

If you would like something included in the next prayer letter please contact a member of the clergy:

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Reading the Bible or leading the prayers in worship

If you would like to consider being one of the people who read the Bible or lead our prayers within worship at St Michael's please talk to Karen or Martin.

Don't worry, we'd train you and let you have a go 'in private' first, but it would be wonderful to expand the team of people who are involved in this.

Opportunities at St Michael's to join with others in prayer

- Contemplative prayer
Friday mornings at 9.10am, in the Savage Chapel
Also, **monthly on 1st Tuesday & 3rd Sunday evenings**
See noticesheet for venues
- Fortnightly prayer meeting
alternate Wednesdays, 10:30am in Savage Chapel
This month: Wednesdays 9th & 23rd May
- Monthly service of prayer for healing
first Friday, 12:30pm in Savage Chapel
This month: Friday 4th May and 1st June
- House & fellowship groups, for prayer and more!
2nd & 4th Mondays of each month, 2pm-3.30pm at 10 Badger Rd
This month: Mondays 14th May & 4th June
Fortnightly on Mondays, 7.30pm-9pm at The Rectory, 85 Beech Lane
This month: Mondays 7th & 21st May
1st & 3rd Thursdays of each month, 8.00pm-9.30pm at various venues
This month: Thursday 3rd and 17th May – contact David B (431 606) for venue



LET US PRAY

St Michael & All Angels, Macclesfield

May 2018

“In everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be known to God” (Philippians 4:6)

This leaflet has been produced to assist us with our daily prayers; we hope you find it useful. Feel free to use as many, or as few, of the suggestions as you feel is right for you, and of course, add your own.

*Almighty God,
your ascended Son has sent us into the world
to preach the good news of your kingdom:
inspire us with your Spirit
and fill our hearts with the fire of your love,
that all who hear your Word
may be drawn to you,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Between Ascension Day and Pentecost (10th -20th May) we take part in the global prayer initiative, Thy Kingdom Come. There will be prayer stations in St Michael's to help and lots of ideas and resources online at <https://www.thykingdomcome.global>

Thy Kingdom Come

"In praying 'Thy Kingdom Come' we all commit to playing our part in the renewal of the nations and the transformation of communities."

Archbishop Justin Welby

Pray that everyone who participates will deepen their friendship with Jesus, bring others to know Jesus or know him better, and come to know that every aspect of their life is the stuff of prayer. As we pray 'Thy Kingdom Come' let us consider what God might be calling us to do in our churches, our homes and in our own lives.

Christian Aid Week (May 13-19th)

*O Christ our Lord, who came in homelessness
that you might find a home in us
and that everyone would find a home in you.
We bring before you at this time
all who are homeless, in exile or in suffering.
Grant them the sense of being held fast in you
and enable all who love you
to strive together for a world which shall be closer to your Kingdom
in which all may live together as a family,
each caring for all, and all caring for each, for the sake of peace.*

Our Town:

Pray for the new Town Mayor, Adam Schofield, to be invested on 14th May, for his year of representing the town and the charities he supports, and for Rev Martin Stephens as he undertakes the work of Mayor's Chaplain. Give thanks for the service of Councillor Beverley Dooley, the retiring mayor.

Barnaby Festival 2018: Pray for preparations now under way for the Barnaby Festival in June. Give thanks for the creativity and varied skills of those involved in the organisation and their willingness to give of their time and energy.

Pray that we at St Michael's may find a way to help folk who come into the building during Barnaby to discover that St Michael's is not just a building and may find a way to help visitors in their own journey of faith.

Our Town Centre Community: for HOPE Social Outreach: Pray for new leadership for the WHAM Nightshelter project, that God will guide the right person to this role as preparations begin to be made for next season

Thank God for those who lead Reach Out and Recover (ROAR) and Treehouse soup kitchen, and their volunteers, and pray that they might be supported in this work.

Our Schools and Young people

Pray for all young people preparing for and taking important exams in May and June, for clear heads, calmness and a sense of perspective.

Give thanks for the recent SIAMS inspection results at Bollinbrook School, and for the work done by staff and volunteers to make God real to the children there. Pray that this work may continue to grow so that children develop an even better understanding of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Bollinbrook: *"a tree firmly planted by streams of water which yields its fruit" Ps 1 v3*

Our Diocese

We give thanks for those who are called to train for Christian Ministry, and pray especially for those to be ordained priest in Chester Cathedral on 2nd June. Especially for our curate Karen Brady and Ruth Mock, now at Appleton Thorn. Pray for the ministry given into their charge and for the communities in which they minister.

Our Church Family

We give thanks that baby Zoe Brandwood is recovering and has been able to join us in church. Give thanks for the care she has received in hospitals and pray for Lynn, Roger and George as they welcome her back home.

Pray for Chris Ainley following surgery and for his family: Richard, Gill and Jack. For Dawn Devine waiting for surgery, and for the family of baby Sakuri-Yumi Shepherd-Etchells who has just been in hospital: Gemma, Rob, and Satsuki-Mei.

Pray for Nick Rice & Steph Pitman who will be married in St Michael's on 12th May. Pray that they have a happy, memorable day, and give thanks that they wish God to be part of their married life.

Pray for the parents & Godparents of Lillie-May Reed, and Reece and Paige Gowers who will be baptised at St Michael's in May, and for these children, that they would experience God in their lives and relationships.

Pray for the families & friends of those whose funerals were taken by our ministers in April: Emily Ringwood, Bernard Johnson, and David Jackson, and for the family and friends of Valerie Taylor, Martin's mother, whose funeral was in Pott Shrigley. May the words of comfort & hope spoken bring peace to the families.

*Be gentle with the one who walks with grief. If it is you, be gentle with yourself.
Swiftly forgive, walk slowly, pause often. Take time, be gentle, as you walk with grief.*