WING & A PRAYER

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

Sun 29 November 2026 - Advent Sunday

Sun 29 Nov	**10.30am: Holy Eucharist** President and Preacher: Fr Simon
	5pm: Advent Carol Service At St Alphege
Wed 2 Dec	**9.30am: Morning Prayer** at St Michael's Chapel
	10am: Holy Eucharist at St Michael's Chapel
	1.30pm: Funeral of Jeanne Holland At Robin Hood Crematorium
Sun 6 Dec	**10.30am: Holy Eucharist** President: Fr Simon Preacher: Suzette Maguire

WE PRAY FOR

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

The departed: Rosie Hayler, Jeanne Holland.

In memory: Edgar Handford, Molly Westley, Horace Hopkins, Sandy Simpson, Elsie Cox, Mair Wilson, Bob Bloomfield.

COLLECT PRAYER

Almighty God, as your kingdom dawns, turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness, that we may be ready to meet you in our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 64.1-9

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!
When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed
We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity for ever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

GOSPEL READING: Mark 13.24-37.

'But in those days, after that suffering,
the sun will be darkened,
and the moon will not give its light,
and the stars will be falling from heaven,
and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.
Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in clouds" with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.
'From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.
'But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.'

NOTICES

Unfortunately there will be no 'Chapel Chat' in December. However, if anyone would care to organise a similar social afternoon in December, please feel free to do so.

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.*

St Michael's Carol Service Sun 13th Dec at 4.00pm at Oak Cottage School.

Winter Wassail 30th January 2027 6.00pm at St Helen's Church: Entrance £5 by ticket or pay at the door. An evening of home-grown entertainment with words, musical items, community singing etc! If you would like to contribute an "act" please contact Roger Chamberlain: revrog@hotmail.co.uk

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1. Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.

Jesu, thou art all compassion,
pure unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy grace receive;
suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temples leave.

Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above;
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

Finish then thy new creation:
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee;

Changed from glory into glory
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

2. In the Lord I'll be ever thankful,
in the Lord I will rejoice!
Look to God, do not be afraid;
lift up your voices: the Lord is near,
lift up your voices: the Lord is near.

3. Come, my way, my truth, my life:
such a way as gives us breath;
such a truth as ends all strife;
such a life as killeth death.

Come, my light, my feast, my strength:
such a light as shows a feast;
such a feast as mends in length;
such a strength as makes his guest.

Come, my joy, my love, my heart:
such a joy as none can move;
such a love as none can part;
such a heart as joys in love.

4. Lord, the light of Your love is shining,
Lord, the light of Your love is shining,
in the midst of the darkness, shining:
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us;
set us free by the truth You now bring us —
shine on me, shine on me.
Shine, Jesus, shine,
fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze,
set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow,
flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth Your word,
Lord, and let there be light!

Lord, I come to Your awesome presence,
from the shadows into Your radiance;
by the blood I may enter Your brightness:
search me, try me, consume all my darkness —
shine on me, shine on me.
Shine, Jesus, shine...

As we gaze on Your kingly brightness
so our faces display Your likeness,
ever changing from glory to glory:
mirrored here, may our lives tell your story —
shine on me, shine on me.
Shine, Jesus, shine...

PRAYER FOR LIGHTING THE 1ST ADVENT CANDLE:

Lord Jesus, light of the world,
born in David's city of Bethlehem,
born like him to be a king:
be born in our hearts at Christmas,
be King of our lives today. Amen.