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Dear Friends and supporters, Rwanda is once again in the news and several of you have asked about the possible involvement of the Rwandan government in the ongoing conflict in DRC.

I want to assure you that Village Rwanda UK was set up deliberately as a-political and of no religious affiliation, so we do not comment on things that we read in the press or social media. We simply regard ourselves as one group of friends mutually supporting another group of friends. Those of us who have lived, worked or visited Rwanda will know what wonderful people have their home there, and like the vast majority of humankind they just want to live in peace.

Our Mission is :

To relieve poverty in remote rural communities in Rwanda by providing education, training, healthcare projects and the necessary support to enable individuals to generate a sustainable income and be self-sufficient.

Thankyou so much for your support and **save the date Friday 16th May** for some fun times. More information to follow soon. www.villagerwandauk.com

Mothering Sunday Photo Call

Sue and Sallie are currently planning our Mothering Sunday service on Sunday 30th March.

We'd love to see photos of your mums (or someone who has been like a mum to you) for a special montage before and during our service.

Please send your photos to Isobel in the office.
Email: clergypa@maccteam.org.uk

If you can't send your photo in electronically, please drop your photo into the church office so it can be scanned and then safely returned to you or see Sue on a Sunday with it and she can scan it using her phone.



Spring is on its way!

Chris Wellavize has been adding some spring flowers to the pots at either side of the west door.

Thank-you, Chris!

Foundations for Ministry Course

This course is run by the Chester Diocese for "anyone who wants to become better equipped to serve God in the world and the church". I guess that covers most of us, then. Are we ever fully equipped? More information can be found by clicking [here](#).



I'm currently nearing the end of this course. It comprises two terms of meetings, including three Saturdays and, although past courses have involved written assignments, these are no longer required. Each session comprises a taught component followed by a discussion. Our group of six participants are all based in churches in East Cheshire & it was informative to share different ways things were run in our parishes, the challenges we face and what had been successful.

I found throughout the course my personal faith has deepened, and I developed a clearer sense of God in my life and of His direction for me. It is a commitment, but I'd recommend it to people, at least to click on the link & find out more.

Jan Rose

Service of Prayer for Healing & Wholeness

The next Healing Service is on **Friday 21st March at 11.00am**. Please let Heike or Barbara know if you are willing to be part of the team for this service. Services last about 30 minutes.



Forthcoming Film Evenings

Friday 28th Feb. - Sing-along-a-Mama Mia

Friday 14th March - Marvellous

For more information, and to sign up, see the noticeboard in the Welcome Area.



Eco-tip

Plan your holidays with creation in mind.



If you are lucky enough to be able to take a holiday this year, visiting new places, enjoying some sunshine and seeing God's creation is a great way to be refreshed and rested. But how we travel, where we stay and what we do on holiday can be either positive or negative for local residents and the very environment we care about. Here are some simple prompts to help you plan a greener break this year.

Select an appropriate destination



- How far will you need to travel? Most forms of transport contribute to climate change. To minimise your holiday emissions, choose a destination closer to home and/or one you can reach by transport other than plane.

- Look at eco-tourism options. Many travel companies now offer holidays which support sustainable development, do not impact negatively on the environment, and provide financial support to local communities.

Collect for the Second Sunday before Lent

Almighty God,
give us reverence for all creation
and respect for every person,
that we may mirror your likeness
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Join us for *Worship*



Sunday Worship

23rd February 2025

The Second Sunday before Lent

10:00am: Church Family Worship

Leader: Martin Bancroft (Reader in Training)

Speaker: Revd Vivien Gisby

Bible reading: Luke 8.22-25

Please use the link below to stream this
(and previous services) on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/@stmikesmacclesfield>

Start the Week

Every Monday from 7.30am in church
Morning Prayer at 8.30 am in church and also on Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/stmikesmacclesfield>

Wednesday Morning Prayer Group

Alternate Wednesdays at 10:30 am in the Savage Chapel
lasting 30-40 minutes.

Next Meeting: Wednesday 5th March

Thursday Morning Worship 10:30am (35-40 mins)

Our midweek services follow the order from
the Book of Common Prayer (traditional language) and
alternate between Morning Prayer and Holy Communion

27th February: Holy Communion
6th March: Morning Prayer

Thursday Homegroup

Meeting for Bible study and prayer –
morning and evening groups

Please contact Eve & David Budgett (431606)
or David Mayers (420716) for more information



Contemplative Prayer

For the duration of the lighting works, we will meet n
SATURDAY mornings (not Friday) from 9.20-9.50.
An opportunity for quiet prayer followed by a short chat.

Compline/Night Prayer

Every Friday

Topic: Night Prayer | Time: 8.30 pm
Join Zoom Meeting; [https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75676947476?](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75676947476?pwd=R2twT2pQbTFzUGR5bk1reDZz0VXdZz09)

[pwd=R2twT2pQbTFzUGR5bk1reDZz0VXdZz09](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75676947476?pwd=R2twT2pQbTFzUGR5bk1reDZz0VXdZz09)

Meeting ID: 756 7694 7476 Passcode: compline



Most activities during the week at church should be unaffected
by the lighting works, but please check if you are in doubt.

Contemplative Prayer will take place on **Saturday** mornings
rather than Friday (9.20-9.50 in the Savage Chapel).

Share your Photos with St Mike's Church Family



If you have any photographs of recent
activities you have been involved in
which you would like including in the weekly bulletin/newsletter
or in the Church Family News slot in Sunday services, please
use this number to WhatsApp them to the relevant people:

+44 7579 820265

You can, of course, also email pictures and text to
stmikesnotices@gmail.com

How to contact the office...



Phone: Landline: 01625 421984

Email addresses:

- **Isobel** clergy@maccteam.org.uk for ministry issues
- **Elaine** bookings@stmichaels-macclesfield.org.uk for bookings and building matters
- **Bulletin/Newsletter** stmikesnotices@gmail.com
- **Printing** maccteamprinting@gmail.com
- **Safeguarding** see box below

Postal Address: The Office, St Michael's Church, Market Place, Macclesfield, SK10 1DY

Elaine's office hours are usually **Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 9:30am – 1:30 pm**
Isobel's Office hours are usually **Monday & Wednesday 9.00-3.00; and Thursday & Friday 9.00 - 1.00**

Safeguarding Contact Information



If you have any safeguarding concerns,
please contact the St Michael's
Safeguarding Officer, Katie Wilcock:

Phone: 07435 568 729

Email: safeguarding@stmichaels-macclesfield.org.uk



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Scan this QR Code or use
the **contactless donation**
point in the Welcome Area



Email any prayer requests to:

prayer@stmichaels-macclesfield.org.uk

Your request will be circulated confidentially to
a limited group of people who will pray for you.

