❤️ Dear Church Family,

As we gather in faith and fellowship this November, our parish joins communities across the country in celebrating **InterFaith Week** (8th–15th November). In a world that can often feel divided, this special week offers us a meaningful opportunity to pause, look beyond our own walls, and celebrate the rich tapestry of beliefs, traditions, and cultures that make up our local neighbourhood.

At the heart of our Christian calling is the simple yet profound commandment to love our neighbour. InterFaith Week invites us to live out that call with warmth, curiosity, and genuine hospitality. Whether it is sharing a cup of tea with a friend from a different tradition, learning about the values that guide our neighbours' lives, or standing shoulder-to-shoulder to support local charities and food banks, every small act of connection strengthens the bonds of peace in our community.

We do not have to set aside what makes our own faith precious to appreciate the beauty and goodness in others. In fact, when we listen with open hearts and speak with kindness, we often discover how deeply we share a commitment to compassion, justice, and caring for those in need.

This week, let us each take a small step to build a bridge—perhaps by greeting a neighbour we haven't spoken to in a while, attending a local interfaith gathering, or simply holding the diverse families of our town in our prayers. Together, as neighbours and friends, we can make our community a brighter, more welcoming home for everyone.

## 🙏 Our Prayers

We continue to pray for Reverend Steven Young, asking God to grant him strength, comfort, and continued progress in his recovery. We also pray for Father Matthew and his son, Christian, asking the Lord to surround them with His healing presence, peace and protection. May God sustain Reverend Steven and his family, strengthen him in his ministry and bless him with renewed health and many more years of faithful service to our Parish.

We give heartfelt thanks to Reverend Louise for her dedicated service, compassionate heart, and joyful presence in our community. We pray that God will grant her good health, precious time to rest with her family, and deep peace. May she continue to feel cherished and supported by the love she has so generously shared with others.

Lord, hear our prayers, bring healing where there is suffering, hope where there is uncertainty, and peace to all who need Your comforting presence.

Amen.

## ⛪ Our Sunday Services – 15th November

- **9:15 am | St Nicholas:** Holy Communion
- **9:30 am | Holy Cross:** Service of the Word
- **9:30 am | St Michael and All Angels:** Holy Communion
- **11:15 am | All Saints:** Holy Communion

## Weekday Eucharist, Prayers & Open Church.

- **Monday, 16th November | 9:30 am:** Morning Prayer, All Saints
- **Tuesday, 17th November | 3.00 pm:** Holy Communion at Holy Cross, with pop-up cafè
- **Wednesday, 18th November | 10.00 am:** Holy Communion at St Nicholas
- **Thursday, 19th November |9.30 am:** Morning Prayer at St. Nicholas
- **Thursday, 19th November | 3.00 pm:** Songs of Praise, St Michael and All Angels
- **Friday, 20th November | 12.00 pm-2.00 pm:** Holy Communion and Open Church at All Saints (TBC)

### *Can you spare an hour?*

*We are always grateful for volunteers who help keep our beautiful churches open to the public during the week. This simple act of service offers others a quiet place to pray, reflect and encounter God's peace.*

*If you can, please contact Reverend Steven at **rector.eabw@gmail.com**, or reply to this email with **"Volunteer"** in the subject line.*

## 🎄 Upcoming Parish Events

- **Saturday, 21st November | 10.00 am–230 pm:** Christmas Fair at St Michael and All Angels Church and Hall. Please see the pew sheets for further details.
- **Sunday, 29th November | 10.00 am:** Parish Service at All Saints, presided over by the Right Reverend Andrew Rumsey, Bishop of St Albans.

We look forward to sharing these special occasions with you and celebrating the fellowship that makes our Parish such a precious part of our lives.

## 🕊️ A Moment for Reflection

Our spiritual journey extends beyond our church building, calling us to embody Christ's love within our homes, workplaces, and local streets. As we navigate the coming week, may we extend patience, offer hope, and bring gentle encouragement to every soul we encounter.

May the God of peace go with you this week, equipping you to shine His light and carry His peace into your homes, your workplace, and your community.

*Amen.*

*With every blessing,*

*Alana*

On behalf of the Parish of Elstree and Borehamwood

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