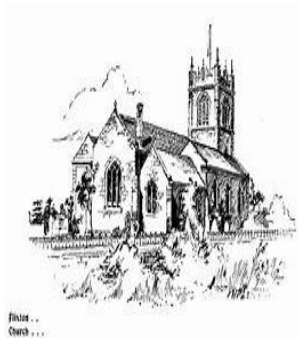
St Michael, Flixton

Loving God, Sharing Faith, Serving All

www.stmichaelsflixton.org



Welcome to our church - everyone is welcome here!

Message from the Curate:

2023 is upon us! After some wonderful times in church celebrating the birth of Christ, you may be feeling that the New Year is looking somewhat bleak. I wouldn't want to deny the terrible things going on in the world and we should be praying to alleviate the pain they are causing, but as followers of Christ we are called to be people of Hope. Hope and Joy go beyond daily concerns and they spring from our knowledge and faith that 'All shall be well, all shall be well and all manner of things shall be well'. (*Julian of Norwich*) Sometimes we have to hold onto this hope in the face of our own and others' very difficult situations, but Christ is there, whatever the world throws at us. Let us pray together that we can be bringers of Hope. Have a happy and hopeful 2023 and see you in church! *Rev Caroline (If I haven't visited you yet and you would like me to, please ask or invite me for lunch after church - I'd be delighted !)*

Upcoming Events:

Sunday 5th Feb 9am Eucharist Christingle Service -10.15am

Sunday 12th Feb 10.15am Eucharist

Sunday 19th Feb10.15 am Eucharist

22nd Feb Ash Wednesday Eucharist with 'ashing' - where we place signs of the cross with ash on our heads

Sunday 26th Feb 10.15am Eucharist First Sunday of Lent

Regular Events:

Monday : Family Church 3.40pm in church – all welcome

Wednesday : Sprouts 9.15am in church - worship and play for Parents and under-fives

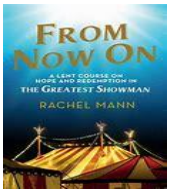
Wednesday: Walking group 9.15 am at the Croft

First Wednesday of month 8pm Pub church in the Church inn – a Christian presence in the pub – **all welcome**.

Third Thursday of month 2pm Mothers' Union in the Croft

Items for this newsletter to be sent to : Rev Caroline Bailey carob2000_2000@yahoo.com

Lent Discussion Group



We are planning to hold a Lent discussion group based on the film 'The Greatest Showman' and what we can learn from it about faith - this would involve one session showing the film, then four more with discussions and Hot chocolate led by Rev Huw and Rev Caroline. **Please put your name on the list at the back of church.**

St. Michael's Restoration & Development Trust

Subscriptions for 2023 are now due. Please place money in an envelope with your cash/cheque (minimum £10) with your name on and labelled Restoration Trust and hand to Treasurer Judith Moore, Chairperson Paul Middleton or myself, Jean Rostron. If you would like to become a member, then please complete an application form from the back of church and send with subscription as above. Thank you for your continued support.

Heritage Open Day 9th September 2023

St. Michael's Restoration & Development Trust are hosting another heritage open day and a new idea for this year is to bring more attention to the church's south porch where the memorial plaques for WW1 and WW2 list the names of the men from Flixton who lost their lives.

We know that there are many people in our church who have family members who either served during the wars, home guard, fire service, look outs, land army etc who have a story to tell. No, they didn't pay the ultimate price and this display will not distract from the memorial itself but your family members lived through these years of great social change and sacrifice and it would be lovely to hear your stories. In 2025 it will be 80 years since the end of WW2 and the country will mark this in many ways, if this display is successful this year, we will repeat it in 2025 with hopefully more stories from people of Flixton and St. Michael's. **All we need is an A4 sheet with some details on. A photograph would be good but not essential. Please come and talk to me for more information**. Jean Rostron

Can you join us in the journey to become an Eco Church?

This involves making changes to our lifestyle and taking small steps in the right direction. It might include signing up with a green energy supplier, reducing your purchase of single use plastic items, and remembering to put rubbish in the correct recycling bins. St Michael's is already registered with the Eco Church Scheme and working towards the Bronze award. The awards show that we are putting our good intentions into practice. Manchester Diocese already holds a Bronze and is working toward a Silver award. Can you help by joining St Michael's Eco Church team? The more people we have the easier the process will become.The starting point is to complete the survey provided by the A Rocha foundation. This survey will suggest ideas for further action, many of them easily achievable and affordable. If you want to know more:

Ask Sue or Paul Phone: 0161747 4572

Email paul-suemiddleton@hotmail.com

Look online: www.manchester.anglican.org and search Eco Church

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