www.stmichaels-summertown.org.uk

St Michael & All Angels Church

serving Summertown and Cutteslowe

yourparish

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - 11TH DECEMBER 2016

Welcome to our inclusive, growing church family

Vicar - The Revd Gavin Knight 01865 556079 / 07833 251939
email. vicar@stmichaels-summertown.org.uk (day off on Saturday)
Assistant curate - The Revd Samantha Stayte 01865 557449
email. curate@stmichaels-summertown.org.uk (day off on Friday)
Parish Manager - Steve Allen | tel. 01865 311762
Parish Administrator - Leah Mattinson | tel. 07745 130956
email (for both Steve and Leah). office@stmichaels-summertown.org.uk
Church Hall bookings - bookings@stmichaels-summertown.org.uk

Dates for your diary...

***Sun 18th Dec** 6.30pm - Festival of Lessons and Carols*

WANTED: MINCE PIES

After the carol service on December 18th, we will serve mulled wine and mince pies. All donations of 6 mince pies gratefully received, home made or bought. See Sarah Scheele for more details.

CHRISTMAS COLLECTIONS FOR THE HOMELESS

Gatehouse needs new gloves, socks, woolly hats, scarves, underwear, chocolate bars. Steppin' Stone needs soap, shampoo, shower gel, toothpaste, toothbrushes, chocolate bars, gloves, socks, scarves. There are boxes in the church.

DONATIONS FOR ROUGH SLEEPERS

The New Road Baptist Church will make their hall available for rough sleepers to shelter in when the temperature drops to zero. They hope to offer each person a small bag with soap, deodorant, clean underwear and some crisps, together with a good used towel.

WANTED: STEWARDSHIP RECORDER - OVERSEEING OUR GIVING

This key role involves the planning of stewardship campaigns with Gavin and the PCC. It undertakes to raise awareness throughout the year about the importance of Christian giving through the weekly envelope scheme, standing orders and through legacies. More information available from Gavin.

CARETAKER & CLEANER REQUIRED FOR SUMMERTOWN CHURCH HALLS

This is a paid, part-time post which would suit a local person, perhaps recently retired who would like to keep busy and help facilitate St Michael & All Angels in its care for the local community. Please refer all enquiries to the vicar, Gavin Knight (vicar@stmichaels-summertown.org.uk; 07833 251939).

OXFORD UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS

This Christmas, Oxford University Student Union are running a scheme to match students who have to stay in Oxford over Christmas, with local families for Christmas Day. To find out more, email vpcandc@ousu.ox.ac.uk

BAPTISM, CONFIRMATION AND FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION

Bishop Steven will be coming to St Michaels for the Church Partnership Confirmation Service on Sunday, 14th May 2017 at 6pm. Please inform Gavin if you would like to be baptised or confirmed – whatever your age – at this service. We will provide confirmation classes in the early spring of 2017. We would also like to invite children from the age of 7 to consider preparation in order to receive the sacrament at the

TRAIDCRAFT

PLEASE STAY FOR COFFEE & VISIT OUR TRAIDCRAFT STALL AFTER THE 10AM SERVICE

LIVING FAITH

WHY I LIKE ST MICHAEL'S

Some recent comments from those in the know!

"... the worship and liturgy and its relevance to discipleship "

SUNDAYS

8.00 am Holy Eucharist
Traditional Language

10.00 am Parish Eucharist
1st Sunday of the month:
All-Age Family Eucharist
5th Sunday of the month:
Rotation with partnership churches

6.30pm Taizé Prayer
30min worship in the Lady Chapel

WEEKDAYS

Morning Prayer
9.30am (for 25min)

Holy Eucharist
Thursdays 10.00am
1st Thursday of the month: Healing - the laying on of hands and anointing.

Adult Choir Practice
Thursdays 6.30-7.45pm
Contact Stephen - 07717 852020

Men's Breakfast
1st Saturday of the month
Contact Steve - 01865 552475

Keeping Faith Through the Seasons
Contact Samantha - 01865 557449

FOR CHILDREN

'Children's Church' on Sunday
meets in the vestry during 10.00am Parish Eucharist

Godly Play
every 4th Sunday
at 10am with a crèche provided

St Michael's Choristers Age 3+
practise Thursdays in church in term-time at 5.30 pm and sing on the 1st Sunday of the month
Contact Alice - 07791 328108

Baby & Toddler Group
Tuesdays 10.00 - 12.00 noon
Play for children and chat for carers
Contact Juliet - 01865 552640

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (GAUDETE) 11TH DECEMBER 2016

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.

(Philippians 4: 4-5)

COLLECT

O Lord Jesus Christ,
who at your first coming sent your messenger
to prepare your way before you:
grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries
may likewise so prepare and make ready your way
by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just,
that at your second coming to judge the world
we may be found an acceptable people in your sight;
for you are alive and reign with the Father
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

OLD TESTAMENT READING
Isaiah 35: 1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the Lord,
the majesty of our God.
Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.
Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
'Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God.
He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you.'
Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people;
no traveller, not even fools, shall go astray.
No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.
And the ransomed of the Lord shall return,
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW
Chapter 11: 2-11

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, 'Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?' Jesus answered them, 'Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offence at me.'

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: 'What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,
"See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you."
Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

CHOIR ANTHEM

Rejoice in the Lord Alway (anon.)

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

We give you thanks, O Lord, for these heavenly gifts;
kindle in us the fire of your Spirit
that when your Christ comes again
we may shine as lights before his face;
who is alive and reigns now and for ever.



The Threshold Project

Building a place of welcome
for the local community

Readings & Prayers from the The Revised Common Lectionary.
Biblical texts taken from the New Revised Standard Version.

NEXT WEEK

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Readings: Isaiah 7: 10-16 / Matthew 1: 18-25

8am President: Gavin Knight

10am President: Gavin Knight / 10am Preacher: Gavin Knight