

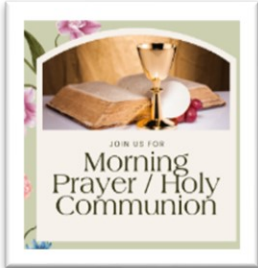


The Weekly Bulletin

21st December,
2024

St Michael's Church, Blundellsands
www.stmichaelblundellsands.org

Upcoming Services



22nd December - 4.00
Christingle
(followed by tea and
cake)

25th December - 10.30
Holy Communion
(Christmas Day)

29th December - 10.30
Morning Prayer



Services this coming week			
Date	Day	Time	Service
22/12/24	Sunday	4.00 pm	Christingle (4 th Sunday of Advent)
Livestream Links			
(A) https://youtube.com/live/ztp_o_IRVCc?feature=share			
(B) https://youtube.com/live/zoaffUV1m9g?feature=share			

"Join me, everyone! Let's praise the Lord together. Let's make him famous! Let's make his name glorious to all"

Psalm 34:3

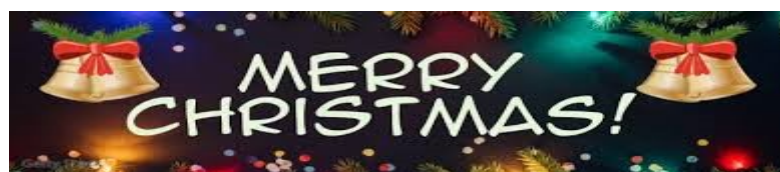
Reminder!

There is **no morning service** at St Michael's on Sunday 22nd December. Do please join us for our Christingle:



Sunday 22nd December (4pm) - Christingle service followed by tea and cake.

Donations of Christmassy cakes are needed!! Please drop them in to the office before 10.30 today if you are able to help. (see page 5 for more details)



I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a blessed New Year.

Rachel Lupton

Muddles Club

You might have noticed that we have about 5 children regularly attending our Muddles' Sunday Club: What a joy to have some kids in the congregation again!

Please feel free to bring your children / grandchildren along to join in the fun. Lucy would be only too happy to have them. (We do expect you to be available if you are needed.)

In order to make it happen every Sunday, Lucy is looking for volunteers to help with supervising.

If you are willing, please text Lucy on 07514 687353.

Thanks!

Children's Challenge!

Discuss the parts that make up a Christingle. Print out this page of the bulletin for your children or grandchildren. Once they complete the colouring page or Advent word challenge, it can be brought into the office (see working hours) to receive a chocolate coin!

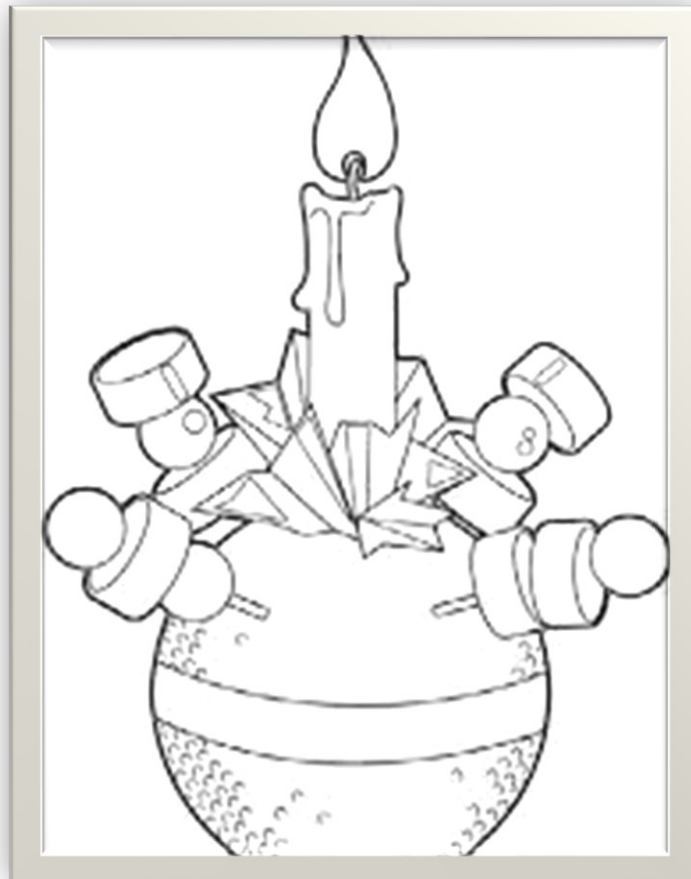
What makes a Christingle?

See if you can find out what the parts of a Christingle represent (**Hint** - if you come to the Christingle service, Lucy will tell you!)

- **Candle** - _____
- **Orange** - _____
- **Red Ribbon** - _____
- **Cocktail sticks (x4)** _____
- **Sweets / dried fruits** _____

<https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/how-you-can-help/fundraise-and-events/christingle>

Click the link about to see how Christingle and The Children's Society can help young people.



Coloured in by: _____

Aged: _____





Luke 1: 39 - 45

(Mary Visits Elizabeth)

³⁹At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, ⁴⁰where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. ⁴²In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! ⁴³But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? ⁴⁴As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!"

Isaiah 60: 1 - 3

"Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.

²See, darkness covers the earth
and thick darkness is over the peoples,
but the Lord rises upon you
and his glory appears over you.

³Nations will come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

**Prayers for Love
(Advent 4)**

God of love, as we approach the celebration of the birth of your Son, help us to embody the love that He brought into the world. Teach us to love one another as you have loved us. Amen.

Heavenly Father
You willingly gave the gift of your life because of your love. Your righteous blood covered our sin. You redeem and restore us when we confess you as Lord and Savior of our life. At that moment you give us the gift of your love for all eternity. Amen



Collect for 4th Sunday of Advent

God our redeemer,
who prepared the Blessed Virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son:
grant that, as she looked for his coming as our saviour,
so we may be ready to greet him when he comes again as our judge;
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen

FOOD ITEMS

Tea / Coffee / Hot Chocolate	Sauces (Pasta / Tomato) Jars
Milk / Juice (carton)	Pasta / Rice / Noodles
Cup a Soup / Noodles Puddings / Biscuits / Jam	Instant Mash
Soups (can/packet)	Tinned Fruit / Rice / Custard
Tinned Beans / Spaghetti /Tomatoes	Cereal (small size)
EXTRAS	TOILETRIES (male & female)
Chocolate	Soap, shower gel & shampoo
Pet Food	Deodorant
Nappies	Toothpaste & toothbrushes



Just a reminder we have collection boxes in both church and church hall for the local foodbank. Please do donate what you can.

“For there will never cease to be poor in the land. Therefore I command you, “You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor.”

(Deuteronomy 15:11)

December’s Barista Rota

- 1st** - Pam & Nora
- 8th** - Richard & Sue
- 15th** - Lynne, Marika & Sylvia
- 22nd** - Jenny & Lorna
- 29th** - Brenda & Jan



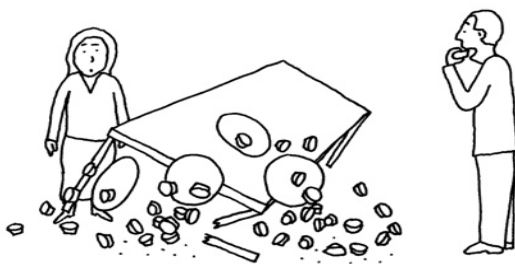
December’s Welcoming Team

- 1st** - Jane Mellor & Anne Monk
- 8th** - Lorna Swainbank
- 15th** - M Williams
- 22nd** -
- 29th** -



ADVENT

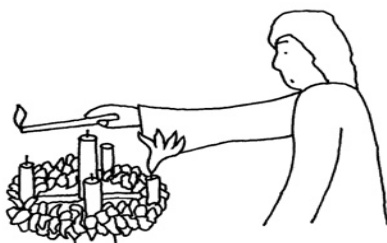
HAZARDS



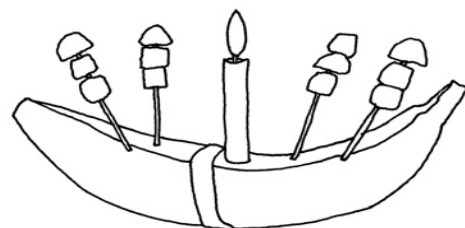
TABLES BUCKLING UNDER SHEER WEIGHT OF MINCE PIES



UNREST OVER THE CORRECT WEEK TO LIGHT THE PINK CANDLE



ADVENT WREATH FIRES



SUPERMARKETS RUNNING OUT OF ORANGES

Cartoonchurch.com

Just Giving



We now have a link to our Just Giving page where you can make donations to our Raise the Roof campaign. Please support when you can to help preserve this special church building.

SCAN ME!

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/stmbsandsraisetherooft>



<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61551488331158>

Please click on the link to go to our Facebook page and 'follow us', so you can see the latest photographs and updates from the church.

Christingle - CAKES NEEDED!!



After the Christingle tomorrow, refreshments will be served. If you would like to make any cake donations, they can be dropped in to the Church Office **TODAY** between 8.00 and 10.30am.

We are particularly in need of 'Christmassy' cakes. These may be Christmas cake slices, Christmas themed fairy cakes, mini yule logs etc.



Christmas Cards



Please could you check at the back of church and take any Christmas cards addressed to yourself. It would also be appreciated if you could take and deliver any cards there for friends or neighbours who are not in Church on Sunday. Thank you.

Favourite biscuit?



Do you have a favourite biscuit that you enjoy? If so, please don't keep it a secret! We would love it if you could bring along a packet of your favourite biscuits from time to time to share with others during the after service refreshments. All biscuit donations can be passed to Brenda. Thank you .

CHURCH EVENTS & NOTICES



Parish Office



For items to be included in the weekly bulletin, please email the Parish Administrator by 5pm on Wednesdays. Thank you.

Office Hours this coming week:

Tuesday 24th December - CLOSED

Wednesday 25th December - CLOSED

Thursday 26th December - CLOSED

Saturday 28th December - 8.00 - 10.30

office@stmbsands.org



Mothers' Union

The Mothers' Union will enjoy a talk by Elaine Allen. More details to follow. **Tuesday 28th January.**

Liverpool Diocese

Fit for mission

in Sefton North

Would you like to find out more information about Fit for Mission in your deanery?

Sign up to receive email updates.

For more information head to our website <https://liverpoolcofe.org/> or contact Fit for Mission Engagement Manager, David Banbury (david.banbury@liverpool.anglican.org)

Diocese of Liverpool

FIT FOR MISSION SESSIONS

As part of the Fit for Mission Engage phase we are organising some equipping/training sessions exploring some of the themes of Fit for Mission. In these sessions will be looking at the process of change, leadership, building healthy teams, the importance of vision and the fears and opportunities presented by change.

The sessions are open to all lay people - please share this invite with members of your church.

This Venue is possibly the most suitable if you are in the Sefton South and Sefton North Deaneries

Venue: St Luke's, 71 Liverpool Road, Crosby, L23 5SE

Dates: Week 1 Tuesday 11th and Week 2 Tuesday 25th February

Time: Refreshments served from 7.15pm

Meeting: 7.30 - 9.15pm

Bookings can be made by contacting Gill Dottie.

email: gill.dottie@liverpool.anglican.org

phone: 0151 705 2141

There are two sessions for lay people so please book in for a session in week 1 and a session in week 2. but in either case, it is important that you book in.



Maghull Wind Orchestra

presents

A Celebration of Film Music

in support of



Saturday 15th February 2025, 7:30pm

Tickets £10

available by contacting Rachel Lupton:
office@stombsands.org or 0151 924 0561



St Michael's Church
54 Dowhills Road, Blundellsands L23 8SP

Maghull Wind Orchestra: A Celebration of Film Music



The next fundraising event will be on **15th February 2025**. Maghull Wind Orchestra will be holding a concert in support of our Raise the Roof Appeal. Sign up at the back of church (Tickets would make an ideal Christmas present!)

The theme is 'A Celebration of Film Music' and will feature music from films such as *Mary Poppins*, *Pirates of the Caribbean*, *Chillers* and *Thrillers* and *Chicken Run*.



St Michael's Church, Blundellsands

Join us for our special services!

HARVEST SERVICE

SUNDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER 10.30AM

Accompanied by the Salvation Army Band, gifts of non-perishable food will be collected and donated to the Salvation Army, Walton Branch.



REMEMBERING AND THANKING SERVICE

SUNDAY 20TH OCTOBER 10.30AM

Contact the Parish Office to have a deceased loved one prayed for by name.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

SUNDAY 10TH NOVEMBER 10.30AM

A service of reflection and gratitude, with a two-minute silence at 11am.



TOY SERVICE

SUNDAY 24TH NOVEMBER 10.30AM

Accompanied by the Salvation Army Band, gifts of new toys will be collected and donated to the Salvation Army, Walton Branch.



CAROL SERVICE

SUNDAY 15TH DECEMBER 4.00PM

Come along to sing carols, enjoy a glass of mulled wine and a mince pie



CHRISTINGLE

SUNDAY 22ND DECEMBER 4.00PM

A service in aid of the Children's Society, receive a Christingle and prepare for Christmas. Followed by tea and Christmas cake.



CHRISTMAS DAY

WEDNESDAY 25TH DECEMBER 10.30AM

Join with us to celebrate the birth of our Lord. Preacher and celebrant Pete Spiers, Archdeacon of Knowsley and Sefton.



Photograph courtesy Christine Robinson

St Michael's Raise the Roof Campaign



Dear Neighbour

Our Church of St Michael's is a vital gathering place for prayer, support and friendship. It's where we celebrate life's milestones - baptism, marriage and bereavement. It offers comfort and joy, but now it urgently needs your help to continue meeting our needs.

Time has taken its toll on the building and urgent roof repairs are now underway. Our next big challenge is the vital restoration work of the church interior. Severe damage to the plasterwork and electrics has occurred due to water ingress over the years.

In the face of this challenge, we are now seeking the help of our entire community to complete the required renovation work to ensure the preservation of St Michael's for future generations. We are sure local businesses and the wider community would wish us to succeed in saving our precious building. For years St Michael's has been a lifeline, providing a place of welcome and prayer and now we turn to you for assistance.

How you can help?

- ◆ **Spread the word** by sharing this message with friends and family.
- ◆ **Support our fundraising events.** Please visit our website to see What Is On.
- ◆ **Donate to our JUST GIVING page** by scanning the QR code.

Your support would be very much appreciated.

St Michael's Church PCC



SCAN ME!

EMAIL: office@stombsands.org

CALL: 0151 924 0561

Dowhills Road, Blundellsands

www.stmichaelblundellsands.org.uk

COMMUNITY EVENTS & NOTICES



Please see the details on the poster / notice for more information or contact details.

(Community notices will be listed until the event is passed, or for 4 weeks if not time limited.)

St Michael's Church Hall – A 'What's On' Guide

If you would like the contact details of any of the community groups that hire the Church Hall, please contact the Parish Office.

Monday: Pilates, Tae Kwondo

Tuesday: Tai Chi, Limelight Drama

Wednesday: Move It or Lose It, Rainbows, Crosby Arts Society

Thursday: Brownies, Guides

Friday: Pilates, Limelight Drama, Crosby Symphony Orchestra

Saturday: Limelight Drama



Ukraine Welcome Centre

The Ukraine Welcome Centre are eager to receive donations of coats, warm clothing and blankets.

Please leave any donations next to the Food Bank box in Church and Lucy will take them. Thank you.

Save your stamps for RNIB (Royal National Institute of Blind people).



Be a stamp collector for a good cause.

Collect stamps for RNIB and make a difference to blind and partially sighted people. If you receive cards and letters through the post, we'll turn them into funds to help people living with sight loss.

You might make a good collection over the Christmas period.

We raise £20 for every kilogramme of stamps we receive.

Please ensure stamps are trimmed with approximately one centimetre of paper around the edge.

Stamps are sold by weight, so whatever you can send will add up to much-needed funds for our services. We accept all stamps: new or **used**, first or second class, foreign, first day covers, presentation packs or albums.

**If you can be part of this please pass stamps to - CHRISTINE ROBINSON.
Thank You.**

There is a collection box for these stamps at the back of Church.