



Reflections on COP26 & what comes next



Some experts have expressed relief that the final agreement at Cop26 was not as bad as it could have been; the target of limiting global temperatures to a 1.5 degree increase over pre-industrial levels has been kept alive – but only if promises are kept and commitments translate into rapid action.

Others argue that it was all too little, too late, and we are heading inevitably towards catastrophic global warming of over 2 degrees (probably as high as 2.4).

Much will depend on what happens in the next 12 months to back-up this inevitably vague and ambiguous document

Tearfund argued that the result was a “complete betrayal of the countries on the front line of the climate crisis. Their very survival remains at stake, and people across the global south will continue to lose their lives, livelihoods and homes to extreme floods, storms and hurricanes”.

Whether you are a “glass half full, or half empty” person, as Christians we cannot afford to think that we can now worry about other things (of which there are plenty) and forget the climate crisis. As Pete Greig said in his inspirational address to the Tearfund Cop26 service, “the climate crisis is a problem of the human heart”. We have been called, in Genesis 2:15, to “tend” or in other translations to “care for” God’s wonderful creation, and that means starting to make significant changes to our own lifestyles, AND engaging politically with our leaders. We must continue to “pray for those in authority”, to “speak truth to power”; and to fight for climate justice in every possible way.

But I will leave the last word to our Archbishop;

In the Church, the COP26 negotiations have been what we might call ‘a moment of change’; the time to make decisions. These moments of change and renewal are rarely comfortable and never easy. The process of trying to find agreement is difficult, the challenge of listening to everybody is great.

We know that political processes often have to catch up with the prophetic witness of those affected by the issues being negotiated. For those for whom climate change is already a matter of life and death, and who are working tirelessly to mitigate and adapt, I recognise that any outcome will feel gut-wrenching if it falls short

of what science tells us is needed now. My prayers are with those around the world for whom the devastating impact of climate change is causing great suffering.

Those who have been involved in the COP26 negotiations, or perhaps urgently awaiting their outcome, might come away feeling disappointed – even though we have made more progress than we would have done without the conversation.

We owe a debt of gratitude to Alok Sharma MP and all those who have worked so hard behind the scenes for so many months to make these negotiations possible. I am humbled also by those people who campaigned and prayed for justice for God’s creation. To meet and pray with some of them at COP26 was a great inspiration for me.

It is not declarations themselves that will save the future of the planet; it is the actions that arise from them, the changes that are inspired and the progress we make from now on towards our climate goals. God calls us not to be afraid – not because climate change isn’t a cause for fear, but because we are invited to move beyond that fear into action.



Courageous political leadership that embraces the meaningful inclusion of indigenous, youth and women’s voices is now paramount. So are the commitments made by the financial sector, by companies and by other organisations. It is time for us to keep our promises to the most vulnerable people in the world and reach out in partnership to the poorest.

We believe God raised Jesus Christ from the dead. There is no situation that is beyond His power, if only we are willing to join Him in the work of reconciliation both with our neighbour and also our planet.

From Justin Welby, Pete Greig, Tearfund and David Mayers

The Sunday next before Advent

God the Father, help us to hear the call of Christ the King and to follow in his service, whose kingdom has no end; for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, one glory.

21st November 2021

The Sunday next before Advent

All Ages Together Communion—10:00am

Leader: Martin Stephens

Speaker: Martin Stephens

Reading: John 18:33-37

Nativity

It's that time again! Hurray!

I need to begin compiling my list of victims / volunteers for this year's Nativity.

The Nativity will take place on **Sunday 19th December** in the morning's Church Family Worship slot (10.00am)

The basic "plot" will remain pretty well what it has always been, although there is always the possibility of dramatic licence.

As usual, there are very few eligibility criteria:

- Age range : 0 - 100 years
- A willingness to don a costume and make some effort at acting
- No need for talent. In fact, it can be a hindrance
- No need to learn lines (but you do need to read your script through and if possible practise your part with others in your scene beforehand)
- If you would prefer a speaking to a non-speaking (or *vice versa*) role, please let me know.
- If I don't have enough volunteers, you might find you have a part anyway
- **(Please note:** the production will be streamed online and your performance will be available to a global audience afterwards on YouTube. If you are concerned about safeguarding issues with children/vulnerable adults, have a quiet word with me and we'll see what we can do to include individuals without them being on camera)



As each year's Nativity is carefully crafted to include all who wish to be included, I need your name/s as soon as possible (email lynne.norbron@gmail.com / tel 01625 614819 or speak to me in person).



An Evening of Music



Violins: Abbie James & Eliza Burkitt
Viola: Benedict Baily
Cellos: Kosta Popović & Nathanael Horton

Saturday 27th November, 7pm.

Suggested entry fee: **£5**

Please arrive approx. 15 minutes beforehand

Refreshments available in the interval

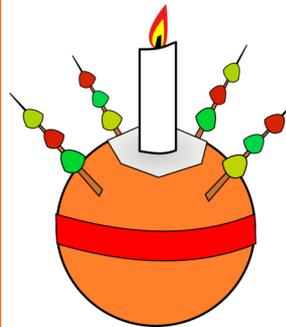
Donations accepted for the work of **OM Ships International**

Venue: Tytherington Family Worship,
Sandwich Drive,
Macclesfield, SK10 2UD



Charity No: 1008196 (England & Wales)

Christingle



Our Christingle service which is being held jointly with St. Peter's will be held on **Sunday 4th December at 4-00 pm.**

It would be great if you can join us.

Bollinbrook School Choir and The Band will also be performing.

I have left envelopes and candles boxes in the welcome area in case anyone feels able to help with our fundraising.

With Thanks

Jenny and Hil



Flower News

The beautiful flowers on the Chancel Table have been graciously given by Jo Durbin in loving memory of her dear brother George on the anniversary of his birthday and also remembering her beloved husband Eric on the anniversary of his birthday also.



Thank you Jo.

MIDWEEK SOUL FOOD

All welcome to

St Michael's @ 10.30 am on Thursdays

for our traditional, Book of Common Prayer, Communion Service.

A time for quiet reflection and prayer



NB Communion on Nov 4th, 18th and Dec 2nd. Morning Prayer from Book of Common Prayer on alternate weeks and continuing...

Angel at my Table Cafe open for refreshments after the service.

Cranmer Reading Competition for the Diocese.



Young people (Age 11 – 18) are invited to read aloud passages from the BCP and the local winners as well as having prizes on the day go on to represent the Diocese at the National Final.

The competition will be at Lower Peover during the afternoon of **Sunday, 28th November** and Ian Bishop, Archdeacon is head judge.

Further details can be found here: [Cranmer Awards - The Prayer Book Society \(pbs.org.uk\)](http://Cranmer Awards - The Prayer Book Society (pbs.org.uk))

Church Heating



You may have noticed that the church building is not always being heated as it should.

There are several different problems with the heating, which are being urgently addressed. We are doing our best! The most obvious is that sometimes the boiler will be on, then go off after a short

time. It then has to be restarted from the boiler house – a few people know how to do this and if you think this has gone off please mention it to one of the wardens.

In the meantime, please come prepared with a warm "layer" just in case.

P.S. Boiler timings have been set so the building should be warm for any meeting that is in the church diary. If you haven't booked with the office, don't be surprised if the heating isn't on!



EVERYONE WELCOME TO A CHRISTMAS AFTERNOON TEA PARTY

at **St Michael's Church**

on **Friday, 3rd December 2021**

Food, Fellowship and Entertainment

Cost £7.00 per head

Please sign up on a sheet at the back of church to reserve your place.

For further details contact Vicky Darlington on Macc 428215 or speak to any Member of the Social Committee.

Lifts can be arranged, too - look forward to seeing you on the 3rd December!

How do we heat?

Our church is heated by a large, inefficient gas boiler, which will need to be replaced soon, so we need to be ready!!



As an Eco Church, we want to have as little impact on our planet as possible while keeping our building warm(ish). So what do we do?

Do we need a heat pump? (air or ground source?) Solar panels? Another gas boiler? Something else?

We would like a small group of people who to work together to explore the options, consult experts, and produce a recommendation for the PCC, with approximate costs.

If this is something you would be willing to contribute to, please contact the church office: office@stmichaels-macclesfield.org.uk

(Note that we are not asking for a long-term commitment to the Building Group or Eco Group, although both these groups are keen to see the result!)

Open Studio Days 2021



Any Sunday in November between 12 noon and 6pm.

Olga Bileski invites you to view her work and enjoy a cuppa. She will also be happy to answer any questions about the work.

ICONS..PAINTINGS..HANDMADE CHRISTMAS CARDS..HANDPAINTED SILK SCARVES (All make great gifts for Christmas, the scarves are especially useful for sending by post as they are so light, can usually be sent in a card.)

Booking is essential, as only 2 people will be allowed at any one time (for health and safety), and there's a small entry fee of £2 p.p. refundable on purchases over £6.

Please email olga.bileski@outlook.com Or TEXT 07722432689 for more details and location.

2022



[Register Your Tree](#)

Christmas Tree Collection 2022 is back!

Saturday 15th & Sunday 16th January 2022

We are extremely pleased to announce that our annual Christmas Tree Collection will be taking place again in January 2022.

Registration is now open, click the link to register yours!



Let's get back to our roots this Christmas!

Though the needles may only just be settling from last year's event, we're so excited to be returning to our usual Christmas Tree Collection; back to normal and better than ever this January!

Embrace the festive season and relax in the knowledge that come January, we will be around to recycle your tree. It's simple - register your tree online [here](#), make a donation to East Cheshire Hospice, then a team of dedicated volunteers will collect it on January 15th or 16th.

It is as easy as that!

[Register Your Tree](#)

If you choose fake, you can still donate!

You don't need to have your tree collected by us in order to support the Christmas Tree Collection.

If you have chosen to use an artificial tree, or no tree at all, but would like to be a part of this annual fundraising event, you can still donate towards the collection.

The funds raised by one Christmas Tree Collection alone can usually cover over 2 weeks of care at the Hospice! Which is just fantastic!

[Donate to the collection](#)



Collections are made from these areas: CW12, SK9, SK10, SK11, SK12 & WA16.



We invite you to join us for the

First Hope Supporters' Get-Together of 2021

with a focus on

Renewing relationships, discussing ways to be involved locally in Festival Manchester and local Environmental action with updates from local Hope initiatives

at St George's Street Baptist Church, SK11 6TG - please enter through the side door

Please note the change of venue!

7.00pm to 8.30pm on Wednesday 24th November 2021

The Church Leaders in Hope in NE Cheshire would be delighted if you would join us for this special occasion - a chance to renew relationships and share experiences and plans. You will be welcomed with light refreshments on your arrival!

Do bring your friends, members of your family and your colleagues!

ALL ARE WELCOME!

We very much look forward to welcoming you
With every blessing

Pip

Pip Mosscrop, Co-ordinator, Hope in NE Cheshire

Email: pipmosscrop2@yahoo.co.uk; Mobile: 07715 495701

Please email to reply by ASAP to let us know whether you will be able to join us!

Save the date!

January 22nd, 2.15 pm

New Vic Theatre
Newcastle

I am planning a group visit to see

Beauty and the Beast

for FUN and FELLOWSHIP

More details next month.

Eve Budgett



Tickets: £25 each

Donations made to Silklife Foodbank

Dear Reverend Martin and the Congregation of St Michaels Church, Macclesfield.



I would personally like to say thank you to everyone who has contributed towards the donations of ambient food made to the Silklife Foodbank this week. The generosity of your church this Harvest is much appreciated. Harvest is a special time of the year which allows us to consider how God has blessed us and in turn, how we can bless others.

From the start of the Pandemic in March 2020, the Silklife Foodbank has seen a significant increase in people requiring emergency food support. There are many reasons for this, which include unemployment, benefit application delay and sickness, but to name a few. What is evident is that referrals made to the foodbank from local frontline health workers has risen 87% in 12 months. Consequently, our foodbank team has grown and our operation has had to scale up significantly, meaning more food, more storage and more volunteer input has been required. We can proudly say that with the continued support of our donors, we have been able to meet this demand.

Our emergency food parcels now contain 3 meals each day for 5 days and are given per week for up to a maximum of 3 weeks. Parcels are tailored to meet the needs of single people, couples and families and contain a meal planner. Parcels are mainly delivered to the home address within 24 hours of a referral being made.

Based on 2020 statistics it is reasonable to predict that in 2021 Silklife Foodbank will:

Help over 4,000 people

Provide the food to make 62400 meals to those facing emergency hunger crisis.

Give away an estimated £55,000 worth of food (not including toiletries).

Many Thanks for Your continued faithfulness in giving,

Dan Blackman

Silklife Foodbank, Macclesfield



Children's Society Quiz

Many thanks to all who supported this year's Children's Society Quiz, which raised a staggering sum of £413. There were 10 all correct entries which went into the draw.

1st prize Linda Johnston

2nd prize Angela Shaw



LETS do it!

Let's Eat Together **Sunday November 21st**.

Nothing special, nothing grand, just a soup and bowl in hand!!!

We think it would be nice to have lunch together on some Sundays. No-one is going to be preparing a roast dinner or anything but if you would like to join in please bring a contribution to share with others.

The first one will be after the service on the 3rd Sunday in November (this is a pilot and if it proves popular we will hold it regularly from January).

For more information ask Tricia Atherton or Chloe.

Upcoming Funerals

George Mcfarlane—Thursday 25th November 2021 12:45pm

Sylvia Moss—Friday 26th November 2021 9:45am

Jean Margaret Ward—Monday 29th November 12:30pm



Did someone say FREE TICKETS?



We are still looking for stewards to support some evening events in our church building over the next few weeks:

Friday 3rd Dec: Jordon Leigh Dance Academy: event 7pm-9pm (open up at 4pm)

Saturday 4th Dec: Macclesfield Male Voice Choir: 7pm-10pm

Monday 13th Dec: Bollinbrook Carol Service 6pm-9pm

Possible daytime school carol services on 6th, 8th, 13, 14th, 16th (I have some volunteers for these, possibly need a few more)

All times are approximate, exact times to be confirmed.

The reward? A free ticket for the concert or event, and grateful thanks from the event organiser and the St Michael's office.

Could you offer one evening or afternoon? If this is something for you, please contact the office on office@stmichaels-macclesfield.org.uk.

Many thanks!!

Rachel Mayers

Styal Prison Christmas Donations



If you would like to donate a small chocolate selection box (a pack of Celebrations, Roses or similar- costing around £3.00), as advertised in earlier editions, please note that the deadline is **Sunday 28th November**. All contributions will be taken to our new link Chaplain at Styal, Louise, the following week.

The box for donations is in the Welcome Area - a plastic box with a lid (to try to keep its contents from temptation's path). It is emptied regularly.

If you prefer to give money, please give it to me as soon as possible. I can then buy either chocolates or small A5 notebooks with your contribution. These notebooks are an important way for prisoners to write down their feelings and come to terms with their situation. I need to buy these myself as the specific design is important. The notebooks currently cost a superb £2.00 only!



Enormous thanks to all who have already donated. I have received about 12 selection packs so far and a number of cash donations (plus one or two other items for the prisoners). I can go on a shopping spree soon!

I will let you know what we finally give to the prison.

My thanks,

Lynne (Spedding)

PS you can also give donations to David Mayers and Anne Kite (aka Kitey)

Silklife Foodbank



After our well received appeal we are pleased to say that Helen and Kevin (in the photo) have kindly volunteered to deliver your kind donations to Silklife on a regular basis.

They will also be keeping you up-to-date with the latest Foodbank requirements.

They made their first delivery last Friday and luckily were able to speak to Dan, the foodbank manager.

They have asked to remind you to please keep the usual non-perishable food items coming. Remember that they cannot accept anything containing alcohol so please check ingredients carefully especially if purchasing Christmas goodies. Toiletries are also welcome and Dan says they are particularly in need of male toiletries (razors, shaving gel, deodorant/anti-perspirant) and would welcome contributions of this nature.

Information about Christmas donations in next week's Newsletter so

Keep your eyes peeled!

And a huge Thank You to Helen and Kevin for helping with our continued commitment to Silklife Foodbank.





ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH INVITES YOU TO

THE KNITTED BIBLE

26TH NOVEMBER - 6TH DECEMBER 2021



ST. CATHERINE'S CHURCH, BIRTLES LANE, OVER ALDERLEY, SK10 4RX

- All your favourite bible scenes in a very special setting
- Seasonal refreshments and carols
- Games and quizzes for young visitors
- Wear something knitted!

Call to make a group booking on 01625 860 815 / 01625 861 310
Open to the public on selected days (including weekends) more info on Facebook and in the November Messenger.

Visiting the Knitted Bible is free. For anyone who is able, a £2 donation on the door would be most welcome

Free film for the use of Churches, Bible study and Prayer groups.



The *Wartime Miracles* Leaflet which was posted to 25,000 churches across the British Isles three years ago has now

been turned into a free film, ideal for encouraging congregations during these uncertain times. A National Day of Prayer, pleading for Divine Intervention was held in May 1940, when Nazi Germany was about to destroy the British Army and invade the UK. Two days later the English Channel became as calm as a millpond enabling tiny boats to cross and rescue 333,000 soldiers and bring deliverance from invasion. Such a calm hadn't been seen for a generation. It is a dramatic example of answered prayer. This short ten minute film explains exactly what happened and is circulating around churches to encourage people and give them hope. This is an inspirational witness worth sharing widely and it can be easily circulated via email, text, WhatsApp and on Facebook. Please prayerfully share it with others to strengthen their faith.

The film can be viewed either by clicking on the link below or if you would prefer not to use the link, by going on to YouTube and searching for "A Dramatic Answer to Prayer. The Miracle of Dunkirk".

<https://youtu.be/a8vyfp0aVHk>

India Direct – Special Christmas Card/Gift



As you may know, several members of St Michael's congregation support two children's homes in India run by India Direct.

Please help to give one of the children a great Christmas. All you do is to buy a Christmas card which comes with a

stamped-addressed envelope. You sign it, post it and that's it.

Each card costs £12 but this also pays for a present for the child, a new outfit and their special Christmas dinner – great value for your £12!



Please contact Paul Spedding to buy a card(s) (paulspedding@gmail.com, Macc 614819 / 07747 622765). You must post your card(s) in early December to ensure it gets to India on time. Please also gift-aid the amount if you can - forms available.

Thank you,

Paul Spedding

Charity Card Shop

A reminder that the charity card shop held in Macclesfield Library is open **Monday to Saturday until December 19th**. Most charities are represented including the Children's Society.



Strict COVID rules are in place.



Music@Mike's

Friday 26th November

Ivan Hovorun

Ukrainian pianist



The passion and excitement that he brings to his performances have to be seen to be believed.

Concert begins at 1.15pm.

Refreshments including soup and/or a full lunch will be available from the Angel At My Table café both before and after the concert.

As usual entrance is free but donations will be welcomed.

Join us for

Worship



Wednesday Morning Discussion

11.00am to 12 noon

Join Zoom meeting [here](#)

Meeting ID: 971 3599 5784

Passcode: 01625



Coffee & Chat

St Michael's Worship 21st November 2021

The Sunday next before Advent

All Ages Together Communion—10:00am:
live in church / streamed on Youtube

Service Leader: Martin Stephens

Talk: Martin Stephens

Reading: John 18:33-37

Please use the link below to stream the Service on Youtube.
The stream will go live from 10:00am on Sunday or you can
catch up later.

<https://youtu.be/rh5cu3BEyjq>



Monday HomeGroup

When? 7.30pm - 9pm Monday evenings
(Fortnightly)

Where? The Rectory, Beech Lane, SK10 2DY

For more information contact Martin [by email](#) or
01625 426110.

Thursday Morning Worship 10:30AM (35 minutes)

18th November —Midweek Morning Communion

25th November —Midweek Morning Prayer

(and then alternate thereafter...)

Our midweek services follow the order from the book of
Common Prayer (the old order)

Thursday Homegroup

Meeting for Bible study and prayer in various
locations.

Please contact David Mayers (420716) or

Eve and David Budgett
(431606) for more
information.



*How to contact the
Office...*



CONTACT US

Phone—Landline—01625 421 984

Mobile— 07579 820 265 (on

Thursdays when Porsche is working from home)

Email— clergypa@maccteam.org.uk to contact Porsche

- office@stmichaels-macclesfield.org.uk to contact Rachel
for room bookings and building matters

- stmikesnotices@gmail.com for newsletter items.

- maccteamprinting@gmail.com for all printing
enquiries.

In Person—The Office, St Michael's Church, Market Place,
Macclesfield, SK10 1DY

Please note Porsche is usually in the office on **Mondays, Tuesdays
and Fridays** between 9:30am-2:30pm. **Wednesday** is her day off
and **Thursday** she works from home between the same hours.

Rachel's office hours are not set so please make a prior
appointment if you wish to meet with Rachel in person.

Compline/Night Prayer

Every Friday

Topic: Night Prayer

Time: 8.30pm every Friday (join
from 8.25pm)

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75676947476?](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75676947476?pwd=R2twT2pQbTFzUGR5bk1reDZoVXdaZz09)

[pwd=R2twT2pQbTFzUGR5bk1reDZoVXdaZz09](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75676947476?pwd=R2twT2pQbTFzUGR5bk1reDZoVXdaZz09)

Meeting ID: 756 7694 7476

Passcode: compline



Email any [prayer requests](#) here

DONATIONS: Donating to the
church for general purposes
has been made simpler. Either
click on the blue Donate
button or scan the QR Code.

