

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.

Sixth Sunday of Easter **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 at 7pm – 7.30pm

Thursday online prayer services are proving popular. We have another one this Thursday 21st 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) and he'll add you to the Parish circulation list.*

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

Constance Harrington, Rita Andrews, John Cass,
Ivy Smith, Philip Parsons, Molly Marsden,
Tony Sreeves, Chris Harber, Ulrika Crawford,
Dorothy Fitzgibbon, Margaret Hanks,
Norman Larkin.

May they Rest in Peace

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Myra Vanner, Sylvia Crampin, 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.

My Dear Friends,

Challenge for the future

I want to follow up on what I said here last weekend.

I pointed out that the current health crisis highlights a situation in our parish that is worrying. So many people doing important work in the Parish are well over 70. That includes me. Many are in their late 70's or even 80's.

These are fantastic people, and wonderfully generous with their time and expertise. We certainly don't want to lose them, but inevitably we can't rely on them indefinitely.

It is essential to bring in new and younger people. Quite a few of you wrote to say that you recognised the challenge we face.

I want us now to take the next step. Please think about how you could help. Let's be very practical about this.

How much time could you give?

What particular skills and expertise could you give us?

You will, I am sure, be far more proficient when it comes to using social media.

I am sure that we could do much more online than we do now.

We need younger minds and fresh thinking as we face the post virus future.

This is just one example.

I really want to invite you to think seriously about your responsibility for the future of our parish.

I realise that my time here in Ashted is inevitably limited. You need to think about the long-term future.

We need your insights as we look ahead.

Please: Think about this. Pray about it.

Then let me have your thought either online or by post.

I am also looking for people willing to help us put together a plan for the future.

St Michael's could have a great future in the years ahead.

It could have; but it really is down to each of you.

With my love and prayers for each of you.
Fr Tony

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 **198** members. The group has been pretty active over the past few weeks and it is a great way to keep in touch. **Do not miss** Father Tony's homilies (3-4 minutes) on video.
To join us, sign up to Facebook, log in and search for **St. Michael's Ashtead**. We'll be expecting you!
Alison. Steve & Bill

This Week's Readings:

Acts 8: 5-8, 14-17; Psalm 66;
1 Peter 3: 15-18; John 14: 15-21
You can see these readings at:
<https://www.universalis.com/20200517/mass.htm>

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 everyone. The sick and their families are suffering many hardships of isolation from contact with those they love. 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. Each Thursday during May at 7.00pm, a Catholic Bishop will celebrate Mass in their Cathedral which will be live-streamed for people to join.
21st May Bishop Mark Davies, Shrewsbury Cathedral
28th May Bishop Terence Drainey, Middlesboro Cathedral
Visit the Bishops' Conference Webpage (cbcew.org.uk) for links to the live-streaming of these Masses.

Men's Breakfast Online Our programme for 2020 is back on the rails. For the next 3 months we will be meeting virtually, thanks to Zoom. We will be starting at 9.30 am and running for about 40 minutes and you will need to bring your own bacon sandwiches. Otherwise, everything is as previously advertised.

June 20	Kauser Akhtar	Guildford Diocese, Surrey Faith Links Adviser
July 18	Mikey Dicken	Leatherhead Youth Project

Action in Africa has been supporting the community of Nyaihozi through the Covid 19 pandemic, £1,000 could enable us to finance the 2020 projects that we have been forced to put on hold.

That's why we'd be really grateful if you could nominate us in the Ecclesiastical Movement for Good awards. The awards are designed to give eligible charities in the UK and Republic of Ireland the financial assistance they need to help them make a real difference. In total, 500 charities stand to gain £1,000 and we'd love to be one of them. If we did win, we'd be able to fund initiatives such as our feminine hygiene programme and the expansion of our mosquito nets for boarding schools project.

It's quick and easy to nominate us. Just visit <https://movementforgood.com>, click 'nominate now' and enter our details. Our Registered Charity No. is 1072661, if you enter the number and click on the search icon, our name should come up for confirmation. If not enter Action in Africa in the name of charity line. You will also be asked what work we do as a charity, please tick poverty or education. The closing date for nominations is Sunday 24 May 2020. The more nominations we get, the greater our chance of winning, so please spread the word to your friends and family

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Tommy Richards 7 on Sunday
Daire Devaney 6 on Tuesday
Sophia Brock 10, Vanesa Navickai 12 on Wednesday
Joseph Cotton 8, Royce Clentsmith 12 on Thursday
Dino Ielpi, 10 Diego Ielpi 10 on Friday

Each year many parishioners are involved in the house to house collections for **Christian Aid Week**, raising more than £9000 last year. Because of Covid 19 we will be unable to collect money in this way, and yet the need is even greater than usual.

Please take time to look at the CA website and, if you are able, give in the several ways that the Ashtead Churches Together are offering: by cheque, phone, online or on the 'Just Giving' page on the Sgsgashtead website.

If you click on the red Christian Aid Week banner on the left. It is advertised as Ashtead Churches Together.
At the same time please pray for those in poor countries, refugee camps, and disaster areas that rely on CA every year.
Thank you so much for your help and support.

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

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
About half the week's income usually arrives via the collection baskets so we are missing that. 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. **So don't forget to name the parish, area or priest when donating.**

For more info, contact Laura Maydew-Gale E:
communications@abdiocese.org.uk T: 07552 249 829

To access Mass online visit the following websites:

St Dunstan's, Woking <https://www.churchservices.tv/woking>
Sacred Heart, Hove <http://sacredheartrove.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.
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

Email Addresses During the pandemic we have been sending out invitations to online Easter services, Thursday Prayers and weekly Newsletter via emails. If you or your friends have not heard from us, it could be that we don't have a valid email address for you! To fix this, just drop an email to smichaelweb@gmail.com

You can e-mail contributions to the Newsletter to newsletter@stmichaelashtead.org.uk to arrive by 9.30am on Friday morning