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www.stmichaels-macclesfield.org.uk



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Decorated Winners!



Today (Thursday) we hear that Sarah Storey has won another gold medal (her 17th overall) to become Britain's most successful Paralympian of all time.

On the same morning, our Bible reading was from Paul's first letter to the Christians in Corinth, which included the verses:

24 You know that many runners enter a race, and only one of them wins the prize. So run to win! 25 Athletes work hard to win a crown that cannot last, but we do it for a crown that will last forever. (1 Cor.9:24-25, CEV)

Praise the Lord! God wants us all to be winners - what size podium would that require! - and we can be ... if we continue to learn as a disciple, grow in and exercise faith, and be Jesus-like in both character and attitude. And we do all this better if we train together. Who do you do your Christian training with?

Sarah Storey is top of her game – today it was the women's C4-5 road race – at the age of 43. However young or old you are, however long you have been a Christian, continue to 'run the race' until you successfully reach the finish line and receive your own victor's crown.

God bless you all,

Creation- a season for 2 billion Christians.



The Season starts on September 1st. This is a day of prayer for creation observed by 2.2 billion Christians, or at least by their denominations throughout the world.

The Orthodox Church has always started its liturgical year on this day, thereby celebrating the creation of the world by Almighty God. It was proclaimed as a day of prayer for the environment by the late Ecumenical Patriarch Dimitrios I in 1989. Now the day and the Season are marked by most Churches.

On Sunday 5th September, Climate Sunday, there will be special services at St. Michael's, St. Alban's, and many other churches – including Glasgow Cathedral from 3.30pm. All these services will be focusing on prayer for world leaders in the run-up to Cop26 in November, and the urgent need for firm action to prevent run-away climate change and biodiversity loss.



including Glasgow Cathedral from 3.30pm. All these services will be focusing on prayer for world leaders in the run-up to Cop26 in November,

At the service in Glasgow the collective action and commitments from some 1600 local churches (including ours!) across Great Britain & Ireland will be presented to the UK Government under the banner "Churches Prepare for COP 26". You can register in advance to join this service at <https://churchofscotland.org.uk/news-and-events/events/nations-climate-sunday-service>.

For details of events in Macclesfield during the season of creation refer to the calendar on Page 7 of the newsletter; and get daily updates on St. Michael's Facebook page.

The Collect for the 14th Sunday after Trinity

The Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity Green Merciful God, your Son came to save us and bore our sins on the cross: may we trust in your mercy and know your love, rejoicing in the righteousness that is ours through Jesus Christ our Lord.

5th September 2021

Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

Merged Eco Service

Leader: David Mayers

Speaker: Izzy Reid

Reading by: Eco Group

Eighty Today...
 Dear Lord, I am 80, and there's much I haven't done. I hope, dear Lord, you'll let me live until I'm 81. But if I haven't finished, all I want to do, Would you please let me stay awhile until I'm 82? So many places I want to go, so much I want to see- Do you think you could manage to make it 83? Many things I may have done, but there's so much left in store, I'd like it very much, to live to 84. And if by then I'm still alive, then I'd like to stay to 85. The world is changing very fast, so I'd really like to stick, to see what happens in the world when I'm 86. I know, dear Lord, it's allot to ask, and it will be nice in heaven, but I'd really like to stay around until I'm 87. I know by then I won't be fast, and sometimes I'll be late, But it would be oh-so-pleasant, to be around at 88. I will have seen so many things and had a wonderful time, So, I'm sure that I'll be willing to leave when I'm 89.
 (Well-Maybe)

Thank you to Kitey for sending in this pertinent (to some!) poem.

Can you Volunteer?

On Tuesday 28th Sept the Camino to COP26 pilgrimage will be staying at St Michael's church.



Angel at my Table will be offering them a meal using surplus food and we need volunteers to help cook, serve and clear up.

If you can spare a couple of hours between 4 and 8pm please let Ali Griffen know (07763770026) or drop into the cafe to have a chat.

Praise the LORD, for the LORD is good; sing praise to his name, for that is pleasant.

Psalm 135:3

STEVEN MOORE
Preludes & Encores
 Repertoire from
 J.S. Bach, A. Piazzolla,
 E. Sejourne & others.

Concerts are on a
 'Pay what you can' basis
 Tickets are not required

Thursday 9th September 7:30pm
St Michaels & All Angels' Church
 Market Place, Macclesfield, SK10 1DY

www.StevenMoorePercussionist.com

Music@Mike's begins with a bang!



Percussionist Steven Moore launches the autumn season of M@M on **Thursday 9th September at 7.30pm** when he visits Macclesfield as part of his national tour "Preludes and Encores". His 1 hour performance will include pieces by Bach, Piazzolla, Sejourne and others.

As usual entrance is free, but donations are appreciated.

Pre-concert supper (last chance to book!)

Treat yourself to the complete night out! On Thursday 9th September at



6.30pm the new church café - "*An angel at your table*" - is offering a 2 course supper to enjoy before the concert at 7.30pm by the percussionist Steven Moore. As always the dishes, with a choice of meat and vegetarian main courses, will be home-made and delicious. All dishes are made using mostly donated ingredients, reducing food waste and carbon emissions, and offered on a "pay what you feel" basis. Bookings are essential; please leave a message on the church office phone **01625 421984** by 7th September at the latest.

David Mayers

Wednesday Morning Coffee and a Chat



Mary and Martha, two female disciples.

Today our Wednesday Morning Group was led by Grace who helped us to think about the two sisters, Mary and Martha. They appear to be very different characters and there is an old idea that a woman must be either a 'Mary' (the good quiet one) or a 'Martha' (the busy active possibly bossy one). I have never liked this distinction so I listened to what the rest of the group were saying with great interest.

Ok. Picture this. You have a small home where you love to have visitors, it is very important to be hospitable and provide for their needs. A group of friends turn up and you want to make them comfortable, provide some food and drink. You don't have a microwave or ready prepared meals or even biscuits and bread. You can't dash to the shop for extra milk. You need to get into the kitchen and start preparing things. You ask your sister to help you. She says no, so you dutifully get on with the jobs by yourself. But really you want to be out there with your friends listening to their latest escapades. The resentment builds. You go out into the living area and ask for help, they say no, stop fussing, come and sit with us and listen to what we are learning. What do you do? Defy all convention and join them or go back to the kitchen? Read Luke 10, verses 38-42 for the answer.

When you get into the room you see that your sister Mary has completely broken the rules of convention and has sat at the feet of the teacher Jesus. Usually only a male disciple would be allowed to do such a thing. Does Jesus now consider this woman to be one of his disciples??? It appears so. Then Jesus invites you to stay and listen.

Jesus welcomed both of the women to be his disciples.

In John's gospel we go into the home at Bethany and find out more about the two sisters. They are both in need of Jesus' help but it comes too late, their brother Lazarus dies. They are distraught. When Jesus eventually arrives, Martha runs out to meet him, Mary stays at home surrounded by Jewish mourners. Martha, in her anger blurts out 'If you had been here my brother would not have died' Martha knows this for certain. She shows her intellectual understanding of who Jesus is and this opens the way for him to say 'I am the Resurrection and the Life John 11. 25. Martha confidently asserts that she knows this. She knows who Jesus really is. She knew this before she saw the miracle. She is one of the few who are credited with acknowledging that Jesus is the Messiah, the son of God.

When Mary heard that Jesus had arrived she left the house and all the crowds went with her. She led them to Jesus and said the same thing as her sister 'Lord if you had been here my brother would not have died.' John 11. 32. She was weeping and Jesus wept with her.

A short time after the amazing miracle the family gave a dinner in celebration of Lazarus. We are not told who prepared the meal but Martha goes into the room to see that her unconventional sister, Mary has anointed Jesus' feet with an expensive perfume, giving him the honour of a valued guest and revealing her understanding of who he really is. And the fragrance of the perfume filled the house. Mary's actions showed that she knew who Jesus was and what would happen to him John 12.1- 11.

So, both Martha and Mary have their own ministries. Martha is a pastor – serving the needs of the believers. Mary is an evangelist

bringing people to see who Jesus is.

As a link to last week's chat we realised that this is the last we hear of Lazarus because the religious leaders plotted to catch him and have him killed. He may have been killed but he may have changed his identity. Who knows?

Next week we are going to find out about Malchus whose ear was cut off during the arrest of Jesus. John 18.10-11. We look forward to hearing different voices and outlooks. The zoom link is on the back of the newsletter.

Thankyou for reading.

Tricia Atherton



Where is the Heart of Archbishop Savage?

A visitor came into church last week asking where he might find the heart of Archbishop Savage. Apparently his body is buried in York Minster and his heart in the Savage Chapel.

I had no idea - but said I would ask.

By the way, this visitor bought a copy of the book "The Church in the Marketplace" but, although this mentions the heart being buried in the Savage Chapel, it doesn't say where.

Can anyone tell me?

This visitor is a (distant) blood relative of the Archbishop and

would like to know, so I've said I'll do my best and will pass on any information. I had a scout round the chapel myself after he'd left but I can't find any reference to this somewhat bizarre fact.

Lynne Spedding

lynne.norbron@gmail.com / 01625 614819



Some more details about the Pilgrimage

Below are some more details about how this year's pilgrimage will work.



Day 1, Wednesday 22nd

September. Drive to Delamere railway station in time to catch the 9:53 train to Chester arriving at 10:10. Walk to the cathedral for a service in St Anselm's chapel at 10:30. After the service those pilgrims walking the whole way will set off on the 14 miles back to Delamere. Alternatives are to drive to Chester and join us in the cathedral then walk around the town and find a nice tea shop.

Day 2, Thursday 23rd. Drive to Northwich railway station in time to catch the 9:37 train to Delamere arriving at 9:52. Those doing the long walk will then set off to walk back to Northwich (14½ miles). Our service will be in St Helen's church, Northwich at about 4:30pm. The shorter walk option, of about 5 miles, will be around the Anderton Nature Park and the Boat Lift on the Trent and Mersey Canal timed to reach St Helen's at 4:30pm.

Day 3, Friday 24th. Drive to Knutsford railway station in time to catch the 9:25 train to Northwich arriving at 9:37 then walk back to Knutsford (12½ miles) arriving at St John the Baptist church, Knutsford, at about 4:30pm for our service. The shorter walk will be from Plumley station, again of about 5 miles, timed to meet up for the service at St John's.

Day 4, Saturday 25th. Share lifts to leave some cars in Prestbury then drive to Knutsford and walk back to Prestbury (15½ miles) for a service in St Peter's, in the Norman chapel, at 5:00pm. The shorter walk option is to walk from Wilmslow along the Bollin valley so that we all meet at St Peter's.

The final day, **Sunday 26th**, which is a Treacle Market day, will be the 2½ miles from Prestbury starting at 9:00am to reach St Michael's by about 10:30. We hope that as many people as possible will join us for this last leg.

If you're interested in taking part, please have a chat with either of the Paul S's.

Paul Spedding, paulspedding@gmail.com, 07747622765

Paul Simms, paul@lowerbeechfarm.co.uk, 07879446906

How to contact the Office...



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.

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HEY, YOU ARE RIGHT, I CAN TOTALLY SEE GOD IN NATURE IF I LOOK HARD ENOUGH

Local Reflections...



Don't miss the display in the churchyard of personal reflections on the climate and ecological emergency that we are all facing, but which is impacting our neighbours in the developing south so much more seriously.

10 members of the town centre community, from a variety of backgrounds and beliefs, have written 100 words on how they have been affected – it makes fascinating reading.



Christmas is Coming (Too Soon?)

Don't forget about Cre8 Christmas trees! With Christmas stuff creeping into shops, the count down is on! We wanted to let you know that Cre8 are selling Christmas trees again this year! Please support the initiative and get a tree from us! We are also going to be hiring out potted trees this year so Watch this Space for more details to come!

Can you help this perplexed-looking man?

Dek has clearly been making something impressive but what could it be for?



Come along to the new Church Family Worship at St Michael's (starts 10am on Sunday 19th September) to find out.

What did the church wardens get up to on holiday?



Paul, along with Ruth, Rachel and David, completed the St. Magnus Way, a 55 mile walk from Egilsay through Mainland Orkney following the route taken by the body of St. Magnus – the patron saint of Orkney. It was a lovely walk, full of variety and interest – including seals, seabirds, chambered cairns and tidal causeways – which

ended at the cathedral in Kirkwall. Unfortunately it was closed when they arrived, so Paul went back later to collect the traditional scallop shells – the scallop shell is a common symbol of baptism and is worn by pilgrims and used to indicate directions on the Camino to Santiago.

Rachel continued her holiday in the northwest highlands of Scotland anticipating some more energetic walking –

unfortunately after some dodgy map-reading she found herself on a “difficult” scramble which she did not enjoy. Needless to say, we got up safely and ticked off another Munro.



The Churchwardens

Town Centre Regeneration

In February last year, a few people from St Michael's, together with local business owners, attended a session at the Town Hall to discuss 'issues and possibilities around the public realm of Chestergate and Market Place'.

Since then draft concept designs have been prepared – proposals to improve the area (in a way similar to the current revamp of Castle Street). Cheshire East Council is now looking for comments on these draft designs.

As regular visitors to the town centre and people who use the Market Place, please will you consider adding your views? For example, as well as enhancing the general appearance of the area, the draft designs include increased space for outdoor seating, and possibly altering the times of vehicular access into the Market Place. You might have a view on this? Also, what about suggesting wider ramped access into the public space which is St Michael's grounds for those with double buggies or in motorised wheelchairs?

Although there's no funding currently available, it's important we contribute our views before the designs are finalised.

The consultation will run until 5pm on 1st October. To take part in the consultation, and/or find out more, go to: www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/chestergate.





Goodbye Zoom Service, welcome streaming!

We have now held our last Sunday morning Zoom service. From now on, the Sunday morning service will normally be available live on YouTube streamed

through the new AV equipment. Alternatively, later in the day you will be able to watch the recorded event. This new equipment will also enable us to stream other services including Choral Evensong, weddings and funerals.

Of course, you will also have the option of going into the church building to take part in worship with others, if you are able.

"A huge "Thank You" to Tricia, Helen, Sallie and Beth for being Zoom hosts and making the Zoom services work so successfully over the last several months. You have contributed enormously to holding the people of St Michael's together through this difficult time." We would also like to thank and acknowledge Alan Wootton, David Budgett, Paul Simms & Mike Strutt for their help and support.

Live streamed services

In our live streamed services, those leading worship, reading, and prayers will be visible on camera. No other members of the congregation will be "zoomed in on", and normally only the back of the head of members of the congregation will be visible in a "whole church" view. Should you prefer not to be visible at all, there will be a designated area in church where you should sit.

Choir members will, of course be visible in the recordings and have given their consent individually for their image to be captured and streamed.

Like all new technology, there will be teething problems as we learn how to get the best from the equipment. This is a big learning experience for all of us so, although the recording and live stream will normally be available on YouTube, we plan a gradual introduction.

In order for our team to review their work before it is available publicly, we do not plan to stream the service on Sunday 5th September live, but to upload later in the day. We will circulate the link to this when we are ready.

We plan to do the same on Sunday 19th September when we anticipate that there will be more children present in the building.

So, on Sunday 5th and 19th September it will not be possible to take part in the service live from home. We apologise for this, but hope you understand that it is in everyone's best interest long-term. You may view the service later, or take the opportunity to join an alternative online congregation

Please bear with us as we get to grips with the new kit. Eventually it will make our worship accessible to those who are exploring "church", those who are unable to worship on Sunday morning, and those who are physically unable to get to St Michael's.

Rachel Mayers

We've been sorting out some Cupboards...

Sometimes miscellaneous items appear that were very important for an activity, once, a long time ago.. and no-one can remember who used them, until one day someone remembers them, decides to use whatever it is, and it is no longer there.....

Are these yours? Do you want them back? Could you use them even if they weren't originally yours?

These flags for example:



Or a green plastic tablecloth, or a flowery one?



There is at least one spare toolbox and about 6 cash boxes (all empty I'm afraid).

If you could use any of these items please contact the office (office@stmichaels-macclesfield.org.uk).

We are also planning to dispose of 24 chairs from the Youth Centre. They have red

fabric seats and are quite heavy. They will be put on eBay in a couple of weeks' time if no one at church would like them.



"I'm sorry, but I can't let you in. There's been a computer error."

Season of Creation 2021 - A Home for All? What can you do to care for our Common Home and make it a Home for All?

SEPTEMBER 2021

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		<p>1 World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation Join in a global on line prayer service at https://seasonofcreation.org/</p>	<p>2 Take a jar and collect a piece of creation each day to put in, e.g. leaf, twig, pebble. As you do this thank God for His creation and ask for his help to be good stewards of all His gifts.</p>	<p>3 Have a meatless or vegan meal, if possible shared with others. Meat and cheese both have a large carbon footprint. Could you do this more often during the Season?</p>	<p>4 Make time to sit and think about God's creation for a few moments – what do you do in your life to take care of people and the environment?</p>	<p>5 Climate Change Sunday Join in our Eco Service this week at 10am at St Michael's to focus on taking action on climate change.</p>
<p>6 Consider how many bottles of water or soft drinks you buy. Could you replace these with tap water in a reusable bottle? You can find out more here.</p>	<p>7 Reduce food waste by planning your meals and buying just what you need.</p> 	<p>8 Remember to say Grace before eating your meal today, and throughout the Season, thanking God for creating the food and for the people who have helped produce it.</p>	<p>9 Remember we are part of God's creation and to take care of ourselves in the way God intended with compassion and care.</p>	<p>10 Make do and mend. Find something that could be repaired e.g. bikes, clothes, electronics and tools. Bring it <i>tomorrow</i> to the first Repair Café at the Heritage Centre, Find out more here.</p>	<p>11 Join the CAFOD Faith in Action Day from 11.00am. An online talk and prayer to learn more about COP26 and Pope Francis's call to action to care for our common home.</p>	<p>12 Join in a Family Cycle Ride along the Middlewood Way. Meet at 12.00 noon at Tesco Car Park SK10 2AB to cycle to Nelson Pit for a picnic. Bring a packed lunch.</p>
<p>13 Think about how you travel each day during the Season. Could any of your journeys be walked, cycled or by bus to reduce the use of our cars? Its good for our health too.</p>	<p>14 Turn off the electronics and spend half an hour going for a walk or other activity in God's natural world. Invite your family or others to join you.</p>	<p>15 Pray for those who have been affected by natural disasters or the Coronavirus pandemic through illness, injury, death of loved ones, loss of their homes or livelihoods.</p>	<p>16 Switch electricity suppliers to a green source. You can find out more at: https://www.moneysupermarket.com/gas-and-electricity/green-energy/</p>	<p>17 Join the showing of Songs of the Prophets—A Requiem for the Climate at 7.30pm at St. Michael's Church.</p>	<p>18 Take stock of what you've done so far in the Season of Creation. How are you getting on with making it a home for all? What more could you do to take better care of God's creation?</p>	<p>19 Join in the Creation Walk at 2.00pm. An easy 3 mile walk to appreciate God's creation followed by a picnic of drinks and cakes. Teggs Nose Country Park (SK11 0AP)</p>
<p>20 Take a break from consuming and buy nothing today.</p> 	<p>21 COP26 - the Time is Now to Act on Climate Change join the online talk by Ellen Teague at 7.30pm. Contact skeithtay12@outlook.com for Zoom link.</p>	<p>22 As we uphold the human right to food, clean drinking water and safe sanitation for all. Pray today for the people in the world who don't have access to these.</p>	<p>23 Review your use of electricity at home. Are all your light bulbs LED or energy saving? Turn off some of your electrical items more often or overnight.</p>	<p>24 When doing your shopping select Fairtrade products and those without plastic packaging.</p> 	<p>25 Sign the CAFOD Reclaim our Common Home Petition to the Prime Minister on line at: https://action.cafod.org.uk/page/73304/petition/1</p>	<p>26 Join the Family Litter Pick at St. Alban's after the 9.30am Mass or gather at 10.15am. Prize for the family that collects the biggest bag. Lead by 3rd Macc Scouts.</p>
<p>27 Buy items from charity shops online, buy and sell adverts, local papers or notice boards to reduce new purchases which use up the world resources.</p>	<p>28 "Meet the Pilgrims" on the Camino to COP26 at 8.00pm at St. Michael's. Join the pilgrims on one of their walks. https://caminotocop.com/</p>	<p>29 Take time to listen to the cry of the poor with your heart. Pray for those "Forgotten People" who share our common home, e.g. those living in poverty, homeless, refugees, migrants.</p>	<p>30 Shop more locally, e.g. green grocers, butchers, bakers to reduce the food miles and plastic packaging. Visit Scoop and Scales at the Heritage Centre.</p>	<p><i>Things you can keep doing....</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remember the 3 R's Reduce, Reuse and Recycle Buy local and without plastic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Buy Fairtrade products Make do and mend Pray for world leaders to make decisions that protect our Common Home 	<p><i>Thereafter.....</i> Continue to live as good stewards of God's creation taking care of yourself, people, animals and the environment that He has blessed us with.</p>

Join us for
Sunday Worship

Wednesday Morning Discussion
11.00am to 12 noon

Join Zoom meeting [here](#)
Meeting ID: 971 3599 5784
Passcode: 01625



St Michael's Worship 5th September 2021

Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity
Merged Eco service at 10.00am:
live in church / streamed later on Youtube

Youtube link will be sent out via email after the Service

Service Leader: David Mayers

Talk: Izzy Reid

Reading: by Eco Group

Eventually (once any hiccups have been ironed out) the Youtube stream will be live and the link will be posted here so watch this space!



Monday HomeGroup

When? 7.30pm - 9pm Monday evenings

Join Zoom Meeting [here](#)
Meeting ID: 910 4838 5228
Password: Monday

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

Professional Telephone Listening Service

The Hope Centre
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READY TO LISTEN!



Thursday Homegroup Restarting!

Hooray!

On Thursday 9 September at 8 pm there will be a planning meeting at the home of Enid Skirvin, 5 Brynton Rd (Phone 01625 428 691) Looking forward to seeing old members and hopefully some new ones

Many thanks

Enid




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.



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?pwd=R2twT2pQbTFzUGR5bk1reDZoVXdaZz09>
Meeting ID: 756 7694 7476
Passcode: compline



Giving to the work and worship of St Michael's

Click here to donate towards our church's ministry

