



# St MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS CHURCH

ABINGDON-ON-THAMES

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## 7 June 2026 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Trinity Regular Service Times

**Sundays:** Sung Mass, 9.30 am  
**Tuesdays:** Silent Reflections, last Tuesday of the month, 7.30pm (except December)  
**Thursdays:** Said Mass, 12.30 pm  
Moving into Stillness, Taizé circle dancing with silent interludes, usually first Thursday of the month, 9.45 am to 10.45 am.

### Contacts

**Team Rector:** The Revd Dr Jennifer Brown  
Email: [rector@abingdonparish.org.uk](mailto:rector@abingdonparish.org.uk)

**Team Vicar:** Vacancy

**Churchwardens:** Miss Joyce Kelly (01235 533555 / 07833 535768)  
e-mail: [joyceekelly@btinternet.com](mailto:joyceekelly@btinternet.com)  
Mrs Louise Heffernan (01235 525412 / 07779 650968)  
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**Associate Priest** The Revd Dr A. K. M. Adam (AKMA)  
e-mail: [akma@sthelens-abingdon.org.uk](mailto:akma@sthelens-abingdon.org.uk)

**Bookings\*:** Miss Joyce Kelly (as above)

**Parish Office:** The Parish Centre Office is normally open from Monday to Thursday, **10 am to 1 pm.**

**Administrator:** During normal working hours phone or leave a message on:  
Telephone (01235 520144)  
e-mail: [administrator@sthelens-abingdon.org.uk](mailto:administrator@sthelens-abingdon.org.uk)

**Web site:** <http://www.stmichaels-abingdon.org.uk>

*Items for inclusion in the next issue of pew leaflet to be sent to David Duce by midday on Tuesday.*

*Telephone 522591*

*[pewleaflet@stmichaels-abingdon.org.uk](mailto:pewleaflet@stmichaels-abingdon.org.uk)*

*[\*for Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals please contact the Parish Office]*

## We welcome the Revd Canon Ruth Pyke to preside and preach at Mass today

### **Bishop Steven's Final Service**

Bishop Steven marked his retirement with a final service of thanksgiving in Christ Church Cathedral on Trinity Sunday, 31 May. At this service he laid down his crozier, the principal symbol of his office and authority as Bishop of Oxford. A recording of the service is available on the Cathedral's YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bfgiSABuvxg> and at the time of writing (Monday 1 June) the Order of Service was available at <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1uVv-8TZEpeyluhdQI8Z1cs1pY8ODB85V/view>. This piece is written from those sources, the author was not present in person.

The Dean of the Cathedral, The Very Revd Professor Sarah Foot, introduced the service and the greeting and responsory were followed with this collect:

God our Father, Lord of all the world, we thank you that through your Son  
you have called us into the fellowship  
of your universal Church:  
hear our prayer for all your faithful people,  
that in their vocation and ministry,  
each may be an instrument of your love;  
and, as he leaves this Diocese,  
give to your servant, Steven,  
the needful gifts of grace;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord, ...

Three readings followed, including the gospel passage, Matthew 5.1-12, read by the Bishop of Reading. This passage is Matthew's version of the Beatitudes and readers may remember that in 2018 Bishop Steven invited parishes to study the Beatitudes and we at St Michael's ran a short course on this during Lent that year. Bishop Steven then preached his farewell sermon. Four tributes followed the intercessions and anthem "Let all the world in every corner sing", by Marjorie Glasgow BEM, His Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Oxfordshire, Imam Monawar Hussein MBE, Deputy Lieutenant of Oxfordshire, Professor Irene Tracey CBE, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford and The Rt Revd Gavin Collins, Bishop of Dorchester, interspersed with hymns and worship songs.

The Dean then made a presentation to the Bishop Steven on behalf of the cathedral community and Chapter. Her first thought – a striking clock set permanently to Oxford time (5 mins behind GMT) was rejected by the Chapter! He was instead given a stunning framed photograph of a newly installed (September 2025) stained glass window over the North Door of the cathedral; a window on which the Bishop preached on Christmas Day. The window is the work of stained glass artist Thomas Denny and features the Prodigal Son. See the cathedral's web site for more information about the window:

<https://www.chch.ox.ac.uk/news/new-stained-glass-window-unveiled-christ-church-cathedral>

The Bishop then gave the blessing the final part of the service was the laying down of the Bishop's crozier on the altar. The rite included:

*Dean* At your installation you received the diocesan Staff, the symbol of pastoral care and succession. We thank you for keeping watch over the flock of which God appointed you shepherd, and pray for you as you journey on.

*Bishop* I thank God for the privilege of being bishop in this place and for our partnership in the Gospel. I now surrender this Pastoral Staff into your safe keeping, until such time as my successor shall take it up, and ask for your blessing.

The Dean then blessed the Bishop and the service ended.

Bishop Gavin Collins, Bishop of Dorchester, now becomes Acting Bishop of Oxford until a new bishop is appointed. Bishop Gavin has written about his recent sabbatical and his new role in the diocese, see <https://www.oxford.anglican.org/news/bishop-of-dorchester-reflects-on-sabbatical-ahead-of-new-role-in-diocese-of-oxfo.php>  
*David Duce*

**Peter Cannon-Brookes** The funeral of Peter Cannon-Brookes will be at St Helen's Church on Monday 8 June at 2.30 pm. All are welcome to attend the service. Please keep Caroline and the family in your prayers.

**Status of Team Vicar Recruitment** Shortlisting for the post of Team Vicar took place on Monday 1 June. From the applications received, we were able to shortlist candidates for interview. Interviews will take place on **Monday 29 June**. Please continue to keep the process of finding our next Team Vicar in your prayers. *Jennifer Brown*

**Sunday Worship at St Helen's Church** St Helen's will live-stream their 10.30 am Eucharist through Zoom. The Zoom link can be found in the St Helen's Church newsletter (on-line) and on the Publications page at their web site. A

recording of the sermon (audio and video) will be made available after the service on the St Helen's web site (<https://abingdonparish.org.uk/StH/StHpublications.html>).

There is no evening service at St Helen's on Sunday 7 June. The next Taizé service will be on **Sunday 14 June in St Helen's Church at 5.30 pm.**

**Morning Prayer** is *normally* held at 9.10 am on weekdays at St Helen's Church.

**Abingdon Foodbank** currently needs oat milk, pesto, rice pudding, sardines & tuna, custard, UHT milk, cooking oil, coffee, hot chocolate, corned beef, squash and tinned fruit. It also needs carrier bags and shampoo.

There are collection points in local supermarkets and some other local businesses. The "Give Help" page has details of ways to donate and a link to the "BanktheFood app" which has frequently updated lists of most urgently needed items. <https://abingdon.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/>

There is a collection box in church and goods donated there will be taken to the South Abingdon Foodbank.

**Albert Park Singers Summer Concert Friday 26 June 7 pm** Join us for an evening of choral favourites from West End Shows to traditional folk songs. Free entry and refreshments, donations to Sobell House and St Michael's Church.

**Cream Tea** The next Cream Tea will take place on **Saturday 27 June between 2.30 pm and 4.30 pm.** Do please bring along your family and friends and promote wherever you can. It should be a lovely afternoon with some delicious cakes and live piano music. Help with delivering publicity material would be very much appreciated. Please do pick up one or two posters or a bundle of fliers from the table in the South aisle. Thank you. *Louise.*

**Faith Forum:** The next Faith Forum will take place on **Sunday 28 June**, when Fr AKMA will speak on the use of symbol in the liturgy.

**CiA News** The **May** issue of CiA News is available to download and there is a copy on the Notice Board by the welcome table. See [https://abingdonparish.org.uk/P\\_communications.html](https://abingdonparish.org.uk/P_communications.html).

**A Candle in the Window** We hope to publish the June edition of the Parish Magazine on 14 June. Contributions welcome, preferably by the **end of Sunday 7 June**, to [candle@abingdonparish.org.uk](mailto:candle@abingdonparish.org.uk).

The May edition is available to download from the Parish website [https://abingdonparish.org.uk/P\\_window.php](https://abingdonparish.org.uk/P_window.php). Earlier issues can also be found at this location.

## **Worship**

**June** Celebrants and preachers for June are: 7 June The Revd Canon Ruth Pyke; 14 June Fr AKMA, 21 June The Revd Dr Jennifer Brown / Mrs Beryl Clements and 28 June, The Revd Dr Jennifer Brown.

Thursday is the festival of Barnabas, the Apostle. Commemorations during the week include Thomas Ken, bishop, nonjuror, hymn writer, 1711; Tuesday: Columba, abbot, missionary, 597 and Ephrem, deacon, hymn writer, teacher of the faith, 373.

**Barnabas the Apostle** is not listed amongst the twelve apostles according to the evangelists, but emerges in the Acts of the Apostles as a significant figure. In Acts 4.36 he is described as Joseph, a Levite of Cyprus to whom the apostles gave the name, Barnabas, meaning 'son of encouragement.' He sold a field and laid the money at the apostle's feet. Today's 2<sup>nd</sup> reading, Acts 11.19-end, tells how the church in Jerusalem sent Barnabas to Antioch, then he went in search of Saul (Paul) and the two spent a year in Antioch, meeting with the church there and teaching many people. Acts records that it was in Antioch that 'the disciples were first called "Christians".' Barnabas is the Patron Saint of Cyprus.

**Exultet Scrolls – Part 2** When I wrote about Exultet Scrolls in the 10 May issue of the pew leaflet, I had no intention of writing a Part 2 and indeed could think of no reason to do so. My mind was changed however last week when I was asked to add a call-for-papers, to a web site I help maintain, for a conference to be held next year on the theme "The Work of Human Hands: Liturgy and the Senses." The conference is a memorial tribute to Nathan Chase, a liturgical scholar who died in 2025 at the age of 35. It turns out that Nathan's passion in the last months of his life was a project for the production of an *Open Access Exultet Scroll* modelled on the medieval Exultet scrolls but intended for contemporary church use for the proclamation of the Easter Vigil. The project has produced all the texts, musical notation and images needed to produce a scroll, along with detailed instructions about a possible print process and a holder (using a product from a well-known Swedish furniture manufacturer). More details about the project can be found at <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Z1EY2HayW8xqxWdNxTUYzAy-j8iOCEXq/edit> and the images etc are at [https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Ax75qW\\_RcjBH7VIVh2bC9sKJNlz6DjMI](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Ax75qW_RcjBH7VIVh2bC9sKJNlz6DjMI). Be warned though, the image file of the complete scroll is very large (487MB). The text is from the Roman Missal 2010. There is a video of the Exultet sung using a scroll printed from these resources at <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rK9PmnbRS-Bx3GONvGBuotAdBMBBeSAOz/view>

Sadly (at least in the author's view) the pulpit at St Michael's could not be used for such a scroll without modification and neither the lectern nor the legelium would be high enough!

**Inaugural Lecture of the Regius Professor of Divinity, University of Oxford** The Revd Professor Andrew Davison was appointed as the new Canon and Regius Professor of Divinity at Christ Church, Oxford, in succession to The Reverend Canon Professor Graham Ward in 2024. He will be giving his inaugural public lecture later this month with the intriguing title: *The Creed in Music: A Thousand Years of Setting Christian Theology to Music*, during the course of which the Choir of Christ Church Cathedral will perform Creed settings by John Taverner and Frank Martin, and provide musical examples to illustrate the lecture. Apparently is the first inaugural lecture to include live performances by a professional cathedral choir. Sadly though tickets for the event are sold out, but one might hope that it will be published in some form afterwards. [*Thanks to Roderick Smith and Eluned Hallas for drawing this to my attention. Ed.*]

### **The Middle East**

This prayer for Iran appeared in diocesan e-News, and on the Church of England web site. It has also been reproduced in the March issue of *A Candle in the Window*. The prayer was written by the Rt Revd Dr Guli Francis-Dehqani, Bishop of Chelmsford. Bishop Guli was born in Iran. Her family left the country in the wake of the Iranian Revolution in 1980, when she was 13 years old, and to date she has been unable to return.

Ever-loving God,  
who hears us in our anguish and distress,  
and longs for us to be free.  
We pray for the people of Iran and the wider Middle East,  
at this time of fear and uncertainty.  
Be near to those who are anxious;  
bring comfort to all who are suffering.  
Guide those with the power to make decisions,  
and lead them in the ways of wisdom, compassion and moderation:  
that people of goodwill would seek harmony and reconciliation.  
Join us with our Christian brothers and sisters in all places,  
in praying for peace with justice,  
through him who is the prince of peace,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

### **Prayers for the Peace of the World**

A prayer from the Church of England:

Almighty God, from whom all thoughts of truth and peace proceed:  
kindle, we pray, in the hearts of all, the true love of peace  
and guide with your pure and peaceable wisdom  
those who take counsel for the nations of the earth  
that in tranquillity your kingdom may go forward,  
till the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, ...

### **During another Season of Vacancies**

The prayer below is the prayer used for the appointment of a new Archbishop of Canterbury. But it is not entirely inappropriate in the current situation as the next stage of ministry in the parish of Abingdon is discerned.

Heavenly Father, shepherd of your Church,  
send us a faithful pastor to lead with wisdom, courage, and love,  
proclaiming your Gospel, celebrating the sacraments, and guiding your people in unity and truth.  
Strengthen your Church, we pray, and direct us in your ways; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Church of St Mary Magdalen, Oxford, provided this prayer when they were recently seeking a new Vicar.

O God, who alone guides and guards the Church  
by your Spirit. Strengthen and encourage us  
in this time of uncertainty and opportunity, and inspire  
those who maintain our worship, and those engaged  
in the discernment and selection of a new Team Vicar.

We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

This prayer taken from the Diocesan web site was published in January this year.

Lord God, thank you that you care so much about your people.

Please help the Church of England to listen to what you say as they work together to find the right person to be Bishop of Oxford.

Please provide a bishop who will serve well, in all the ways you want, for the good of all.

We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

**Please pray for:**

- Sarah, Archbishop of Canterbury and Stephen, Archbishop of York;
- Bishop Gavin as he takes up the role of Acting Bishop of Oxford and for the Crown Nominations Commission;
- His Majesty King Charles, Her Majesty Queen Camilla, and all the royal family;
- the peace of the world, for Sudan;
- all engaged in examinations at this time;
- the suffering, especially those who are known to us and who are on our prayer list;
- those recently departed and those whose year's mind falls at this time;
- people living in Yewtree Mews and Ypres Way.

**Eucharistic Lectionary**

<b>Sunday 7 June</b> <b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after</b> <b>Trinity</b>	Hosea 5.15-6.6	Ps 50.7-15	<b>Romans 4.13-end</b>	<b>Matthew 9.9-13,</b> <b>18-26</b>
<b>Monday</b>	1 Kings 17.1-6	Ps 121		Matthew 5.1-12
<b>Tuesday</b>	1 Kings 17.7-16	Ps 4		Matthew 5.13-16
<b>Wednesday</b>	1 Kings 18.20-39	Ps 16.1-6, end		Matthew 5.17-19
<b>Thursday</b> <b>Barnabas, the</b> <b>Apostle</b>	Job 29.11-16 or Acts 11.19-end	Ps 112	Acts 11.19-end or Galatians 2.1-10	John 15.12-17
<b>Friday</b>	1 Kings 19.9, 11-16	Ps 27.8-16		Matthew 5.27-32
<b>Saturday</b>	1 Kings 19.19-end	Ps 16.1-7		Matthew 5.33-37

**Collect (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Trinity)**

O God, the strength of all those who put their trust in you, mercifully accept our prayers and, because through the weakness of our mortal nature we can do no good thing without you, grant us the help of your grace, that in the keeping of your commandments we may please you both in will and deed; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, ...

**Post Communion (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Trinity)**

Eternal Father, we thank you for nourishing us with these heavenly gifts: may our communion strengthen us in faith, build us up in hope, and make us grow in love; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Collect (Barnabas the Apostle)**

Bountiful God, giver of all gifts, who poured your Spirit upon your servant Barnabas and gave him grace to encourage others: help us, by his example, to be generous in our judgements and unselfish in our service; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, ...

**Post Communion (Barnabas the Apostle)**

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

*(From the Common of Apostles and Evangelists)*

**Some On-line Resources for Worship**

*A Church Near You Live Streamed events* <https://www.achurchnearyou.com/live-stream/?tags=Livestream&diocese=27>

*Parish Communications and Links* <http://www.abingdonparish.org.uk/Pcommunications.html>

*St Michael's Prayer and Worship resources page* <https://abingdonparish.org.uk/StM/StMworshipresources.html>

*St Michael's Publications page* <https://abingdonparish.org.uk/StM/StMpublications.html>

*Oxford Cathedral: Livestream events will appear on the cathedral's YouTube channel, see* <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqz9I9-LbZJAPGtje0gQbbg>.

*The University Church of St Mary the Virgin (Oxford) live stream, see* <https://www.youtube.com/c/UniversityChurch/featured>

*Community of the Resurrection: live streaming and recordings of the community's daily round of prayer and praise, see* <https://mirfield.org.uk/live-streaming/> and *YouTube page* <https://www.youtube.com/@StreamingAtMirfield>. On Sundays Mass starts around 8.10 am, after Matins at 7.30 am.

*Walsingham* In addition to the daily live-streaming of Shrine Prayers at 6 pm (5pm on Saturdays). the Sunday Mass is live-streamed (usually at 7.30 am, but check the web site). <https://www.walsinghamanglican.org.uk/whatson-2/livestream/>