

WELCOME TO ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

Together in God, growing in faith and love, reaching out to all
16th December – ADVENT 3

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Manchester

CHURCH FOR A DIFFERENT WORLD

SERVICES TODAY

8am Said Eucharist
9.30am Sung Eucharist
12.45 and 2pm Baptisms
5.30pm Family Service
followed by Holy Communion
and Party refreshments

SERVICES 17th December to CHRISTMAS DAY

Monday: Middleton Tech Carol Service 1.15pm
Monday - Friday, Morning Prayer (MP) 9.15am
Wednesday - 10am Eucharist; Middleton Choral Society Concert (All Saints)
Saturday – Blue Christmas Meal 2pm – 4.30pm
Sunday - 8am Said Eucharist; 9.30am Sung Eucharist and 1st Communion;
6.30pm, Candlelight Carol Service
Christmas Eve - 4.30pm Crib and Nativity Service; Midnight Mass 11.30pm
Christmas Day – 9.30am Christmas Day Eucharist - *bring a gift to show*

FOR YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK.

BEING BAPTISED TODAY: Lois, and Jacob. For joy in their journey of faith with parents, godparents and God.

UNWELL: those with dementia, cancer, illness or disability of any kind, who suffer in body, mind or spirit in any way, visibly or invisibly - at home, hospital, nursing home or hospice – for the power of God's healing hand, the gentleness and patience of those who care, the love of family and friends.

H&M DEANERY, DMPC AND OUR PCCs: please pray for our parish Mission Action Plans, area dean Sister Frances, archdeacon Cherry and all clergy / DMPC members in our deanery as we work together on the Deanery Mission Action Plan.

1ST COMMUNION: For those preparing to make their 1st Communion next Sunday: Alfie, Freya, Isabella, Jacob, Lois, Nancy, William. Help us to welcome and support these communicant children of Christ's family.

YEAR 7 YOUNG PEOPLE MIDDLETON TECHNICAL COLLEGE: Who are attending St. Michael's for their annual Christmas Service on Monday 17th December – Give thanks for their desire to sing in our church.

God for whom we watch and wait, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way of your Son: give us courage to speak the truth, to hunger for justice, and to suffer for the cause of right, with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

MORNING PRAYER READINGS FOR W/C 17th December.

Mon. Psalm 40; Isaiah 49: 14-25; 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11.

Tues. Psalm 70; Isaiah 50; 1 Thessalonians 5: 12-end.

Wed. Psalm 146; Isaiah 51: 1-8; 2 Thessalonians: 1.

Thurs. Psalm 46; Isaiah 51: 9-16; 2 Thessalonians: 2.

Fri. Psalm 121; Isaiah 51: 17-end; 2 Thessalonians: 3.

Sat. Psalm 124; Isaiah 52: 1- 12; Jude.

NOTICES: INFORMATION: NEWS:

TOY SERVICE DONATIONS. Thank You so much, your generosity has realised 143 wrapped gifts and gift bags some containing more than one item, plus 9 envelopes of gift vouchers. You have ensured that some youngsters will have a smile on their face as well as an important gift to make them feel loved.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL: Thank you to all who made this a very special occasion. Church looks fantastic. Please do take a look at the clever creations of so many of our groups involved in our church community.

WORLD SCOUT JAMBOREE: Christmas Cards in support of the Jamboree will be on sale in the Old Vic, following the 9.30 Sunday Services during December. Cards are £3 per pack of 6 and they have been designed by Madeleine Foex.

OPEN DAY: Come and visit our beautiful church lit with 21 amazing Christmas Trees **Wednesday 12th**, 10.45am to 2.45pm.

CHRISTMAS CAROL SINGING AT THE COURTS: We will be singing Carols at Portal Court and Tonge Court, **Monday 17th December** at 6.45pm and 8pm. **We require Singers please** so that we can ensure that the Residents do have at least this opportunity to sing Christmas Carols. Please let Joyce or John Robinson know if you are able to "Sing Along".

MIDDLETON CHORAL SOCIETY CONCERT: All Saints Church, Rhodes, **Wednesday 19th**. A free wonderful occasion.

BLUE CHRISTMAS COMMUNITY LUNCH: 2pm this Saturday **22nd**. A joyful occasion bringing together our own church family and those in the community who find Christmas difficult. We need some help from our younger adults – please see warden Elaine if you can help with transport, preparation, cooking, serving, and clearing up. Lets make this a Christmas to remember for our older members.

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE: Sunday **23rd December** at 6.30pm together with Bishop Mark. It's our legendary Carol Service with the addition of the Lights from the Trees of our Tree Festival. Apart from the obvious it shall be enlightening, don't miss out!

CRIB/NATIVITY SERVICE: **Christmas Eve** at 4.30pm. Come as your favourite Nativity character. 'What A Night' it's going to be!

MIDNIGHT MASS/EUCHARIST: Please do join us for the 1st Communion of Christmas at **11.30pm Monday 24th December**. If you would like the name of a loved one read out at the service please add to the list at the back of church.

USED STAMPS: We will donate them to charity – please place in the box in the welcome area – ask a welcomer!

ST MICHAEL'S PRAYER CHAIN: Do you need someone to pray for you? It takes one phone call to May Towler, 643 2579, to activate the prayer chain. All we need is the name OR purpose we are to pray for, our Heavenly Father knows all the other details.

CHILDREN'S SOCIETY: Those who have collection boxes are requested to bring them into Church or make arrangements to hand them to either Ann Mackenzie or Yvonne Jennings please, during the next 2 or 3 weeks.

FOODBANK: This has been a wonderful year in the manner you have supported the hungry. If you are able a continued gift of a food item would be much appreciated and ensure that we are reaching out to others in our community who are less fortunate than ourselves.

As we approach the Christmas Season, Pew Sheet extends the special message of Christmas to all its readers.

VICAR: Rev'd Jackie Calow: jackie.2026309@gmail.com telephone: 0161 655 1816 or 07824 445596

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