

# A very warm Welcome to St Michael's Church

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday ordinary time  
18<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Along with the Roman Catholic Bishops of England and Wales, we have been invited to keep this Sunday as a day of prayer for world peace. This day we are united with our Roman brothers and sisters who along with Pope Leo are praying to see an 'unarmed and disarming' peace. This is a daunting goal in the light of the widespread belief that we must be armed, even with nuclear weapons, to protect ourselves. Peace should have the capacity to resolve conflicts and open hearts through mutual understanding and hope. The phrase 'Peace be with you' is an integral part of our Liturgy in each Mass. We are all invited to be peacemakers.

## **Opening Sentence**

All the earth shall bow down before you, O God,  
and shall sing to you,  
shall sing to your name, O Most High!

**Hymn:** All people that on earth do dwell

## **Greeting and Entrance**

In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you **And with your spirit**

## **Call to Confession**

Let us start our shared mission for peace today in our own hearts, by asking forgiveness for those times we have failed to strive for peace and that we will be people of peace in a world of violence.

Let us ask Jesus, the Prince of Peace, to guide us on this road.

Lord Jesus, you prayed for peace in our world. Lord, have mercy.

Christ Jesus, you responded to violence with forgiveness. Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you forgave the sinner and those who persecuted you. Lord, have mercy.

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

## **Gloria**

**Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

## **The Liturgy of the Word**

Almighty ever-living God,  
who govern all things,  
both in heaven and on earth,  
mercifully hear the pleading of your people  
and bestow your peace on our times.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

### **First Reading**

A reading from the prophet Isaiah (49:3,5-6)

The Lord said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel,  
in whom I shall be glorified';  
I was honoured in the eyes of the Lord,  
my God was my strength.  
And now the Lord has spoken,  
he who formed me in the womb to be his servant,  
to bring Jacob back to him,  
to gather Israel to him:

'It is not enough for you to be my servant,  
to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back the survivors of Israel;  
I will make you the light of the nations  
so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.'

This is the word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

**Gradual Hymn:** O the love of my Lord is the essence

## **Second Reading**

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians (1:1-3)

I, Paul, appointed by God to be an apostle, together with brother Sosthenes, send greetings to the church of God in Corinth, to the holy people of Jesus Christ, who are called to take their place among all the saints everywhere who pray to our Lord Jesus Christ; for he is their Lord no less than ours. May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you grace and peace.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **Alleluia**

### **Alleluia, alleluia!**

Blessings on the King who comes,  
in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven  
and glory in the highest heavens!

### **Alleluia, alleluia!**

## **Gospel**

The Lord be with you, **And with your Spirit.**

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John (1:29-34)

Seeing Jesus coming towards him, John said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world. This is the one I spoke of when I said: A man is coming after me who ranks before me because he existed before me. I did not know him myself, and yet it was to reveal him to Israel that I came baptising with water.' John also declared, 'I saw the Spirit coming down on him from heaven like a dove and resting on him. I did not know him myself, but he who sent me to baptise with water had said to me, "The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and

rest is the one who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit.” Yes, I have seen and I am the witness that he is the Chosen One of God.’  
On the following day as John stood there again with two of his disciples, Jesus passed, and John stared hard at him and said, ‘look, there is the lamb of God’. Hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus. Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, ‘what do you want?’ They answered, ‘Rabbi’, which means teacher, ‘where do you live?’ ‘Come and see’ he replied; so they went and saw where he lived, and stayed with him the rest of that day.

This is the Gospel of Our Lord. **Praise to you O Christ.**

**Sermon** (Sit)

**Creed**

We believe in one God,  
**the Father, the Almighty,**  
**maker of heaven and earth,**  
**of all that is, seen and unseen.**  
**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,**  
**the only Son of God,**  
**eternally begotten of the Father,**  
**God from God, Light from Light,**  
**true God from true God,**  
**begotten, not made,**  
**of one being with the Father.**  
**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation**  
**he came down from heaven;**  
**by the power of the Holy Spirit**  
**he became incarnate of the Virgin Mary,**  
**and was made man.**  
**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;**  
**he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again**  
**in accordance with the Scriptures;**  
**he ascended into heaven**  
**and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**  
**He will come again in glory**  
**to judge the living and the dead,**  
**and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son  
he is worshipped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the  
forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

### **Intercessions (sit)**

Lord in your mercy **Hear our prayer**

### **The Peace**

**Priest:** Unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given,  
and his name shall be called the Prince of Peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**All: And also with your spirit.**

Let us offer one another a sign of that peace.

**Offertory Hymn:** The king of love my shepherd is

### **Offertory Prayers**

**Priest:** Let us pray my brothers and sisters, that our sacrifice may be  
acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**People:** **May the Lord accept this sacrifice at your hands,  
for the praise and glory of his name,  
for our good and the good of all his holy Church.**

## **The Eucharistic Prayer**

### **Prayer over the Gifts**

Grant us, O Lord, we pray,  
that we may participate worthily in these mysteries,  
for whenever the memorial of this sacrifice is celebrated

the work of our redemption is accomplished.  
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen**

The Lord be with you, **and with your spirit.**  
Lift up your hearts, **we lift them up to the Lord.**  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right and just.....**

## **Preface**

Father, all-powerful and ever living God,  
we do well always and everywhere to give you thanks through Jesus  
Christ our Lord.

Through his cross and resurrection  
he freed us from sin and death  
and called us to the glory that has made us  
a chosen race, a royal priesthood,  
a holy nation, a people set apart.  
Everywhere we proclaim your mighty works  
for you have called us out of darkness  
into your own wonderful light.

And so, with all the choirs of angels in heaven  
we proclaim your glory  
and join in their unending hymn of praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,  
God of power and God of might,  
heaven and earth, heaven and earth are full of your glory  
your power and might  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heaven.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heaven.**

**Blessed, blessed is he who comes  
Blessed is he, blessed is he,  
who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heaven.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest heaven.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;  
grant that, by the power of your Holy Spirit,  
and according to your holy will,  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ;  
Who in the same night that he was betrayed,

took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying.  
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;  
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying.  
Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many  
for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of me.  
Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died**  
**Christ is risen**  
**Christ will come again**

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,  
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of all,  
rejoicing at his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,  
and looking for his coming in glory,  
we celebrate the memorial of our redemption.

As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,  
we bring before you this bread and this cup  
and we thank you for counting us worthy  
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the holy spirit on your people  
and gather into one in your kingdom  
all who share this one bread and one cup,  
so that we, in the company of Holy Mary mother of God, St Michael and  
all the saints,  
may praise and glorify you for ever,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

By whom, and with whom, and in whom,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,  
for ever and ever. **Amen.**

# The Communion

## Our Father

Let us pray with confidence to the Father  
in the words our Saviour gave us:

**Our Father,  
who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done;  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the Kingdom, the power,  
and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

### **Breaking of the Bread:**

**Priest:** We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**People:** **Though we are many we are one body, because we all  
share in the one bread.**

### ***Preparation for Communion:***

**All:** **With this bread...**

**Priest:** Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the  
sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of  
the Lamb.

**People:** **Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my  
roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

**All:** **With this wine...**

### **Communion Antiphon**

We have come to know and to believe  
in the love that God has for us.

*We now come forward to receive Communion or a blessing as directed  
by the sidespeople*

## **Communion Hymn - As the deer pants for the water**

### **Prayer after Communion**

Pour on us, O Lord, the Spirit of your love,  
and in your kindness  
make those you have nourished  
by this one heavenly Bread  
one in mind and heart.  
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

### The Blessing & Dismissal

Priest: The Lord be with you.  
People: **And with your spirit.**

Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing.

May you always be sure of God's love for you.  
May you carry that love throughout your daily life.  
And may the blessing of God Almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**Final Hymn:** Lord enthroned in Heavenly splendour

### **The Angelus**

***We pray for all who are ill, that God may grant them health and peace:***

Sr Pat, Ceva Clements, Perry Wells, Olive, Fanny Metu Charlotte B, Denise Clarke, Ann Hammond, Frances, Sarah, Katie Kirkland, Tracey and the Tuite family, Bet, George Brown, Zarina, Abbey-Sue and Marcia, Barry James, Audley Watson, Lurleen, Georgia Cordell, Kathleen, Shirley & Leslie Angus, Christopher John, Jazzmine Grimes, Michelle, Androulla, Fannos jjordani, Ray Bennett , Emmanuel Kuye, Amy Harris, Jerry Moran, Daniel Sintin, Sally Sintin, Amie Samura, Marcus Cullen, Jennifer Douglas, Joshua Rattray, Victorine Clarke, Thomas Hewitt, Geri Thompson, Mary Thompson, Sarah Reggerie, Ian Lennon, Kathleen Wale, Serena Forni, Derek Ogden, Lawrence Barrett, Dominic Swift, Peter Clements, Jereline Simoms, Ayo Dumbuya, Dorren Norine, Shola Adebowale ,Una and Pat Murphy , Andrea Negri, Shane Claridge, James Ighodaro, Theresa Naish, Anastasia, Allen, Jean Bromley, Josephine Baker, Saman Joseph, Myrtle, Joe Donkor, Dorothy, Brandon, Ronald, Edna Noel, Evelyn Baker, Gabriel, Anna and Louis, Jean, Dot, Rosemary Stone, Susan Joy, Mai Lee, Freddie Jones, Ester Thompson, Heather and Sarah, Luke and John Burke, Nabawanda Matlida, Donald, Lorraine, Pat Stephenson, Alice Mitchell, Sue Mallett, Janet Syson, Anthony, Austin, Owen, Rose Gallagher, Ryan Ayoki

***for those who have died recently***

Pam Bennett,

**And for all whose anniversary of death falls at this time:**

**19<sup>th</sup> January** Gary Cadogan, Mike Lazenby

**St Michael's candle:** is burning in loving memory of  
Marlene Ng Yu Tin

**The Blessed Sacrament candle:** is burning in loving memory of

**The Blessed Virgin Mary:** is burning in loving memory of

**The flowers at St Michael's statue** are given in loving memory of