

Hi

Remember the phrase 'life is a roller coaster?'

Well my life-journey so far would tipify that.

Whether it be marriage, divorce, bereavement, life can throw some curveballs.

And, so it continues when in January this year I began training to be an Authorised Lay Minister (ALM). The training concludes this month and the Authorisation Ceremony is on 25th September at Manchester Cathedral.

I was telling my Mother about ALM, and when she asked what is an ALM? I told her: "Remember when the Police Service had Direct Entry as senior officers?", she replied "yes."

I went on "...well, the Church of England are doing the same." My Mother: "What position?" Me: "Bishop." After a short while I explained what an ALM was.

It doesn't matter what 'position' we are, where we live, who we are. As Christians we are all called to love others as Jesus loves us. That in itself can be difficult, a Cross all of us can identify with but struggle to carry.

In an increasingly dark world, we are called to bring light to the world, to be the light. The light of Jesus to others.

As we go into the summer break, make time to think of others, those who may be in need but find it difficult to ask. Those in our own community, or further afield.

Have a great August.

God bless,

Steve

Steve Broadhurst

Churchwarden

- **LATEST NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Flixton Village Fete

Thanks to all those people who supported the 2022 Flixton Village Fete. Everyone had a great time and we took well over £1,000 for the church. However, and far more importantly, we demonstrated hospitality to all who attended – young, old, and everyone in between! Loads of sun, food, drink, and laughter. Let's do it all again next year!

Type in or follow this link to YouTube or visit the Facebook site to watch the video: <https://youtu.be/hZ6vLwtXGEw>. Thanks to Bongo Fury for editing this together.

Mothers' Union Cream Tea

We are holding a Cream Tea in Church Croft on Saturday 13th August 2022 to raise monies for our church. We will be serving between 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. Tickets are £3 per person.

Church WIFI funding

Thank you to the people who have kindly offered to fund the WIFI for St Michaels Church. We are now in a position to start to ask for funds. Sorry it took a while; we've had a few administrative hoops to overcome!

We'd be so grateful if you can provide an annual donation of £15 by standing order to cover the set-up, ongoing costs, and price rises in the coming year. Therefore, please can you set up an annual Standing Order with your bank for £15 to:

Account Name: St Michaels PCC

Sort Code: 08 92 99

Account Number: 65894785

With reference: "WIFI" and your initials

If you have questions or concerns please contact the Church Treasurer, Anna Scarisbrick, on 07887644737 or anna_scarisbrick@yahoo.co.uk. Alternatively, the wardens or Huw will be happy to help.

Thank you for your generosity. This will help the church fulfil our mission in many ways. In the words of Lizzie Robinson, Team Leader and Community Worker at Saint Philips, Chapel Street, Salford: By being generous to others, not only does it honour God's design for our lives and fill that person's love tank, but it refills ours too! Proverbs 11:25 says: "A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed."

Church Croft

If you someone asks you whether Church Croft can be used for a children's party, please can you let them know it isn't. Although we would welcome this income, the Croft isn't a suitable venue for larger groups of children running around, bouncy castles etc.

- **ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH SERVICES**

New services starting this autumn

From September onwards, there'll be some new services starting at St Michael's:

- ✓ A pre-school age group service
- ✓ An intergenerational service on the first Sunday of the month starting at 10.15 a.m.
- ✓ A Sunday morning said service (a provisional start time of 9 a.m. will be confirmed later this month)

Thursday morning Holy Communion services

1st and 3rd Thursday of the month at 10.30 a.m. at St John's, Flixton

2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at 10.15 a.m. at St Michael's, Flixton

5th Thursday of the month at 10.30 a.m. St John's, Flixton

Sunday School

Sunday School is taking a well-deserved break during the school summer holidays. It will return again on Sunday 11th September.

Parents and children are all welcome to attend starting at 10 a.m. in Church Croft, during term time only. It is an hour's worth of learning and activities which are linked to

the services and readings taking place during the main Parish Communion service in Church. Each session lasts for approximately 60 minutes, and the children are brought back into the church building for the end of the service. The parents/guardians of younger children are welcome to stay with their children for the first few weeks of their attendance or until they are settled.

Our Sunday School teachers plan and deliver the lessons each week. They are DBS checked by the Diocese of Manchester. If you are interested in volunteering please speak to a member of the Sunday School team.

Friday night prayer with Rev Fiona

Rev Fiona's night prayer services are taking place on a weekly basis at 9 p.m. each Friday, unless she's at work or on holiday. You can watch live, and comment if you wish, by visiting our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/StMichaelsFlixton.

Walking Club

There will be no Walking Club meeting in August.

Pub Church

Pub Church takes place on the first Wednesday of each month at 8 p.m. The Church Inn pub is ideally located next door to St Michael's Church. Pub Church is a place to have a drink with friends (whether they be old or new), chat, have a laugh, and share in each other's fellowship.

• GIVING AND FUNDRAISING

Please continue to support St Michael's Church

Thank you all so much, as you have currently:

- Donated over £3,100 via your online donations
- Raised over £300 from your online shopping (via easyfundraising and AmazonSmile)

Please support our beautiful Grade II* listed building and churchyard in a variety of ways, as follows:

1. **Online donations** can be made at www.stmichaelsflixton.org/support-us
2. Please remember to use **easyfundraising every time you shop online!** Over 4,000 shops and sites will donate, so you can raise FREE donations for us no matter what you're buying. They even have fair trade retailers who work with easyfundraising as well. These donations really help us out, so please sign up if you haven't yet. It's easy and free! You can get started at www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stmichaelsflix/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_medium=email&utm_content=en-n2
If you want to find out how easyfundraising works, please visit our website page at www.stmichaelsflixton.org/easy-fundraising
3. **If you have an Amazon account**, please make your purchases using AmazonSmile instead. It is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.co.uk. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to St Michael's Church. A full explanation on how you can 'convert' your existing Amazon account into an AmazonSmile one that supports St Michael's can be found here www.stmichaelsflixton.org/shop

If you do need to set up an AmazonSmile account please click here to get started
<https://smile.amazon.co.uk/ch/1134769-0>

4. You **raise money for us by searching on the web**. If you use easysearch as your search engine you can raise £20 a year for St Michael's by completing 10 searches a day. To get started visit <http://stmichaelsflix.easysearch.org.uk/> and save it as one of your internet browser's bookmarks.