WELCOME TO ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

Together in God, growing in faith and love, reaching out to all
23rd December – ADVENT 4

THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND
Diocese of Manchester

CHURCH FOR A DIFFERENT WORLD

SERVICES TODAY

8am Said Eucharist
9.30am Sung Eucharist
6.30pm Candlelight Carol Service. with Bishop Mark.

SERVICES 24th December to 30th December

CHRISTMAS EVE – 4.30pm Crib and Nativity Service; 11.30pm Midnight Mass.
CHRISTMAS DAY – 9.30am Eucharist – *please bring a gift to show.*
BOXING DAY – 10am Eucharist – Feast of St Stephen*****
Thursday: 10am Eucharist – Feast of St John*****
Friday: 10am Eucharist – Holy Innocents*****
Sunday: 8am Eucharist; 9.30am Sung Eucharist; 2pm Baptism
***Followed by hot tarts in the Old Vic.**

FOR YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

THE HOMELESS and SOFA-SURFERS: Those who will be without food and shelter, especially during the period of celebration. Pray for the work that charity organisations perform for those less fortunate than ourselves, including the Brentwood Centre, Middleton, Mustard Tree, The Booth Centre, Manchester and also the Winter Night Shelters in churches in and around Manchester.
THOSE LIVING ALONE: Whilst we can share the special meaning of Christmas with family and friends please pray for those who are alone and may not even receive a hot meal, a single Christmas card or the warmth of fellowship and love. Let us do all we can to share Christ's command 'to love our neighbour as our ourselves' – because, 'no one should have no one for Christmas.'
UNWELL: those with dementia, cancer, illness or disability of any kind, who suffer in body, mind or spirit in any way, visibly or invisible - 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 making their 1st Communions TODAY: Alfie, Freya, Isabella, Jacob, Lois, Nancy, William. Help us to welcome and support these communicant children of Christ's family.

Eternal God, as Mary waited for the birth of your Son, so we wait for his coming in glory;
bring us through the birth pangsof this present age to see, with her, our great salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

MORNING PRAYER READINGS FOR W/C 24th December.

Mon. Psalm 45; Isaiah 52: 13-end of 53; 2 Peter 1: 1-15.
Tues. Psalm110; Isaiah 62: 1-5; Matthew 1: 18-end.
Wed. Psalm 13; Jeremiah 26: 12-15; Acts: 6.
Thurs. Psalm 21; Exodus 33: 12-end; 1 John 2: 1-11.
Fri. Psalm 36; Baruch 4: 21-27 **OR** Genesis 37:13-20; Matthew 18: 1-10.
Sat. Psalm 19; Isaiah 57: 15–end; John 1: 1-18.

NOTICES: INFORMATION: NEWS:

THANK YOU to the staff and pupils of Middleton Technical College, who attended St Michael's last monday, their generosity has donated 50 bags/boxes to the foodbank and this was received with humilty and grateful thanks when it was delivered during this week.
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE: TODAY 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 included in the intercession prayers at the service please add to the list at the back of church.
READERS LIST: Those asked to read during January 2019 will be approached by Peter, in good time, and given copies of their readings. The readers list for February will be notified during the second half of January and again copies of readings will be provided.
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.
SOUND DESK OPERATOR: We urgently require a volunteer to operate the sound desk on Sundays at the 9.30am service. The duty, suitable for any adult male or female, would be for ONE WEEK only in every FOUR. Full Training will be given, please contact Graham Barr 643 4055.

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PEW SHEET: Entries for next week: to Peter Duce, pd21up@aol.com by Thursday evening please.
WEBSITE: http://www.stmichaelsmiddleton.co.uk AND www.allsaintsrhodes.org.uk
FACEBOOK: St Michaels Church Tonge Cum Alkrington AND www.facebook.com/allsaintsrhodes.
VICAR: Rev'd Jackie Calow: jackie.2026309@gmail.com telephone: 0161 655 1816 or 07824 445596
SAFEGUARDING OFFICER: for children and vulnerable adults: Kelly Baxendale 07973 460348 kelsiejackson@hotmail.com
CHURCHWARDEN: Neil McClure, 07568 765379, neil.mcclure@hotmail.co.uk

Rev'd Jackie, all the ministry team, wardens, PCC, and communications team offer you their warmest wishes for Christmas and peace for 2019