



@stmikesmacclesfield



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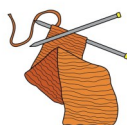
## Advent Sunday

### Christmas Eco-Tips from Wildlife Watch

#### Have an Eco-Christmas

##### Presents

Try making gifts yourself! From knitting a scarf to baking a batch of biscuits, there are lots of fantastic presents you can DIY.



Buy presents from shops that make their products in an ethical and sustainable ways.

Think quality not quantity. Having a family 'Secret Santa' means you don't have to buy for everyone and there's less waste.



Avoid non-recyclable wrapping paper by using brown paper and brown paper tags. Better yet, go for a reusable option like a bag or a box.

##### Food

Plan your meals so food doesn't go to waste. Leftovers can make some of the tastiest meals!



Shop locally. Are there ingredients for your Christmas meals that you can source from local farms or shops?



Compost your vegetable waste.

Try out some veggie and vegan alternatives to cut down on meat and dairy.

##### Decorations

If you already have plenty of sparkly Christmas decorations, make sure you use them.



Instead of plastic tinsel, try using bunting, pinecones or popcorn tinsel instead.



Avoid buying Christmas crackers that contain plastic toys. You might want to try making your own by using toilet roll tubes instead. Writing your own jokes is the best bit!



**This Sunday - 30th November - at 6.30pm**

Come and join us for a traditional Advent Carol Service, with readings and carols to mark this, the start of Advent and of the Christian year.

### Save the Dates

In the cold winter months let's celebrate

\* **Sunday January 18th:**

THE BIG THANKYOU party in church:  
12.30-3.00pm

\* **Saturday 7th February:**

Pancake Party and Quiz Night: 6.00-9.00pm

**Put these dates into your diary now!**



### Forthcoming Concerts at St Michael's

\* **Saturday 13th December 7.30pm**

**KEMS Christmas Concert with Choir  
and Concert Band**

\* **Friday 19th December 8.00pm**

**Silk Brass Christmas Concert**



### Collect for Advent Sunday

Almighty God,  
as your kingdom dawns,  
turn us from the darkness of sin to the light of holiness,  
that we may be ready to meet you  
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.

## Christmas Celebrations in Macclesfield Market Place



It would be great to have a strong turn-out for these two Christmas celebrations to show to the community that there's a wonderful Christian Unity in our town.

Please come along if you can, and feel free to bring friends and neighbours - everybody is welcome! Stay for as long or as little as you wish.

### ♦ Carols around the Crib

**Saturday December 6th, 1.15pm**

Organised by St Alban's Church.

### ♦ Treacle Market Shopper's Carol Service

**Sunday December 21st, 1.00pm and again at 2.00 (20 minutes each time)**

To be held in the grounds of St Michael's Church.

## Sound of Silence (Contemplative Prayer)



Please note that there will be **no** Sound of Silence (aka Contemplative Prayer) on **Friday 12th or Friday 26th December**

## Advent Calendar Affirmation!

You might be interested to read an email I received recently from one of the poets whose work is included in this year's Advent Calendar (sometimes I get into some lovely correspondence when seeking copyright permissions).



## Christ Among the Ruins Finding Light in Gaza's Darkness

**Online Debate: Monday 1st December at 7.30**

Please see attached poster (unfortunately I can't get the link on the poster to work but if you click [here](#) you will get to the application process: Ed.)

### Hurray! It's Nativity casting time again

I would say 'form an orderly queue' but I know some of you are a little shy about coming forward, and need encouragement.

Remember - there is no age restriction (we have had participants raging from a few months old to people in their 90s in the past), and there is definitely no requirement for acting skill (although if you have some, everyone would be grateful!).

All you need to do is to dress up in an appropriate costume and read some lines in a convincing way, with virtually no rehearsal. We will have a single run-through on the morning of the actual event.

Please let Lynne know if you would like a part: it won't be onerous and could be ridiculous or profound, depending on the script-writer's mood at the time of writing.

Email Lynne at [lynne.norbron@gmail.com](mailto:lynne.norbron@gmail.com)

or phone 07881 423687

**The Nativity Service is at 10.00 on Sunday 21st Dec.**



### Some Reminders of the Nativity 2024



### Church Flowers

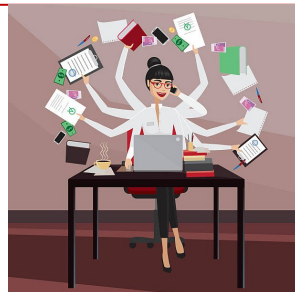
The glorious flowers in the Worship Area have been graciously given by Greeba Jones in loving memory of her beloved Philip, sadly missed.

Thank-you, Greeba, for the lovely arrangement.

### The Church Office

**Please help our office staff to work without interruptions!**

The office at St Michael's is a busy place, and Isobel and Elaine work hard to keep everything running smoothly. It would be a great help if church members could keep the following in mind:



Please don't expect an immediate reply to emails (and no need to follow up with a call). Both staff members juggle many responsibilities.

- \* Try to contact the right person on their working days (see back page of Bulletin).
- \* **Elaine:** room bookings, maintenance, setting heating, ordering supplies, setting up meeting rooms, maintenance of building, invoicing hirers...etc
- \* **Isobel:** supporting clergy, church services, church family admin, life events, church communication, posters, printing...etc. **If possible, avoid interrupting Isobel on Fridays.**
- \* **(NEW!)** - Please try and keep phone calls and drop-ins to 11.00am-12noon, this will help them focus on essential tasks.
- \* If you're just dropping something off, please use the St Michael's box outside the office which will be regularly checked.
- \* For in-person conversations, making an appointment helps ensure a time that works for everyone.

Thank you for your support.

### Update on Cop30

Thank you to those who prayed for a successful outcome; as has often been the case the outcome was mixed but there was progress

**COP30 made history by agreeing the need for a just transition**, with the strongest language on human, labour and indigenous rights ever agreed.

But the **COP ended without a deal on fossil fuels.**

We must continue praying for a stronger deal on climate finance, and a separate agreement on fossil fuels to be negotiated in 2026.



### Remembering Gaza: A Silent Vigil

outside Macclesfield Town Hall

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December 5.00 – 6.00pm**

**See attached poster**

Join us for *Worship*



### Sunday Worship

30th November 2025

### Advent Sunday

#### 10:00am: Church Family Worship

with Roots & Storytelling Groups for children

Led by Heike Werner with members of the congregation

**Bible Reading:** Isaiah 2:1-5

#### 6.30pm Advent Carol Service

**Leader:** Revd Martin Stephens

**Speaker:** Martin Bancroft (LLM)

Please use the link below to stream this  
(and previous services) on YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/@stmikesmacclesfield>

### Start the Week

Every Monday from 7.30am in church

Morning Prayer at 8.30 am in church and also on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/stmikesmacclesfield>

### Wednesday Morning Prayer Group

Alternate Wednesdays at 10:30 am in the Savage Chapel  
lasting 30-40 minutes.

**Next Meeting: Wednesday 10th December**

### Thursday Morning Worship 10:30am (35-40 mins)

Our midweek services follow the order from  
the Book of Common Prayer (traditional language) and  
alternate between Morning Prayer and Holy Communion

**4th December: Holy Communion**

**11th December: Morning Prayer**

### Thursday Homegroup

Meeting for Bible study and prayer –  
morning and evening groups

Please contact Eve & David Budgett (431606)  
or David Mayers (420716) for more information



### Sound of Silence (Contemplative Prayer)

Friday mornings from 9.20-9.50.

An opportunity for quiet prayer followed by a cuppa and chat.

### Compline/Night Prayer

Every Friday

Topic: Night Prayer | Time: 8.30 pm

Join Zoom Meeting; [https://](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75676947476?pwd=R2twT2pQbTFZUGR5bk1reDZOVXdaZz09)

[us04web.zoom.us/j/75676947476?](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75676947476?pwd=R2twT2pQbTFZUGR5bk1reDZOVXdaZz09)  
[pwd=R2twT2pQbTFZUGR5bk1reDZOVXdaZz09](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75676947476?pwd=R2twT2pQbTFZUGR5bk1reDZOVXdaZz09)

**Meeting ID: 756 7694 7476 Passcode: compline**



## Share your Photos with St Mike's Church Family



If you have any photographs of recent activities you have been involved in which you would like including in the weekly bulletin/newsletter or in the Church Family News slot in Sunday services, please use this number to WhatsApp them to the relevant people:

+44 7579 820265

You can, of course, also email pictures and text to  
[stmikesnotices@gmail.com](mailto:stmikesnotices@gmail.com)

## How to contact the office...



**Phone:** Landline: 01625 421984

**Email addresses:**

- **Isobel** [clergypa@maccteam.org.uk](mailto:clergypa@maccteam.org.uk) for ministry issues
- **Elaine** [bookings@stmichaels-macclesfield.org.uk](mailto:bookings@stmichaels-macclesfield.org.uk) for bookings and building matters
- **Bulletin/Newsletter** [stmikesnotices@gmail.com](mailto:stmikesnotices@gmail.com)
- **Printing** [maccteamprinting@gmail.com](mailto:maccteamprinting@gmail.com)
- **Safeguarding** see box below

**Postal Address:** The Office, St Michael's Church, Market Place, Macclesfield, SK10 1DY

Elaine's office hours are *usually* Monday, Tuesday and Thursday 9:30am – 1:30 pm

Isobel's Office hours are *usually* Monday & Wednesday 9.00-2.45; and Thursday 9.00 - 1.00 & Friday 8.30 - 1.00

## Safeguarding Contact Information



If you have any safeguarding concerns, please contact the St Michael's Safeguarding Officer, Katie Wilcock:

**Phone:** 07435 568 729

**Email:** [safeguarding@stmichaels-macclesfield.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@stmichaels-macclesfield.org.uk)



SCAN ME

## Donating to St Michael's is easy!

Scan this QR Code or use the **contactless donation** point in the Welcome Area



## Email any prayer requests to:

[prayer@stmichaels-macclesfield.org.uk](mailto:prayer@stmichaels-macclesfield.org.uk)

Your request will be circulated confidentially to a limited group of people who will pray for you.

