

ST MICHAEL'S NEWSLETTER



Vol. 59 No 37
8th/9th August 2020

St Michael's Parish Office,
The Marld, Ashtead KT21 1RS
Email: smichaeloffice@gmail.com
Parish Priest: Rev. Provost Anthony Churchill
Priest's House – 01372 270842
Deacon: Rev David Pattinson Tel: 07788 916910
Website: www.stmichaelashtead.org.uk
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.

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions

Sat 8th	6.00pm	People of the Parish
Sun 9th	8.30am	Margaret Hall RIP
	10.30am	Steve & Denise Rouse
Mon 10 th	9.30am	St Dominic Edmond & Patricia Kirby RIP
Tues 11 th		NO MASS
Wed 12 th		NO MASS
Thurs 13 th	9.30am	Weekday George Amos RIP
Fri 14 th	9.30am	St Maximilian Kolbe Intentions of Pauline Clark
Sat 15 th	10am	Weekday FHC Families
15th/16th August 2020		Assumption of The BVM
Sat 15 th	6.00pm	Intentions of Margaret McArdle
Sun 16 th	8.30am	People of the Parish
	10.30am	The People of the Lebanon

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Mavis Bazeley, Philip MacDonald, Margaret McArdle,
Myra Vanner, Sylvia Crampin, Clare Derry,
Peggy Brogan, 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.

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

Sophie Anne Baker, Robert Dore, Edward Brown,
Jock Goldie, Maureen Dicker, Luba Catterall,
Margaret Cutting, Hilda Van Hoof, Jeremiah Lynch,
Sr Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Alison Davis, Jean Therien,
Stanley Griffiths, Joseph Kempa
May they Rest in Peace

My Dear Friends,

For all of us this is a time of uncertainty. We hope that the worst is over and look forward to an effective vaccine against the Coronavirus which has brought so much suffering and death across the world. At the same time we are fearful that another wave could be on the way, and that we may have to face further restrictions in the autumn and beyond.

This uncertainty can easily have a paralysing effect on us as we try to look to the future. Here in the Parish we need to think about what the future demands. I wrote to you in the newsletter earlier in the year, and made the same appeal on our Parish Facebook page, about the need for new people to come forward to take on responsibility for the life and work of the Parish. I was delighted with the response when I needed volunteers to enable us to open the church for private prayer and to act as stewards or welcomers at Sunday Mass.

Today's letter is meant as an invitation to younger members of the parish to think about what you might offer to the parish. We have been blessed over the years with some wonderful people who have worked tirelessly to build up the Parish and provide support for so many activities. Many of them however, are now in their seventies or eighties. They need to be able to pass the baton on to a younger generation.

I will write more about this later, but I would like to ask each of you to think about what you could take on. Is there an area of parish life that interests you or where you would like to help? Please think seriously about it and let me know.

With my love and prayers for each of you,

Fr Tony

REMEMBER THIS WEEKEND AT MASS TO WEAR FACE MASKS

Important Changes to Services at St. Michaels

- The church is open for Mass and private prayer, subject to the conditions of our 'Social Distancing' protocol on **Page 3**
- Please remain seated until you are called forward for communion by a steward.
- All Masses now are live-streamed unless otherwise stated.
- All streamed Masses are automatically recorded and may be watched later on our YouTube Channel (see below).
- We also include and instructions on how to pick up St. Michael's Live-Streaming **on the Live Streaming page of the Parish Website**
<http://www.stmichaelashtead.org.uk/Archive.php>

CAFOD is providing vulnerable families with handwashing stations and information on how to keep safe. We're supporting frontline workers with protective equipment, medical supplies and training. And we're working hard to ensure that the coronavirus crisis does not mean people go hungry. Volunteers are fundraising in new ways for our Coronavirus Appeal. We are inspired by those taking on virtual pilgrimages or challenges to raise money and grateful to everyone who's donated what they saved on missed coffees or haircuts. Can you help us by reaching out to family, friends and fellow parishioners? You can find some new fundraising ideas at <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/summerofhope>. As we approach the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation on September 1st, do see our Novena of Prayer to St Francis - nine brief and beautiful reflections asking St Francis of Assisi to pray for us and our world.
Finally, our Harvest Fast Day collection date has been moved to Sunday 11 October this year.

100 Club Winners for the past 5 months!!

March	2020	Paul Gruzalski	Philipa Dupenois
April	2020	Pauline Clark	Sue Marsh
May	2020	Judith O'Neill	V Kelleher
June	2020	John Murphy	C O'Sullivan
July	2020	Darryl Robinson	S Hayter

From **Gospel reading for 19th Sunday of the Year:**
When the disciples saw Jesus walking on the sea They were terrified. "It is a ghost," they said and they cried out in fear.

Reflection:

It doesn't take much imagination these days to identify with those terrified disciples as we face the deadly storm of the pandemic, with its indiscriminate power to kill, sweeping across our world.

So, we ask ourselves:

Do we feel like those disciples, victims in the pandemic storm's clutches?

Do we look into the midst of the storm and wonder if Jesus is just a ghost, a product of our fear-driven imagination?

Can we hear him say to us what he said to his frightened disciples, "Take courage, it is I, do not be afraid."

The Thursday evening prayer meetings on Zoom (each Thursday at 7pm for half an hour) are still going strong. They always begin with prayers for the pandemic but now, each week , we pray for something close to the heart of a particular parishioner, or family. The parishioner reads something to help our understanding and then prays about the issue, leaving time for all those present to quietly meditate on the issue in the presence of God. So far; Deacon Dave has led a meditation on the words of John Henry Newman; and parishioners have shared concerns and prayers about Prisoners, Food Poverty and Local Business. Coming up we have sessions devoted to CAFOD, Yemen, and meditations based on the Rosary and Stations of the Cross.

We pray that these sessions are deepening our prayer and broadening our understanding of what God wants us to do and be in the World. If you would like to lead a session about an issue close to your heart, that would be wonderful. Do please contact Karen on k.lynch4@btinternet.com. Or, if you would like to join these meetings, please email smichaeloffice@gmail.com

Parish Communications Do keep an eye on our Social Media **Visit St. Michael's Parish website**
<http://www.stmichaelashtead.org.uk/>

Face Book Group
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/289562958175720>

YouTube Channel
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoCE16LH34tJGIR3_ytZLYg/

Telephone support for the bereaved.

If you have been recently bereaved and you'd like to talk to someone but aren't able to do so or don't want to leave the house, we have members of our bereavement team who are able to offer you telephone support. If you would like to talk to someone then please contact the Parish office by email smichaeloffice@gmail.com let us know your telephone number and a good time to ring and one of the bereavement team will get back to you as soon as possible.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Ciaran Watkins 8 on Sunday
Kathryn Knopp 10, Penelope Lawrence 4 on Monday
Fredrick Sayers 7 on Tuesday
Jocelyn & Sophie Busby 11, Rupert Frearson 5 on Thursday
Kacey Frost 10, Ethan Da Costa 8 on Friday
Zachery Pierce 7, Bartholomew Griffiths 8 on Saturday

Ministers' rotas

8th August – Nineteenth Sunday of the year

Saturday 6.00pm

WM: Lillian Baldwin, Matthew Pattinson

R: Fina Tisi

Sunday 8:30 am

WM: Rocio and Santiago

R: Simon Williams

Sunday 10:30 am

WM: Helen Adams, Marina CP

R: Gill Gruzalski

15th August –Assumption of the BVM

Saturday 6.00pm

WM: Lisa Laguarda & Jessica Lagurda

R1 Alan Waters

Sunday 8:30 am

WM: Margret McGarr & Penny Weaver

R1 Simon Williams

Sunday 10:30 am

WM: W2

R1 Daisy McBride

If you are able to be a welcomer or reader at the moment please contact the office smichaeloffice@gmail.com

This Week's Readings:

I Kings 19: 9, 11-1; Psalm 85;

Romans 9: 1-5; Matthew 14: 22-33

You can see these readings at:

<https://www.universalis.com/20200809/mass.htm>

Online Giving – Coronavirus

When our Church was closed, the Coronavirus affected 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 into 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:

comunications@abdiocese.org.uk T: 07552 249 829

Do you need any painting/decorating/bathroom fitting done?

Speak to Pierre Abi Sleiman, a church member for many years, ring 07711 252843 or 01372 278272

You can e-mail contributions to the Newsletter to

newsletter@stmichaelashtead.org.uk

to arrive by 9.30am on Friday morning

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

Welcome back to St Michael's for Private Prayer and Mass

We are open for private prayer subject to the following -

- 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 are not allowed into the church at this time

To all CTE Member Churches, members of CTE's Enabling Group, County and National Ecumenical Officers/contact people and CTE staff

For your information, please see below a press statement from Churches Together in England released today. This statement is also [available online](#) and can be shared via our social media channels on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).



**Press Statement
For Immediate Release**

28 July 2020

CTE Presidents call all churches to address racial injustice in church life and wider society

Presidents of Churches Together in England, named below, with the support of the Fourth Presidency Group, have issued a statement calling on churches to travel together on the journey of racial justice, addressing injustices both within our church life and in wider society. They write...

We as Presidents of Churches Together in England have responded to the killing of George Floyd in the United States, and the widespread call for real change to combat racial injustice in our world, above all in our own country. We have spent time over the past few weeks listening to voices of people from the black community, especially the younger generation. This has been a deeply moving experience and illustrated powerfully the many profound changes of heart and actions that need to be made. The attitude that regards black people – and indeed other people of ethnic minorities – as inferior is evil and mars our common humanity. We challenge this unreservedly, recognising the constant experiences of racism, including micro aggression, which black people face.

We believe that churches have a significant role to play in combating racial injustice. If we are to be effective in doing so, we must look at ourselves.

We are painfully aware of the racism that blights the life of our churches. We are intent upon a process of identifying racial injustice within our churches – current and historic – repenting of it and taking action to effect real change. This includes the potential for discriminatory behaviour in the way that we make church appointments, which we know can happen at the conscious or unconscious level. We want to ensure that these processes are just and demonstrate the so often neglected gospel truth of Colossians 3:11 “there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all”. In this verse Paul makes it clear that racial injustice and discrimination is not only profoundly unjust and an affront to God but also the very denial of Christ who reached out to all human beings.

Some Member Churches of Churches Together in England have already embarked upon this journey of tackling racial injustice. The Church of England plans a new action group, and among the Free Churches work by the Methodist and United Reformed Churches, together with Baptists Together is already under way, as is also true for the Catholic Church. The Pentecostal Forum has long held this issue in its view, as have the Orthodox Churches.

We call upon all churches to travel together on this journey of racial justice so that together, as one community of churches in England, we may reach out in love and respect to one another in pursuit of our common witness.

An area of great concern to us as Presidents is the relationship between the black community and the criminal justice system. We will therefore be facilitating conversations between young black women and men and senior members of the police service. We are also seeking to engage both the Home Office and the Ministry of Justice in further considering the day-to-day experience of many young black people in England.

We encourage all churches throughout England to do all they can to build trust and improve accountability between black communities, the police, civic bodies and wider community groups. In particular we call upon groupings of Church Leaders throughout the nation to reach out to their black colleagues in church leadership who are currently absent from their membership, making more inclusive ecumenical leadership. Our desire is that these groups will create spaces for those in authority to listen, as we have, to the powerful testimony of young black women and men as a step towards greater social cohesion.

We see these issues as matters of gospel and faith for all who follow Jesus Christ, the one who calls every nation and people to the justice of the Kingdom of God.

ENDS

Presidents of Churches Together in England:

Archbishop Justin Welby, The Archbishop of Canterbury

Cardinal Vincent Nichols, The Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster

Revd Dr Hugh Osgood, The Free Churches Moderator

His Eminence Archbishop Angaelos, Coptic Orthodox Archbishop of London and CTE President for the Orthodox Churches

Pastor Agu Irukwu, head of Redeemed Christian Church of God UK and CTE Pentecostal President

The Fourth Presidency Group comprises Lutheran, Quaker and The Church of Scotland (English Presbytery) Member Churches.

Notes to editors:

- Churches Together in England will soon be establishing a churches racial justice working group which will encourage continued action and the sharing of good practice among its 50 Member Churches.
- Churches Together in England (CTE) is the national ecumenical instrument supporting and encouraging churches from a wide range of traditions to work together in unity.
- Nationally, CTE brings together [50 Member Churches from many diverse traditions](#). In fact, we unite the broadest range of churches in the whole of Europe. CTE's strapline is: *One in Christ Jesus, engaged in God's mission, empowered by the Spirit*. Read more about CTE at www.cte.org.uk/WhoWeAre

Contact:

For further information, please contact:

Revd Dr Paul Goodliff,

General Secretary of Churches Together in England

paul.goodliff@cte.org.uk

07741 893141

Kind regards,

Lorraine

Lorraine Shannon

Operations Manager

Churches Together in England

27 Tavistock Square

London WC1H 9HH

Tel: 020 7529 8131 / 07342 997394

Websites: www.cte.org.uk

www.rejesus.co.uk

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