

## ST MICHAEL'S NEWSLETTER



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To book the Parish Hall please email the office.  
Hall wi-fi: [Netgear41](#) (password) [grandcomet148](#)  
**The office is CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**  
Please ring Fr Tony on the number above in an emergency.

### Fourth Sunday of Easter – Good Shepherd Sunday

**NO MASS**

**The bishops of England and Wales have decided that Mass and other liturgies will not be celebrated in public until further notice.**

**Priests will celebrate Mass in private only.  
Churches will be closed until further notice.**

**St Michael's Online Prayer and Worship during the pandemic.  
Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2020 at 7pm – 7.30pm**

Thursday online prayer services are proving popular. We have another one this Thursday 7th May (with gathering from 6.55pm) This gives us a lovely opportunity to meet and see one another; and to share our worship and prayers during this difficult time. Do look out for the emailed link - and then it's easy - you just click on the link and wave to everyone before the meeting begins. *If you don't regularly receive these emails, do please let Bill know (at [smichaelweb@gmail.com](mailto:smichaelweb@gmail.com)) and he'll add you to the Parish circulation list.*

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

Anthony Moulson  
Mary Churchill

Robert Vaudry and Patrick Maher who died recently

**May they Rest in Peace**

### PLEASE PRAY FOR

Paul Gruzalski, Clare Derry, Peggy Brogan,  
Leonard Anderson, Vincent Smyth,  
Emily Scarborough, George Stuart Baxter,  
Bart Gruzalski, Sheila Hanks, Sarah Bishop,  
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, Johanna Rainsbury,  
Stephen Sullivan, Rachel Fulton and Michael Machese  
**and all who need our prayers.**

## The Month of May

My Dear Friends,

It is a commonplace to speak about life as a journey. During these last few weeks, the journey has seemed quite tough at times. I am conscious of so many people who are suffering in one way or another. I am aware of individuals and families who are really struggling with life just now.

During these weeks I have been trying to telephone as many of you as I can, and I have been really impressed by the support people are giving to each other. It brings home the truth that we need each other. Whoever you are you can't make this journey on your own. We need companions. I think that this crisis has made us realise just how true that is.

The same is true of our lives as Christians. The journey of life is a journey towards God. Our life has a goal. We are not just aimlessly wandering about, getting what pleasure we can on the way. Here too, we need companions.

I hope that our current experience in "lockdown" will teach us to be more aware of our need for each other as brothers and sisters in Christ.

We are meant to help each other on the road to Heaven.

But there is another dimension. We talk about "The Communion of Saints".

We have countless brothers and sisters already with God in Heaven.

We believe that they can help and support us with their love and prayers on our journey. They were not perfect people who never got disheartened or made mistakes. They were ordinary men and women like us, who never gave up despite all kinds of setbacks. They can inspire and encourage us now in our journey.

The Month of May is dedicated in a special way to Our Lady.

Mary was given to us by Jesus to be our mother as he was dying on the Cross.

At this time, I hope that we can all renew our love for her as we ask her to accompany us on the journey. Devotion to Our Lady has always been a vital element in Catholic lives. Perhaps this current crisis will enable us to deepen our relationship with her and our love for her.

Mother Mary: Pray for us.

With my love and prayers for each of you,

Fr Tony

### Month of Our Blessed Lady - St Michael's on-line celebration at 11am on Saturday 16th May 2020

More than ever this year, we want to celebrate May - the month we dedicate to Our Blessed Mother Mary. We intend to do this at St Michael's with an online celebration at 11am on Saturday 16th May. Although we're encouraging all parishioners to take part; we want to make this event very child - focused. **So, we're encouraging children to draw or paint pictures of Our Lady and to make crowns or coronets which they wear for the event.** Then the service will finish with a "show and tell" session in which we all see what the children have created.

# CHRIST IS RISEN. ALLELUIA!

## Parish Communications

Do keep an eye on the media while we're in lockdown!

Visit the **Parish website** <http://www.stmichaelashtead.org.uk/> you will find the Newsletter page and Father Tony's Sermons, where you can download copy online. On the Home page you will find current news items. Try some of the other pages, including 'links to other Catholic websites'.

During lockdown our Face Book Group has grown to **190** members at time of writing. Not everyone likes face book, but the group has been pretty active over the past few weeks and it is a great way to keep in touch. Star of the show has been Father Tony, who has taught himself to 'live stream' so you can hear his homilies (3-4 minutes each week).

To join us, sign up to Facebook, log in and search for **St. Michael's Ashtead**. We'll be expecting you! **You can join us, safely distanced, and maybe feel a little less isolated.**

*Alison, Steve & Bill*

## Mass for the Sick and their Families, NHS Front-Line workers and those working in Social Care

The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales recognise that this time of the COVID-19 pandemic is affecting every person in our countries. Those who are sick, and their families, are suffering many hardships of isolation from contact with those they love. Our front-line workers in hospitals and in care homes all over our lands are giving exceptional service to those who are vulnerable at this time.

In order to show a spiritual solidarity with all those who are involved in the ways described above, each week a Catholic Bishop will celebrate Mass in their Cathedral which will be live-streamed for people to join. This will take place every Thursday at 7.00pm

7th May Bishop Marcus Stock, Leeds Cathedral  
14th May Bishop Robert Byrne, CO Newcastle Cathedral  
21st May Bishop Mark Davies, Shrewsbury Cathedral  
28th May Bishop Terence Draine, Middlesboro Cathedral  
By visiting the Cathedral webpage, or the Bishops' Conference Webpage ([cbcew.org.uk](http://cbcew.org.uk)) links for the live-streaming of these Masses can be found.

## This Week's Readings:

Acts 2: 14a, 36-41      Psalm 23 1  
1 Peter 2: 20b-25      John 10: 1-10

You can see these readings at:

<https://www.universalis.com/20200503/mass.htm>

## To access Mass online visit the following websites:

St Dunstan's, Woking <https://www.churchservices.tv/woking>  
Sacred Heart, Hove <http://sacredhearthove.org.uk/videos.html>  
Sacred Heart, Caterham-Mass (live and recorded), Adoration and the Rosary. <https://www.churchservices.tv/caterham>  
St Paul's, Haywards Heath will be streaming via Facebook.

## Additional services will also be available further afield:

The Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham offers a 12 noon online Pilgrim Mass each day

<https://www.churchservices.tv/churches/> provides live streaming and recordings from churches around the country and Ireland.

**Try Also:** Vatican TV Live, Angelus news, EWTN

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

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Oliver Atkinson 11 on Sunday  
Eva Walsh 10, Eva Baw 8 on Monday  
Luke Surbutts 12, Ellis McManus 6, Alexander Heden 7,  
Henry Costello 6 Harry Hare 12 on Tuesday  
Madeline Hall 12, Lucy Mitchell 13 on Thursday  
Paolo Di Carlo 13, Harry Hare 12, Owen Mitchell 12 on Friday

**CAFOD** launched its coronavirus emergency appeal on 30 April. The effects of coronavirus on developing countries where CAFOD works are likely to be devastating. Families without enough to eat and without access to clean water and healthcare are particularly vulnerable to coronavirus. The poorest and most marginalised communities will be pushed further into poverty. Your prayers and gifts are needed now more than ever to help protect the lives of those in poor communities. While we are not able to hold physical collections in our church, you can donate as individuals at [cafod.org.uk/coronavirusappeal](http://cafod.org.uk/coronavirusappeal)

## Online Giving - Coronavirus

With the closure of our Church, the Coronavirus is affecting us materially as well as spiritually.

Bills keep coming, but income is down. A good many parishioners give via standing order, cheques or weekly envelopes. If you can do this, it simplifies the admin and is great for self-distancing!

**For more details email** [smichaelweb@gmail.com](mailto:smichaelweb@gmail.com)

**About half the week's income usually arrives via the collection baskets so we are missing that.**

**THIS WEEK WE SHOULD HAVE HAD A COLLECTION FOR THE EDUCATION OF FUTURE PRIESTS.**

The Diocese has set up a web page for online giving. The web link for this donation page is:

<https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/parishoffertory>

**The money will come in to the Diocese and then be sent to the parishes accordingly. This is why it is important parishioners name their parish, area or priest when donating.**

If you have any questions on the Online Donation scheme please do not hesitate to contact; Laura Maydew-Gale E:

[communications@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:communications@abdiocese.org.uk) T: 07552 249 829

*Dear Parishioners*

*Just to let you know that the amount St Michael's has received through the Just Giving page is £557.40 – up to the 13<sup>th</sup> April 2020. Many thanks for your generosity and goodwill.*

Fr Tony is saying Mass every day in private and is offering each Mass for the intention that was requested on that day. The only exception is on Sundays where the intention is for the People of the Parish.

## Email Addresses

Over the past few weeks we have been making extensive use of email to communicate with the parish. We have sent out invitations to online Easter services, Thursday Prayers and weekly Newsletters. If you are wondering where your invitations have got to, it could be that we don't have a valid email address for you! Also if you would like to update your

To fix this, just drop an email to [smichaelweb@gmail.com](mailto:smichaelweb@gmail.com)