have ruled them. ⁵So they were scattered, because there was no shepherd; and scattered, they became food for all the wild animals. ⁶My sheep were scattered, they wandered over all the mountains and on every high hill; my sheep were scattered over all the face of the earth, with no one to search or seek for them.

⁷Therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD: ⁸As I live, says the Lord God, because my sheep have become a prey, and my sheep have become food for all the wild animals, since there was no shepherd; and because my shepherds have not searched for my sheep, but the shepherds have fed themselves, and have not fed my sheep; ⁹therefore, you shepherds, hear the word of the LORD: ¹⁰Thus says the Lord God, I am against the shepherds; and I will demand my sheep at their hand, and put a stop to their feeding the sheep; no longer shall the shepherds feed themselves. I will rescue my sheep from their mouths, so that they may not be food for them.

Second Reading *Acts 26.1,9-25*

¹Agrippa said to Paul, ‘You have permission to speak for yourself.’ Then Paul stretched out his hand and began to defend himself:

⁹‘I myself was convinced that I ought to do many things against the name of Jesus of Nazareth. ¹⁰And that is what I did in Jerusalem; with authority received from the chief priests, I not only locked up many of the saints in prison, but I also cast my vote against them when they were being condemned to death. ¹¹By punishing them often in all the synagogues I tried to force them to blaspheme; and since I was so furiously enraged at them, I pursued them even to foreign cities.

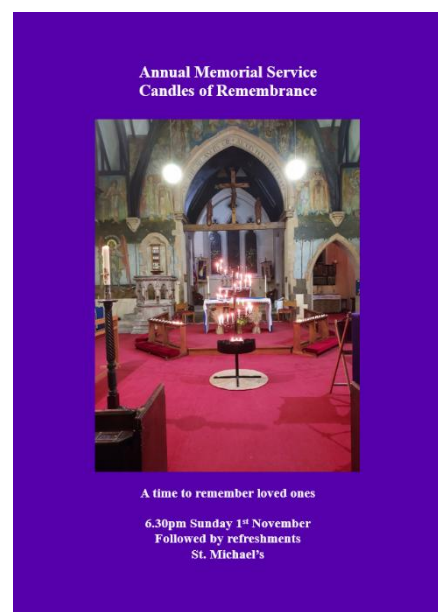
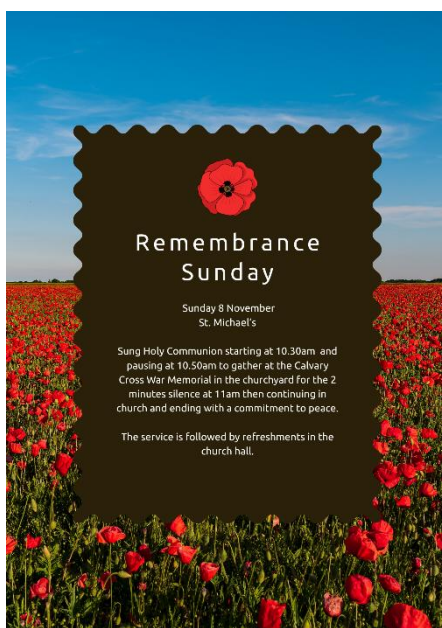
¹²‘With this in mind, I was travelling to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests, ¹³when at midday along the road, your Excellency, I saw a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, shining around me and my companions. ¹⁴When we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, “Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It hurts you to kick against the goads.” ¹⁵I asked, “Who are you, Lord?” The Lord answered, “I am Jesus whom you are persecuting. ¹⁶But get up and stand on your feet; for I have appeared to you for this purpose, to appoint you to serve and testify to the things in which you have seen me and to those in which I will appear to you.

¹⁷I will rescue you from your people and from the Gentiles – to whom I am sending you ¹⁸to open their eyes so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.”

¹⁹‘After that, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision, ²⁰but declared first to those in Damascus, then in Jerusalem and throughout the countryside of Judea, and also to the Gentiles, that they should repent and turn to God and do deeds consistent with repentance. ²¹For this reason the Jews seized me in the temple and tried to kill me.

²²To this day I have had help from God, and so I stand here, testifying to both small and great, saying nothing but what the prophets and Moses said would take place: ²³that the Messiah must suffer, and that, by being the first to rise from the dead, he would proclaim light both to our people and to the Gentiles.’

²⁴While he was making this defence, Festus exclaimed, ‘You are out of your mind, Paul! Too much learning is driving you insane!’ ²⁵But Paul said, ‘I am not out of my mind, most excellent Festus, but I am speaking the sober truth.



Coming up soon:

Michaelmas	27 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
Monday <i>Matthew, Apostle</i>	28 th	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
Tuesday <i>Michael and All Angels</i>	29 th	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		9.30am	Holy Communion	Christ the King
		10am	Drop In	Christ the King
		2pm	Memory Café	St. Michael's
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
Wednesday	30 th		No services	
Thursday	1 st	9.30am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
		10am	Drop In	St. Michael's
		2.30pm	Ministry Team	tbc
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
Friday	2 nd		No services	
Saturday	3 rd	8am	Morning Prayer	Zoom
		6pm	Evening Prayer	Zoom
Harvest Festival	4 th	8am	Holy Communion	St. Michael's
		9am	Holy Communion	Christ the King
		10.30am	Seeker Service	St. Michael's
		6.30pm	BCP Evening Prayer	St. Michael's
		7.30pm	Harvest Supper	St. Michael's

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