

Our 10.15am Sunday Service

Welcome

Song Praise to the Holiest in the height

Introduction to the theme

Children and young people leave for their groups

Song Only by grace can we enter

Confession

Absolution

Collect

1st Reading Genesis 2: 15-17, 3: 1-7

2nd Reading Romans 5: 12-19

Song Forty days and forty nights

Gospel Reading Matthew 4: 1-11

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith

Prayers

The Peace

Song Before the throne of God above

Thanksgiving Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Breaking of Bread

Distribution of Communion

Post Communion Prayer

Church Family News

Song Guardian (King of love and grace...)

Closing Prayer

Blessing

Dismissal

Online Services:

Follow on YouTube by searching for
St Michael's Church Highworth

This week and upcoming

Sunday 22nd February

10.15am Holy Communion

Monday 23rd February

NO Toddler Group

7-9.30pm HCS Rehearsal in Church

7.30pm Prayer Hour in Church Room

Tuesday 24th February

9.30am Morning Prayers

10.30am Meet Greet Eat

NO Youth Group

Wednesday 25th February

12-1.30pm Lent Lunches in Church

2pm St Michael's Flower Guild Meeting in Church

7-9pm Highworth Historical Society in Church

Thursday 26th February

7.30-9pm Bellringing Practice

Friday 27th February

9.15-9.45am Friday Blessings

Sunday 28th February

10am-12pm Coffee Morning in Church Room

in support of Christian Aid

Sunday 1st March

8.30am Holy Communion

10.15am Morning Worship

12pm Wedding Couple Administration Session
in Church

Monday 2nd March

10-11.30am Toddler Group

Thursday 5th March

12pm Funeral of Kathleen Collier

Saturday 7th March

1.30pm Baptism in Church



Sunday 22nd
February 2026

CHOICES

Sniffer dogs and skateboards, why will I be talking about them in a sermon? Come to the morning service on Sunday to find out!

Life seems to be all about choices. Some people, like me, think there are too many choices. It wasn't that complicated for Adam and Eve. But they still made the wrong choice when they ate that apple. The trouble with choices is that they have consequences. We have all been suffering from the consequences of Adam and Eve's choice ever since.

It was a lot more complicated for Jesus when God sent Him to sort out the consequences of Adam and Eve's choice. Jesus also had choices. He could follow the plan God had given him, or, he could take some shortcuts that would have made life a lot more comfortable for him; but would he still have achieved God's purpose?

Jesus made the right choices, and we are all blessed because of the choices he made.

Phil Sapwell

Join us for Prayer

Prayer Hour:

The next prayer hour is on Monday 23rd February at 7.30pm in the Church Room.

Please do consider joining us.

It is vital that we join together to pray for our church, our community and the wider world.

Tuesday Prayers:

Prayers are held in church every

Tuesday morning from 9.30am.

We come together to pray for the week ahead.

Friday Blessings:

Blessings are held in church every Friday morning from 9.15-9.45am. It is a time for everyone to come together to bless the Town.

Get in touch

Parish of Highworth with Sevenhampton & Inglesham

Ministry Enquiries: Telephone: 07841 106717

Rev Phil Goodey (day off Friday)

Email: rector@stmichaelshighworth.co.uk

Rev Andy Bissex (day off Wednesday)

Email: curate@stmichaelshighworth.co.uk

Administration/General Enquiries:

(including baptisms, weddings, funerals etc.)

Church Office: Telephone: 01793 762702

Email: office@stmichaelshighworth.co.uk

Website: stmichaelshighworth.co.uk

Bulletin: bulletin.stmichaels@yahoo.com

Copy deadline is 12pm Thursday

For Prayer

**In Lent, let us refresh our roots in Christ,
as Lord and Saviour.**

*"Just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord,
continue to live your lives in him, rooted and
built up in him, strengthened in the faith ... and
overflowing with thankfulness" (Col 2 : 6-7)*

Let us give thanks ...

... for all who help us on our journey of faith;

... godparents, family or friends;

... our church fellowship and homegroup;

... a favourite Christian book or writer.

May God bless our town, and those who live in
Cotswold Way and Crane Furlong.

Rev'd Trevor Day's funeral will take place at
Christ Church Swindon on Thursday 19th March
at 11am. Please do car share where possible as
there is limited parking at the Church.

Prayer Chain

To commit to join the prayer chain or if you have
something for which you would like specific or
urgent prayer, please email
smprayerchain@yahoo.com All requests are
confidential.

News and Events

Lent Course

Phil Goodey will be hosting a Deepening
Discipleship course over Lent. The course starts
on Sunday, 22nd February at 7.30pm in
St Michael's Church.

The start time will be under discussion at the first
session so please do come along.

There is a preliminary questionnaire to complete
prior to the start and both the questionnaire and
course booklet are available in the church
entrance or can be found under the Lent Course
link on the Church website.

[https://www.stmichaelshighworth.co.uk/
lentcourse](https://www.stmichaelshighworth.co.uk/lentcourse)

Lent Lunches

If you are able to make soup and/or help with set
up, serving and clearing away on Wednesday 11th
March please let Julie in the office know.

Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who helped with Pancake
Café, Lent Lunch and Messy Church last week. It
was a busy week and we are thankful to everyone
for pulling together for these events.

A big well done to the young people from Youth
Group who did an amazing job at Pancake Café.

Toddler Group - Half Term Break

Toddler group is on half term this week, returning
at 10am on Monday 2nd March.

Youth Group

Youth group are on half term break this week,
24th February, returning on 3rd March.

Curates Corner

Lent 1: being still and letting God...

I saw the first Easter egg for sale on Boxing Day, when I had to pop into Asda (other multinational corporate supermarkets are available), for some milk. It's all come around far too quickly for my liking. Before we celebrate Easter of course, we mark the season of Lent.

The writer and evangelist J. John reflects ...

[J. John.com]

'We live in a world that rarely stops. Life moves at increasing speed and it often feels that we are chasing endless deadlines, commitments, notifications and noise. Many people say the same thing with a weary sigh: 'I'm just too busy.'

Into this frenzy, Lent arrives as a long, slow interruption.

Lent presses the pause button.

It invites simplicity and silence, listening and contemplation.

It calls us to step out of the rush and remember what truly matters.

This is vital, because at the heart of Christianity lies a truth so simple it can easily be drowned out by the noise of life:

Out of love, God came to us in Jesus Christ to bring forgiveness, healing and new life.

That message does not need improving, but it does need space.

'Be still, and know that I am God.' (Psalm 46:10 NIV)

Lent creates that space. It invites us to stop, to breathe and to remember who God is and who we are.'

Give yourself some space over the next weeks to contemplate, to wonder and to give thanks for God's gift of Jesus.

Rev. Andy

Eco Church

The Eco team are busy planning for 2026 with some exciting things coming soon.

If you have any Eco ideas or would like to be part of the team please do speak to Jill.

Eco Tip - Renewable Energy

Switch your electricity supplier so that you support renewable electricity generation rather than electricity made by burning fossil fuels.

You could use the Green Journey price comparison site

<http://greenjourney.switchgasandelectric.com/>

Prayers and Blessings

Don't forget we hold regular prayers and blessings in Church.

Morning Prayer every Tuesday at 9.30am.

Friday Blessings every Friday at 9.15am.

Prayer Hour every 2nd and 4th Monday in the Church Room at 7.30pm.

Everyone is welcome to join us.

We also have a team of people willing to pray in confidence after Sunday service.

Please speak to the person leading the service if you would like to pray.

Electoral Roll

It's nearly time for a revision of the Electoral Roll register. I know many people missed the notices regarding the full revision in 2025 and didn't make it on to the roll so there will be opportunity be added back in again very soon.

APCM

The APCM has been scheduled for Sunday 26th April, after the morning service so please do put the date in your diary.

Elections

We are in need of Church Wardens, a Treasurer and Deanery Synod Representatives. Further details can be found on the church website or have a conversation with Phil Goodey about what the roles entail.

<https://www.stmichaelshighworth.co.uk/apcm>
-1

New Noticeboards

Many of you will have walked the journey of trying to get new noticeboards with the office! They have finally been erected at a cost of over £5,000. We have been blessed by Clinton's Trust agreeing to fund this project.

Easter

Holy Week and Easter plans are well underway and we'll have a full list of what's on over the Easter period very soon.

Service Feedback

We have questionnaires in church on the table just inside the door for completion after each service.

We are looking for your views (all feedback welcome) on how the services are going.

We have two forms, one for the person leading the service and one for the preacher.

For clarity, the preacher will do the sermon/talk and the leader will do the rest.

You are encouraged to complete these questionnaires over the coming weeks at every service and either hand them to a Duty Warden or pop them in to the office (or post box next to the office door).