

PARISH DIARY

Sunday 28th November

ADVENT SUNDAY

8:00am BCP Holy Communion St Michael's
10am Holy Communion St Michael's
10am Holy Communion St John's
12.30pm Baptism: Paige St Michael's
Hodgkiss, Kayden & Logan Slater, Roman-Jay Harvey
6:00pm Advent Service on ZOOM

Monday 29th November

4:00pm Shaping for Mission St Michael's

Tuesday 30th November

Wednesday 1st December

6:30pm Girls' Choir & SMS Rehearsal St Michael's

Thursday 2nd December

OFFICE CLOSED

9.00am Cleaners in church St Michael's
10:00am Knitting Group St John's
1:00pm School Rehearsal St Michael's
7:00pm Bellringing St Michael's

Friday 3rd December

11:00am Funeral: Tim Wellings St Michael's
8.00pm Talk by Stephen Barton St Michael's & Zoom

Saturday 4th December

3.30pm Prayer Time for Vacancy St Michael's

Sunday 5th December

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8:00am BCP Holy Communion St Michael's
10am Family Praise St Michael's
10am Holy Communion St John's

CHARITY COLLECTION SUNDAY 28TH NOVEMBER AT ST MICHAEL'S

We will be collecting for **Angel Tree** at the 10 am Advent Communion with Carols. **Angel Tree** gives prisoners the opportunity to send a Christmas gift to their children. Volunteers wrap and send gifts on prisoners' behalf with a personal message written by the prisoner. If you wish to donate please put money in a white envelope marked Angel Tree, if you can Gift Aid please fill in the front of the envelope. Cheques should be made out to 'PCC of St Michael and St Mary Lichfield' Thank you

A ZOOM SERVICE FOR ADVENT

Sunday November 28th at 6.00. THE ADVENT SONGS. Reflections on the Magnificat and Benedictus – the songs of Mary and Zechariah. Zoom link - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82007648461>

TOY SERVICE, FAMILY PRAISE

We will be collecting **toys** for **Pathway** at the 10am Family Service on the **5th December.** The toys should be new and please leave them unwrapped, but

donations of wrapping paper would be welcome. Presents for the mums will also be welcome. Thank you.

AN INVITATION TO THE GOSPEL OF LUKE by **Rev Dr Stephen Barton** on **Friday 3rd December at 8.00pm** in St. Michael's Church or online via Zoom. For more information visit <https://www.stmichaelmaryjohn.org.uk/an-invitation-to-the-gospel-of-luke.html> A Zoom link will be sent out a few days before the talk. *Chris Baker*

CHRISTMAS CONCERT performed by Good Company choir at St Michael's church on **Wednesday 8 December at 2pm** In aid of the Lichfield PATHWAY Refuge (giving help and support to victims of domestic abuse) **Tickets £10** (inc wine/soft drink) The concert has been organised by Lichfield Deanery Mothers' Union. MU continue to campaign tirelessly for an end to violence against women and children. Tickets are on sale now, please see Elizabeth or add your name to the list at the back of church. (The concert will be subject to any new Covid restrictions or regulations that may or may not be in force at the time).

THANK YOU As many of you know we are having a tough time at the moment but are feeling supported by all your good wishes. Thank you, especially to those who have helped us keep appointments or on mercy dashes to and from the hospital. *Thanks Maggie and David.*

CHURCH NOTICES

28th November

Advent Sunday

LESLEY ALLEN. After many years of Reader ministry at St Michael's and St John's, Lesley Allen's licence has come to an end and she has decided not to renew it. She feels that now is the time to step back. We thank her for all she has done over the years and we will miss her preaching and leading of services and we will be marking her retirement in due course.

APPOINTMENT OF A NEW RECTOR

The advert for a new Rector will go live on December 3rd, with applications due early in the new year. Obviously, the whole process needs much prayer and to this end we are organising a number of short prayer times over the coming weeks and months. The first of these will be on **Saturday December 4th in St. Michael's from 3.30 to 4.00**, with both corporate prayers and times of quiet for our own personal prayer, with tea, coffee and cake to follow. Please do come if you possibly can – prayer is a really important part of the appointments process. *Ruth Bull, Chris Baker*

THE FOODBANK NEEDS

Christmas puddings and mince pies
(dated 26 December or later)

Crisps and snacks,

Jam

Must be at least 3 months date.

COVID RESITRICTIONS

Easing of Restrictions following the latest survey

We would like to thank you for taking the time to complete the latest survey and for your continued support.

This has been an extremely difficult time for everyone during the Interregnum, particularly with the added pressure of the Pandemic to deal with.

As we ease the restrictions, we hope that everyone will take personal responsibility for themselves and take the necessary steps to feel safe, comfortable and welcomed in our church environment.

As from Advent Sunday, 28th November there will be a further lifting of restrictions as listed below

The use of face coverings will be optional - however we will provide face masks on entry to church for people to use at their own discretion.

Hand sanitising stations on arrival and at various points throughout church for regular use.

All pews will be open- please sit where you feel comfortable and take an

orange card to indicate that you would like some extra space.

We will continue to sing hymns with the optional use of face coverings.

Holy Communion will continue to follow a one- way system and there will be further discussions to find the best way forward on administering the elements (more details will follow) and hygiene procedures will remain in place.

We would really like to offer refreshments following the 10 am service but this very much depends on how many willing people we have to join the rota to help prepare and serve drinks.

A very high percentage of the congregation would value refreshments after the service so if you feel that you can help in any way please speak to Sue or Lyn.

We will be reviewing these procedures regularly and thank you for your understanding.

Sue and Lyn

Churchwardens