

A Service of Thanksgiving
for the Life of

Michael Pollit

4th October 1930 - 4th September 2026

St. Chad's Church, Shrewsbury
12th October 2026



Officiant: The Revd. Philip Chester

Preacher: The Revd. Andrew Wadsworth

Organist and Director of Music: Mr Antony Pinel

(Prelude: Flourish by Christopher Steele played by: William Smallman, organist during Michael's time as Vicar)

Entrance music:

‘I Was Glad’ by Sir Hubert Parry

Welcome: Revd Sam Mann, Vicar of St. Chad’s

Please stand for the opening hymn

PRAISE to the Holiest in the height
And in the depth be praise
In all His words most wonderful
Most sure in all His ways.

O loving wisdom of our God
When all was sin and shame
A second Adam to the fight
And to the rescue came.

O wisest love that flesh and blood
Which did in Adam fail
Should strive afresh against the foe
Should strive and should prevail.

And that a higher gift than grace
Should flesh and blood refine
God’s presence and His very self
And essence all-divine.

O generous love that He who smote
In man for man the foe
The double agony in man
For man should undergo.

And in the garden secretly
And on the Cross on high
Should teach his brethren and inspire
To suffer and to die.

Praise to the Holiest in the height
And in the depth be praise
In all His words most wonderful
Most sure in all His ways.

John Henry Newman (1865)
Music: Gerontius (J.B. Dykes)

Introduction

Philip: We meet in the name of Jesus Christ,
who died and was raised to the glory of God the Father.
Grace and mercy be with you.

We have come here today
to remember before God our brother Michael;
to give thanks for his life;
to commend him to God our merciful redeemer and judge;
to commit his body to be cremated,
and to comfort one another in our grief.

Prayers of Penitence

As children of a loving heavenly Father,
let us ask his forgiveness,
for he is gentle and full of compassion.

Silence may be kept.

God of mercy,
we acknowledge that we are all sinners.
We turn from the wrong that we have thought and said and
done,
and are mindful of all that we have failed to do.
For the sake of Jesus, who died for us,
forgive us for all that is past,
and help us to live each day
in the light of Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

The absolution is given

The Collect

The Liturgy of the Word

Please sit

Old Testament Reading:

Isaiah 61 v.1-3

At the end of the reading the reader will say:

This is the word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading:

Romans 8 v.31-end

At the end of the reading the reader will say:

This is the word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Gradual Hymn

O Thou who camest from above
the pure celestial fire to impart
kindle a flame of sacred love
on the mean altar of my heart.

There let it for thy glory burn
with inextinguishable blaze
and trembling to its source return
in humble prayer and fervent praise.

Jesus confirm my heart's desire
to work and speak and think for thee
still let me guard the holy fire
and still stir up thy gift in me.

Ready for all thy perfect will
my acts of faith and love repeat
till death thy endless mercies seal
and make thy sacrifice complete.

Text: Charles Wesley (1762)

Music: Hereford (S.S. Wesley)

The Gospel

When the Gospel is announced the reader says:

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

John 6 v.35-40 & 53-58

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please sit

Eulogies

The Sermon

Revd. Andrew Wadsworth

Prayers of Intercession

Revd. John Perry

After each petition all respond:

Lord, hear us.

Lord, graciously hear us.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

Please stand

Jesus says: Peace I leave you; My peace I give you. Not as the world gives do I give you. Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

The peace of the Lord be always with you

And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of the peace Christ gives us.

Offering:

Just as I am without one plea
but that thy blood was shed for me
and that thou bidd'st me come to thee

O Lamb of God I come!

Just as I am though tossed about
With many a conflict many a doubt
Fightings within and fears without

O Lamb of God I come!

Just as I am poor wretched blind
Sight riches healing of the mind
Yes all I need in Thee to find

O Lamb of God I come!

Just as I am thou wilt receive
wilt welcome pardon cleanse relieve
because thy promise I believe

O Lamb of God I come!

Just as I am Thy love unknown
Has broken every barrier down
Now to be Thine yea Thine alone

O Lamb of God I come!

Just as I am of that free love
The breadth length depth and
height to prove
Here for a season then above

O Lamb of God I come!

Text: Charlotte Elliott (1836)

Music: Saffron Walden (A. H. Brown)

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here

His Spirit is with us

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, gracious God...

... evermore praising you and singing:

All : Holy Holy Holy Lord

God of power and might

Heaven and earth are full of your glory

Hosanna in the highest

...Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life:

Lord Jesus, come in glory.

And so Father...

... for ever and ever. **Amen**

Please sit or kneel

Uniting our prayers with the whole company of heaven, as our Saviour has taught us, so we pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

Jesus is the living bread who came down from heaven: if anyone eats this bread, they will live for ever.

Lord, give us this bread always.

The Congregation are invited to receive communion. Members of all churches are welcome at our altar. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please bring this leaflet with you.

During the communion the Choir sings Agnus Dei

Post communion prayer

Please sit or kneel

Heavenly Father,
in your Son Jesus Christ
you have given us a true faith and a sure hope.
Strengthen this faith and hope in us all our days,
that we may live as those who believe in
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins
and the resurrection to eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Commendation

Let us commend Michael to the mercy of God, our maker and redeemer.

Silence is kept

The coffin is sprinkled with holy water

Remain standing

Lord, for the years
Your love has kept and guided
urged and inspired us
cheered us on our way
sought us and saved us
pardoned and provided
Lord of the years
we bring our thanks today.

Lord, for that word
the word of life which fires us
speaks to our hearts
and sets our souls ablaze
teaches and trains
rebukes us and inspires us
Lord of the word
receive Your people's praise.

Lord, for our land
in this our generation
spirits oppressed by pleasure
wealth and care
for young and old
for commonwealth and nation
Lord of our land
be pleased to hear our prayer.

Lord for our world
when we disown and doubt him
loveless in strength
and comfortless in pain
hungry and helpless
lost indeed without him
Lord of the world
we pray that Christ may reign.

Lord for ourselves;
in living power remake us -
self on the cross
and Christ upon the throne
past put behind us
for the future take us
Lord of our lives
to live for Christ alone.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith (1967)
Music: Lord of the years (M. Baughen)

THE DISMISSAL

Please sit

Blessing

John Rutter: A Gaelic Blessing

Exit

Organ voluntary: Toccata in F by Charles-Marie Widor

Claudine, Anne, Rachel, Simon, Ruth, Rebekah and Matthew thank you for your attendance at Michaels funeral, for your prayers, support and help and for all your kind letters and cards.

After the service, the family will go to the Crematorium for the cremation. You are invited to the Parish Hall for refreshments, where the family will join you to enjoy a time of sharing and reconnection.

Donations in Michael's memory will be divided between The Friends of St Chads and Voices from the Nations.



Voices from the Nations
Charity No. 1127420

<https://www.stewardship.org.uk/partners/20107496>

