# THE CHURCH @ THE PINES WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

# ORDER OF SERVICE 10th August

**LEADER: Rev Gareth Morley** 

Welcome and Notices, followed by Quiet Time

Young People leave for Sunday School

Hymn: Living God, your word has called us (HYFRYDOL)

Opening Prayers of Penitence and Preparation

Peruvian Gloria

The Collect

Reading: Hebrews 11: 1-3, 8-16

Hymn: Lord, I lift your name on high

Gospel reading: Luke 12: 32-40

Sermon

Creed

Prayers of intercession

The Peace

Hymn: Great is thy faithfulness

Preparation for Communion

Lord's Prayer

Communion (Young people will return as we gather in our semi-circle)

Dismissal

Hymn: Guide me, O thou great redeemer

Grace

Coffee

The YouTube link to view the live stream on Sunday is:

https://youtube.com/live/-\_2gsMIVyyE?feature=share



# PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

Loving God, thank You for the gift of life, for our families, friends, and the beauty of creation. We are grateful for food to eat, homes to live in, and care when we're ill. Help us to remember that all good things come from You, and teach us to say "thank You" in our hearts and our actions.

Thank You that You made each one of us special. Thank You that we are all different and all loved the same. Help our church and our world to be places where everyone feels safe, welcome, and included. When someone is left out, help us notice and include them. When someone is treated unfairly help us speak up and show kindness. When we don't understand someone, help us listen and learn with open hearts. Jesus, You welcomed everyone children, strangers, people who were left out. Help us to do the same.

We pray for all those who are unwell at this time, in body, mind and spirit. We pray particularly for Jeannie and Fred. Bring comfort to the sick, guide the hands that seek to heal them and bring them your peace.

This week, we pray for all those living in Lydney. May they know your peace and love in their lives. Amen.

# **NOTICES**

### **Church Finances**

We do not take a collection during the service but a Response Box (for cash) and a contactless machine (for cards) is on the Information Table, should you wish to make a donation to the work of our Church.

Alternatively, you could sign a Standing Order form committing to regular monthly giving, which allows our Treasurer (Ben) to monitor the church finances more closely. Please do speak with Ben if you wish to make arrangements for this.

### Fundraising for 3Generate

We have 13 young people from our church and 32 in total from the new circuit attending this year! We need to raise some funds to help cover the costs.

All donations via the card reader from this Sunday until the end of August will go towards 3generate to help towards the cost of tickets, transport and the essential hoodie!

The young people are also planning a fundraising event – so please save the date of Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> September!



# **REGULAR NOTICES**

### **Pastoral Care Team**

We have a team of people who are available for any pastoral needs you might have. If you'd like someone to talk to, have concerns for someone else, or notice someone hasn't been at Church for some time, please do speak with a member of the pastoral team.

Rev Gareth Morley - rector@stmichaelseasthampstead.org.uk

Jeannie Rymill – 07825 041521

Linda Lewis - 07923 958488

Ben Spain - 07830 183010

We expect Rev Wes will join this team when he joins us in September too.

### **House Group**

Linda and Reg run a house group on Wednesday evenings, starting at 7.45pm. All are welcome to join them for this mid-week time of fellowship. Please do speak to Linda or Reg if you'd like more details and for their address.

### **Ladies Group**

A bible study group runs on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at 10am. Please speak to Hazel for more details.

### Walk and Talk

Our next walk and talk will be on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> September, meeting at 2pm in the main car park at south hill park. We usually do a lap of both the lakes at a gentle pace and then have a drink/coffee in the café.

### New Men's Group

We will be introducing a group for men to meet together. Please speak to Ben or Brian if you are interested. The group is hoping to start meeting from September.



# NOTICES FROM THE CIRCUIT

### Circuit Services - Dates for your diary

 Circuit Welcome Service for Rev Wes – Monday 1st Sept, 7pm at High Cross Church

# NOTICES FROM ST MICHAEL'S

### **School Admissions**

Those wishing to apply to Ranelagh church school on church attendance criteria will be required to have up to two stamps each month in their child's passport, when they attend a regular service during Years 4 & 5 (even if they have a sibling at the school). To make sure that all new signees understand the admissions criteria we ask that you email the parish office to make an appointment.

Please go to the school website for their latest admissions policy.

### **Toddler Group**

Thursdays 9:30am to 11am (Term time only)

A safe, supportive and nurturing environment, where parents, carers and children meet to enjoy an interactive activity and shared playtime.

If you arrive at 9:30am you will be able to join 'Church Mouse' for some singing, a story, some relaxing time with bubbles, and your little one will receive a sticker.



### Ranelagh Information Event – Friday 5th September at 3.30pm

This will be held on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September at 3.30pm, at St Michael's. All are welcome to come and find out about the school and admissions policy.

### 2025 SIF Forms

For applications for Ranelagh for Sept 2026 entry – these can be given in at our service on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> September so they can be delivered to Rev'd Gareth to complete and then you can collect the following Sunday.

### Ranelagh Admissions – stricter application of the admissions criteria

Rev'd Gareth has informed us that the school have informed churches that they need to adhere to the admissions criteria more strictly.

This means for those applying to the school under criteria 5 will need 2 stamps from a Church of England Church in the Deanery, which sadly, we have been informed, does not include Church @ the Pines. This change will be implemented in September, so will affect anyone applying for their child (where they don't have a sibling at Ranelagh already) for September 2027 entry.

We know this may cause concern for some families, where a decision will need to be made for how you obtain your necessary 2 stamps each month for the relevant church attendance. People will be able to gain one stamp from Rev Gareth's service at Church @ the Pines, but would need to attend a service at St Michael's to obtain the other.

For families where there is already an older sibling at Ranelagh, you would be applying under criteria 4, where the requirement is only that you attend any Christian church.

If you do have concerns, please do discuss with a member of the Leadership Team.



# NOTICES FROM THE CIRCUIT

Everyone across the newly forming circuit has been invited to join together at a silent disco!

Glitterball Silent Disco for Rushmoor Pride - Everyone is Welcome! (06-Sep-2025) · ChurchSuite Events



Rev Anne and Sarah thought this would be a great opportunity to gather some of our young people together, so please do encourage your young person to attend. If we can get a group together we can arrange some car sharing. Sarah plans to attend (glitter at the ready!).



# **READINGS**

Hebrews 11: 1-3, 8-17

Faith in action

11 Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. 2 This is what the ancients were commended for.

3 By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

8 By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. 9 By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. 10 For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God. 11 And by faith even Sarah, who was past childbearing age, was enabled to bear children because she considered him faithful who had made the promise. 12 And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.

13 All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth. 14 People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. 15 If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. 16 Instead, they were longing for a better country – a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.

### Luke 12: 32-40

32 'Do not be afraid, little flock, for your Father has been pleased to give you the kingdom. 33 Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. 34 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Continued...



# READINGS cont.

Luke 12: 32-40

Watchfulness

35 'Be dressed ready for service and keep your lamps burning, 36 like servants waiting for their master to return from a wedding banquet, so that when he comes and knocks they can immediately open the door for him. 37 It will be good for those servants whose master finds them watching when he comes. Truly I tell you, he will dress himself to serve, will make them recline at the table and will come and wait on them. 38 It will be good for those servants whose master finds them ready, even if he comes in the middle of the night or towards daybreak. 39 But understand this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. 40 You also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.'

