



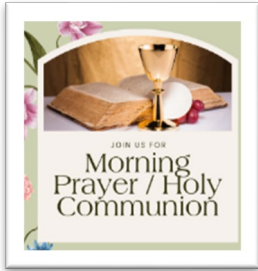
The Monthly Bulletin

28th August, 2026

St Michael's Church, Blundellsands

www.stmichaelsblundellsands.co.uk

Upcoming Services



Weekday Service
Every Tuesday/Friday morning at 9.15 am with Reverend Kate Greaves. Join us for a time of reflection, worship, and community as we start the day together in faith and fellowship. Everyone is welcome!

Sunday Services
06th September-10.30
Morning prayer With Helen
Talk by Rev Kate Greaves

13th September 10.30
Holy Communion with Helen Hunter and Rev Kate Greaves

20th September-10:30
Morning prayer With Helen Hunter and Dave Urwin

27rd September - 10:30
Holy Communion with Helen

Livestream

Visit our [website](#) and navigate to services - [livestream](#) (or click this link)

Blessed are you our sovereign God, creator of all, to you be glory and praise for ever.

You founded the earth in the beginning and the heavens are the work of your hands.

In the fullness of time you made us in your image, and in these last days you have spoken to us in your Son Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.

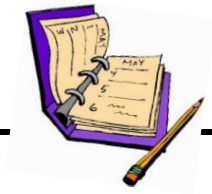
As we rejoice in the gift of your presence among us let the light of your love always shine in our hearts, your Spirit ever renew our lives and your praises ever be on our lips.

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God for ever.

Please keep the family of **Bill and Glenys Mainey** in your thoughts and prayers.

Please pray for **Sylvia Bramham** and wish her speedy recovery.



02 September 2026 Mother's Union Holy Communion with Reverend Paul Ellis

09th September Crosby Arts Society 2pm St Michaels Church Hall
Art Deco Jewellery: The Glamour Revolution with Laurie Wickwire

12th September 2026 Last of the proms watch the Proms live at 7.30pm at St Michael's Church Hall, tables of 6-8. Bring your own food and drink. Please contact the office.

16th September Heavenly Foods at 12.30 in the church hall £8.00 per person

22nd September 2026 Mother's Union Holy Communion 2pm

SAVE THE DATE

5th October 7-9 pm Cultivate St Nicholas Blundellsands

8th October 1-3pm Cultivate St John and St James Bootle

12th October Lumos Candlelight Concert with music by Fleetwood Mac, various start times quote WELCOME15 to get 15% off Gold tickets.

24 November Fundraising Christmas concert with Maghull Wind Orchestra, In aid of the Renovation Fund at 7.30pm

19th December Vocatio: Responsio (directed by Samuel Oliver-Sherry) return to Liverpool with a Christmas Concert at 6pm. £5 single or £12 for a family of 4

20th December Gold Music Christmas Concert. at 1pm.



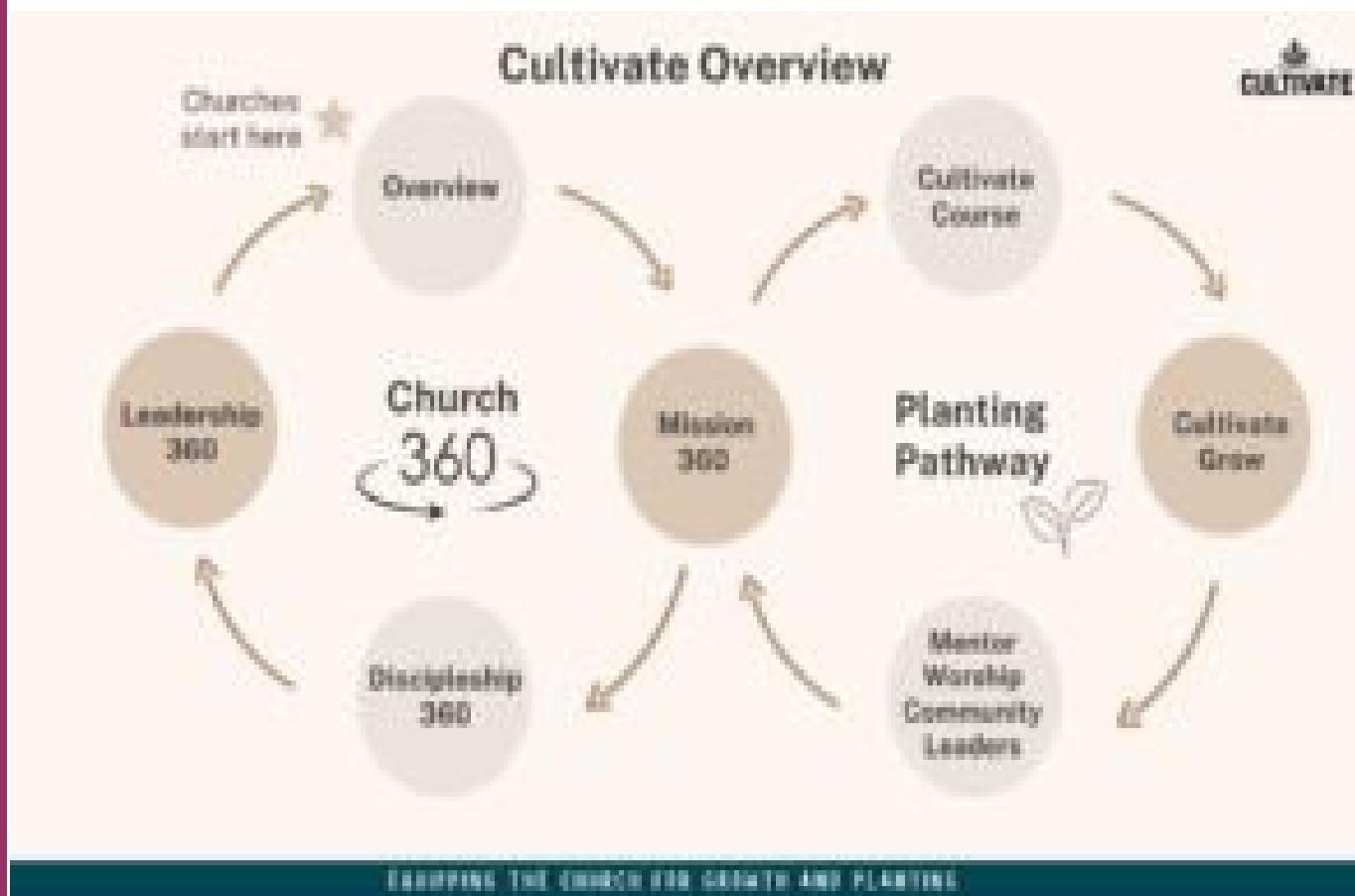
Cultivate

There will be courses running for Cultivate for 6 weeks commencing in October.

Evening courses and afternoon courses.

5th October 7-9 pm Cultivate St Nicholas Blundellsands; to book, please go to:
<https://tinyurl.com/yc5e56cn>

8th October 1-3pm Cultivate St John and St James Bootle; to book, please go to:
<https://tinyurl.com/2e47t7pv>



Cultivate's purpose is to enable churches and worship communities to become more missionally effective.

This is done through its **"Fresh"** and **"Refresh"** pathways.

In the **Fresh** (or planting) pathway we want to see the establishment of new worship communities and the development of lay planters.

In the **Refresh** pathway we are looking for the missional renewal of existing churches and worship communities.

Vitally, both pathways are integrated and clergy (and churches) interact with both equally throughout their engagement with Cultivate.

'Fresh' - the Planting Pathway

The Planting Pathway is all about helping ordinary followers of Jesus work out where and what God may be calling them to in mission and then helping them to grow and start new Worshipping Communities and justice initiatives.

To do that we begin with...

The Cultivate Course - a 6 week course looking at the what, why and how of planting new Worshipping Communities. At the end of the 6 weeks those who are discerning a calling to do something will be invited onto...

Grow - begins with a gathered session to help further clarify what your missional vision is and to work out the next steps. This may be as part of a learning community or with a 1-2-1 mentor. This part of the pathway takes you around the planting cycle so that whatever it is that God is calling you to start is as well set up as possible, underpinned with prayer and with a team going with you. Once all of that is in place it's time to...

Lead - This part of the pathway is all about helping you to sustain what you have started and to become established and fruitful. We help you to establish routines of WEEKLY prayer, MONTHLY mentoring, TERMLY training and an ANNUAL Cultivate event.

'Refresh'

The Refresh Pathway aims to help all existing church communities be as healthy and missional as they can, fully celebrating their unique churchmanship, local context and history. We recognise that one size does not fit all and want to help each church community work out their own steps forward to growth and vitality.

To do that we have developed the **Church 360**.

This is a review and development tool that helps a church look at its current strengths and areas for development and then creates an action plan to move forward. These are held every 6 months to establish a routine of regular review and action planning.

The areas currently reviewed are:

- An overview of the church looking at the priorities of Community, Mission, Leadership, Discipleship and Worship
 - A deeper look at Discipleship
 - A deeper look at Mission and Mission Planning
 - A deeper look at Leadership.
-

Poem

Scenarios

I want a happy ending,
and I'd like a little laugh.
I'm tired of major problems and
the downward economic graph.
I want a splash of sunshine.
I need a little soft spring rain.
I'd like a touch of gentleness
to feel safe and secure again.

Jeffa Kay

Parish Giving scheme

It is a tried and tested scheme that allows givers (donors) to donate to their church by regular Direct Debit payments. It is the only payment method with a money back guarantee and is therefore safer for the donor than Standing Orders, cheques and cash.

It has been found to be a simple method of giving, the gifts/donations are reliable and regular and it helps churches plan for the future. Giving is reviewed annually with the givers (donors) and with the donor option for an inflationary increase, church income should increase year on year. If envelope givers and open plate givers also join the scheme, giving levels have been found to remain steady, especially during times when people are on holiday or away from church. As less money is handled in the church, it is safer for the volunteers and their time spent counting and banking the money is reduced. Bank charges may reduce as well.

Payment can be by monthly, annually or quarterly by Direct Debit and this removes the necessity for donors to give money during a service. However we are aware that some donors, particularly those who previously gave by envelope or via open plate, would still like to put something on the plate each service.

We therefore provide PGS tokens, which can be placed on the plate or in the collection bag. This indicates they participate in PGS and enables them to express an act of offering during the course of worship. Tokens, if included in the offering, may be received and blessed by the priest or minister with the rest of the collection

Please see

Either complete online link below or complete the form.

To give via Parish Giving Scheme please visit

<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/blundellsands-st-michael-blundellsands>

or please visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9sudfKiiYPO> for more information.

Church Card Reader

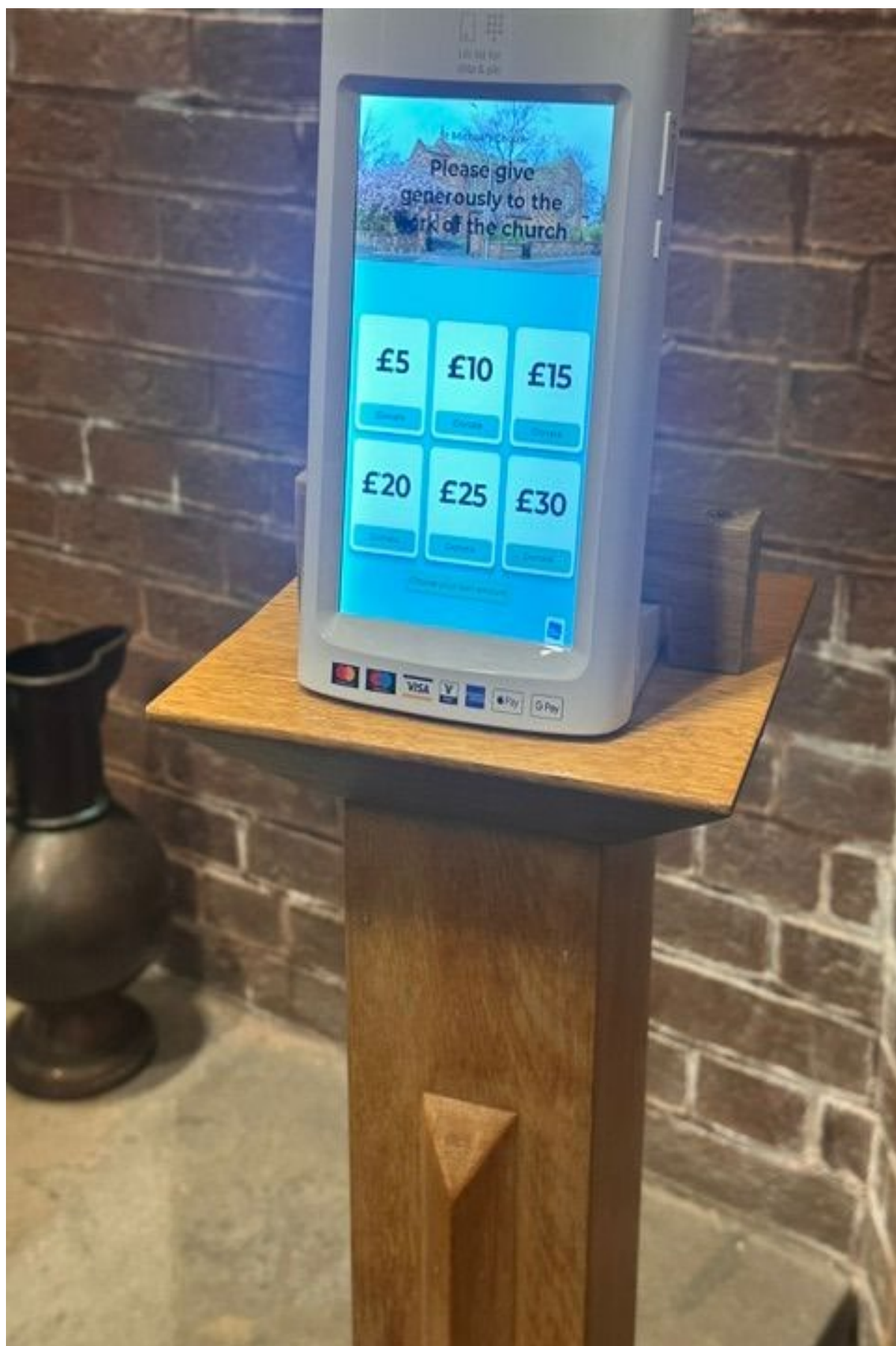
If you have visited the church recently, you may have noticed a new donation terminal on a beautiful oak stand near the entrance of the north V from the car park. The terminal accepts both contactless and chip-and-PIN donations, making it quick and easy to support the church.

This provides a safer and more convenient alternative to leaving cash on the premises, as every donation is transferred securely and directly into the church's bank account.

For your convenience, the terminal has been preset with the following donation amounts:

£5, £10, £15, £20, £25 and £30.

Simply select the amount you wish to give and tap your card or device. Alternatively, lift the cover and insert your card to make a chip-and-PIN donation. Thank you for your continued generosity and support.





St Michaels Weddings

St Michael's has been delighted to host two weddings: one earlier this month, and Robin and Phillip Johnson's today. We offer our warmest congratulations to both couples and wish them a long and happy life together.

Renovations

I would like to offer my heartfelt thanks to Phil Hunter, Ivan Swainbank, Brian Dunning and Olli Cooper (Work Experience) on behalf of all at St Michael's.

In preparation for the weddings, they worked tirelessly to make the church ready for the happy couples.

I had the privilege of watching the church return to its former glory as they cleaned the walls with acid, applied filler and painted from scaffolding, reaching the ceiling.

A cleaning team then came in, while Rod painted the vicar's vestry and Helen painted the accessible toilet area and hall.

The church now looks amazing, and the team's work has saved us a considerable amount of money. I am sure you will agree that the transformation is wonderful, and we're deeply grateful to everyone involved.



LAST NIGHT OF THE PROMS

LIVE FROM THE BBC

Saturday 12 September 2026

7.30pm

St Michael's Church Hall
Dowhills Road, L23 8SP

Bring your own food and drinks

Tables of 6 or 8
£10.00 per person

St Michael's
Blundellsands



RENOVATION
FUND

In aid of the Renovation Fund

Future Fundraising Events

Money in aid of the Renovation fund

Save the Date

MAGHULL
WIND ORCHESTRA

Christmas Concert

at St Michael's Church

Tuesday 24 November 2026

7.30pm

Recipe

Butternut squash soup

Ingredients

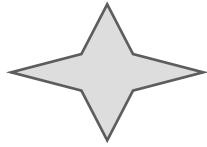
- 1.5kg/3lb 5oz peeled and deseeded butternut squash, cut into 3cm/1¼in cubes (see tip)
- 1 large onion, roughly chopped
- 2 medium carrots, peeled and chopped
- 1 red pepper, deseeded and cut into cubes
- 4 tbsp olive oil
- 1 tbsp clear honey (optional)
- 5cm/2in piece fresh root ginger, peeled and chopped
- 1.5 litres/2½ pints vegetable stock
- salt and freshly ground black pepper

Method

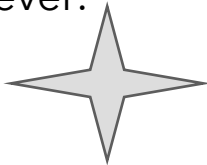
1. Preheat the oven to 200C/180C Fan/Gas 6.
2. Tip the prepared squash into a large bowl or resealable freezer bag. Add the onion, carrots, red pepper and half the oil. Season with salt and pepper and toss everything together until the vegetables are evenly coated. Tip into a large roasting tin and spread out to form a single layer.
3. Roast in the oven for 40-45 minutes, or until tender and tinged brown at the edges. Drizzle over the honey, if using, 5 minutes before the end of cooking.
4. Place a large, deep-sided saucepan over a medium heat. Add the remaining oil and, when it is hot, add the ginger and fry for a minute. Pour in the stock and bring to the boil, then stir in the roasted vegetables and add salt and pepper.
5. Remove the pan from the heat and, using a hand blender, blend the mixture until smooth. Return to the heat to warm through and serve hot with crusty bread.

Jokes of the Month

Shortly after getting married, a couple argued over who should be making the morning coffee. The wife opened her Bible and declared that men were supposed to make it. When her husband asked her where it said that she showed him the book of **Hebrews**

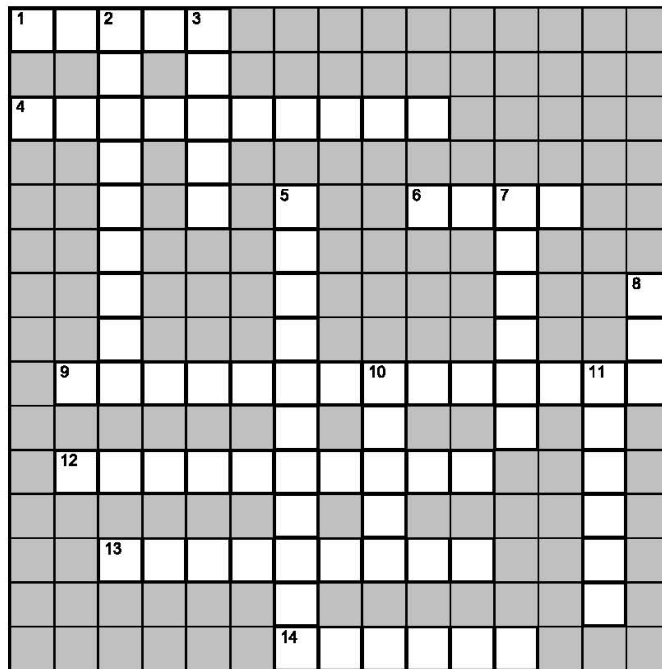


After an especially long Sunday service, a weary parishioner shook the vicar's hand and said, "Vicar, today your sermon really reminded me of the peace and love of God." Thrilled, the vicar asked, "Nobody has ever said that before. Why?" The parishioner smiled and replied, "Because it endured forever."



A Sunday school class was learning how God created Eve out of Adam's rib. Later in the week, a little boy named Johnny lay down on the sofa holding his side. His mother asked, "Johnny, what's wrong?" Johnny groaned, "I have a pain in my side. I think I'm going to have a wife."

Luke 1



Across

- 1 What was Mary to call her son? (5)
- 4 Where did John live until he appeared publicly to Israel? (10)
- 6 What name did Zechariah write in the tablet? (4)
- 9 Who was standing at the right side of the altar of incense? (5,2,3,4)
- 12 What will Zechariah unborn son be filled with? (4,6)
- 13 Who was the wife of Zechariah? (9)
- 14 On what day did

they come to circumcise the child? (6)

Down

- 2 The people would be given what through the forgiveness of their sins? (9)
- 3 What was Zechariah unable to do when he came out from the temple? (5)
- 5 What did Zechariah prophesise that our feet would be guided into what? (4,2,5)
- 7 According to Mary's song who has been lifted up? (6)

8 Who did Gabriel tell Mary she had found favour with? (3)

- 10 How many months did Mary stay with Elizabeth? (5)
- 11 Who were brought down from their thrones? (6)



The Arts Society Crosby Wednesday 9th September 1.30 for 2.00pm St Michael's Church Hall.



Laurie Wickwire is speaking on Art Deco Jewellery: The Glamour Revolution

The Art Deco movement was a time when fashion and jewellery were the calling cards of the time. At the start of the 'roaring '20's, people were exhausted by the ravages of the First World War, there was an appetite for change and Art Deco was the popular design movement that answered that call. The talk Art Deco Jewellery: The Glamour Revolution explores this design movement through the jewellery, fashion, architecture and automobiles of that era.

Laurie has spent many years as a diamond expert, and in addition to her talk she is donating a replica lab grown ring of Richard Burton's famous gift to Elizabeth Taylor, which we will raffle at the meeting. See stock photo. Retail value is approximately £200. Do come along and try us; it costs £10 for visitors and tea and coffee is served from 1.30. You will be very welcome.



If you need further information, please contact Sue Brake

Brakesue121@gmail.com 07762 140558

VOCATIO:RESPONSIO

An '8'-teenth Century Christmas



Saturday 19th December 2026, 6pm
St Michaels Church, Blundellsands, L23 8SP

£5 (single); £12 (family of 4)
www.ticketsource.com/vocatio-responsio



Mother's Union

Mother's Union held their social get together at Bev's, with tea flowing and cakes in abundance.

They all looked like they had a wonderful time and thank you to Bev for the lovely photos.









Prayers

Blessed are you, Sovereign God, creator of all,
to you be glory and praise for ever.
You founded the earth in the beginning
and the heavens are the work of your hands.
In the fullness of time you made us in your image,
and in these last days you have spoken to us
in your Son Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh.
As we rejoice in the gift of your presence among us
let the light of your love always shine in our hearts,
your Spirit ever renew our lives
and your praises ever be on our lips.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God for ever.

Heavenly Father, thank you for the gift of a new month. As I step into September, I ask for your peace, guidance, and protection over my life and my family. Let this month bring new breakthroughs, open doors, and abundant joy. Remove every obstacle, and bless the work of my hands. **Amen.**

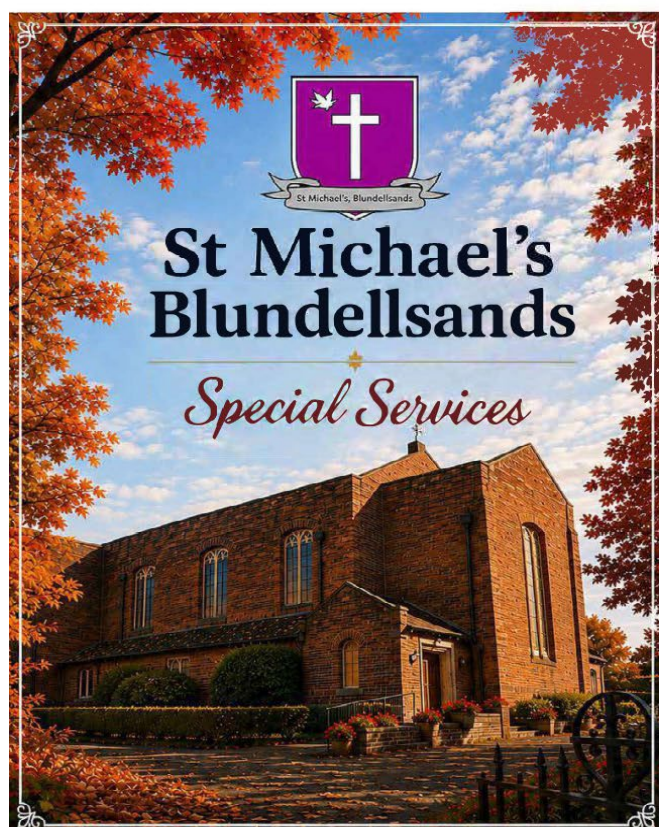
We commend to your mercy all who are sick, distressed, or facing hardship, that they may feel your healing presence.

We remember those who have recently died and those who mourn them, trusting in your eternal love and promise of peace.

Merciful Father,

**Accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Amen**

Special Services for October-December



Special Services



4th October 10.30am Harvest Festival
In aid of the Salvation Army.



1st November 10.30am All Souls
Contact the office to have a loved one
prayed for by name.



8th November 10.30am Remembrance Sunday
A service of gratitude and reflection
with a 2 minute silence at 11am.



29th November 10.30am Toy Service
Toys and games received gratefully
for The Salvation Army.



13th December 4.00pm Carol Service
Join us for Christmas carols,
a glass of mulled wine and mince pie.



24th December 4.00pm Christingle
In aid of The Children's Society.



25th December 10.30am Christmas Day.
Celebrate the Birth of our Lord.

Fundraising



24 November Christmas Concert
with Maghull Wind Orchestra at 7.30pm
Adult's £12.00 Children £6.00
In aid of St Michael's Renovation Fund.

St Michael's
Blundellsands

A small icon of crossed hammers, representing the Renovation Fund.
**RENOVATION
FUND**

Collection Point



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

- **""Wherever there is a human in need, there is an opportunity for kindness and to make a difference." – Kevin Heath**



Heavenly Food

16 th September	18 th November
21 st October	9 th December

Heavenly Food, is being held a little later than usual on the 16th September 2026. With friendly faces, musical interlude and pleasant conversation. The cost is £8.00 per person. Please contact the office to book on 0151 924 0561 office@stmbsands.org or sign up at the back of church.

Office opening hours are Monday to Friday 3pm to 6pm. May be subject to change.

Email office@stombsands.org

01519240561

JustGiving™



SCAN ME!

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

We now have a link to our Just Giving page where you can make donations to our Renovation Fund. 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



6/9-Brenda & Sylvia

13/9- Pam & Nora

20/9- Lynne & Marika

27/9 - 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.

Community notices will be listed until the event is passed, or for 4 weeks if not time limited

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
