WING & A PRAYER

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

Sun 15 November 2026 - 2nd Sun before Advent

Sun 15 Nov	**10.30am: Holy Eucharist** President and Preacher: Rev'd Nick Parker
Wed 18 Nov	**9.30am: Morning Prayer** at St Michael's Chapel
	10am: Holy Eucharist at St Michael's Chapel
Sun 22 Nov	**10.30am: Holy Eucharist** President and Preacher: Fr Simon

WE PRAY FOR

In need: Hazel, David Yarnold, Morwenna Nicholls, baby Shae, Pauline Davitt.

The departed: Rosie Hayler, Jeanne Holland.

In memory: Philip Collins, John Bruce, Robert Bruce, Margaret Atkinson, Pat Abrams, Bob Richards, Yaffa De Goede.

COLLECT PRAYER

Heavenly Lord, you long for the world's salvation: stir us from apathy, restrain us from excess and revive in us new hope that all creation will one day be healed in Jesus Christ our Lord.

NEW TESTAMENT READING: 1 Thessalonians 5.1-11.

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, 'There is peace and security', then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labour pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 25.14-30

'For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents[1] to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents." His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours." But his master replied, "You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

NOTICES

The People's Emergency Briefing Film:
Mon 16 Nov at 7.15pm or Tues 17 Nov at 10.15am at St Alphege Church, followed by a discussion about what this means for our community and what we can do locally. Booking not required.

'Prayer Paths' Parish Prayer Morning – Sat 21 Nov 10am-1pm. An invitation to pray across the parish asking God to bless and guide our life and work.

St Michael's Church: 07514 373400 ¦ Email: simon@solihullparish.org.uk

We are collecting toys for the children of prisoners at HMP Birmingham. The prison will hand out the presents on 23 December, so please bring donations to our Sunday services from now until the first Sunday in December. Alternatively I can be contacted on 07752 582678. *Thank you, David Yarnold.*

1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish but naught changeth thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all praise we would render, O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.

2. Jesus, stand among us
in your risen power;
let this time of worship
be a hallowed hour.

Breathe the Holy Spirit
into every heart;
bid the fears and sorrows
from each soul depart.

Thus with quickened footsteps
we'll pursue our way,
watching for the dawning
of the eternal day.

3. The gracious invitation stands
For any who will come;
The Father runs with open arms
To children heading home -
And all who trudge with weary feet
Along life's dusty road
Receive at last a welcome chance
To lose their heavy load.

No longer need we clothe our lives
In garments soiled and torn
When Christ gives robes of righteousness
For what was old and worn:
To those bereft of dignity
And yearning to be whole,
Forgiveness brings the healing power
Which liberates the soul.

When all that busy lives produce
Is dry futility,
We find in Christ the living source
Of full reality;
And if, within our hearts, the truth
Is what we long to hear,
The whisper of the Spirit comes
As music to the ear.

Whoever looks for nourishment
Will find the table spread:
The finest riches heaven holds,
Foretold in wine and bread.
The banquet is for everyone,
The greatest and the least:
For all are called as honoured guests
To come and join the feast!

4. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
naught be all else to me save that thou art;
thou my best thought in the day and the night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word,
I ever with thee and thou with me Lord;
thou my great Father, and I thy true heir;
thou in me dwelling, and I in thy care.

Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight,
be thou my armour, and be thou my might,
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my strong tow'r,
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.

Riches I need not, nor all the world's praise,
thou mine inheritance through all my days;
thou, and thou only, the first in my heart,
high King of heaven, my treasure thou art!

High King of heaven, when battle is done,
grant heaven's joy to me, O bright heav'n's sun;
Christ of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.