

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.

Feast of Saints Peter and Paul

See page 3 for Private Prayer scheduled opening times
Monday and Tuesday 29th/30th St Michael's is closed for
Private Prayer

NO MASS

PRIVATE PRAYER ONLY, SEE PAGE 3

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.

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 2nd July (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.

Mary Nugent, Mary Keogh, Marie Walmsley, Patrick O'Neill, Peter McCoy, Paul Rogers, Frank Woodcock, Alan Mashman, Bruce MacTavish, Eddie McAllister, John Caron, Leslie Bacon, Michael Hall, Ellen Sheehy, Denis Ward-Smith

May they Rest in Peace

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Philip MacDonald, Margaret McArdle, Myra Vanner, Sylvia Crampin, 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,

Try to take the time this weekend to look at the readings for Mass on Sunday. We are keeping the Feast of Sts Peter and Paul, normally June 29th, but transferred this year to Sunday.

It's an important feast because it reminds us that our faith is built on the faith of the first apostles.

Peter and Paul both gave their lives for the Faith in Rome. Both are buried in Rome, Peter beneath the High Altar of St Peter's Basilica in the Vatican, Paul beneath the great basilica that carries his name on the road to Ostia and the sea. Extensive archeological work in recent decades has uncovered both graves.

These two men are venerated as the founders of the Church in Rome.

Peter had been chosen by Jesus to lead the Church. Paul was the first, and perhaps the greatest missionary in the long history of the Church.

It was from Rome that the Faith came to this part of England when Pope Gregory the Great sent Augustine here in the year 597.

For many of us the link with Rome and the successor of Peter has been highlighted during this pandemic, as the internet has brought Pope Francis into our homes. In the first days of the Lockdown millions across the world watched the Pope walking alone up the steps of St Peter's on a wet Friday evening to lead us in prayer. Through the magic of the internet we joined him in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. We watched as the lonely figure of the Pope raised the Blessed Sacrament in blessing over a wet and deserted St Peter's Square.

It was a blessing for the City of Rome and for the world at a time of crisis and worldwide anxiety.

That evening our sense of communion with the Successor of Peter was real and tangible.

The readings for the Feast can be an inspiration and encouragement for us at this time of pandemic.. They speak about God's constant care for each of us. The Acts of the Apostles describe how God sent an angel to rescue Peter from prison.

"Now I know it is all true" he says, "The Lord really did send his angel and saved me from Herod...."

Peter's confidence in God is echoed by St. Paul, writing to Timothy:

"The Lord stood by me and gave me power... and so I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from all evil attempts on me, and bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom..."

Just now we are living through a time of great uncertainty, for all of us in one way or another. As we think about the country or about the Church, as we wonder about what comes next for the Parish and for our families, the future is far from clear.

We need to renew our trust in God who will never desert us. The psalm expresses it perfectly.

"From all my terrors the Lord has set me free...."

Look towards Him and be radiant;
Let your faces not be abashed.
This poor man called, the Lord heard him
And rescued him from all his distress....
Taste and see that the Lord is good.
He is happy who takes refuge in Him."

With my love and prayers for each of you,

Fr Tony

Parish Finances in the time of Coronavirus

These are trying times for everyone. Some people will have been hit harder than others because they have been furloughed or worse. Money is tight. However, if you are able and would like to contribute to the Parish, please look at the Just Giving link in this newsletter or on the parish Facebook page. You might have already done this. I must emphasise that you should only consider this if you are able to afford to do so.

Tom Dore, Chair of Parish Finance

Our Diocese has divested from fossil fuels and is working towards a better future!

Pope Francis has invited people from around the world to take action to protect the environment this Laudato Si' Week. Our Diocese announced an important measure to help protect our planet and build a more sustainable future; our divestment from fossil fuels.

The Diocese of Arundel & Brighton is the third Catholic Diocese in England and Wales to divest, including 41 faith institutions from 14 countries - the largest joint divestment announcement ever. Speaking about this important environmental development Bishop Richard said:

"Care for the world that has been given to us is an increasingly pressing need. It is therefore timely that the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton divests from fossil fuels.

This Week's Readings:

Acts 12:1-11; 2 Timothy 4: 6-8,17-18

Matthew 16: 13-19

You can see these readings at:

<https://www.universalis.com/20200629/mass.htm>

The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales have released the following statement:

"We stand in solidarity with our sisters and brothers in the USA as they challenge the evil of racism and the brutal killing of George Floyd. As the US Bishops made clear: "we cannot turn a blind eye to these atrocities and yet still try to profess to respect every human life. We serve a God of love, mercy, and justice."

"Systemic racism is embedded in our own society. The disproportionate harm suffered by BAME people throughout the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted profound inequalities, marginalisation and injustice here in the UK. The peaceful Black Lives Matter protests taking place in our towns and cities . . . reflect the understandable anger that so many people feel about this.

"As Catholics we recognise that racism is an evil which must be opposed; we all have a responsibility for actively promoting racial justice. Whenever we ignore racism or dismiss BAME people's experience of it, we are complicit in violations of human dignity. We pray for God's help to overcome racism in all its forms and that we might protect everyone who suffers its consequences. We are all made in God's image."

'Lunchbox' and 'The Meeting Room' If you would like to donate money, non-perishable food or toiletries, 'Lunchbox' is open to receive donations every Wednesday from 10.30am to 12.30pm at the Methodist Church Hall, Church Road, Leatherhead, KT22 8AY
'The Meeting Room' is providing a similar service and would welcome financial donations. Cheques should be made payable to 'The Meeting Room' and dropped off to Phil Ward at 49, Ottways Lane, Ashtead.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Toby Oliver Benson 7 on Sunday

Phoebe O'Shea 11, Allyssa McManus 12, Alex Brady 11 on Tuesday.

Oisim Boyle 8, Hayley Lion 9 on Wednesday.

Oscar Bell 8, Jack Hall 8, Ellerie Pierce 5 on Friday.

Matilda Cuevas 12, Rowan Bailey 8 on Saturday.

Children's Liturgy

There will be children's liturgy via Zoom on Sunday morning at 9.30. The link will be available on the Facebook page on Friday or you can email emmalangbridge@btinternet.com. Please consider volunteering to help with these sessions which help to keep the children engaged with church activities when we are unable to meet in the hall.

Parish Communications Do keep an eye on the media while we're in lockdown! Visit the **Parish website**

<http://www.stmichaelashtead.org.uk/>

Our **Face Book Group** now has **200+** members. To join us, search for **St. Michael's Ashtead** on Face Book

Alison, Steve & Bill

Online Giving – Coronavirus Lockdown

With the closure of our Church, the Coronavirus is affecting us materially as well as spiritually. Bills keep coming, but income is significantly down.

A good many parishioners give via standing order. 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

Ashtead United Charity

have a recently refurbished one bedroom self-contained ground floor flat available in Ashtead for a female over 55 years of age with Ashtead connections.

For further details contact

the Charity's Clerk

Cllr Mary Cooper 01372-273489

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

You can e-mail contributions to the Newsletter to

newsletter@stmichaelashtead.org.uk

to arrive by 9.30am on Friday morning

Welcome back to St Michael's for Private Prayer

- We are open for private prayer on the following days and times next week. Please note that the Church will **not** be open on Mon/Tues 29th/30th June

Day	Date	Time	Welcomer/Steward
MONDAYS	29 th June	CLOSED	
TUESDAYS	30 th June	CLOSED	
WEDNESDAYS	1 st July	10-12noon	David Pattinson Shirley Pattinson
THURSDAYS	2 nd July	2-4pm	Stan Neill Mandy Tuck
FRIDAYS	3 rd July	10-12noon	Catherine Gwyther Debbie Reynolds
SATURDAYS	4 th July	10-12noon	Lisa Laguarda Lillian Baldwin
SUNDAYS	5 th July	10.30am- 12.30pm	Tala Gogy Philippa Dupénois

- Please adhere to social distancing rules at all times. Remember, you are responsible for your own safety and the safety of others.
- Hand sanitizer gel is provided – please use it on entrance and exit.
- Available seats in centre benches have been marked.



- Side benches are for use primarily by families and households.
- Before leaving the church, please clean the area you used. Anti-viral spray is provided at rear of church. Please take care to spray areas touched. Paper towels should be placed in the lined bin provided.
- Toilet facilities are not available during this period.
- Votive candles cannot be made available at the moment.
- Entry and exit will be via the same doors – adhering to distancing rules.
- Doors will remain open at all times to reduce physical contact and maintain airflow.
- If you have any Flu-like symptoms, fever, cough, sneezing etc, please do not enter.
- Please ensure that your children are under control and remain with you at all times.
- Unaccompanied children and not allowed into the church at this time

CAFOD says Unite against coronavirus

We are living through the biggest public health crisis in a century. Right across the UK, coronavirus is having a devastating impact on all of our daily lives. But in many developing countries the effects are likely to be disastrous.

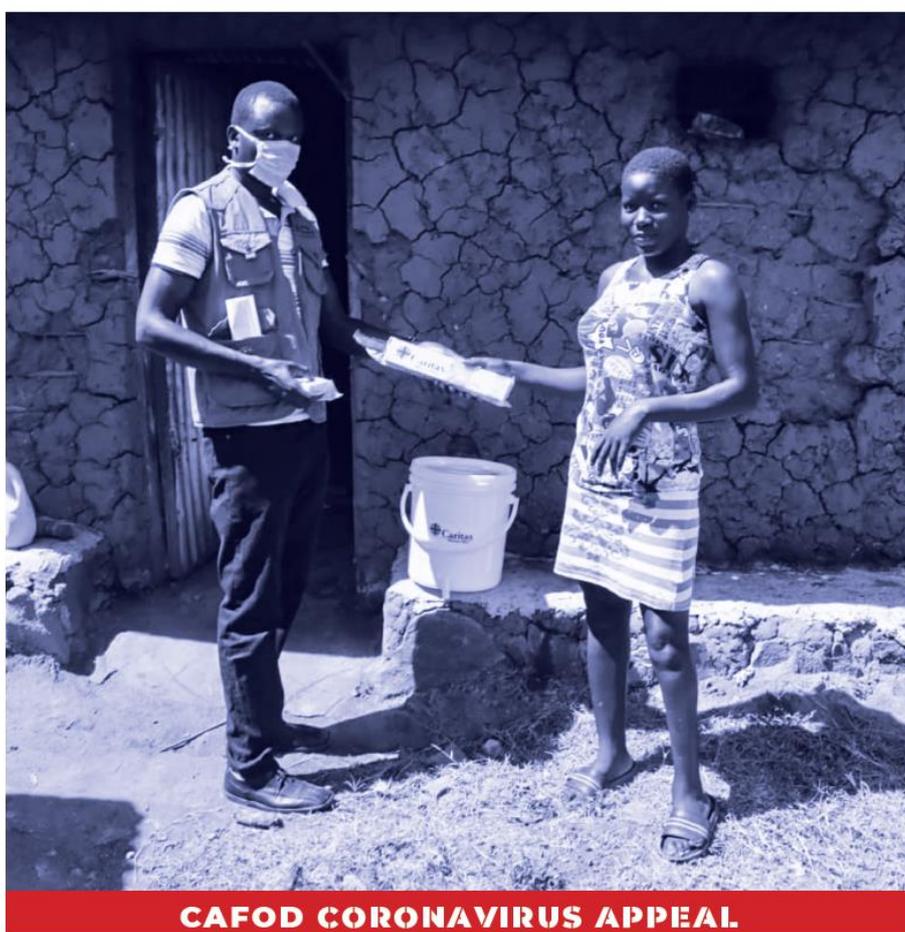
We must never forget that we are one global family, united in this struggle. Now is not the time to build barriers, but for the world to unite in love and compassion. **Please sign the petition at:**

<https://e-activist.com/page/59334/petition/1>

Out of love for our sisters and brothers overseas, sign our petition asking the Prime Minister to ensure that the most vulnerable people are the priority in the UK's international efforts as well as at home.

CAFOD

We have received this poster from CAFOD and normally we would display it in the Church Porch. However, as the 'footfall' in the porch is low these days, we have added it to the Newsletter.



survive
rebuild
heal

Coronavirus is a crisis that affects us all. Help families in poor communities survive.

**GIVE NOW TO
SAVE LIVES.**

[cafod.org.uk/
coronavirusappeal](https://cafod.org.uk/coronavirusappeal)

CAFOD Catholic Agency for
Overseas Development

Charity no 1160384 and a company limited by
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