

# ST MICHAEL'S NEWSLETTER

Vol. 58 No 03  
15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup>. December 2018



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To book the Parish Hall please email the office.  
Hall wi-fi password: tbc  
The office is open mornings from 9.30-1pm  
on Monday, Wednesday & Friday.

## Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday)

Whoever has two coats should share  
With the person who has none. *Luke 3:11*



**6.00 pm** People of the Parish  
**8.30am** Tony Sydenham RIP  
**10.30am** David Owens RIP

## Mon 17<sup>th</sup> Weekday of Advent

9.30am Michael Paul Cassar RIP  
**7.30pm** Advent Service of Reconciliation

## Tues 18<sup>th</sup> Weekday of Advent

**9.00am** Corinne Bond RIP  
10.00am St. Peter's School Carol Service

## Wed 19<sup>th</sup> NO MASS

## Thu 20<sup>th</sup> Weekday of Advent

9.30am Philippa Dupénois and Family

## Fri 21<sup>st</sup> Weekday of Advent

**11.00am** Francis Potter RIP

## Sat 22<sup>nd</sup> Weekday of Advent

**10.00am** Giovanni Que RIP  
*Followed by Sacrament of Reconciliation and at  
5.15pm-5.45pm*

## Saturday/Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup> December

### Fourth Sunday of Advent

**6.00 pm** Fernando Caprano RIP  
**8.30am** Tony Sydenham RIP  
**10.30am** May Fernandez RIP

## Please pay for the souls of those whose anniversaries occur at about this time

Dorothy Passow, Bert Crayden, Mary Guy, Tim Adams,  
Helga Maria Suwalski, Sheila Coking, Bill Sharpe,  
Mary McDonald, Peter William Harvey, Richard Tufnell,  
Fr Bernard McGrath, Thomas Dowd, Frank McCaffry,  
Judi Stevens and Karl Hickey  
**May they rest in peace, Amen**

## PLEASE PRAY FOR

*Sheila Hanks, who is now in residential care,*  
Emily Scarborough, Clare Derry, George Stuart Baxter,  
Leonard Anderson, Pauline Hooper, Monica Leonard,  
Fr Alan Sharpe, Robin Johnson, Bill Danson,  
Jean Rawlinson, Kay Fry, Margaret Beeby, Anne Burman,  
Alfredo Sheffield, Fr. Felipe Ortega, Nina Grant,  
Barbara Long, Mary Turner, Grace Sheridan,  
Johanna Rainsbury, Stephen Sullivan, Monica McAllister,  
Margaret Cleere, Rachel Fulton and Michael Machese  
**and all who need our prayers.**

My Dear Friends,

In these very busy days before Christmas it is important not to lose sight of Christ Himself. We need to carve out a little space each day to be still and quiet before God. To help you to use that time well I want to offer you this short reflection from Pope Benedict.

Nothing is impossible for those who trust in God and entrust themselves to him. Look at the young Mary; the angel proposed something truly inconceivable to her; participation, in the most involving way possible, in the greatest of God's plans, the salvation of humanity.

Facing this proposal, Mary, as we hear in the Gospel, was distressed for she realised the smallness of her being before the omnipotence of God; and she asked herself: "How is it possible? Why should it be me?" Yet, ready to do the divine will, she promptly said her "yes" which changed her life and the history of all humanity.

With complete availability, interior openness, and freedom, she allowed God to fill her with love, with the Holy Spirit. Mary, the simple woman, could thus receive within herself the Son of God, and give to the world the Saviour who had first given himself to her.

Pope Benedict XVI. 2007

With my love and prayers for each of you.

Fr. Tony

The **Diocese** is not producing an **Advent booklet** this year. They recommend "**Global Healing**", a film-based resource for parishes, groups and individuals, responding to Laudato Si and Pope Francis' vital call to care for our common home. Further details from [www.ourcommonhome.co.uk](http://www.ourcommonhome.co.uk) Alternatively, from House On Rock, they suggest their **Lift up your Hearts** programme, which has the themes of mercy and forgiveness, in preparation for the Christmas period. [www.houseonrock.co.uk/faith-sharing](http://www.houseonrock.co.uk/faith-sharing)

**Advent** Please visit the Repository in the Porch if you would like to buy one or buy Advent Calendars and Christmas Cards.

**St Peter's School Carol Service** will be held at 10.00am on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> December in St. Michael's Church.

## NEW ROTAS

If you are involved in Sunday Coffees, Church Cleaning or Offertory Recording, first of all THANKYOU, secondly please collect your copies of the new rotas from the pockets at the rear of the church.

## Advent CAFOD Raffle

The raffle draw will take place today, in the hall with coffee/tea after the 10.30 am Mass.

## Advent Services of Reconciliation

Effingham & Fetcham Sunday 16th December at 3:00pm.  
**Ashtead St Michael Monday 17th December at 7:30pm.**  
Epsom St Joseph Thursday 20th December at 7:30pm.  
Dorking St Joseph Sunday 23rd December at 3:00pm.

**Deanery Confirmations** - will take place at St Joseph's Church Epsom on Saturday 27th April 2019.

Marriage Preparation Course to be held at St Joseph's Epsom will be on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

**Christmas Eve and Christmas Day  
at St Michael's**

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> December**  
3pm – First Mass of Christmas  
9pm – 'Midnight Mass'  
**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> December**  
8.30am - Dawn Mass  
10.30am – Day Mass

Please pick up a copy of the **Christmas Trumpet**, suggested Donation £1.

**Meeting Room – Sponsored Swim**

I would like to thank you all for your generosity in supporting my mile swim for the Meeting Room. I have collected £320. Thank you very much. **Paul Gruzalski**

Thank you to all who braved the awful weather to support the December **Soup Lunch** and raised £350. In 2018 a total of £3,763.80 has been donated to our charities CAFOD, the Princess Alice Hospice and Besom. The next Soup Lunch, the first of 2019, will be held on 4 January.

**Asia Bibi** is on death row waiting for her appeal in the Pakistani courts. She is accused of insulting the Prophet Muhammad by offering her fellow farm worker a glass of water who said that it was "unclean" because Asia Bibi was a Christian. **Please sign the letter demanding her release.**

**Gift Aid** – Please note that the Gift Aid forms are now white, and can be found in the Porch. If you choose to Gift Aid your weekly offerings, 25% extra goes towards Church funds.

**Crib Offering 2018** – this Christmas our Crib Offering will be donated to the Catholic Children's Society's Arundel and Brighton Crisis Fund. This fund provides emergency grants for children and families in our Diocese who are facing a crisis in their lives. Every single penny donated to the Crib will be given out via these grants.

**Books, Booklets, Leaflets and Forms** in the porch are there to be taken home. Please help yourselves!

**Lift wanted** A delightful lady, partially sighted, who has recently moved into Lime Tree Court from Leatherhead, would very much appreciate a lift to the 6pm Mass at Ashtead on a Saturday evening. If there is anyone who could offer this lady a lift on a regular basis, contact Caroline King 01372 277140, [caromking8@gmail.com](mailto:caromking8@gmail.com)

**CAFOD World Gifts** Give a gift that will change a life. There are gifts for every budget from Happy Queen Bee at £4 to Help a Refugee child at £46. Each CAFOD World gift has been chosen for the real and lasting difference it makes to families living in developing countries. Catalogues are available at church or you can buy online at [cafod.org.uk/worldgifts](http://cafod.org.uk/worldgifts)



**Coffee after weekday Mass.** As there will be no Mass or liturgy on the Tuesdays, service of coffee/tea after Mass is transferred to Thursdays until further notice.

The Arundel and Brighton Diocesan Trust is a charity - No. 252878

**Happy Birthday to:**

**Olivia Rowles 8, on Sunday**  
**Amelia Bennetts 12 and Dexter Chan Lok 8 on Tuesday**  
**Madeleine Ciesco 11 on Wednesday**  
**Ava Atkins 3 on Thursday**

**A Deanery Day of Recollection/Reflection** will take place on Saturday 25th May 2019 from 10:00am till 4:00pm for **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion** at St Teresa's Independent School Effingham.

**'Lunchbox'**

This local drop-in centre for the homeless and others facing hard times has written to say how grateful it is for a £300 Sainsbury gift card recently donated by the Parish from the proceeds of 10.30am Sunday Mass coffee/tea donations. The gift card will help fund the purchase of food for the centre and for families in dire need also helped by the centre. 'Lunchbox' is also very grateful to parishioners who donate non-perishable food and toiletries throughout the year. Whenever you can, please place donations of non-perishable food/toiletries in the basket in the porch.

**Next Week's Readings.** Micah 5:1-4a  
Hebrews 10:5-10 Luke 1:26-38

££££££££

Last week's offertory collection came to £1,277.34  
The retiring collection for Action in Africa raised £807.47

**CAN WE HELP?** *Do you find yourself in need of a helping hand, eg. shopping, collecting prescriptions, transport to hospital or GP? Ring one of these people and they will help if they can.*  
Karin Rodgers 279606  
Margaret McGarr 277839 #  
# Tesco shop – (day to be arranged)

**Rotas for Weeks Commencing:**

Church Cleaning	16 <sup>th</sup>	Maria Adams
	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Tom Dore
Sunday Coffee	16 <sup>th</sup>	Denise Rouse
	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Marina Channing-Pearce
Recorders	16 <sup>th</sup>	Tom Dore and Charles Vossier
	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Bill & Judith O'Neill

**Ministers rotas 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2018 – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent  
Saturday 6:00 pm - Vigil Mass**

WM: Roberto Simonetti and Geraldine Hardwick  
R: David Gwyther and Maureen Anderson  
EM: Shane Murray and Alan Waters

**Sunday 8.30 am**

WM: Sally Bahri and Tom Dore  
R: Carmen Jacob and Martin O'Donovan  
EM: Ruth Sydenham and Pauline Clark

**Sunday 10.30 am**

WM: Denise Rouse and Rocio Opazo-Aniotz  
R: Polly Ribet and Jacqui Shabankareh  
EM: Mary Merrett and Olivia Rodrigues

**You can e-mail copy for the Newsletter to [newsletter@stmichaelashtead.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@stmichaelashtead.org.uk) to arrive by 9.30am on Friday morning or phone Steve Rouse on 818698**