

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH NEWSLETTER

22nd March 2026



The Fifth Sunday of Lent

Gracious Father,
you gave up your Son
out of love for the world:

lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,
that we may know eternal peace
through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,
Jesus Christ our Lord.



Eco-tip - To drive or not to drive - that is our question this week!



In the UK, transport is the largest emitting sector at 29% of all emissions, and private cars and taxis account for over half (54%) of transport emissions¹. By choosing alternative modes of transport, we can reduce our carbon footprint and also improve our own physical and mental health. Walking, cycling, or catching a bus or train may be slower at times but will often provide opportunities to appreciate God's creation and to enjoy interactions with others.



Homemakers Group

The next meeting of the Homemakers group will be Lenten Reflections.

The meeting will be held on Thursday 26th March, 7:30 pm at the home of Bernice Jones. Tel. 01625 42 28 57. All welcome.

World Day of Prayer

The theme this year was Nigeria. The service took place on Friday 6th March at the United Reformed Church, where members of St Michael's Church family helped to organise the service, and joined the congregation.



"I Will Give You Rest: Come" Matthew 11:28-30
Prepared by WDP Nigeria



Earth Hour Nature Walk

Enjoy time noticing and reflecting on God's creation.



Join us for a guided nature walk around Bluebell Meadow. Discover the local wildlife and learn how the ranger is caring for and managing the area. The walk is approximately 1.7 miles at a gentle pace and will include steps and uneven paths. Places are limited so please book. <https://holytrinityhurdsfield.churchsuite.com/events/t7segbns>

The walk is suitable for people of average fitness, including children. Please wear appropriate clothing and sturdy footwear.

Duration: 60-75 minutes.

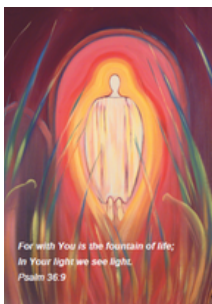
Meeting point: Riverside Park car park, off Beech Lane



THIS WEEK

Service of Prayer for Healing & Wholeness

Friday 20th March 11.00am in the Savage Chapel The service will last approximately 30 minutes All are welcome.



For with You is the fountain of life:
in Your light we see light.
Psalm 36:9

≡ Welcome ≡



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St Peter's Church Lent Prayer Stations - "Working Wood"

Working Wood - A self-guided reflection on the Passion at St Peter's Church, Windmill Street.



Journey through a series of prayer stations at your own pace, exploring the meaning of Christ's Passion for today. Using themes of wood, trees, and Jesus' life, death, and teaching, this reflective experience invites you to connect faith with the world around us. With poetry, music, images, and simple craft activities.

Maundy Thursday (2 April): 3-8pm
Good Friday (3 April): 10am-1pm

All are welcome! Drop in at any time.

ST PETER'S CHURCH
BUILDING FOR OUR COMMUNITY



Plant Sale!



There will be a plant on **25th April 11-am- 2-pm at St Barnabas Church**, Lime Avenue. Indoor and outdoor plants gratefully accepted. Katy Wardle is happy to collect or even dig out or divide your plants! Alternatively Jenny Wild is happy to receive any of your donations. Jenny 01625 420 352 / 07775 579 968 Katy 07745 734 828. Poster attached!

Tennebrae Service

United Reform Church, Park Green

Maundy Thursday 2nd April 7.30pm. A starkly dramatic service of meditation which originated in the early years of the Christian church. An ecumenical service open to everyone from any church, or none.



Experience Easter!



Activities exploring Easter - for all the family including quiet space for prayer and grief

Easter Eve, 4th April
11am - 2.30pm in the St Michael's church yard, come along!!



HOPE IN NORTH EAST CHESHIRE

Music @ Mikes

1.15pm



Angel at my Table café will be open for light refreshments.

Free entry but donations are invited for the East Cheshire Hospice and St Michael's Church, jointly.

Friday 20th March

Lin Xu-Zhang

London-based Australian pianist. Playing pieces by Sweelinck, Schubert, Haydn and Bird.



This is the last in our Spring series; our summer programme begins on **Friday 10th April** with a recital by the talented trio of Sarah Wilkes (mezzo), David Smith (baritone) and Neil Taylor (piano). Not to be missed!



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EASTER at St Michael's

Throughout school hols
(whenever Church is open)

Maundy Thursday
2nd April at 7pm

Good Friday
3rd April at 10:30am

Good Friday
3rd April at 2pm - 4pm
4 x 25 minute sessions.

Easter Eve
4th April 11am - 2.30pm

Easter Sunday
5th April at 6am

Easter Sunday
5th April at 10am

Augmented Reality (AR) Easter Trail

Find & scan the **AR** QR codes to find out about Easter (device required / WiFi available)

**Agape Meal with (optional) Foot Washing
in the Savage Chapel**

Service of readings, music and silence.

Contemplating the Cross Together

Music, readings & response to Jesus' crucifixion.
Led by St Michael's Church choir

Contemplation and Reflection

Readings, music, poetry and silence
Please leave/arrive at any changeover time
2.00; 2.25; 2.55; 3.25

Experience Easter

Activities exploring Easter - for all the family
including quiet space for prayer and grief

Sunrise Service

NB: at Teggs Nose Country Park SK11 0AP

Church Family Worship

Celebrate the greatest day in history
Gather together to celebrate Jesus' resurrection
(includes Holy Communion)

**ALL
WELCOME!**



Sunday 22nd March Worship

10:00am: Church Family Worship (plus young people's group).

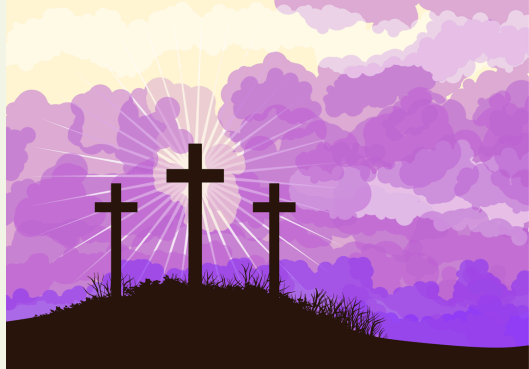
Leader: Lynne Spedding (LLM)

Speaker: Martin Bancroft (LLM)

Bible Reading: John 11:1-45

Theme: Wake me up

Use the link below to stream this (and previous services) on YouTube
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 - [Link to Facebook](#)

Wednesday Morning Prayer Group

Alternate Wednesdays at 10:30 am in the Savage Chapel - lasting 30-40 minutes.
Next Meeting: **1st April**

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

19th March: Morning Prayer

26th March: Midweek Communion Service

2nd April: Morning Prayer


Thursday Homegroup (not on during Lent)

Meeting for Bible study and prayer morning and evening groups 
Please contact Eve & David Budgett (431606) or David Mayers (420716) for more information

Listening to God

(Contemplative Prayer)
Friday mornings from 9.20-9.50.
An opportunity for quiet prayer followed by a cuppa and chat.

Compline/Night Prayer - Every Friday

Topic: Night Prayer | Time: 8.30 pm
Join Zoom Meeting; [Click here to join meeting](#)
Meeting ID: 756 7694 7476 Passcode: compline 

Share your Photos with St Mike's Church Family



If you've any photos of recent activities which you're happy to be included in this weekly bulletin/newsletter or in Church Family News on Sunday mornings, please send them via WhatsApp to this number: **+44 7579 820265**

You can, of course, also email pictures and text to stmikesnotices@gmail.com. The deadline each week is: 12 noon on Wednesdays

How to contact the office...



01625 421984



Isobel: clergypa@maccteam.org.uk for ministry queries (Office hours usually Mon & Wed 9.00-2.45; Thurs 9.00-1.00 and Fri 8.30 - 1.00pm)

Elaine: bookings@stmichaels-macclesfield.org.uk for bookings and building matters (Office hours are usually Mon, Tues & Thurs 9:30am - 1:30pm)

- 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



The National Safeguarding Team
Promoting a Safer Church

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

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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.