

Sunday 18 October 2026: 20th Sunday after Trinity (Trinity 20) Thanksgiving Gift Sunday
3rd Sunday of October

St Michael's Readings – Thanksgiving Gift Sunday 2 Corinthians 8 (8-15)
WGO-Readings - Thanksgiving Gift Sunday 2 Corinthians 8 (8-15) Matthew 22 (15-22)

Sunday 18 October 2026

9.30am Said Holy Communion - St Michael's Church
10.00am Church on the Hill - Cleeve Hill
9.30am Holy Communion - St Martin de Tours, Woolstone
11.15am Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion - St Michael's Church
11.15am Baptism of Carol Knapp during service - St Michael's Church

Next Thursday Morning Communion at St Michael's Church: 5 November at 10.45 am
For the complete list of services see <https://www.stmichaelsbishopsclleeve.co.uk/whats-on>



Thanksgiving Gift Day - Sunday 18 October 2026

Over recent years we have talked about our financial giving as a normal part of our worshipping life, as we express our gratitude to God for all He has done for us - and all that He has entrusted to us. And we are having our annual focus on this aspect of our Discipleship during October. We appreciate some will not be able to give very much at all (cf. "the widow's mite") - but it's important that we all think about this together.

For those who saw the Vision 2030 Progress Presentation a few weeks ago (you can review it on the next page) - you will know that we are in a mixed position financially. Thanks to Esme and Graham Teale's legacy we have money in the bank. This is wonderful! However, because this is one-off non-recurring funding, the Church Council has committed to only spend this money on step-changes which will develop the long-term ministry and fabric of St Michael's - rather than on the day-to-day running of the church.

More concerning is that we have an underlying and recurring deficit of somewhere between £15,000 and £20,000 each year. This has arisen from our healthy determination to improve our outreach through children's work and schools work, but which has never been covered by our regular giving.

Whilst our first priority remains finding the finance to support our work at St Michaels and the other benefice churches the PCC have decided that this year, we also want to support the important work of our Mission Partners. They have therefore agreed that 10% of everything raised through our Thanksgiving Gift Sunday will be passed on to our Mission Partners, The North Cotswold Food Bank, Grassroots Rwanda and Mission Macedonia.

On Sunday 18th October - everyone will receive a pledge form - either to return on the day - or over the next few weeks. Obviously, it would be great to see this deficit gap closed through regular giving (Parish Giving Scheme) - but I have been so blown away by all that our church family has sacrificially given over the past 3 years' gift days - that I'm just grateful for any gift - given in any way!! Thank you to you all, Tim.



Vision 2030 Progress Update

For those who couldn't be at our services on Sunday - or who wish to review the Vision 2030 presentations in more details - you can see the finance presentation and the Vision Progress Presentation by scanning the QR code. Please do review and prayerfully consider if you might be being called to help with any aspect of the Vision. Many thanks Tim.



CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Light up the Night – Saturday 31 October 2026-St Michael's Church – 3pm – 5pm-Family Fun Afternoon at St Michael's Church

Halloween can be a difficult time for many families, with the pressure of costumes, trick-or-treating, and celebrations that don't always reflect the values we want to share with our children. This year, why not do something different?

Join us for a fantastic Family Fun Afternoon where we'll enjoy laughter, activities, friendship, and fun, while sharing God's love and shining His light into our community on what is often considered a dark day. What's Happening?

🎈 Bouncy Castle 🎪 Inflatable Fun 🎨 Family Crafts 🎮 Games and Activities
🍪 Treats and Surprises 😊 Fun for all ages

Come and enjoy an afternoon packed with excitement, creativity, and community as we celebrate the hope and light that Jesus brings.

Half Term Break for Children's Groups Monday 26 – Friday 30 October

Please note that next week is the last week for children's groups before half term week, when all groups will take a break and resume on Monday 2 November.

There will also be no Sunday morning children groups on October 25, but will resume Sunday 1 November.

WHAT'S ON

Church on the Hill: Cleeve Common Guided Walk - October 18 at 10:00am- Meeting Point: Cleeve Hill Golf Club

We are delighted to welcome guides from the Cleeve Common Trust for a special Church on the Hill event. Our walk will be led by Michael, who brings a wealth of brilliant experience and deep knowledge about the Common's landscape and history. The guided walk will last approximately 1.5 hours and cover no more than 4km at a gentle pace. Before we set off we will introduce the vital conservation work of the Trust and offer a few thoughtful prompts for us to reflect on as we walk together.

Supporting the Trust

While there is no cost to join us, the Cleeve Common Trust is a charity. They will have a collection tin available at the end of the morning for anyone who would like to make a voluntary donation to support their ongoing work. If you have any questions about the walk, or concerns about accessibility, please let me know by emailing lucyannbarbour@gmail.com

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.

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 scan the QR Code: <https://northcotswold.foodbank.org.uk/>

Bring a coin and a can for Harvest When coming to one of our services, please bring a can with a £1 coin attached – so we can donate money as well as food to the North Cotswold Foodbank.

Upcoming Harvest Services:

Sun 25 October: 9.30 am -Harvest Breakfast Church, Southam Village Hall



All Souls Memorial Service-Sunday 1 November 2026 at 3.30 pm-St Michael's Church

A service of Thanksgiving and remembering loved ones who have died in recent times and provide comfort for those who mourn. There will be cards for you to complete with the names/s of your loved ones which will be collected and taken to the front during the service.

Followed by refreshments and chat. All warmly welcome.

Services for Remembrance Sunday - Sunday 8 November

- 9.30am** Holy Communion – St Michael & All Angels Bishop's Clee
10.45am Remembrance Service – Bishop's Cleeve War Memorial
10.45am Remembrance Service – St Michael & All Angels Bishop's Cleeve

(for people who would find standing for a long time at the war memorial)

There will be refreshments served in St Michael's Church following the 10.45 am services

- 10.45am** Remembrance Service – Gotherington Wal Memorial
3.00 pm Remembrance Service – Southam War Memorial

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.

Save the Date: Saturday 14 November- St Michael's Centre Christmas Market 2026

Donations Needed:

If you've items that you no longer need, please donate them.

What we need:

Unwanted Gifts-new or unused

Toiletries-Unopened

Jewellery-Unwanted in any condition (old or new)

Books & Toys-Adults/children books, toys in good condition

Household goods-clean useful items in saleable condition

Bric a Brac-good quality items suitable for sale

How to Donate: You can drop off your items to St Michael's Church Porch or St Michael's Centre Office (GL52 8LL)

NOTICES

Notices for This Newsletter

Please note that due to the high volume of requests we get for this newsletter, the cut off time for notices to go into the current week's newsletter will be 2pm on Wednesday. Anything received after this time will go into the following week's newsletter.

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.

SCAN HERE



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**.

Watch Sermons on YouTube

Visit the channel here: <https://youtu.be/RjbH3bo5jb8> or scan the QR code:



VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Help Needed- Family Fun Afternoon-Could you spare an hour to help?

We are looking for volunteers to help move chairs in the church on **Saturday 31 October at 11:00am** in preparation for the Family Fun Afternoon.

We also need help **after the event at 6:00pm** to reset the church ready for Sunday services.

If you can assist with either (or both) of these times, please contact **Lucy Betts**. Your help would be greatly appreciated and will make a real difference in enabling the event to run smoothly. **Thank you for your support!**

Can You Help? Light up the Night – Saturday 31 October 2026

St Michael's Church – 3pm – 5pm

We're looking for volunteers to help us put on a Family Fun Afternoon:

Helping with activities – supervising inflatables and games – welcoming families – supporting craft stations

All volunteers will need a current DBS check and to have completed safeguarding training.

Please Pray Too!

Even if you're unable to help on the day, we would greatly value your prayers:

For the safety of everyone attending - For the volunteers and activities - For families in our community - That God's love and light will shine brightly throughout the afternoon

If you can help in any way, or would like more information, please email: lbetts@stmbsc.uk

Let's work together to create a fun, welcoming afternoon that shares the light of Christ with our community!

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>

Thank you from North Cotswold Foodbank

On behalf of the Trustees and all the Volunteers of the North Cotswold Foodbank, I would like to thank all at St Michael's church for the extremely generous Harvest food donation received recently, which weighed in at a very impressive 115.56kg. Thanks also for the cash donation of £180 which will be used to buy items that we are short of in the warehouse.

Without your ongoing regular support and generosity, we would not be able to offer this help, so thank you all for your wonderful support and kindness - it is very much appreciated, and it really does make a difference to so many lives.

ECO-CHURCH - OCTOBER

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

Stop drafts: Seal gaps around windows and doors with cheap draft-proofing strips

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

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-bishopsclleeve.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.

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

www.stmichaelsbishopsclleeve.co.uk

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

Safeguarding: stmichaelsbishopsclleeve.co.uk/safeguarding

Church Office: stmichaelsbishopsclleeve.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.

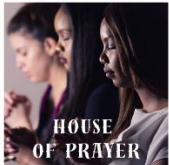
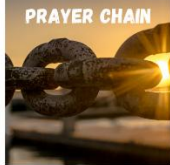
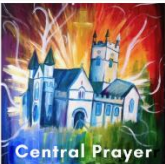
Church Office Opening Times: Monday – Thursday 10am – 2pm

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

St Michael's at Prayer

There are lots of different ways we pray at St Michael's, scan the QR code to find out different ways of praying.



 HOUSE OF PRAYER	 ↑ Zoom Meeting Thursday 7.30pm	Different ways to pray at St Michael's	 PRAYER CHAIN
 ↑ Zoom Meeting Saturday 9.30 am	 Central Prayer		Prayer Chain send a request for prayers smprayerchain@outlook.com
 PRAYER MINISTRY	Central Prayer: Tuesdays at 12.00 noon at St Michael's		Prayer Wall weekly inspiration 

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