

# ST MICHAEL'S NEWSLETTER



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7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Dec 2019

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Parish Priest: Rev. Canon Anthony Churchill  
Priest's House – **new number 01372 270842**  
Deacon: Rev David Pattinson Tel: 07788 916910  
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To book the Parish Hall please email the office.  
Hall wi-fi: **Netgear41 (password) grandcomet148**  
The office is open mornings from 9.30-1pm  
on Monday, Wednesday & Friday.

## Second Sunday of Advent

Then the wolf shall be guest of the lamb, with  
A little child to guide them.  
*Isaiah 11:6*



6.00pm People of the Parish  
8.30am May Fernandez RIP  
10.30am Lucie Wilkinson RIP

## Mon 9<sup>th</sup> NO MASS

**Tues 10<sup>th</sup>** Tuesday in Advent  
9.30am Talhadas Family Intentions

## Wed 11<sup>th</sup> NO MASS

**Thu 12<sup>th</sup>** Thursday in Advent  
9.30am Tony and Mary Sreeves RIP  
Followed by Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

**Fri 13<sup>th</sup>** St Lucy  
9.30am Bernard Furlong RIP

**Sat 14<sup>th</sup>** St John of the Cross  
10.0am Mary Ann Bowler RIP  
*Sacrament of Reconciliation only at 5.15-5.45pm*

**14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> December 'Gaudete' Sunday of Advent**  
6.00pm Deceased relatives and friends of Mary Turner  
8.30am David Owens RIP  
10.30am People of the Parish

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

Nora McCaughtrie, Feliks Lewandowski, Anthony Turner,  
Kieran Fry, John Bird, Michael Brown, Regina Hickey,  
Michael Lynch, Vera Union, Margaret Garrett  
Elena Mashman

**May they Rest in Peace**

## PLEASE PRAY FOR

**Genevieve Rodrigues, daughter of Olivia and Gary,**  
Leonard Anderson, Aloysius Keeley, Vincent Smyth,  
Emily Scarborough, George Stuart Baxter, Bart Gruzalski,  
Sheila Hanks, Sarah Bishop, Clare Derry, Michael Roche,  
Pauline Hooper, Elizabeth Samson,  
Fr Alan Sharpe, Bill Danson, Jean Rawlinson, Kay Fry,  
Margaret Beeby, Anne Burman, Alfredo Sheffield,  
Nina Grant, Barbara Long, Mary Turner,  
Johanna Rainsbury, Stephen Sullivan,  
Rachel Fulton and Michael Machese  
**and all who need our prayers.**

My Dear Friends,

This weekend our parish is hosting the "Deanery School of Prayer", open to people from all the parishes in the new Deanery of Epsom and Redhill. Similar events are taking place in each Deanery. The purpose of this initiative is to invite us to think seriously about the place of prayer in our lives.

There is much talk just now about "planning for the future" and the need to look at our various structures asking whether or not they are fit for purpose. None of these "plans" will bear fruit unless they are underpinned by prayer. These schools of prayer are meant to help us find a way of praying that works for us.

In his Pastoral Letter last weekend the Bishop spoke about climate change, which is of course an important issue. As Christians we should be no less concerned about the climate of selfishness and greed which is so damaging to our society. If the General Election campaign has held up a mirror to our society the image it presents is hardly inspiring. Whatever the outcome may be, it is clear that our society needs to change. As Christians we have a duty to work with others to make a difference.

The "climate change" we need can only happen if we are people who pray, people who are trying to live by the Gospel. Advent is as good a time as any to make a new beginning.

With my love and prayers for each of you,

Fr Tony

**The Wooden Christmas Tree** at the back of the Church is for you to hang your messages to those whom 'you have loved and lost'. This will be the centre point of the Bereavement Mass on Saturday the 21st December at 10am. The decorations for you to write on are in a basket underneath the Tree.

Altar Serving practice Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 9.30am in the Church.

**DECORATE OUR JESSE TREE.** Since medieval times Jesse Trees have helped tell the story of the Bible from creation to the birth of Jesus. They were found in churches as stained glass, tapestries, and carvings. Now an Advent tradition is to decorate a Jesse tree with Bible symbols so linking the custom of decorating Christmas trees to the events leading to Jesus' birth. Do join in and decorate the Jesse tree in St. Michael's with readymade decorations provided OR take a Jesse symbol to colour at home OR make your own decoration from old Christmas greeting cards OR draw and colour a Jesse symbol to hang on the tree.

## Something different for Advent?

If you would like to come and try something different for Advent, come and experience 'take time'. This is a series of relaxed guided meditations based on the stories of Jesus and Ignatian tradition. The meditations encourage the use of the imagination to encounter Jesus, and can be a very helpful way of praying with scripture.

There will be 2 more sessions during Advent on Monday 9th Dec, and 16th Dec. from 7.30pm – 9pm, at 50 Taleworth Road. For information please contact Sue Marsh 07890658951 or Caroline King 07905360466

**An hour of prayer and light** for peace in the world will be held here at St Michael's on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December from 3 to 4pm Please do try to come.

**A big thank you** to all who came to the very successful Parish Family group Christmas Party last Sunday and all who organised the food and crafts etc

**Please help us by becoming a Parish environment captain!**  
**(other ranks available but captain sounds least threatening yet highly impressive).**  
We are looking for people who are willing to be parish environmental representatives for the Ecological Conversion Group. This will simply be a contact point for each parish to take the responsibility of distributing our materials at Mass (or even just making sure they are at the back of church). Our first magazine will be sent out for the 1st Sunday of Advent for the Launch of "The Journey to 2030" which the diocese of Arundel and Brighton has committed to in tackling our ecological crisis. To find out what this means visit the 'about us' section of the Journey to 2030 site. Please email John Paul de Quay ASAP at: [info@journeyto2030.org](mailto:info@journeyto2030.org) if you would like to be your parish contact.

**ACT Men's Breakfast** Christmas Special is on Sat 14th Dec, in the Dell Centre. All men welcome. This is the Big One! Colin's Full Monty English Breakfast, toast and marmalade and lashings of tea and coffee. Plus our usual brand of home-spun entertainment. All for the paltry sum of £5.

The St Michael's 2020 diaries have arrived!! Please take one for yourself and your family.

Don't forget to put your names down as a sponsor for the FHC and Confirmation groups for this year.

**Crib offering 2019**  
This Christmas our Crib Offering will be donated to the Catholic Children's Society's A&B 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.

**Advent Services of Reconciliation around the Deanery Banstead & Tadworth** Parishes Joint Service at St Ann's Wednesday 11th December 2019 at 7:00pm  
**Leatherhead Parish**, Our Lady & St Peter Wednesday 11th December 2019 at 7:00pm  
**Epsom Parish**, St Joseph's Thursday 12th December 2019 at 1:45pm - For the school and parents.  
**Epsom Parish**, St Joseph's Friday 13th December 2019 at 7:30pm  
**Effingham & Fetcham Parish** Our Lady of Sorrows Sunday 15th December 2019 at 3:00pm  
**Ashted Parish St Michael's** Monday 16th December 2019 at 7:30pm  
**Ewell Parish** St Clement's Thursday 19th December 2019 at 7:30pm  
**Redhill, Reigate & Merstham** Parish of the Nativity of the Lord Service at St Joseph's Friday 20th December 2019 at 6:30pm.

**Happy Birthday to:**  
**Benjamin Newman, Dylan Watkins on Monday.**  
**Helena Mansefield on Tuesday**  
**Brendan Owen, Ava Atkins on Thursday.**  
**Hannah Lay on Friday.**

**CAFOD Advent Raffle**  
This weekend is your last opportunity to buy tickets. So make sure you do not miss out on your chance to win great prizes. The draw will be after the 10.30am Mass next weekend.

**ROTAS – Church Cleaning, Sunday Coffees, Offertory Recording** I will soon be preparing new rotas for 2020. Please let me know as soon as possible if you would like your name to be removed from or added to the lists. Some wonderful new volunteers have come forward recently but we can always use more. You can contact me on 01372 379244 or at [mary.merrett@gmail.com](mailto:mary.merrett@gmail.com) Mary Merrett

**Bingo** - Could you do with some extra cash in the run-up to Christmas? Well why not have a little flutter, while raising money for *MyTime*, a local group providing respite activities for youngsters with caring responsibilities for a family member. All you have to do is come to our next friendly monthly bingo session this coming Wednesday afternoon, 11th December at 2pm in the Hall. Why not bring a friend with you - If you need transport, please telephone Mary Merrett on 01372 379244

**Next week's Readings:** Isaiah 35: 1-6a, 10; James 5: 7-10; Matthew 11: 2-11

**£££££££**  
Offertory Collection last week raised £1,444.33  
This weekend the retiring collection is for **Action in Africa.**  
**Next weekend we will collect for the Allsaints Apprentice Scheme.** (Both Giftaidable)

**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.*  
Pat Cass Tel. 274498  
Ann Clark Tel. 277324 #  
# Tesco shop - day and time to be arranged

**Rotas for Weeks Commencing:**  
Church Cleaning 8<sup>th</sup> December Philippa Dupenois  
15<sup>th</sup> December Keith Higgins  
Sunday Coffee 8<sup>th</sup> December Mary Merrett  
15<sup>th</sup> December Gill Gruzalski  
Recorders 8<sup>th</sup> December Bill and Angela Archer  
15<sup>th</sup> Dec. Tom Dore and Charles Vosser

**Ministers' rotas 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> December – Gaudete Sunday**  
**Saturday 6:00 pm - Vigil Mass**  
WM: Geraldine Hardwick and Bill Archer  
R: Nick Pisa and Julian Ribet  
EM: Pauline Clark and Andy Dutton  
**Sunday 8:30 am**  
WM: Rocio Opazo-Aniotz and Karin Rogers  
R: Jessica Amos and Anastasya Beeston  
EM: Keith Merrett and Philippa Dupenois  
**Sunday 10:30 am**  
WM: Susan Marsh and Andrew Marsh  
R: Eva Walsh and Cara Heden  
EM: Paul Gruzalski and Mary Merrett

**You can e-mail contributions to the Newsletter to**  
[newsletter@stmichaelashted.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@stmichaelashted.org.uk)  
**to arrive by 9.30am on Friday morning**