

Dear friends,

For my newsletter article this week, I'd like to simply say 'thank you'. Many of you will know that the other weekend, my little boy Isaac broke his arm whilst playing at the park. For those of you unaware, please do not worry; he's healing well!

My reason for the 'thank you' is the care and love Isaac has been shown by you all. He has had visitors and get-well cards and gifts from many within the church, and our school. His classmates have been watching out for him and helping him over the past two weeks, and our church family has been so kind in your care for him and interest in his well-being in church and on Zoom. He - and we - have felt a great deal of love from you all.

We have a very special community here at St Michael's; it's a community of people who care for and love each other - and do so, so, clearly. Jesus said that's how the world will know that we are his followers - that we love one another. I am so very thankful to be a part of this wonderful family that demonstrates our love for each other, and for our Lord, in this way - I hope you are too!

So, thank you! I hope to see you all soon! (Oh, and be careful when playing at the park!)

Yours in Christ,

Stuart

• LATEST NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Annual Parochial Church Meeting

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) took place on Tuesday 13th April at 7.30 p.m. The Annual Report and Financial Statements was approved at this meeting. If you'd like to read this document it can be downloaded from the following locations:

- www.stmichaelsflixton.org/annual-report
- www.achurchnearyou.com/church/15892/news/52935/st-michaels-annual-parochial-church-meeting/

Online coffee mornings

Our coffee mornings are now taking place every Sunday after the 11.30 a.m. online service. Everyone invited to attend, including our 10.15 a.m. service attendees.

They'll start at around 12.15 p.m. and last for no longer than 30 minutes. This means they should be finished by 12.45 p.m. at the latest, but if you need to leave earlier that is fine as well.

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH RECENT AND UPCOMING SERVICES/EVENTS

Sunday services inside our church building

Our service this weekend is being held on the fourth Sunday of Easter. It will be taking place at 10.15 a.m. on Sunday 25th April. Rev Huw Thomas is leading it, and Vaughan Reeves will read the gospel and preach.

Full details on how you can attend our socially distanced services, including a downloadable service sheet, can be found here www.stmichaelsflixton.org/socially-distanced-services

Online Sunday morning services, including our coffee mornings

Our online service this weekend is being held on the fourth Sunday of Easter. It will be taking place at 11.30 a.m. on Sunday 25th April. Rev Cath Faulkner is leading it, and Vaughan Reeves will read the gospel and preach. You'll be able to sing three beautiful hymns: 'In Christ alone my hope is found', 'Were you there when they crucified my Lord?', and 'Praise my soul, the King of heaven'.

You'll be able to participate in this service via Zoom using your electronic device, mobile phone or landline. This service will also be available to watch via a simultaneous broadcast using Facebook Live, and later on in the day via our YouTube channel. The service is accessible by a PowerPoint presentation which is shared on the screen.

Full details on how you can attend our socially distanced services, including a downloadable service sheet, can be found here www.stmichaelsflixton.org/socially-distanced-services

Friday night prayer with Rev Fiona

Rev Fiona's night prayer services are taking place on a weekly basis at 9 p.m. each Friday. You can watch live, and comment if you wish, by visiting our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/StMichaelsFlixton. You can watch previous week's recordings on our [YouTube channel](#).

Our Online Church

We have already been sharing our services and prayers on our web and social media sites. If you don't know how to find these, please use the links below:

- www.stmichaelsflixton.org
- <https://twitter.com/StMichaelsFlix>
- [St Michael's You Tube Channel](#)
- www.instagram.com/stmichaelschurchflixton
- www.facebook.com/StMichaelsFlixton

• LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS AND CHARITIES

Sticky Wicket Supplies

[Sticky Wicket Supplies is Flixton's food bank](#). Based at Flixton Cricket Club, they are providing food and essential supplies, such as toiletries, to the people of M41. Anyone is welcome to visit if they are in genuine need. All donations are welcomed. Full details of their latest requirements, and opening times, are available on their Facebook page, as shown below. You can also drop off supplies at St Michael's Vicarage, as Rev Huw is volunteering there each Wednesday.

• GIVING AND FUNDRAISING

Please continue to support St Michael's Church

Thank you all so much, as over the last year you have:

- Donated over £2,000 via your online donations
- Raised over £150 from your online shopping (via easyfundraising and AmazonSmile)

Whilst self-isolating or socially distancing, you can still support our beautiful Grade II* listed building and churchyard in a variety of ways, as follows:

1. **Online donations** can be made at www.stmichaelsflixton.org/support-us

2. Please remember to use **easyfundraising every time you shop online!** Over 4,000 shops and sites will donate, so you can raise FREE donations for us no matter what you're buying. They even have fair trade retailers who work with easyfundraising as well. These donations really help us out, so please sign up if you haven't yet. It's easy and free! You can get started at www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmichaelsflix/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_medium=email&utm_content=en-n2
If you want to find out how easyfundraising works, please visit our website page at www.stmichaelsflixton.org/easy-fundraising
3. **If you have an Amazon account**, please make your purchases using AmazonSmile instead. It is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.co.uk. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to St Michael's Church. A full explanation on how you can 'convert' your existing Amazon account into an AmazonSmile one that supports St Michael's can be found here www.stmichaelsflixton.org/shop
If you do need to set up an AmazonSmile account please click here to get started <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1134769-0>
4. You **raise money for us by searching on the web**. If you use easysearch as your search engine you can raise £20 a year for St Michael's by completing 10 searches a day. To get started visit <http://stmichaelsflix.easysearch.org.uk/> and save it as one of your internet browser's bookmarks.

• CORONAVIRUS INFORMATION AND PANDEMIC SUPPORT

Latest coronavirus information and how this affects services being held inside St Michael's Church building

Rev Huw has requested that you all regularly 'keep an eye on' the latest advice being issued by The Diocese of Manchester and The Church of England on the current coronavirus situation. You can do this in the following ways:

- [Diocese website](#)
- [Diocese Facebook page](#)
- [Diocese Twitter page](#)
- [Church of England website](#)
- [Church of England Facebook page](#)
- [Church of England Twitter page](#)

Not using social media?

If you aren't a confident user of a computer, laptop, tablet or phone when accessing information on the internet, and you don't use social media, then please [start by visiting the Church's website](#). Special sections have been created to help our congregation and the wider Flixton community, and [they can be found in the section called Online Church](#).

In the Online Church section, you can access a [copy of the service booklets](#) we are using during our online services, find links to [online information to help you to stay physically and mentally healthy during this period](#), and a page to [subscribe to receive this newsletter by entering your email address](#). You can in the News section watch [our recorded services and prayers via YouTube](#) option, and also see our social media posts (without having your own accounts) in the [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) page links.

Using and setting up Zoom

Zoom can be found by visiting their website <https://zoom.us> and clicking on the 'sign up it's free' button'. Once you have completed this process, please follow the steps on the image shown on the next page. Alternatively, online help and guidance is available via [Zoom](#) or [Gadgets Now](#). Zoom can be used via your computer, tablet, or mobile phone,

and mobile/landline phones (for audio only), and there is a downloadable app to use as well.

