



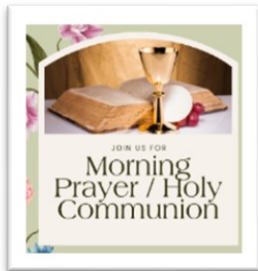
The Monthly Bulletin

27th March, 2026

St Michael's Church, Blundellsands

www.stmichaelsblundellsands.co.uk

Upcoming Services



29th March - 10:30

Palm Sunday

Morning Prayer

3rd April - 2:00

Good Friday

The Last Hour

5th April - 10:30

Easter Day

Holy Communion

12th April - 10:30

Morning Prayer

19th April - 10:30

Holy Communion

26th April - 10:30

Morning Prayer



Livestream	Visit our website and navigate to services - livestream (or click this link)
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Prayers

We pray for those suffering in body, mind or spirit:

Hear the prayer we offer for all your people.

Remember in your mercy those for whom we pray: heal the sick, raise the fallen, strengthen the fainthearted and enfold in your love the fearful and those who have no hope. In the fullness of time complete your gracious work. Reconcile all things in Christ and make them new, that we may be restored in your image, renewed in your love, and serve you as sons and daughters in your kingdom. Amen

At this time, our prayers have been asked for **Colin Robinson, Hugh Hollinghurst** and **Anne Monk**.



We pray for those who have died in the faith of Christ:

Hear us as we remember those who have died in the peace of Christ, both those who have confessed the faith and those whose faith is known to you alone, and grant us with them a share in your eternal kingdom. We remember the family and friends of **Gerald Massey, Grace Barker** and **June Pottinger**. Amen

(see diary page for details of funerals to be held at St Michael's Church)

Poem for the month



Christ on the Cross, 1632 by Diego Velázquez

Christ, on the Cross, expresses a supreme dignity; this because of his simplicity, his humanity and the admirable absence of both physical beauty and ugliness. He is accompanied by neither landscape, nor sky, nor meteorological or prodigious phenomena. He was a just Man, and He is dead.

Christ Crucified

I stand before the great work,
my head bowed, his legs at my eye
level.

The iron nails protruding from his
sinewed feet are enormous.

What incomprehensible pain is there?

One hip dropped so his left knee
is slightly lower than his right.

Blood trickles down his torso
from the wound Longinus made.

It crosses the white loincloth
to the top of his thigh in rivulets
of red, like tears on a pale face.

His arms spread as great wings,
taut with his body weight.

Hair hangs to one side as his
head is bowed, the crown of thorns
highlighted by an ethereal halo glow.

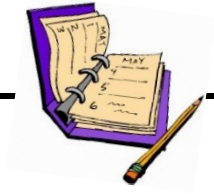
Are these his final hours alone
or has his soul left for Heaven?

Velazquez leaves that for me to know.

Jeffa Kay

)

The Diary -looking ahead.



March

- **29th March - Annual Parochial Church Meeting.** The meeting will follow the morning service. All welcome.

April

- **2nd April - Maundy Thursday** - L23 churches are joining together for a service at All Saints with St Frideswyde (7.30pm) - all welcome.
- **3rd April - Good Friday** - join us for prayer and reflection as we join together for Jesus' last hour.
- **15th April - Heavenly Food** resumes - £8
- **28th April - MU (2pm)** - A talk by Chris Kay

Gold Music will be playing at our first **Heavenly food held on 15/04/2026** and also will be playing lunchtime concerts once a month, on the last Friday, commencing 24 April 2026.

A poster for the Lunchtime Concert Series. The poster has a white background with a red scalloped border. At the top, the words 'LUNCHTIME CONCERT SERIES' are written in large, blue, serif capital letters. Below this, in a smaller, red, cursive font, it says 'A Mid-day Musical Picnic for the Community'. In the center, there is a pink rounded rectangle containing the text 'FEATURING PERFORMANCES BY STAFF AND STUDENTS FROM' in blue capital letters. Below this is a red circular logo with a white stylized 'G' and 'M' inside. Underneath the logo, the words 'GOLD MUSIC TUTION' are written in blue capital letters. To the right of this, there is a small red circle with the text '£5 Donation Suggested' inside. At the bottom, there are two columns of text: 'Final Friday of each month' and 'St Michael's Church Blundellsands'. At the very bottom, there are two lines of text: 'www.goldmusic tuition.co.uk' and 'Helen: 07929 262319'. The background of the poster is decorated with faint musical notes and staves.

Vocatio Responsio

held their fundraising concert on Wednesday, 25 March, which proved to be a tremendous success. Despite wintry and blustery winds, guests gathered for a captivating night of music and storytelling focused on Jesus' crucifixion. Their tour began in Oxford on Monday with a performance at St Matthews, and they departed early Tuesday morning for outreach programmes at our school, St Michaels Church Academy where they performed a little of the show and also led a musicianship workshop. The young people were very engaged and it was a delight to work with them.



Sam, the musical director, wishes to extend heartfelt thanks to the PCC and pastoral team at St Michaels for their ongoing assistance and support. Above all, he is grateful to the congregation, whose encouragement and advocacy mean so much to him. The cake treats were delightful, receiving compliments from everyone.

Collection Point



Just a reminder we have collection boxes in both church and church hall for the local foodbank. Please do donate what you can.

FOOD ITEMS

Tea / Coffee / Hot Chocolate	Sauces (Pasta / Tomato) Jars
Milk / Juice (carton)	Pasta / Rice / Noodles
Cup a Soup / Noodles Puddings / Biscuits / Jam	Instant Mash
Soups (can/packet)	Tinned Fruit / Rice / Custard
Tinned Beans / Spaghetti /Tomatoes	Cereal (small size)
EXTRAS	TOILETRIES (male & female)
Chocolate	Soap, shower gel & shampoo
Pet Food	Deodorant
Nappies	Toothpaste & toothbrushes

“For there will never cease to be poor in the land. Therefore I command you, “You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor.

(Deuteronomy 15:11)



The Ukraine Centre is now accepting donations of clothing. Any donations should be dropped off at 19 Mersey Road, Crosby. L23 3AE

Heavenly Food



15 th April	16 th September
20 th May	21 st October
17 th June	18 th November
15 th July	9 th December
19 th August	

Heavenly Food will be resuming next month. The cost will still be £8.00 per person. We have an exciting musical interlude, from Gold Music, for the one in April, not to be missed as well as good conversation. Please call the office to secure your place or sign up at the back of church.



St Michael's Church, Blundellsands

Join us for our special services!



Please see our following special services. We hope to see you all there.



LM SUNDAY 29TH MARCH 10.30AM

Come together as we mark the start of Holy Week, exploring Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem

MAUNDY THURSDAY Thursday 2nd

APRIL 2026 7.30pm

L23 churches are joining together for a Service at ASSF



GOOD FRIDAY 3RD APRIL 2026 2.00PM

Join with us as we observe Christ's Last hour in a service of prayer and reflection

EASTER SUNDAY

SUNDAY 5TH APRIL 10.30AM

The Lord is Risen! Alleluia!
A service of Holy Communion as we celebrate the Risen Lord



St Michael's Renovation Fund

Upcoming Fundraising events



Saturday 9th May 2026, 7pm **Maghull Wind Orchestra**

Founded in 1978, Maghull Wind Orchestra has been bringing people together through music for over 45 years. St Michael's is delighted to welcome back this wonderful group of musicians for a night of entertainment. Tickets £10

Please see our notice boards in the church grounds for upcoming events in 2026. Thank you again for your kindness and generosity.

If you would like to help or require any further information please contact Sharon, Parish Administrator, 0151 924 0561 or email: office@stmbsands.org

Please visit our [Just Giving](#) page using this link or scan the QR code:

[https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/stmbsandsraisetherooft?
utm_medium=CA&utm_source=CL](https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/stmbsandsraisetherooft?utm_medium=CA&utm_source=CL)





**Maghull Wind Orchestra
presents**

A Night at the Musicals

**Featuring music from 'Mary Poppins', 'Miss
Saigon'
'Starlight Express' & more!**

**In support of St Michael's
church renovation fund**



Saturday 9th May 2026, 7:30pm

Tickets: £10 per person

**To reserve, contact Sharon at
office@stombsands or 0151 924 0561**



St Michael's Church

54 Dowhills Road, Blundellsands L23 8SP

Recipes

April religious meals for Christians focus on concluding the Lenten fast and celebrating Easter, often featuring roast lamb (representing Christ), eggs (symbolizing new life), and spiced breads. Key traditions include hot cross buns on Good Friday, Simnel cake, and feasting on Easter Sunday with rich, festive foods.

Traditional Easter & April Meals

- **Roast Lamb:** The primary Easter meal, signifying the "Lamb of God" and breaking the 40-day Lenten fast.
- **Hot Cross Buns:** Spiced buns with a cross, traditionally eaten on Good Friday to mark the crucifixion.
- **Simnel Cake:** A light fruit cake covered in marzipan, often decorated with 11 balls representing the loyal apostles.
- **Easter Eggs:** Hard-boiled eggs or chocolate eggs, representing new life, rebirth, and the empty tomb.
- **Easter Biscuits:** Spiced biscuits often containing currants and lemon peel.
- **Fish (Good Friday):** Many Christians abstain from meat on Good Friday, opting for fish dishes such as baked cod or smoked salmon.

Other Symbolic Foods

- **Honey and Fish:** Serving honeycomb or honey with fish recalls the meal Jesus shared with his disciples after his resurrection.
- **Lambswool:** A traditional drink made with apple pulp and ale or cider, often served during Eastertide.
- **Paska/Kulich:** A tall, decorative, sweetened bread traditional for Eastern Orthodox Easter celebrations.
- **Asparagus:** Considered a traditional side dish representing the spear that pierced Christ's side.

Mock Turtle Soup

"Then the Queen left off, quite out of breath, and said to Alice, 'Have you seen the Mock Turtle yet?' 'No,' said Alice. 'I don't even know what a Mock Turtle is.' 'It's the thing Mock Turtle Soup is made from,' said the Queen." –Lewis Carroll, Alice's Adventures in Wonderland.

Ingredients

- 1/4 cup hot sauce (optional ... but, c'mon ...)
- 1/2 cup butter
- 1/2 cup extra virgin olive oil
- 1/2 cup flour
- 1/2 cup lemon juice
- 1/2 cup sherry/brandy
- 1/2 cup Worcestershire sauce
- 1 cup Italian parsley, chopped
- 1 hard-boiled egg per person, chopped the whites, reserve the yolks
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 lemon, sliced, reserve the zest
- 1 quart of water
- 1 teaspoon cayenne pepper (optional ... but, c'mon ...)
- 1 teaspoon paprika (optional ... but, c'mon ...)
- 2 pounds ground steak
- 2 bay leaves
- 2 cups tomato sauce
- 2 large carrots, grated
- 3 teaspoons thyme
- 32-ounce beef/chicken broth
- 4 celery stalks, chopped
- 4 garlic cloves, minced

Instructions:

1. In a deep skillet, melt butter
2. Add the flour. Stir until browned.
3. Add garlic, celery, and onions
4. Cook for 5 minutes or until tender.
5. Add meat and cook until done, about 10 minutes.
6. Add the broth, tomato sauce, Worcestershire, spices, hot sauce and bay leaves.
7. Transfer mixture to a crockpot for 1 hour, stirring occasionally.
8. Add lemon juice, sherry/brandy and parsley.
9. When serving, add lemon slices and a few hardboiled egg yolks to each dish

CHURCH EVENTS & NOTICES



Parish Office



For items to be included in the Monthly bulletin*, please email the Parish Office **by 5pm on the last Tuesday of the month.** Thank you. Items received after this time will be published the following week.

Leave a message on: 0151 924 0561

Parish Administrator: Sharon Oliver

Email: office@stombsands.org

Website: www.stmichaelsblundellsands.co.uk

Office hours: Weekdays 3pm – 6pm

*(NB - The bulletin will be monthly from April)



JustGiving™

SCAN ME!

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/stombsandsraisetherooft>

We now have a link to our Just Giving page where you can make donations to our Raise the Roof campaign. Please support when you can to help preserve this special church building.



facebook®

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61551488331158>

Please click on the link to go to our Facebook page and 'follow us', so you can see the latest photographs and updates from the church.

You can also view the Facebook feed via our website!



Barista Rota

5/4 - Pam & Nora

12/4 - Richard & Sue

19/4 - Lynne & Marika

26/4 - Jenny & Lorna



Welcoming Team

If you would like to join the welcoming team to greet regular members of the congregation and visitors, please sign the list at the back of church. Thank you.



COMMUNITY EVENTS & NOTICES

Please see the details on the poster / notice for more information or contact details.

St Michael's Church Hall – A 'What's On' Guide

If you would like the contact details of any of the community groups that hire the Church Hall, please contact the Parish Office.

Monday: Pilates, Tae Kwondo

Tuesday: Tai Chi, Limelight Drama

Wednesday: Move It or Lose It, Rainbows, Crosby Arts Society

Thursday: Brownies, Guides

Friday: Pilates, Limelight Drama, Crosby Symphony Orchestra

Saturday: Limelight Drama, Archery

