THE CHURCHES OF

St Michael All Angels

Southam, Woolstone, Gotherington & Oxenton

Sunday 29 November 2026 – 5th Sunday of November – Advent Sunday

St Michael's Readings – Advent Sunday - Matthew 25 (1-13)

WGO-Readings - Advent Sunday - Matthew 25 (1-13) 1 Corinthians1 (3-9)

Sunday 29 November 2026

9.30am Advent Antiphons - St Michael's Church

9.30am Common Worship Advent Service - St John the Baptist, Oxenton

11.15am Contemporary Service with Children's Groups - St Michael's Church

1.00pm Set up for Experience Christmas - St Michael's Church

Next Thursday Morning Communion at St Michael's Church: 17 December at 10.45 am

Please note that this is a change to the usual date of 3 December

For the complete list of Christmas services see: www.stmichaelsbishopscleeve.co.uk/christmasincleevebenefice

Note: There will be no 9.30am service on the 13 December at St Michael's

There will be no 11.15am service on the 20 December at St Michael's

THIS WEEKEND

Advent Antiphons including shortened Holy Communion – St Michael's Church

Sunday 29 November: 9.30 am

This coming Sunday the service is devoted to the Advent Antiphons but it will also include a shortened form of Holy Communion. There will be an opportunity to receive from the common cup at the communion rail at the East end of the church



Common Worship Advent Service – St John the Baptist, Oxenton

Sunday 29 November: 9.30 am

Holy Communion for Advent



Family Crafts for Christmas – St Michael's Church

Friday 4 December 2026: (after school) 3.30pm to 5pm

A creative and fun FREE CRAFT event for all the family!!

This event is open to all ages, and refreshments will be available. Bring your family and friends for a fun-filled afternoon of Christmas cheer. We look forward to seeing you there!

Come and join us to make Christmas crafts, everything provided

NEXT WEEKEND

Christingle Service – St Michael's Church

Sunday 6 December 2026 at 11.15am

Come and join us to make Christingles and experience the joy and wonder of this well-loved Christmas tradition. Today is Christmas Jumper Day. Supporting the work of the Children's Society.



A Quiet Christmas Service – St Michael's Church

Sunday 6 December 2026: 5.30pm

Not everyone finds the Christmas season joyful. For some, it can also be a difficult time that brings memories of loss, loneliness, or struggle. This gentle service offers a space for stillness and prayer – a time to bring our sorrows and hopes before God, and to find peace in His presence.

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CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Experience Christmas – 30 November to 3 December

Experience Christmas is almost here! This is a wonderful opportunity to share the real story of Christmas with children from our local schools.
Huge thank you to all who have come forward to volunteer at this event.
How can you help?
Pray for the children, school staff and volunteers taking part, and that everyone remains well throughout the week.
Church will re-open to visitors on Monday 7 December

Bible Brick Club cancelled next week (3 December)

Please note that Bible Brick Club is cancelled for one week (3 December), back on Thursday 10 December.

WHAT'S ON

Thursday Morning Holy Communion – change of date for December

For December we have had to change the date of our Thursday morning Holy Communion from 3 December to **Thursday 17 December at 10.45 am**. We will go back to the first Thursday of the month in January.

Men's Breakfast – Saturday 5 December
St Michael's Church – 8.30am to 10am

We meet as usual at St Michael's church at 8.30. Followed by a substantial breakfast at 10am at the pub.
We won't meet in January, but will be back in February.

Peoples Emergency Briefing – Thursday 26 November – 7.30 pm

Transition Cleeve are hosting the Peoples Emergency Briefing Film on the climate and nature crisis, on Thursday 26 November at 7.30 at Bishops Cleeve Library.

This is a hard-hitting film that highlights the problems worldwide being created by global warming. The film is delivered by independent experts to signal to the public that this is a situation of the utmost importance and bring it to public attention.

A Parliament Debate took place on Monday afternoon following a petition of nearly 135,000 signatures. Watching this film will re-enforce your understanding of earth's huge problems.

Tickets are Free by going onto the link: https://www.tickettailor.com/events/transitioncleeve

Cleeve Chorale-A Christmas Celebration
Saturday 5 December 7.30pm – St Michael's Church

Please join us for an evening of celebration and cheer. Cleeve Chorale will be joined by the children from Woodmancote School for an evening of carols and seasonal music.

Rejoice with Gotherington Singers
Saturday 12 December 2pm – St Michael's Church

Christmas songs and carols for choir and audience.
Tickets: £10 (including seasonal refreshments) free admission for accompanied under 16's.
Tickets available on the door or from Sally on 01242 317276 or sall.newbury@gmail.com

Gloucestershire Wind Symphonic Orchestra – Christmas Concert
Saturday 12 December 7.30pm – St Michael's Church

Music to include : How to Train Your Dragon, Hoe Down, Troika and festive music.
Tickets £12.50, refreshments included.
Accompanied under 16's Free.
Tickets available on the door or in advance at www.ticketsource.co.uk/gswo

Connect Chatter – Every Friday-Community Hall 1 (next to Bishops Cleeve Library)

Every Friday 11am to 1pm – free entry – no sign up needed.
For anyone feeling lonely, bereaved (including pet loss), overwhelmed as a carer.
Please contact John Barton: 07500 003680 or for more information.

NOTICES

St Michael's Centre Christmas Market – Thank you!

A big thank you to everyone who donated, collected, baked, fried and bought and sold at St Michael's Centre Christmas Market. The grand total of **£1700** was raised. We couldn't have achieved this without your support. All of the money raised goes towards supporting groups meeting community needs at St Michael's Centre. '

Harmony edition of St Michael's Hymn Book

If you have borrowed a harmony edition of our hymn book could you please return it as soon as possible as we need all copies to rehearse out Christmas music. Ro Hunt

Centring Prayer-Southam

There will be **no Centring Prayer meeting next Wednesday 25 November**.
We will restart on Wednesday 2 December at a new time of 3:30pm - 4pm, this time will continue for the winter.

Calling All Who Love the 11.15 Service.

Part of the joy of our Sunday worship, is the welcome and good management provided by our faithful stewards. Our Sunday services are very well served by our volunteers who do a duty once a month. They have been carefully and thoroughly trained. They know where everything is. They know how to turn everything on and how to turn everything off. They look after the clergy and the people. They soon get to know many people. Stewards for the 9.30am service have rather different duties from those who look after the 11.15am service. Ideally, we like our stewards to work in pairs, so they can look out for each other, but because we do not have enough people, the 11.15am services at present are mostly served by a lone steward. In a few weeks, we will not even have enough people to have one steward for each 11.15am service.

We appeal today to those who love the contemporary worship. If you think you are called to serve in this way, we would like you to start learning now and be ready for duty in January 2027. If you would like to know more, please contact Ann Jessop on T: 07974037668 or ann.jessop@btopenworld.com or Kevin Sadler at cw@stmichaelsbishopscleeve.co.uk T: 07821368590. Thank you and God Bless.

Anna Chaplaincy-Christmas Craft – Snowman Knitting Project 2026

Last Sunday to bring snowmen to church is this Sunday – 29 November

The Anna Chaplaincy Christmas Craft this year is a snowman knitting project. If you would like to knit for this charity, there will be some copies of the pattern at the back of the church with a box to put in your finished snowmen. All snowmen need to be put in the box or handed into the church office, **no later than 27 November.**

Watch Sermons on YouTube

Visit the channel here: https://youtu.be/RjbH3bo5jb8 or scan the QR code:

SCAN ME

OUR MISSION PARTNERS - NEWS

Mission Partners

At St Michael's, we have three Mission Partners with which we have strong ties. Our three Mission Partners are: **North Cotswold Foodbank, Grassroots Rwanda** and **Mission Macedonia.**
For more information visit: **https://www.stmichaelsbishopscleeve.co.uk/world-mission**

ECO-CHURCH - NOVEMBER

Terra-cycling-Please Note:

Cake and biscuit wrappers can be recycled in the soft plastic collection bin in Tesco.
Blister packs **can still be brought for recycling**. Boxes available in the church porch and the parish office.

Our Energy Saving Tip This Month

Master your thermostat: Set your thermostat comfortably between 18°C and 20°C; dropping it by just 1°C can save a noticeable amount on your yearly energy bill.

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FROM BISHOP'S CLEEVE METHODIST CHURCH

To find out **What's on** at Bishop's Cleeve Methodist Church, please follow the link: https://www.methodist-bishopscleeve.co.uk/page_2275125.html

Sunday:	Worship at 10.30am followed by refreshments.
Monday:	Meeting for Prayer at 12.45 pm.
	Meet Up Monday 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm.
Tuesday:	Prayer and Bible Study at 7.45 pm on alternate Tuesdays
Wednesday:	Communion Service with other churches at 9.00 am.
	Fellowship Group with a speaker at 2.00 pm on alternate Wednesdays.
Thursday:	**Film Club at 2.00 pm on the first Thursday of each month. (See below)**
	Bible Study at 2.00 pm on the second and fourth Thursday of each month.
Saturday:	Coffee mornings 10am - 12 noon as announced.

Knitted Bible Exhibition at the Methodist Church.

Tuesday 1 December 2-4pm, Friday 4 December 2-4 pm

Saturday 5 December 1.30-5.30 pm

Please come and see the Knitted Bible Exhibition at Bishops Cleeve Methodist Church.



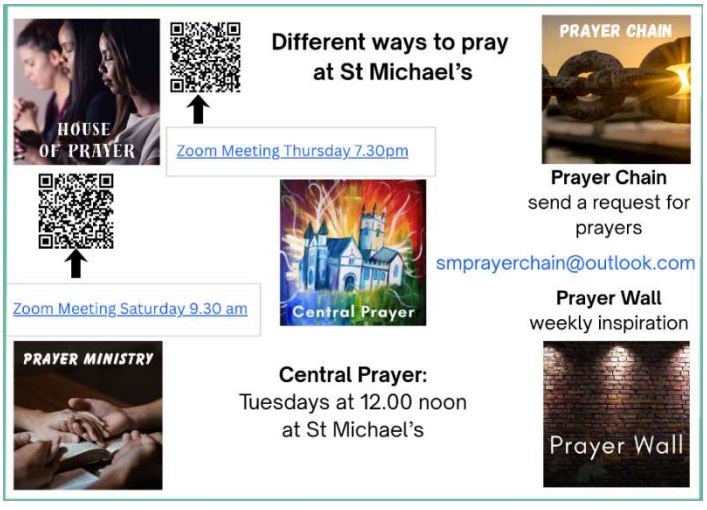
Christmas in Cleeve Benefice

Please visit our "Christmas in Cleeve Benefice" page on our website for all the information regarding services and activities over the Christmas period, scan the QR code or visit our website as below:
https://www.stmichaelsbishopscleeve.co.uk/christmasincleevebenefice

Keep up to date with church news, diary dates and more on our website.
www.stmichaelsbishopscleeve.co.uk
Service times: stmichaelsbishopscleeve.co.uk/worship-services
Safeguarding: stmichaelsbishopscleeve.co.uk/safeguarding
Church Office: stmichaelsbishopscleeve.co.uk/contact
Donate: Bishop's Cleeve - Parish Giving Scheme
Southam - Parish Giving Scheme
WGO - Parish Giving Scheme Or ring 03330021260
Watch Sermons: youtube.com/@StMichaelsBishopsCleeveChurch Office
Telephone Number and Opening Times
07354 874617 Kate for all enquiries including weddings. Monday to Friday
07871 602525 Tracy for enquiries relating to funerals, baptisms and DBS. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.
Church Office Opening Times: Monday – Thursday 10am – 2pm
Friday: Kate sometimes works from home, please ring to check before coming to the office

St Michael's at Prayer

There are lots of different ways we pray at St Michael's, scan the QR code to find out different ways of praying.



SCAN ME

Centring prayer at Church of the Ascension, Southam at 3.30pm every Wednesday from 2 December 2026

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