

## Fundraising

We are currently seeking donations of prizes for Tea & Toasts, so if you have any bottles of spirits or wine that you have spare could you please donate them as we are looking for raffle prizes. Also we are **desperately in need prizes for the Tombola** if you can help please see Rosemary Lunt or Barbara Houghton.  
**Looking ahead to the January Tea & Toast 'ordinary' tombola items.**

## Runcorn Food Bank

This week the Food Bank needs Christmas items, mashed potato, tinned vegetables, long life milk, jam, tinned rice pudding, tinned tomatoes and tinned spaghetti and toiletries (shower gel, deodorant, shampoo).  
**PLEASE NO BEANS.**  
 Recently we donated £40.85kgs in food and 87.50.

## Car Parking

If you come to church in car and struggle to find a car parking space at church or in Fox Street and Eaton Street, you could you park your car in the Cemetery opposite please. It would greatly appreciated.

Thanks in advance.

## ADVANCE NOTICE

Some the older members in our congregation might have known Gertrude Hughes who worshipped at St Michael's Church for many years, she passed away last week. Her funeral is at St Laurence's Church, Frodsham on Thursday 19th of December at 10:00am, followed by the burial at Tarvin Road. She leaves her two daughters Lynn and Lesley.

## THANK YOU

A huge thank from our vicar, Revd George, to everyone who helped to organise and help out at the Community Christmas Tree Festival over the 4 days, this was greatly Appreciated. Again this was a great success.



Please do keep in touch with us here at St Michaels, we would like to hear from you again.

Any enquiries relating in booking a Baptism, Wedding or funeral can be made through our Admin Officer, Robbie on preferably **email [stmichaelsruncorn@gmail.com](mailto:stmichaelsruncorn@gmail.com) or the church mobile 07731677693**

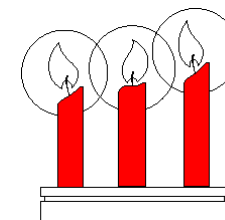
For safeguarding matters email [safeguardingsmaa@gmail.com](mailto:safeguardingsmaa@gmail.com)

Our Vicar, Revd George Roach can be contacted on **01928 832734** or [vicar.smaaruncorn@gmail.com](mailto:vicar.smaaruncorn@gmail.com) The Vicars rest day is Friday

We are continuing to grow our social media presence, please do search for us on **Facebook and X!** or on our website **[www.runcornstmichaels.org.uk](http://www.runcornstmichaels.org.uk)**



Parish Church of  
 St Michael and All Angels  
 Sunday 15th December 2024  
 3rd Sunday of Advent  
 Theme: 'Changing our Ways'



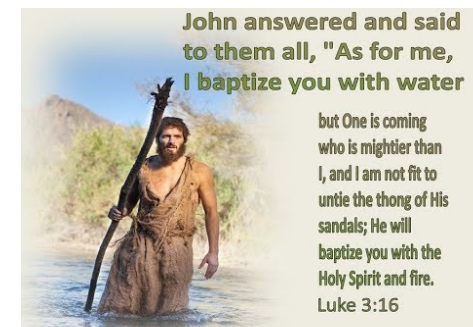
## Welcome to St Michael and All Angels this morning!

If you are new here, please make sure you say **HELLO** to the church staff and volunteers who will do all they can to assist you.

This service sheet is available in large print and blue paper for those with visual impairment or learning differences

## Services Today

10.30am Holy Communion  
 Revd George Roach  
 Mission Praise  
 210 Hark the glad sound the Saviour comes (Omit v)  
 Zephaniah 3: 14-end  
 393 Joy to the world  
 Luke 3 : 7-18  
 1086 Light of the world  
*The Angel Gabriel from Heaven came  
 Wait for the Lord*  
 204 Hail to the Lord anointed



## Regular Activities at St Michael

### Monday 16th December

9.00am Prayer group by Zoom

### Tuesday 17th December

10.00am-12.00noon Crafters

### Wednesday 18th December

10.00am Holy Communion

### Thursday 19th December

10.30am Bible Study led by Revd Helen Browne

2.00pm The funeral of Shelia Beswick

### Friday 20th December

6.00pm for 6.30pm

Christingle

### Sunday 22nd December

10.30am Holy Communion

4.00pm 9 Lessons and Carols

## Collect & Readings

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.

### **Zephaniah 3: 14-end**

<sup>14</sup> Sing, Daughter Zion; shout aloud, Israel! Be glad and rejoice with all your heart, Daughter Jerusalem! <sup>15</sup> The LORD has taken away your punishment, he has turned back your enemy. The LORD, the King of Israel, is with you; never again will you fear any harm. <sup>16</sup> On that day they will say to Jerusalem, "Do not fear, Zion; do not let your hands hang limp. <sup>17</sup> The LORD your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves. He will take great delight in you; in his love he will no longer rebuke you, but will rejoice over you with singing." <sup>18</sup> "I will remove from you all who mourn over the loss of your appointed festivals, which is a burden and reproach for you. <sup>19</sup> At that time I will deal with all who oppressed you. I will rescue the lame; I will gather the exiles. I will give them praise and honour

in every land where they have suffered shame. <sup>20</sup> At that time I will gather you; at that time I will bring you home. I will give you honour and praise among all the peoples of the earth when I restore your fortunes before your very eyes," says the LORD.

### **Luke 3 : 7-18**

<sup>7</sup> John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? <sup>8</sup> Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. <sup>9</sup> The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire." <sup>10</sup> "What should we do then?" the crowd asked. <sup>11</sup> John answered, "Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same." <sup>12</sup> Even tax collectors came to be baptized. "Teacher," they asked, "what should we do?" <sup>13</sup> "Don't collect any more than you are required to," he told them. <sup>14</sup> Then some soldiers asked him, "And what should we do?" He replied, "Don't extort money and don't accuse people falsely—be content with your pay." <sup>15</sup> The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. <sup>16</sup> John answered them all, "I

baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

<sup>18</sup> And with many other words John exhorted the people and proclaimed the good news to them.

### **Post Communion**

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.

