

## PCC Meeting - 12th February

This month's meeting of the Parochial Church Council discussed the following items:

- **Operations:** The new Disciplinary Policy, HASAW Policy, and Safeguarding Policy were formally adopted.
- **Safeguarding:** Suzy Elgood briefed the PCC on the Parish Safeguarding Audit that is taking place.
- **Pre-school & Nursery:** Julie Bradley presented the annual PSN report.
- **Finance:** The PCC approved the Finance Committee's proposal to increase our Parish Share Contribution for 2018 as a result of November's Gift Day. St Michael's participation in the Parish Giving Scheme, a Diocese scheme which allows regular giving to be made via direct debit, has been approved.
- **HOTC:** Work on the balcony in the auditorium has now started and is expected to complete by the end of April.
- **Church Tower Repairs:** The Diocesan architect has raised a number of queries regarding the proposed repairs, which need to be resolved before work can commence.

Once approved, full minutes will be available to view on the Church Website, as well as the noticeboards in Church and in St Michael's Centre.

The next meeting will take place on 12th March at 19:30 in St Michael's Centre.

## Alternative Service for Mothering Sunday Weekend Saturday 10th March 4pm Church

This service is for those who might normally avoid church on Mothering Sunday. It will offer a special place for anyone (women or men) who finds Mothering Sunday difficult, whatever your story. It may be you're grieving the loss of a mother, the loss of a child, or baby through miscarriage. It may be you are struggling with a relationship with a mother that is difficult, or struggling with infertility or childlessness, single-ness or not being able to create the shape of a family your heart has desired. This will be an informal gathering, using liturgy, stories and poems to acknowledge the bittersweet emotions surrounding Mothering Sunday, offering a space both to grieve and to invite the God who loves us into our stories of struggle.



*Alternative Service for  
Mothering Sunday Weekend*

*Saturday 10th March  
4pm  
St Michael's Church*

*an informal gathering, using liturgy, stories and  
poems to acknowledge the bittersweet emotions  
surrounding Mothering Sunday.*

stmichaelsbristol.org

LIVING TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE BY  
BEING A CHRISTIAN HEART AT THE  
CENTRE OF THE COMMUNITY



## Sunday 4th March 2018

*Third Sunday of Lent*

For hearing aid users select "T" setting on your device

**Services at 10.30am** Our Morning Celebration is an informal service which starts with worship all together for 20 minutes. Then 3-18 year olds go to their various groups, and adults stay in the Church Centre. .

There is a crèche for 0-3 year olds (head for the foyer and you will pointed in the right direction)

**Recording of Sunday sermons** – hear our Sunday morning & evening sermons on the church website

9.00am  
In Church

### Morning Prayer

Today's Topic: Fellowship of Believers  
Readings: Hebrews 10:25, Acts 2:42-47  
Speaking: Jack McGinley

10.30am  
In Auditorium

### Morning Celebration

Today's Topic: Fellowship of Believers  
Readings: Hebrews 10:25, Acts 2:42-47  
Speaking: Jack McGinley

5.00pm  
In Church

### Evensong

Readings: Exodus 5:1-6:1, Philippians 3:4-14  
Speaking: Julie Hobbs

6.30pm  
In Auditorium

### Evening Celebration with Communion

Today's Topic: Fellowship of Believers  
Reading: Hebrews 10:25  
Speaker: Simon Jones

### This Week

#### Wednesday

9.10am Morning Prayer - Church

#### Friday

9.10am Morning Prayer - Church

#### Saturday

8.15am Saturday Breakfast - OSR

4.00pm Alternative Mothers Day Service - church

### Dates for the Diary

**11th March** Mothering Sunday

**18th April** APCM and Vision Night

**20th-22nd April** Church Weekend

The Old School Rooms,  
The Green, Stoke Gifford,  
Bristol BS34 8PD  
Phone: 0117 969 2486

[www.stmichaelsbristol.org](http://www.stmichaelsbristol.org)  
[www.facebook.com/StMichaelsChurchStokeGifford](https://www.facebook.com/StMichaelsChurchStokeGifford)  
[www.twitter.com/StMichaelsSG](https://www.twitter.com/StMichaelsSG)

Registered Charity Number 1134709

**Welcome:** If you are new to St Michael's and would like to be added to our database to receive news and updates via email please head to [www.stmichaelsbristol.org/register](http://www.stmichaelsbristol.org/register)

## Have you joined St Michael's in the last year or so?

If so, please consider joining the Electoral Roll!

It's the basic list in every parish of all those entitled to vote on elections within the Church of England.

But it's not just a bit of paperwork! It's another way of saying "I belong". It's an act of commitment to the local church and to the church as a whole. It also means you can have your say, and vote at our Vision Night on 18th April (the Annual Parochial Church Meeting or APCM). Forms are available from Reception, the back of church, or we can email you a copy.

If you are baptized, over 16, and either live in the parish or have been regularly attending for more than 6 months then you are eligible!

## Data Consent Form

Thank you to the 150 or so people who have so far completed their data consent form! If you have yet to do so, please do! There are paper forms in St Michael's Centre reception and the back of Church, or you can fill one in via the website ( just click on "data Consent" at the top of the home page)

## Board games evening

Fancy a game of ludo, snakes and ladders, monopoly, scrabble or other fa-vourite? Then come along to our board games evening on Easter Saturday, 31 March, in the Old School Rooms from 7pm onwards. Board games will be provided, but please feel free to bring your own. Tickets cost £5 and include a hot supper and pudding. Bring your own drinks. Tickets available from Kia Harris (Kiaharris@hotmail.com) and the church office. You can also sign up via ChurchSuite

## Mission Partner of the Month – SIITA Nest Mother's Love Home, Uganda

SIITA Nest is a Christian fostering organisation which cares for over 300 orphaned, vulnerable and disadvantaged children in Eastern Uganda. St Michael's Church has been supporting its work for 16 years and was a significant contributor to the building of the main 'Home' in Bugembe in 2003. Since then we have been providing regular support for children's education and the running costs of the Home. An information sheet, including an update and recent pictures, is available in the church and the auditorium.

## B:friend—volunteer befrienders needed!

B:friend are one of our Mission Partners, and work with refugees and asylum seekers providing a friendly ear. They are looking for more volunteers. The next training sessions are 17th/22nd/29th March in Feeder Road, BS2. For more info please email sam@b-friend.org.uk or speak to Chris Gane!

## Financial Giving

There are two ways in which we need your financial support.

- if you would like to give to St Michael's, then a regular gift to **St Michael's PCC** would be really helpful. This meets all the general running costs of the church and 10% is given for Mission. If you are a tax payer, we can claim an additional 25% tax back on your gift so please do consider this.

-We hope you would also like to contribute to the **Heart of the Community (HOTC)** project, which is the way we have financed the new St Michael's Centre facilities. We have loans of about £1.8m which need to be repaid and further work we want to complete over the next few years. HOTC can also claim gift aid on any donations to this project.

Any financial support that you can offer is appreciated.

For further information about how to give, please email [finance@stmichaelsbristol.org](mailto:finance@stmichaelsbristol.org)

## Stoke Gifford Community Library

The community library (above the Old School Rooms Coffee Shop) is open on alternate Tuesday afternoons from 2pm till 4pm.

As a branch of the South Gloucestershire library, it is linked to the library network which means you can choose from a large selection of regularly changing fiction, non-fiction, large print and children's books DVDs and spoken word. You can:

Join the library service at the community library or use your Active library card: order a book at this library or at LibrariesWest online and collect ordered books free of charge; use your Active card to download ebooks, audio books and digital magazines

Upcoming Library Dates: 13th and 27th March; Further dates to follow.

## St Michael's School—Airbus Awards Tokens

St Michael's School Parent Teacher Friends Association (PTFA) need your support to win a share of £10000 from the Airbus Community awards! Please collect voting tokens from The Bristol Post from Friday 16th February to Monday 19th March.

The more tokens collected, the higher the chance of winning. The 10 groups that receive the most votes will be invited along to an awards ceremony at Airbus to collect their prize. Please consider supporting the many children of the congregation who go to the school. If won, the money will be used to repair and replace the outdoor play equipment at school. Tokens can be dropped off at the School Office, or in the box in St Michael's Centre Foyer. Thank you.

## Praying for Persecuted Church

Jackie Day, Ros and Chris Gane and Jane Watkivs are planning to pray for the persecuted church, using resources provided by Open Doors. We are meeting on Thursday, 8th March at 8pm, 6 Fabian Drive. Please email Jane at [watkivs@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:watkivs@blueyonder.co.uk) if you would like to join us.

## Pastoral Listening

A volunteer from the Pastoral Ministry team is available to come alongside, befriend and listen for an hour a day Monday-Saturday.

The church office and coffee shop have the availability details for each day (times vary). We will be wearing a pastoral presence badge and drinking from a blue & white mug saying "here to listen" so do look out for us and say hello!

## Clay Pigeon Shooting - 10th March 2pm

Would you like a go at shooting? We have managed to make a deal for an event near the Mall. Everyone will get 20 practice shots and then we'll run a competition to see who is the best shot at St Michaels! This event is open to everyone not just men as it's a real opportunity to do something different. The cost will be £40; and places are very limited as there have already been a number of people who have signed up.

If you do want to come please contact Rob Bakewell on 07912574691 or email [robanddiane.bakewell@gmail.com](mailto:robanddiane.bakewell@gmail.com)

## Hope Bristol 2018 3rd-7th April

Are you NOT aged 12-18? We need your help to transform our city! Can you take 1-5 days to do one of the following;

-Take part in practical jobs for those in need. (Painting, grass cutting, litter picking etc)  
-Help at a community fun day in priority areas of the city. (face painting, sports, refreshments etc)

-Support the youth groups living at St Michael's during this week. (Cooking / running games / washing up etc)

Please speak to Joel Preston ([Joel@stmichaelsbristol.org](mailto:Joel@stmichaelsbristol.org)) and visit [www.hopebristol.org/book](http://www.hopebristol.org/book) to sign up before 26th Feb. (There is a £5 charge to cover running costs for the whole mission.)