



ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH, BRAMCOTE

21st January 2023

The Week at St Michael's

Sunday 22nd January

3 Epiphany; Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

10am. Special Morning Prayer with refreshments and prayer ministry after the service.

6.30pm. Holy Communion (CW). Tea and cakes from 6pm and prayer ministry after the service.

Monday 23rd January

10am. Celtic Prayer

Wednesday 25th January

10am. Wednesday Morning Coffee

7:30pm. Choir Practice

Thursday 26th January

9:30am - 11:30am. Little Angels

10am. A half-hour service of Holy Communion

1pm - 3pm. Silver Surfers; Companionship, Cake and Computers and a special presentation on Cyber Crime.

Friday 27th January

10am – 10:30am. Prayers for Ukraine and other important matters

10am – 11.30am. Ladies Keep Fit

10.50am. Holocaust Memorial Day, Bramcote Hills Park (see page 2)

7.30pm – 9pm. Bellringing practice

Sunday 29th January

4 Epiphany; Candlemas

10am. Holy Communion with refreshments and prayer ministry after the service.

6.30pm. Choral Evensong. Tea and cakes from 6pm and prayer ministry after the service.

Every Weekday

10am – 12noon. Church is open to visitors for private prayer and for receipt of gifts for the Bestwood and Bulwell Foodbank.

Sunday 22nd January, 10am

Special Service on Christine Unity in an Unjust World

Sunday, **22nd January** is the start of the **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity**. This week has been observed ecumenically for many decades by many of the churches of our country including the Church of England, Methodist Church, United Reformed Church, Roman Catholic Church, the Orthodox Churches, Pentecostal Churches and many more. Although Christians belong to different denominations, we worship one Lord. This is something to remember at all times but particularly during this week. The special service at 10am will have a special focus on Christian unity and is entitled "Be-Longing: Praying for Unity amidst Injustice".

Thursday 26th January, 1.30 – 2.30pm

Are you worried about Cyber Crime?

If so, the meeting of Silver Surfers on Thursday 26th January is for you. Nottinghamshire Police will be present to talk about Cyber Crime and Fraud. The talk will be from 1.30pm – 2.30pm. We will hear about how to stay protected online, about password security, and about current scams. All are welcome but we do need to know if you are coming. Please let Elaine know on 07850 985349.

Sunday 29th January, 6.30pm

Choral Evensong

It's the 5th Sunday in the month and on this special Sunday we celebrate Candlemas, the presentation of Christ in the temple. At 6:30pm there is Choral Evensong. This is not to be missed. It includes The Nunc Dimittis - The Song of Simeon.

Church Motto 2023

"Do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing."

Isaiah 43:18-19

More on the Coming Week

Friday 27th January, 10.50am

**Holocaust Memorial Day 2023
Walled Garden, Bramcote Hills Park**

Holocaust Memorial Day will be marked in 2023 on Friday 27th January by a short ceremony that will take place at the Holocaust Memorial within the Walled Garden at Bramcote Hills Park, Ilkeston Road, Bramcote, Nottingham, NG9 3JT. The ceremony will begin at 11am but visitors are asked to be in place by 10:50am.

This year the theme is "Ordinary people". Ordinary people were involved in all aspects of the Holocaust, Nazi persecution of other groups, and in the genocides that took place in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur. Ordinary people were perpetrators, bystanders, rescuers, witnesses - and ordinary people were victims. The theme of this year highlights the ordinary people who let genocide happen, who actively perpetrated genocide, and the ordinary people who were persecuted. The theme will also prompt us to consider how ordinary people, such as ourselves, can perhaps play a bigger part than we might imagine in challenging prejudice today.

Following the ceremony, tea and coffee will be available from Frothy's coffee van parked in the car park.

The ceremony will last for about 30 minutes and will take place outside so it is advised to wrap up warm and wear appropriate footwear for the weather conditions.

The Mayor of the Borough of Broxtowe, Cllr David Grindell, will be leading the proceedings.

Coming up at St Michael's

**Saturday 4th February, 2.45pm
Messy Church**

Messy Church returns on the first Saturday of the month starting on Saturday 4th February. Put the date in your diary.

**Saturday 11th February, 9am – 11am
Dads 'n' Kids**

Dads 'n' Kids returns on the second Saturday of the month starting on Saturday 11th February. Put the date in your diary.

**April, May and June 2023
Alpha Course**

An alpha course is an evangelistic course which seeks to introduce the basics of the Christian faith through a series of talks and discussions. One is being planned at St Michael's starting after Easter. It will be held in church in the early afternoon, preceded by a light lunch, and volunteers have already been recruited to care for young children should this be needed. More details later.

Looking back at last week

Summary of the meeting of the PCC

There was a **meeting of the PCC** on Monday 9th January. This was a longer than usual meeting. Members were delighted with all the events held over the Christmas period and with the large number of visitors to St Michael's over that period. They wanted to pass on their sincere thanks to all those involved in all that happened, the clergy, the church officers and the many volunteers who contributed to all that happened.

They then moved on to a consideration of the budget for 2023 which was approved. This was followed by a long discussion on the bigger picture of **church finances** and consideration of how we are to cope with reduced income and the increased expenditure being faced by all of us (and, indeed, all churches) at this time. It was agreed that further discussion is needed after which church members will be informed of the position we are in and the actions that are proposed.

There was also discussion on the possible **better use of the south side of the church** for prayer, Sunday evening refreshments and for accommodation of children and families during Sunday services. This matter was referred to our Ministry Committee for further consideration.

Tina informed PCC members of progress regarding **safeguarding** in church and that all PCC members need to complete their DBS checks and safeguarding training before an audit scheduled for 30th January.

Baptism

The theme of the 10am service on Sunday 15th January was "The Baptism of Christ" which was appropriate because the service included a baptism, that of George Marley Smith. George's parents are Dean and Joanna Smith. Joanna herself is a "child" of St Michael's being the daughter of Tony and Vicki Brown who are all well known to us. We wish every blessing on George and all of his family.

Parish Brunch

The Parish Brunch on Saturday 14th January attracted over 40 people of every age from toddlers to the more mature members of our church family. And everyone expressed their delight in the food provided and in the great atmosphere. Many thanks to Donna, Fiona, Lillian, Robert and Wendy who worked tirelessly to ensure that everyone was welcomed, that the food was provided in a timely manner and that all the plates, cups, pots and pans were washed dried and put away and the Church Centre and kitchen restored to their original state. And thanks to everyone who came and supported the event. Donations received totalled £155 and after paying for the food consumed there was £75 left which has been passed on to our Treasurer as a donation to church funds.

Notices

Sad News

We have just heard that **Dorothy Roberts** has died. Dorothy was a member of our church family here at St Michael's for many years and will be sadly missed. We will provide details of the arrangements for Dorothy's funeral as soon as we receive them. In the meantime, please pray for Dorothy's relatives and friends at this sad time.

Saturday 4th February, 3pm Church PA (Sound System) Training

An important message from Jonathan Portwood:

This message is for all those who might be interested in, and willing to serve the Church Family by helping out with the Sound Desk during Sunday Services. We are having a Training Session on Saturday, February 4th, at 3pm in church. I would really like to be able to put together a rota of people to help on Sundays, for the Morning and Evening Services. The more people there are, the less often each one will need to be on duty. The training session will explain the basics of operating the Sound Desk at the back of Saint Michael's church. Simple training notes will be given to each participant. Please do come. We need you!

Bestwood and Bulwell Foodbank

Over the whole of 2022, members of St Michael's and many others in the local community provided good support for those who use the Bestwood and Bulwell Foodbank. Many thanks to all those who donated cash and/or non perishable food and toiletries and also the special gifts at Christmastime. This included the local scouts and cubs. The needs have not gone away and, indeed, are growing as the cost of living crisis gets worse. Many thanks for the help we know you will continue to provide to those in need in 2023.

Contacting us at St Michael's

0115 943 0137

(please leave a message and we will get back to you as soon as we can)

office@bramcoteparishchurch.com

<https://saintmichaelsbramcote.com>

*St Michael and All Angels Church, Bramcote,
Nottingham, NG9 3HD*

The *Bramcote Care Group* offers practical help to anyone in the parish, contact Elaine on 07850 985349

Lesley Law

A message from Katie, Lesley's daughter-in-law:

"I thought Lesley's friends at church would like to be updated on her recent move.

Sadly she became unable to look after herself and live independently in the bungalow in Bramcote and has moved to live with her younger son, Robert (who was many years ago a bellringer and church member at St Michael's) and his wife, Katie.

She does miss her many friends at the church and often mentions them, especially Victor and Marwen who gave her a lift to church and coffee morning and Vicky who lived close to her. We take her to our church in Bovey Tracey and although she doesn't much like "the young men playing guitars" she has found it a comfort to attend the 11 o'clock service which is more traditional.

I have just read to her the January newsletter from Bramcote. If anybody wishes to get in touch Lesley, her new address is:

Yew Tree House, 66 Fore Street, Bovey Tracey, Devon, TQ13 9AE.

Thank you for the many years of church life she has experienced. She often recalls leading a church walking group and the several holidays she and her husband John led to the Holy Land with church members attending. Thank you also to Tony Cardwell and David Edinburgh for keeping an eye on her in recent years."

There are many of us at St Michael's who have a great affection for Lesley and remember her husband John and all that Leslie and John contributed to St Michael's in so many different ways. There is a card for everyone to sign in Church.

What to do if there is a fire!

Before both services on Sunday 15th January we had a short presentation on what the congregation should do if there is a fire in the church buildings. In short, the emergency exits are through the South Porch and through the double doors leading from church into the vestibule and then down the stairs and out of the door in the link corridor. There is also an emergency exit through the main hall in the Church Centre. In an extreme emergency there are two other exits, one at the back of the vestibule and the other to the left of the Holy Table at the front of the church. The Duty Warden will take charge of the evacuation procedure and enlist the help of others to help people safely evacuate the building and to deal the situation. Fire extinguishers are at all entrances and exits, and there is a wheelchair and an "Evac" chair available to help people with reduced mobility. It is extremely unlikely that there will be a fire, but we do have to be ready just in case one occurs.