

## Notices

### **Eco-Congregation Bring and Share lunch today at 12.30pm**

All are welcome at a meeting, to be held in the downstairs meeting room, which will focus on the Group's long-term development plan.

### **Celebrating Communion this evening**

All are welcome at 6.30pm this evening to a reflective service in the lounge of Fraser Court (14 Morrison Crescent) and we are grateful to Monika and Sonia for hosting this service.

### **The Altar Panels**

The Altar Panel Meeting will next meet on Monday 12 February, at 7.30 pm downstairs in the church. This meeting follows quite soon after last week's meeting. Please make a note of it in your diaries.

### **Newsletter copy deadline**

It's Newsletter time again. The copy deadline for the next issue, which covers March and April and therefore most of Lent and also Holy Week and Easter is **next Sunday, 18 February**. Please let David have all copy by then.

### **Shrove Tuesday (13 February)**

We are cordially invited to a Pancake Party & Quiz Night at St Michael's, 7pm-8.30pm. Admission free and no tickets needed, but please let David know if you are going so he can give them an idea of numbers.

### **Ash Wednesday (14 February)**

Celebrating Communion and Imposition of Ashes, 7.30pm at St Martin's. The preacher will be Martin Pearce, Locum Minister at St Michael's

### **Evening service at St Michael's on Sunday 25 February**

There will be a shared evening service at St Michael's conducted by their Locum Minister Martin Pearce on the last Sunday of this month, 25 February. The service, which will not include Holy Communion, will begin at 6.30pm

## **The Sunday before Lent**

**Sunday 11 February 2018**

*Preacher: David Warnes*

*President: David Warnes*



*Living out faith in our community  
through prayer, reflection and action*

### **Old Testament Reading: 2 Kings 2:1-12**

*Read by: Stuart Robertson*

Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent." Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here; for the Lord has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; be silent." Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went, and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, until the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you, before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing; yet, if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and

talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

### **Psalm 50:1-6**

The mighty one, God the Lord, speaks

**and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.**

Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.

**Our God comes and does not keep silence, before him is a devouring fire, and a mighty tempest all around him.**

He calls to the heavens above and to the earth, that he may judge his people:

**"Gather to me my faithful ones, who made a covenant with me by sacrifice!"**

The heavens declare his righteousness, for God himself is judge.

### **The Epistle: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6**

*Read by: Stuart Robertson*

And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

### **The Gospel: Mark 9:2-9**

*Read by: Roderick MacKenzie*

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. And there appeared to

them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them anymore, but only Jesus.

As they were coming down the mountain, he ordered them to tell no one about what they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what this rising from the dead could mean.

### **The Collect**

Lord God of the nations, you have revealed your will to all people and promised us your saving help.

May we hear and do what you command,  
that the darkness may be overcome by the power of your light;  
through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
now and for ever. Amen

### **Sunday 18 February 2018 The First Sunday of Lent**

#### **10.30am Celebrating Communion**

President: David Warnes

Preacher: David Warnes

Readings: Genesis 9:8-17

1 Peter 3: 18-22

Mark 1:9-15

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