

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

Sunday 13th September – Fifteenth Sunday after Trinity Services this week

Thirteenth Sunday After Trinity	13th	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.
Monday <i>Holy Cross Day</i>	14th	8am 6pm	Morning Prayer Evening Prayer	Zoom Zoom	
Tuesday <i>Cyprian, 258</i>	15th	8am 9.30am 10am 6pm	Morning Prayer Holy Communion Drop In Evening Prayer	Zoom Christ the King Christ the King Zoom	
Wednesday <i>Ninian, 432</i>	16th		No services		
Thursday <i>Hildegard, 1179</i>	17th	9.30am 10am	Holy Communion Drop In	St. Michael's St. Michael's	
Friday	18th	1pm	Funeral	Streetly Crem	
Saturday	19th		No services		
Sixteenth 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	

It's beginning to feel a little autumnal as the season rolls on. Some of our Zoom services do not take place this week.

Readings for Holy Communion – 13th September

The Collect

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit
upon your Church in the burning fire of your love:
grant that your people may be fervent
in the fellowship of the gospel
that, always abiding in you,
they may be found steadfast in faith and active in
service;
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 50.15-21

¹⁵Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, 'What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?' ¹⁶So they approached Joseph, saying, 'Your father gave this instruction before he died, ¹⁷"Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you." Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.' Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, 'We are here as your slaves.' ¹⁹But Joseph said to them, 'Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? ²⁰Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. ²¹So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.' In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them

Psalm 103: 8-13

R: The Lord has compassion on his children

8 The Lord is full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and of great kindness.

9 He will not always accuse us,
neither will he keep his anger for ever. **R**

10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor rewarded us according to our wickedness.

11 For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is his mercy upon those who fear him. **R**

12 As far as the east is from the west,
so far has he set our sins from us.

13 As a father has compassion on his children,
so is the Lord merciful towards those who fear him. **R**

Second Reading *Romans 14.1-12*

¹Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. ²Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them.

⁴Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God. ¹¹For it is written,

‘As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.’

¹²So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

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 18.21-35

²¹Peter came and said to Jesus, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' ²²Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.'

²³For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; ²⁵and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. ²⁶So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." ²⁷And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." ²⁹Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you." ³⁰But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt.

³¹When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³²Then his lord summoned him and said to him, "You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?" ³⁴And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

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.**

Post Communion Prayer

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your
perpetual mercy;
and, because without you our human frailty
cannot but fall,
keep us ever by your help from all things
hurtful,
and lead us to all things profitable to our
salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Readings for Evening Prayer

Psalm 119.41-48

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

41 Let your faithful love come unto me, O Lord,
even your salvation, according to your promise.

42 Then shall I answer those who taunt me,
for my trust is in your word. **R**

43 O take not the word of truth utterly out of my mouth,
for my hope is in your judgements.

44 So shall I always keep your law;
I shall keep it for ever and ever. **R**

45 I will walk at liberty,
because I study your commandments.

46 I will tell of your testimonies, even before kings,
and will not be ashamed. **R**

47 My delight shall be in your commandments,
which I have greatly loved.

48 My hands will I lift up to your commandments,
which I love,
and I will meditate on your statutes. **R**

First Reading

Ezekiel 20.1-8,33-44

¹In the seventh year, in the fifth month, on the tenth day of the month, certain elders of Israel came to consult the LORD, and sat down before me. ²And the word of the LORD came to me: ³Mortal, speak to the elders of Israel, and say to them: Thus says the Lord God: Why are you coming? To consult me? As I live, says the Lord God, I will not be consulted by you. ⁴Will you judge them, mortal, will you judge them? Then let them know the abominations of their ancestors, ⁵and say to them: Thus says the Lord God: On the day when I chose Israel, I swore to the offspring of the house of Jacob – making myself known to them in the land of Egypt – I swore to them, saying, I am the LORD your God. ⁶On that day I swore to them that I would bring them out of the land of Egypt into a land that I had searched out for them, a land flowing with milk and honey, the most glorious of all lands. ⁷And I said to them, Cast away the detestable things your eyes feast on, every one of you, and do not defile yourselves with the idols of Egypt; I am the LORD your God. ⁸But they rebelled against me and would not listen to me; not one of them cast away the detestable things their eyes feasted on, nor did they forsake the idols of Egypt. Then I thought I would pour out my wrath upon them and spend my anger against them in the midst of the land of Egypt.

³³As I live, says the Lord God, surely with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, and with wrath poured out, I will be king over you. ³⁴I will bring you out from the peoples and gather you out of the countries where you are scattered, with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, and with wrath poured out; ³⁵and I will bring you into the wilderness of the peoples, and there I will enter into judgement with you face to face. ³⁶As I entered into judgement with your ancestors in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so I will enter into judgement with you, says the Lord God. ³⁷I will make you pass under the staff, and will bring you within the bond of the covenant.

. ³⁸I will purge out the rebels among you, and those who transgress against me; I will bring them out of the land where they reside as aliens, but they shall not enter the land of Israel. Then you shall know that I am the LORD.

³⁹As for you, O house of Israel, thus says the Lord God: Go, serve your idols, every one of you now and hereafter, if you will not listen to me; but my holy name you shall no more profane with your gifts and your idols.

⁴⁰For on my holy mountain, the mountain height of Israel, says the Lord God, there all the house of Israel, all of them, shall serve me in the land; there I will accept them, and there I will require your contributions and the choicest of your gifts, with all your sacred things.

⁴¹As a pleasing odour I will accept you, when I bring you out from the peoples, and gather you out of the countries where you have been scattered; and I will manifest my holiness among you in the sight of the nations. ⁴²You shall know that I am the LORD, when I bring you into the land of Israel, the country that I swore to give to your ancestors. ⁴³There you shall remember your ways and all the deeds by which you have polluted yourselves; and you shall loathe yourselves for all the evils that you have committed. ⁴⁴And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I deal with you for my name's sake, not according to your evil ways or corrupt deeds, O house of Israel, says the Lord God.

Second Reading *Acts 20.17-38*

¹⁷From Miletus Paul sent a message to Ephesus, asking the elders of the church to meet him. ¹⁸When they came to him, he said to them: 'You yourselves know how I lived among you the entire time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, ¹⁹serving the Lord with all humility and with tears, enduring the trials that came to me through the plots of the Jews. ²⁰I did not shrink from doing anything helpful, proclaiming the message to you and teaching you publicly and from house to house, ²¹as I testified to both Jews and Greeks about repentance towards God and faith towards our Lord Jesus. ²²And now, as a captive to the Spirit, I am on my way to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there, ²³except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and persecutions are waiting for me. ²⁴But I do not count my life of any value to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the good news of God's grace.

²⁵And now I know that none of you, among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom, will ever see my face again. ²⁶Therefore I declare to you this day that I am not responsible for the blood of any of you, ²⁷for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole purpose of God. ²⁸Keep watch over yourselves and over all the flock, of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God that he obtained with the blood of his own Son. ²⁹I know that after I have gone, savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. ³⁰Some even from your own group will come distorting the truth in order to entice the disciples to follow them. ³¹Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to warn everyone with tears. ³²And now I commend you to God and to the message of his grace, a message that is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all who are sanctified. ³³I coveted no one's silver or gold or clothing. ³⁴You know for yourselves that I worked with my own hands to support myself and my companions. ³⁵In all this I have given you an example that by such work we must support the weak, remembering the words of the Lord Jesus, for he himself said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

³⁶When he had finished speaking, he knelt down with them all and prayed. ³⁷There was much weeping among them all; they embraced Paul and kissed him, ³⁸grieving especially because of what he had said, that they would not see him again. Then they brought him to the ship.

Coming up soon:

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

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