

# NEWSLETTER

September 2025

## 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](http://www.braystmichael.co.uk)



**Dear Friends,**

**Coming Up This Autumn and Winter**

As the summer sun sets and the days grow shorter, our parish life continues to be a source of warmth and light. We have a wonderful lineup of events and services planned for the autumn and winter months, and we invite everyone in our community to join us. Whether you're a long-time member or a newcomer, there's something for everyone.

We're kicking things off with a lively afternoon of **Hymns with Pimm's** on **September 21 at 3pm**. Come sing your favourite hymns and enjoy a refreshing drink—it's the perfect way to spend a Sunday afternoon; our last look back to Summer.

Early in October, **Harvest Festival service at 10 am** and we will hold our annual **Pet service on October 5 at 3pm**. Bring your beloved companions, from dogs and cats to hamsters and rabbits, for a special blessing.

Later in the month, we will be holding a **Taizé service on October 26 at 4pm**. This reflective service features simple, repetitive chants and silent meditation, creating a peaceful and contemplative atmosphere. **We'll have another Taizé service on November 23 at 4pm.**

In November, we have several important services. On **November 2 at 4pm**, we will hold our **All Souls service**, a time to remember and give thanks for the lives of those we have loved and lost. A week later, on **November 9 at 10.45am**, we will gather for our annual **Remembrance service** to honour those who have served and sacrificed for our country.

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## A Season of Light and Joy

The festive season begins in late November with two beautiful services. On **November 29 at 3pm**, our much-loved **Christingle service** returns. This is a wonderful family event that helps children understand the story of Jesus as the light of the world. Then, on **November 30 at 6pm**, we'll have our **Advent Service of Light**, a special evening celebrating the promise of the coming into the world of the light of Christ.

As we move into December, the calendar is filled with opportunities to celebrate the birth of Jesus. We'll have our **Community Carols** on **December 14 at 3pm**, followed by our main **Carol service** on **December 21 at 4pm**, where we will sing traditional Christmas carols by candlelight.

**Christmas Eve** is packed with services for all ages. Our **Crib service at 3pm** is perfect for families with young children, telling the nativity story in a simple and engaging way. Later that night, we'll have our beautiful **Midnight Mass starting at 11.30pm**, a traditional and solemn service to welcome Christmas Day.

**On Christmas morning**, we will have two services: an early **Holy Communion at 8am** and a family-friendly **Christmas Communion at 10am**.

We'll start the new year with a moment of reflection and hope with our **Prayers for the year on January 1 at 3pm**.

We look forward to seeing you and your families at one or more of these special events. All are welcome.

With best regards

*Ainsley*



## **Sunday Afternoon Recitals at 3.00pm**

**14 September**

**Peng Lin (piano)**

Sensational piano virtuoso presents a programme of **Scriabin** and **Schumann** including *Symphonic Etudes*

**12 October**

**Margalida Moll Salord (piano)**

Programme to include **J S Bach**, **Chopin**, **Schumann** and **Granados** Goyesca El Pelele

**9 November**

**Kapsetaki Piano Duo**

Greek twin sisters, Stephanie and Marianna, perform music for piano duet including **Schumann**, **Liszt**, **Grieg** and **Rachmaninoff**

**14 December**

**Community Carols**

Join us for this annual festive celebration of carols and readings in aid of **Alexander Devine Children's Hospice Service**

**Retiring Collection and Afternoon Tea**



***A unique musical fusion -  
Cantorum meets Fretwork for one night only!***

***"New venue, new sound, new musical heights -  
don't miss it."***

We are hoping to organise a coach from Cookham.  
The return price of the coach will be £16-£20, depending on numbers.

If you are interested in booking a place please contact Angela on

[cantorumdoremi@gmail.com](mailto:cantorumdoremi@gmail.com)

## *A REVIEW OF ST. MICHAEL'S 2025 SUMMER TEAS*



Thank you to all those involved in this year's summer's Church Tea programme. This year we raised an amazing total of £3127. There were eight teas held raising funds for a number of charities as well as St Michaels Church Lighting funds. The charities were: Friends of St Michael's, Breast Cancer Now, HomeStart, Alexander Devine, The Children's Society and Alzheimers Dementia Support 'ADS' Maidenhead branch. Along the way the Devine Buskers entertained us.

The braver of you were able to take a trip up the bell tower with the Bellringers , and St Michael's Vintage joined us for two of the teas. I hope a good time was had at all the teas by everyone involved.

Sarah Pawluk took her donation to Homestart. She reported "They are very grateful to St Michael's for hosting and said that this amount is equivalent to funding the rent for their Little Starters family group building in Slough for 6 weeks, which currently supports 44 families. They even gave me a mini tour !" £2558 was raised by our community for charities and £569 was raised for St Michaels Church, Thank you so much. Keep an eye on the newsletter for details of dates and times for upcoming events such as our Hymns and Pimm's service in September and our Craft Fayre in November as well as next summer's tea programme.

## *Hymns with Pimm's*



On Sunday 21st September at 3 p.m. at St Michael's, Bray we will be holding a hymn singing special.

The Congregation have been invited to nominate their choice of favourite hymns for this event.

We will be accompanied by both the Piano and the Organ .

Please come along to make this a fun afternoon.



## CONTACT LIST

**The Vicar:** Rev. Canon Ainsley Swift 633113  
**Curate:** Rev'd Andy Medlicott [andymed256@gmail.com](mailto:andymed256@gmail.com)

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

**The Churchwardens:**

Helen Pearson 07979 756409  
Lynn Olney 07966906092

**Deputy Churchwardens:**

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Mary Wiles 635000

**Sacristan & Lay Funeral Minister:**

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**Verger:** Jim Tucker 673685

**Parochial Church Council:**

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**Electoral Roll Officer:**

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**Director of Music:**

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Natasha Teeder 674469

**Bellringers:**

*Tower Captain:*

Maggie Ross  
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**Friends of St. Michael's**

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**Church Flowers:** Maggie Jans 07774484308

**Holyport School Headteacher:**

Mrs Amanda Featherstone 627743  
<https://www.holyportprimaryschool.co.uk>

**Braywood School Headteacher:**

Mrs Annie Cole 623660



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