



# St MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS CHURCH

ABINGDON-ON-THAMES

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**14<sup>th</sup> November 2021**  
**Remembrance Sunday / 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Advent**

### Regular Service Times

**Sundays:** Sung Mass, 9.30 am  
**Tuesdays:** Silent Reflections, last Tuesday of the month (except December)  
**Thursdays:** Said Mass, 12.30 pm

### Contacts

**Team Rector:** The Revd Dr Charles Miller (520144)  
**Team Vicar:** The Revd Paul Smith (534654)  
e-mail: [paul315smith@btinternet.com](mailto:paul315smith@btinternet.com)

**Churchwardens:** Miss Joyce Kelly (533555)  
(07833 535768)  
e-mail: [joyceekelly@btinternet.com](mailto:joyceekelly@btinternet.com)  
Mrs Louise Heffernan (01235 525412)  
(07779 650968)  
e-mail: [lheff@stmichaels-abingdon.org.uk](mailto:lheff@stmichaels-abingdon.org.uk)

**Bookings\*:** Miss Joyce Kelly (as above)

**Parish Office:** The Parish office is now open again **Mondays to Thursdays, 10 am-1 pm** until further notice. Please observe COVID protocols and sign in when you visit.

**Administrator:** During normal working hours phone or leave a message on:  
Telephone (520144) or  
Mobile (07395 943957)  
e-mail: [administrator@sthelens-abingdon.org.uk](mailto:administrator@sthelens-abingdon.org.uk)

**Web site:** <https://www.stmichaels-abingdon.org.uk>

*If you would like to receive this pew leaflet electronically, please email [pewleaflet@stmichaels-abingdon.org.uk](mailto:pewleaflet@stmichaels-abingdon.org.uk) with the subject line **SUBSCRIBE**.*

*Items for inclusion in the next Leaflet to be sent to David Duce by midday on Tuesday. Telephone 522591  
[pewleaflet@stmichaels-abingdon.org.uk](mailto:pewleaflet@stmichaels-abingdon.org.uk)*

*[\*for Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals please contact the Parish Office]*

## **Living in the 'in-between' times**

Dear Friends

We have come to Remembrance Sunday when we remember the fallen of two World Wars and every war and conflict since. And we long for reconciliation and peace, not least in the areas of today's world where nations are divided and are at war. Our longing is expressed in prayer as we ask for God's gentle rule to govern the hearts and minds of all people.

When we think of God's kingdom and what Jesus has accomplished on the cross we recognise that we live in an 'in-between' time, between the victory and the end. We are awaiting for the time when all that remains opposed to Jesus is won over or defeated.

What should be our attitude in this waiting time? The writer of the Letter to the Hebrews optimistically suggests that those who have been cleansed once and for all will cease to be conscious of sin and even that they should be in any need of forgiveness. His perspective comes from one who is living in the 'last days'. But this raises different issues for us. How are we to live in response to Jesus' final sacrifice?

I come across people who live in anxiety about whether or not they are acceptable to God. It is an all too common feeling however much one seeks to assure people that God has called them by name and they are unconditionally loved by him. This anxiety is not only spiritually unhealthy, but can lead us to try to appease God or bargain with him. God takes no pleasure in such strategies. Instead, our prayer should be as simple as: 'I have come to do you will, O God'. Offering ourselves afresh in God's service in whatever way we can in this broken world is the response to all Jesus has done for us.

With love and blessings, *Fr Paul*

**STEWARDSHIP RENEWAL** Thanksgiving Offering Cards for the coming year will be presented at Mass on the Feast of Christ the King, Sunday 21 November. Letters about stewardship renewal are being sent by email to people for whom we have email addresses, including a reply slip and a copy of the budget that our treasurer, Susan Read, presented last Sunday. For people for whom we do not have email addresses, printed copies will be available in church along with an extra supply of Thanksgiving Offering Cards and return envelopes. Please bring Thanksgiving Offering Cards to church on 21 November or if this is not possible, please return to the Parish Office for Susan to collect.

### **SUNDAY WORSHIP AT ST HELEN'S CHURCH**

St Helen's will live-stream their 10.30 am Eucharist through Zoom. The Zoom link is available from the Parish Administrator. A recording of the sermon will be made available after the service on the Parish Resources page on the St Helen's web site [https://www.abingdon-st-helens.org.uk/Parish/P\\_resources.html](https://www.abingdon-st-helens.org.uk/Parish/P_resources.html)

**Morning Prayer** will be said publicly in St Helen's every weekday at 9.10am. *All Welcome*

**POPPY APPEAL 2021** Poppies can still be bought in church. You can find them on the table by the votive candle stand near the north door as you come in. Readers with internet access will find details of other ways to support the Poppy Appeal at <https://www.britishlegion.org.uk/get-involved/poppy-appeal>

**ST NICOLAS' CHURCH** has booked Coseners House for their traditional lunch on 5 December. The cost of the meal is £30.00. If any members of St Michael's congregation would like to join them they would be very welcome. Please contact Eluned Hallas by 18th November at [eluned@hallas.org.uk](mailto:eluned@hallas.org.uk) for further details.

**MUSIC FOR A SUNDAY AFTERNOON** The final concert in this series will be on **Sunday 14 November 3.00pm** Pavlova Winds with Glynne Butt (piano) will play trios by Poulenc and Glinka. Some exhilarating and tuneful music! We are delighted that all four players are available to repeat a concert they performed recently in Oxford.

**CHRISTMAS FAIR: 20 NOVEMBER 10.30 am – 2pm** With only one week to go before this event, please could you to start rooting out possible donations of books, bric-a-brac (china, glassware, ornaments etc.) full bottles, good quality puzzles and games, plants and unopened toiletries. Fr Paul has given permission for donations to be left at the back of the church from now onwards. Many people have volunteered to help but more stall-holders will be needed so please let Nicola or Louise know if you are able to help. The Fair will raise money for church funds with a 10% donation to be shared between TAB and Tariro. An anonymous sponsor will provide a matching donation to the two charities.

**OUR CAKE STALL AND NATASHA'S LAW** We shall be running a cake stall as usual and shall be asking for donations of home-made cakes and biscuits. Because of Natasha's law which governs food labelling of pre-prepacked for direct sale food, we would ask that cakes and biscuits are brought in unwrapped in cake tins so that they can be packed after sale. Please would you also, if possible, include a list of ingredients or a copy of the recipe. And please avoid cakes containing nuts and seeds. Thank you, *Louise and Nicola*.

**THE KELLOGG COLLEGE ANNUAL VINCENT STRUDWICK LECTURE** on Religion in Public Life on 23 November, *Facing up to the spiritual challenge of the environmental crisis* will be given this year by the Rt Revd Olivia Graham, Bishop

of Reading, at 5.30pm. The lecture will be online. The booking link can be found on our Prayer and Worship resources page.

**QUIET GARDEN DAY** at Aston Tirrold Centre for Reflection on Saturday 27 November 10 am - 4 pm. Leaders: Joan Impey and Sue Sheppy. Theme: *Advent*. Refreshments are provided, but please bring a packed lunch. A donation of £10 would be welcome. Email: [abi.perrow@googlemail.com](mailto:abi.perrow@googlemail.com), if you want to attend.

**ABINGDON PASSION PLAY AGM** Saturday 27 November 7pm: at Christ Church Barns. There will be entertainment including music, magic, and fun. Finger food and drinks.

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT** *The Salvation Army Central Southern Area Fellowship Band* are giving a concert on 27 November at 7pm at 12 West St Helen Street, Abingdon, OX14 5BL. Limited tickets available, £5 per person, please book via phone 07435075660 or email [abingdon@salvationarmy.org.uk](mailto:abingdon@salvationarmy.org.uk)

**CHRISTMAS CARDS** John Clare has packs of Christmas cards produced by the Church Twinning committee, priced at £4.50 for 10, to help us maintain our links with churches in Abingdon's twin towns, particularly important after Brexit! Anyone who would like some please see him in person or on 01235 525898 or [johnclare.blunsdon@gmail.com](mailto:johnclare.blunsdon@gmail.com)

**A CANDLE IN THE WINDOW** The November issue of the Parish Magazine is now available to download from <https://www.abingdon-st-helens.org.uk/DNR/window.php> Thank you to all contributors.

## Worship

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**This Week** The celebrants and preachers for the next three weeks are: Fr Paul/ Mrs Beryl Clements on 14 November and Fr Paul on 21 and 28 November.

Commemorations this week include Tuesday: Margaret, queen, philanthropist, 1093, Edmund of Abingdon, archbishop, 1240; Wednesday: Hugh, bishop, 1200; Thursday: Elizabeth, princess, philanthropist, 1231; Friday: Hilda, abbess, 680, Mechtild, beguine, mystic, 1280; Saturday: Edmund, king, martyr, 870; Priscilla Lydia Sellon, a restorer of religious life in the Church of England, 1876.

**Edmund of Abingdon** A local boy who became Archbishop of Canterbury. His parents were Reginald and Mabel. It seems possible that his father was a wool merchant or draper and was a man of some means. Edmund was the eldest child of a fairly large family, one brother became Edmund's assistant in the administration of Canterbury diocese, other brothers entered Cistercian and Benedictine houses and two sisters were placed in convents. Edmund was a theologian who studied in Paris and Oxford. Little of his writings survive, best known is perhaps *Mirror of the Church* (*Speculum Ecclesie*) which sets out Edmund's vision of the religious life.

In 1222 Edmund was appointed treasurer and canon of Salisbury cathedral until 1233 when he was elected archbishop of Canterbury. He took some persuading to accept the position, one author noting that he put up far more than the customary liturgical resistance "I am not worthy". He became a mediator between the king and his barons and it is said by some that his actions averted a civil war. In August 1240 Pope Gregory summoned all metropolitans and their suffragans to come to Rome for a council. It seems that for political reasons Edmund felt it expedient to go early to Rome, but he died along the way in a small Augustinian priory in Soissy on 16 November that year.

St Edmund Hall (University of Oxford) takes its name from Edmund of Abingdon who taught in a house on the site of the Hall in 1190s. It is believed that The Lady Chapel of St Peter-in-the-East was donated by Edmund c.1220. It was used as the student chapel for the Hall until a separate chapel was built on the College grounds in 1682. Nowadays St-Peter-in-the-East houses the library of St Edmund Hall. A life-sized bronze on a 4m curved Yorkstone seat and paving commissioned for St. Edmund Hall, Oxford from the sculptor Rodney Munday, was unveiled in June 2007 by the Chancellor of the University, Lord Patten. A few links to information about Edmund of Abingdon are available on our *Prayer and Worship* resources page.

**Climate Change COP26** The COP26 conference runs from 31 October to 12 November. At the time of writing the final outcomes of COP26 were yet to be announced.

From *Climate Resilience and Just Financing -Anglican Leadership for Climate Action and Climate Justice*, the Anglican Consultative Council (2021):

Indigenous perspectives on the climate emergency and stewardship of natural resources offer both practical and spiritual responses<sup>3</sup>. Indigenous groups are at the forefront of climate resilience, as holders of local knowledge on the sustainable management of lands, forests, and resources. This traditional knowledge offers critical insight into effective adaptation and building resilient communities.

At the same time, Indigenous communities offer a shared perspective of deep interconnection and mutual flourishing with creation, countering widely-held worldviews based on extraction and domination. While Indigenous voices are increasingly being recognised in climate discussions, their ability to meaningfully participate

in and influence decision-making remains limited. To protect the rights of Indigenous peoples, their voices must be centered in policy advocacy and their communities must be actively included in decision-making spaces and inform all responses to climate change.

The Revd. Jacynthia Murphy, Diocese of Aotearoa New Zealand and Polynesia is quoted in the report:

The concept of *kaitiakitanga* positions human beings in creation – not as supreme masters over the earth community but as interdependent members of the earth community. Perceiving ourselves as interdependent members of creation requires us to broaden our gaze beyond our anthropocentric concerns to include consideration of all living entities in everything we do.

**Please pray for:**

- Steven and Gavin our bishops, Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury;
- Her Majesty the Queen, especially at this time;
- the outcomes and implementation of actions from the COP26 summit in Glasgow;
- Fr Jamie McGrath and the congregation of The Roman Catholic Church of Our Lady and St Edmund;
- our response to the financial challenges of our church’s 2022 budget;
- the worsening humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan;
- the suffering, all who mourn, the recently departed, and all whose year’s mind falls at this time;
- people living in Buckles Close, Burgess Close, Burton Close and Bury Street.

**Eucharistic Lectionary**

<b>Sun</b>	Daniel 12.1-3	Ps 16	<b>Hebrews 10.11-14 [15-18] 19-25</b>	<b>Mark 13.1-8</b>
<b>Mon</b>	1 Maccabees 1.10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-64	Ps 79.1-5		Luke 18.35-end
<b>Tues</b>	2 Maccabees 6.18-end	Ps 11		Luke 19.1-10
<b>Wed</b>	2 Maccabees 7.1,20-31	Ps 116.10-end		Luke 19.11-18
<b>Thur</b>	1 Maccabees 2.15-29	Ps 129		Luke 19.41-44
<b>Fri</b>	1 Maccabees 4.36-37, 52-59	Ps 122		Luke 19.45-end
<b>Sat</b>	1 Maccabees 6.1-13	Ps 124		Luke 20.27-40

**Collect (for Remembrance Sunday)**

Almighty Father, whose will is to restore all things in your beloved Son, the King of all: govern the hearts and minds of those in authority, and bring the families of the nations, divided and torn apart by the ravages of sin, to be subject to his just and gentle rule; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Prayer after Communion (for Remembrance Sunday)**

God of peace, whose Son Jesus Christ proclaimed the kingdom and restored the broken to wholeness of life: look with compassion on the anguish of the world, and by your healing power make whole both people and nations; through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

**Collect (Edmund of Abingdon – Common of the Saints, Bishops and Pastors)**

Almighty God, the light of the faithful and shepherd of souls, who set your servant Edmund to be a bishop in the Church, to feed your sheep by the word of Christ and to guide them by good example: give us grace to keep the faith of the Church and to follow in the footsteps of 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.

**Some On-line Resources for Worship**

*Parish resources page*

[http://www.abingdon-st-helens.org.uk/Parish/P\\_resources.html](http://www.abingdon-st-helens.org.uk/Parish/P_resources.html).

*St Michael’s Prayer and Worship resources page*

[https://www.stmichaels-abingdon.org.uk/worship\\_resources.htm](https://www.stmichaels-abingdon.org.uk/worship_resources.htm)

*Oxford Cathedral:* Livestream events will appear on the cathedral’s YouTube channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqz9I9-LbZJAPGtje0gQbbg/videos>

*Community of the Resurrection:* live streaming and recordings of the community’s daily round of prayer and praise

<https://www.facebook.com/Join-with-us-103095121647089>. Details of services at the facebook page and also at the

Community web site, <https://mirfield.org.uk/community-of-the-resurrection/our-life-and-work/worship/> On

Sundays Mass starts around 8.10 am, after Matins at 7.30 am.

*Walsingham* In addition to the daily live-streaming of Shrine Prayers at 6 pm (5pm on Fridays). the Sunday Mass is live-streamed (usually at 7.30 am, but check the web site), <https://www.walsinghamanglican.org.uk/>