

NEWSLETTER

May 2024

from the Church of St. Michael's Bray



The Parish Church of Bray with Braywood, Holyport & Moneyrow Green, Fifield, Touchen End and Oakley Green

website: www.braystmichael.co.uk



Dear Friends,

It is an exciting time at St Michael's; we have just completed the Easter Season, celebrating the 50th day of Easter with the Feast of Pentecost. We held a small but very joyful Pentecost service last Sunday afternoon at which we launched our **new Sunday School** initiative. During the Sunday 10.00 am service during June we will be holding a new Sunday School each Sunday. Just turn up to church in the normal way and the children will be part of the opening worship then depart to the hall, with a blessing and then return to the service just before Communion to rejoin their family. (More info on the following page).

On Saturday the 25th May we held a drop in coffee morning for all those who have had or will have a Baptism this year.

Although we began our initiative with new children's services with our Crib Service last Christmas Eve, subsequently the Bishop of Oxford has encouraged the whole Diocese to look again at how we can help children and young people come to faith in the Church. A Deanery Day was held recently, and we hope to soon have a video to share with you from the Diocese to help us all see more of what is being done to encourage children and young people. In the meantime you can see what Bishop Steven is saying here: <https://www.oxford.anglican.org/news/diocesan-synod-focussing-on-work-with-children-youth-and-families.php>

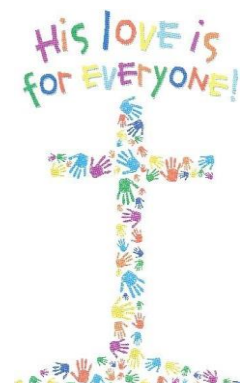
With best regards,

With best regards,
Rev. Canon Ainsley.

***St Michael's Church Bray
are delighted to announce that
Sunday School will resume on
Sunday 2nd June 2024
Please join us in Church at 10am.***

After a blessing from Revd. Ainsley we will retire to the Church Hall (situated behind the church) The children will study a variety of bible stories, prayers and the life of the church - roughly following the theme of the readings and or sermon. At about 10.45 they will return to the service and may if you wish receive a blessing during communion.

Our Children's Advocate and Parish Safeguarding Officer Natasha Teeder who teaches at Braywood C of E first School will lead the Session. Natasha is a very experienced teacher who therefore has all the desired qualifications.



Children of all ages are invited. If your child is under 3 a parent will need to stay with them. You are of course welcome to stay regardless of their age.

If you have any further questions or wish to register your child/children please do not hesitate to contact her – nteedeer@gmail.com

We very much look forward to welcoming you, to our fellowship



I can't believe that it's just a few more weeks before I'm ordained and I'll be Rev Andy! The essays have seemed relentless and though I've enjoyed going to Salisbury to study, I'm looking forward to this new chapter which will be less academic and far more practical.

Thank you for all the kind words of encouragement over the last three years, I've really felt that this is a team effort and I'm so pleased that I'll be continuing my journey here at Bray.

God has used you all to help me grow and deepen my faith. As you probably imagine, I look forward to the ordination service with excitement and with nerves. I'd guess it's important to have both. But I know it will go well, and it will be made all the easier knowing that many of you will either be there to experience the service together or I'll be in your thoughts and prayers.

So ends a chapter, and another one begins! But we continue to journey together. Thank you! Andy

A coach has been arranged to go to Andy's ordination as Deacon by the Bishop of Oxford in Christ Church Cathedral on Saturday 29 June. The coach will leave Braywick Park at 12 noon, departing Oxford at 5.00pm, drop-off and pick-up outside the Playhouse Theatre. The cost per person is £20. There are a few places left, so to reserve your place on the coach please contact Jim Tucker (01628 673685) or mail jimtucker@talktalk.net. The closing date for places is Sunday 9 June.



For the remainder of our spring recital series, we have the following, all of which are free with retiring collection and followed by tea and cakes. We do hope you will join us for an enjoyable Sunday afternoon, with glorious music played by excellent musicians.

JUNE 9 – William Bracken (piano)

Wirral-born pianist William Bracken has won numerous awards including 1st prize at both the 2022 Liszt Society International Piano Competition and the 2023 Euregio Piano Award International Piano Competition.

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JULY 28 – Jazz on the Vicarage Garden

Josephine Davies and her musicians return for another afternoon of sunshine and jazz on the Vicarage Garden, by kind permission of the Reverend and Mrs Ainsley Swift. Admission £10 on the gate. Bring your own chairs/picnic rugs and refreshments.

Our Director of Music, Oliver Gooch, will be conducting the The Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra, The London Philharmonic Choir and The Bach Choir in a performance of Beethoven's Ninth at The Royal Albert Hall on Saturday 21st September.

**BREAKFAST BEFORE CHURCH
(OR AFTER FOR EARLY BIRDS!)**



Sunday 2nd June 2024

Sunday 7th July 2024

Join us from 8.45 – 9.45 am for a light breakfast in St Michael's hall for a simple continental style meal.

No charge, just your company is required.

It would be lovely to see you even if you only have time for a quick coffee!

CHURCH TEAS



2nd June – 1st September 2:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

at St Michael's Church Hall in aid of various charities

Join us for Cake and a Chat with old friends or friends you are yet to meet.

Once again different groups have volunteered their time and baking skills to raise money for various charities.

In June we have a tea in aid of Church funds. Then there will be a tea raising funds for Thames Hospice and hopefully one with a short talk about the work of our local midwives in Africa though this is to be confirmed..

Please remember that on the 9th of June there is a Music at Bray concert, so no separate tea will be held.

Looking forward to seeing you

CONTACT LIST

The Vicar: Rev. Canon Ainsley Swift 633113

For general enquiries (Christenings, Weddings etc) in the first instance please contact our Parish Administrator, Richard Severn: 01628 633113 stmichaelsbray@gmail.com"

The Churchwardens:

Helen Pearson 07979 756409

Lynn Olney 07966906092

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Penny Murray 623041

Mary Wiles 635000

Sacristan & Lay Funeral Minister:

Lynda Jones 635178

Verger: Jim Tucker 673685

Parochial Church Council:

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Katrin Brunning: katrin.brunning@btinternet.com

Hon Treasurer:

Richard Severn richarddb7@outlook.com

Gift Aid Officer :

Vicki Henley

vicki@henleyclan.co.uk

Electoral Roll Officer:

Penny Murray

Director of Music:

Oliver Gooch

Assistant Director of Music:

Lindsay Bramley

Parish Safeguarding Officer/Sunday School:

Natasha Teeder 674469

Bellringers:

Tower Captain:

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Friends of St. Michael's

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Holyport School Headteacher:

Mrs Amanda Featherstone 627743

<https://www.holyportprimaryschool.co.uk>

Braywood School Headteacher:

Mrs Susan Calvert 623660

<https://braywood-ce.eschools.co.uk>