# THE CHURCH @ THE PINES WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

# ORDER OF SERVICE 24th August

**LEADER: Brian Gennery** 

Welcome and notices

Quiet time

Hymn: He's got the whole world in His hands

Opening Prayer

Questions (group activity)
Reading: Hebrews 12: 18-29
Questions (group activity)

Hymn: The Wise Man Built His House upon the rock

Reading: Luke 13: 10-17
Questions (Group activity)

Craft Prayer

Hymn: Seek ye first the Kingdom of God

Prayers of intercession, street prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Hymn: You shall go out with joy

Blessing

Grace

Coffee

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

https://youtube.com/live/2pX8cBTUE2Q?feature=share



# PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

We lift up all young people who have received their exam results. For those who are celebrating — may they know deep gratitude, humility, and joy. For those who are disappointed may they feel your comfort, strength, and the reassurance that these results do not define their worth. Help each one to see the path ahead, even if it's not the one they expected. Grant them wisdom to make good decisions, courage to face uncertainty, and peace in knowing that growth comes in many forms not just grades. May they feel the support of their families, friends, and communities. May they trust in their unique gifts, and know that your plans for them are full of hope. In times of confidence or confusion, success or setback, be their guide, their anchor, and their light. Amen.

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 Naseby. 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 - first meeting Saturday 6th September – 9.30am

The group will meet for the first time on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September. Meeting at 9.30am for breakfast. If you have any questions, please speak with Ben or Brian.



# NOTICES FROM THE CIRCUIT

### Circuit Services – Dates for your diary

- Circuit Welcome Service for Rev Wes Monday 1st Sept, 7pm at High Cross Church
- We are all warmly invited and it would be great if lots of Church @
   the Pines members can make it to the service to welcome Rev Wes

# 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 12: 18-29

The mountain of fear and the mountain of joy

18 You have not come to a mountain that can be touched and that is burning with fire; to darkness, gloom and storm; 19 to a trumpet blast or to such a voice speaking words that those who heard it begged that no further word be spoken to them, 20 because they could not bear what was commanded: 'If even an animal touches the mountain, it must be stoned to death.' 21 The sight was so terrifying that Moses said, 'I am trembling with fear.'

22 But you have come to Mount Zion, to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem. You have come to thousands upon thousands of angels in joyful assembly, 23 to the church of the firstborn, whose names are written in heaven. You have come to God, the Judge of all, to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, 24 to Jesus the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

25 See to it that you do not refuse him who speaks. If they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, how much less will we, if we turn away from him who warns us from heaven? 26 At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, 'Once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.' 27 The words 'once more' indicate the removing of what can be shaken – that is, created things – so that what cannot be shaken may remain.

28 Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, 29 for our 'God is a consuming fire.'

### Luke 13: 10-17

Jesus heals a crippled woman on the Sabbath

10 On a Sabbath Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues, 11 and a woman was there who had been crippled by a spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and could not straighten up at all. 12 When Jesus saw her, he called her forward and said to her, 'Woman, you are set free from your infirmity.' 13 Then he put his hands on her, and immediately she straightened up and praised God.

Continued...

# READINGS cont.

14 Indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, the synagogue leader said to the people, 'There are six days for work. So come and be healed on those days, not on the Sabbath.'

15 The Lord answered him, 'You hypocrites! Doesn't each of you on the Sabbath untie your ox or donkey from the stall and lead it out to give it water? 16 Then should not this woman, a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan has kept bound for eighteen long years, be set free on the Sabbath day from what bound her?'

17 When he said this, all his opponents were humiliated, but the people were delighted with all the wonderful things he was doing.

