

ST MICHAEL'S NEWSLETTER



Vol. 60 No. 39
21st/22nd Aug 2021

St Michael's Parish Office, The Marld, Ashted KT21 1RS
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Parish Priest: Rev. Provost Anthony Churchill
Priest's House – 01372 270842
Deacon: Rev David Pattinson Tel: 07788 916910
Website: www.stmichaelashted.org.uk
To book the Parish Hall please email the office.
Hall wi-fi: [Netgear41](#) (password) [grandcomet148](#)
Please ring Fr Tony on his number above in an emergency
or to request Sacrament of Reconciliation.

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time 21st /22nd August

6.0pm Enzo Sebastiani RIP
8.30am Jean Wheeler RIP
10.30am People of the Parish

Mon 23rd Weekday
9.30am Margaret Beeby & Pauline Hooper's Intentions

Tues 24th St. Bartholomew
9.30am DRF of the Dipre Family

Wed 25th **NO MASS**


Thurs 26th **NO MASS**

Fri 27th St. Monica
9.30am Louis Chan-Lok RIP

Sat 28th St. Augustine
10am Mike & Rita O'Hare's Intentions

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time 28th /29th August

6.0pm People of the Parish
8.30am Remo Dipre RIP
10.30am The Langley Family

All Masses are 'live-streamed' on YouTube 
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoCE16LH34tJGIR3_ytZLYq

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Janet McCormack, Doreen Peters, Francesco Pisa, Shirley
Pattinson, Shaun Wallace, Simon Warren,
Mavis Bazeley, Philip MacDonald, Margaret McArdle,
Peggy Brogan, Sheila Hanks, Pauline Hooper,
Elizabeth Samson, 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.

Emile Jean Zahra, Mary Edmonston,
Betty Novak, Alice Pederzolli and
Franek Cach

May they Rest in Peace

The Bishop's letter will replace Fr Tony's weekly letter as Fr Tony is taking a break from writing until September.

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

This weekend, we return to the Gospel of John and the final part of the "Bread of Life" discourse. Jesus' words "unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink His blood" had been too difficult for some of his hearers and, as we hear this weekend, a number went away. It is important to recognise that Jesus does not change his message to suit them. We can hear his sadness as he turns to the disciples and asks what they will do – but it is very significant indeed that he does not change the message about Himself as the Bread of Life.

Our response must, surely, be that of the disciples and expressed by Peter: "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the message of eternal life." Jesus is our life. Without Him and without His saving work, we are nothing at all.

Through our baptism, we are called to walk the path that Christ Himself maps out for us. He never pretended that following Him would always be easy – He speaks often of the narrow path, the narrow gate, the expectations placed on those who are given much by God. The road may, at times, be a very hard one. At every moment in history the Church has faced challenges and we face them today in a world that has become increasingly secular and, sadly, often closed to the ways of faith. However, the message of the Gospel does not change and our task is to live out that message with fidelity. Such witness cannot fail – for it is the way of truth and we need never fear.

We say with Peter: "We believe, we know that you, Lord, are the Holy One of God."

With every Blessing, + Richard

Here at St Michael's, like many indoor settings we will continue to:

- Wear face masks to be respectful of one another, but it is not compulsory
- Ventilate buildings
- Keep social distancing - one metre apart where possible
- Have hand sanitiser available
- Have cleaning sprays and tissues to disinfect our used space
- Use 'track and trace' to identify anyone who needs to self-isolate
- Implement the one-way system for receiving Holy Communion

Rebecca Cato has very kindly offered to take-over the 'running' of the Welcomers/Readers rota.

rcato304@hotmail.com mobile 07827 461979 are her contact details. Those of you who are welcomers and readers and know your availability over the next couple of months, please get in touch with Rebecca so that she can begin to fill in the 'grid'. If you used to be a welcomer or reader and would like to return to those roles that would also be much appreciated. Equally, if you would like to become a reader or welcomer do get in touch with Rebecca or the office smichaeloffice@gmail.com
It's a very valuable role welcoming people to our Church and making parishioners and visitors alike, feel wanted and valued.

From the Book of Joshua:

Joshua addressed all the people...
 "As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

Reflection:

Isn't Joshua's testimony what parents at today's Eucharist are trying to make and set as an example for their children? They hope, when their children become adults they, like their parents before them, will say, "As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."

So, we ask ourselves:

How did my own parents encourage or hinder my life of faith?

What kind of example of faith am I in my family?



Marriage Anniversaries Mass: Anyone celebrating a wedding anniversary that has particular significance for them is welcome to join the annual celebration of marriage at St Joseph's Church in Guildford. This year the celebration, with Bishop Richard, is on Saturday, October 9th with Mass at 11.30.

In order that we can be Covid compliant we do ask that everyone books their space via our website. Please use the following link [Diocesan Marriage Anniversaries Mass and Reception \(09-Oct-2021\) - ChurchSuite Events](#) or contact the Diocesan Marriage & Family Life Adviser, Katherine Bergin at Katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk (Places are limited to 150). We so look forward to celebrating with you!

CAFOD responding to multiple emergencies across the world
 CAFOD is responding to significant crises across the world this week. We are working with local Church organisations in Haiti to deliver emergency aid to people affected by the catastrophic earthquake and tropical storm. In the tragic situation in Afghanistan, we are working to ensure the safety of our local partners and their communities. We are supporting local aid workers to deliver urgent food and water supplies to hundreds of thousands of people facing extreme hunger in Tigray in Ethiopia, South Sudan and north-east Nigeria. You can read more about how we can all express solidarity with our sisters and brothers affected by these emergencies on the CAFOD website: <https://cafod.org.uk/News/Emergencies-news>. Your compassion, generosity and prayers have helped us to stand together and enable us to continue to support communities in these difficult times.

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:
 Jesse Townsend 12, Nathan Davies 9 and Emma Davies 7 on Sunday
 Lilia Luisis-Lynd 10 on Tuesday
 Theodor Sachs 9, Hugo Stack 7 and Alfie Fontana 6 on Wednesday
 Samuel Smith 10 Alice Higgins 7 on Friday
 Neve McNamara 11 and Willoughby Griffiths 6 on Saturday

Bingo is COMING BACK!
Wednesday 8th September
 Come and join us in St Michael's Church Hall at 1.45pm for 2pm, **SO WE CAN START PROMPTLY**
 We meet on the second Wednesday once a month for approximately 2 hours.
 The cost is £1 per book of 5 games.
 All monies collected go out as prizes.
 We have a 50p per ticket raffle, the proceeds of which go to 'My Time' a local children's charity.
 Refreshments at half time are free.

Hopefully many activities will be back in the Autumn.
 Do keep checking the Newsletter. Hopefully we can put together **The Trumpet** (our Parish Magazine, for those of you not familiar with this publication). So do send in your articles, poems, thoughts, photos, family news, advertising etc etc to smichaeloffice@gmail.com or just post your pieces in the Post Box. The publication of **The Trumpet** coincides with our Parish AGM/Social (more social than AGM!) This year it will fall on 25th September after 6pm Mass in the Hall, all welcome, all invited, food & drink!!

If anybody would like several cards of new hearaid batteries: brown label 312, please ring Philippa at 01372 810246

100 Club winners for July and August
 July: Olivia Rodrigues and Vivienne Kelleher
 August: Paul Gruzalcki and Jan Hanly
 If you would like to join the 100 Club please let the office know and we can start your membership from 1st October.

This Week's Readings
 Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18; Psalm 44;
 Ephesians 5:21-32; John 6:60-69
 You can see these readings at:
<https://www.universalis.com/20210822/mass.htm>

Parish Communications
Visit St. Michael's Parish website
<http://www.stmichaelashtead.org.uk/>
Face Book Group
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/289562958175720>
YouTube Channel (live streaming of Masses)
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoCE16LH34tJGIR3 vtZLY>

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

Weekend	Welcomers/Readers - Weekend Masses					
	Saturday 6:00 pm		Sunday 8:30 am		Sunday 10:30 am	
21 st /22 nd August	W1	Andy McGregor	W1	Penny Weaver	W1	Radka Dodge
	W2	Kay McGregor	W2	Margaret McGarr	W2	Nicola Langley
	R1	Andy McGregor	R1	G Hayter	R1	Faye Jenkins
28 th /29 th August	W1		W1		W1	T Gogy
	W2		W2		W2	Marina Channing-P
	R1		R1		R1	Cara Heden



“Be still and know that I am God”

Psalm 46:10

An experimental hybrid retreat where
you are invited to come to Worth or join
the retreat online

FINDING STILLNESS

The Open Cloister @ Worth Abbey

Tuesday 24th-Thursday 26th
August 2021

For further information or to book your
place online go to:

worth.co.uk/retreats/online-retreats

Enquiries: toc@worth.org.uk

Take action to stop the climate crisis!

**reclaim
our common
home**

This year, the eyes of the world will be on Britain as we host world leaders for the UN 'COP26' climate talks.

Call on the Prime Minister to use this historic opportunity to protect our common home.

"...Climate change is a global problem with serious implications... It represents one of the principal challenges facing humanity in our day." POPE FRANCIS

Sign our petition now

Scan the QR code or go to cafod.org.uk/reclaim



CAFOD
Catholic Agency for
Overseas Development

Charity no 1502394 and a company
limited by guarantee no 09387396. CAF6626



CAFOD Faith in Action Day, 11 September 11am - 4pm, online

Join CAFOD for an online day of talk and prayer to learn more about this year's climate talks, Pope Francis' call to action, and how people in the Amazon region are leading the fight to care for our common home. [Click here](#) to find out more.

Contactless payments –

If you wish to contribute to our weekly offertory collection but don't have any cash, no problem, you can use our new and shiny contactless machines in the porch. It's automatically gift aided under our GASDS (Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme). Just use your card, chose an amount, tap and go...many thanks.

Day for Catechists Saturday 25th September, Worth Abbey. A gathering of Catechists from around the Diocese, to share our experiences and offer support and resources. The day ends with mass with Bishop Richard. To book contact ruth.gerun@abdiocese.org.uk

Beginning Experience Weekend:

October 8th – 10th, Sion Community, Brentwood, Essex. For those who find themselves single again following divorce, separation or bereavement.

Beginning Experience is a weekend programme to help you move from the darkness of your grief into the light of a new beginning. More details at besouthofengland@gmail.com
(see page 6 and below of this newsletter if reading online for more information)

Ignatian Staycation

The Spiritual Formation Team are inviting you to four Wednesday evenings of Ignatian Meditation on the following gospel passages:

August 25th at 7pm The Woman at the well

You may like to circulate details of our 'Ignatian Staycation' to those on your mailing list. Please emphasize that there is no compulsion to attend all four sessions and no need to sign up in advance, just click on the Zoom link on the evening. All are welcome,

Christine Bryden

Spiritual Formation Team

Vocations

Tel: 01202 488556

Email: spirituality@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk



Beginning Experience
listen.accompany.heal

A weekend away for a lifetime of change

Are you single again
following separation, divorce or the death of your partner?

Beginning Experience
is a weekend programme
to help you to move
from the darkness of your grief
into the light of a new beginning
and to help you to face the future
with renewed hope.

The next South of England weekend
is from 8th to 10th October 2021
at the Sion Community, Brentwood, Essex.

If you are interested
or would like more information
please contact

Freda 01322-838415 or Maura 07795-498445
email besouthofengland@gmail.com

Baptism, First Holy Communion and Confirmation Programme 2021

Next Baptism Course

Tuesday 14th September 2021 in St Michael's Church at 7pm. Please email smichaeloffice@gmail.com to make a booking. We will endeavour to Baptize as many children as we can to make up for the backlog but please be patient. From 17th May if you have already completed the Baptism course, you can begin to book your Baptisms from that date. If you would like to have your child's Baptism on a weekday, Deacon David is happy to accommodate you during the week as well.

First Holy Communion

We have had a number of enquiries, understandably, about the **First Holy Communion and Confirmation** programmes. As you will appreciate, we cannot have large groups at present, so we are planning a different approach at least for this year. We hope to start during the summer term with the first group of ten children. We obviously cannot envisage a large group of 30 or 40 children. We will have to limit ourselves to children who regularly worship here at St. Michael's. We will begin with a maximum of ten children and ten parents.

The plan is to have a second similar group in the Autumn and a further one in the New Year. When you apply you will go on to a waiting list. I will ask each family to get in touch with me so that I can explain the programme and the commitment it involves. There is no point in taking part in the programme unless you intend to bring your child to Mass on a regular basis. We are hoping to help the children to know Jesus Our Lord, and to want to receive Him regularly in Holy Communion. This obviously depends on your willingness to make it possible.

The programme we have been using over the last four years has been very popular with parents and has also helped to rekindle their own faith. We hope that it will be the same for you.

Once the first group has completed the programme it will be for each family to arrange with the Parish Office a convenient day for the child to make their First Holy Communion. We found last year that the families really appreciated the more intimate celebrations for two or three families to celebrate this special moment at an ordinary Parish Mass. Other parishioners also welcomed the chance to share in these moments.

CONFIRMATION

My Dear Parents and Guardians,

In normal times we would expect young people in Year 10 to prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation sometime between Easter and Pentecost. This year it was not possible to do that.

Bishop Richard will be coming to Epsom to confirm young people from this area on Saturday November 15th. At the present time it is still not possible to bring candidates together for preparation classes, although we hope that it will become possible by late June. This means that we could not realistically hope to start the programme until the Autumn, which is not adequate time for serious preparation.

There is a further serious complication in that the present Year 10 will be entering Year 11 in September, which is the GCSE year. The problems of the past year have caused a lot of stress for young people, and we think that it would be unfair to ask them to undertake preparation for Confirmation during Year 11, which will have quite enough stress without any additional burdens.

With this in mind we are proposing to delay everything until the Autumn of next year (2022). This may well mean that we have a larger group than usual, but that can easily be managed, and will allow adequate time for preparation, including the very important weekend retreat.

Meanwhile if there are any young people who seriously wish to receive the Sacrament this coming November and do not want to delay, please let me know. If so, I would need to meet any such individual personally to discuss how best to proceed.

We look forward to receiving your applications.
With my blessing, Father Tony.

AREAS OF PASTORAL WORK

(all these groups and sub-groups exist, but new faces and fresh ideas are always welcome
Email: smichaeloffice@gmail.com)

EVANGELISATION

- Study groups,
- Talks on matters of interest
- Outreach to people interested to know more about the Faith.

LITURGY

- Sacristy: Preparing everything for Mass
- Altar serving
- Involving children in the Liturgy
- Welcoming and greeting at the porch door
- Reading at Mass: Training readers
- Choir/music group
- Flowers and other decorations in church
- Church cleaning

PASTORAL CARE

- Care group
- Bereavement group
- Visiting the sick and housebound
- Offering practical help to elderly and housebound

ECUMENISM

- Joint prayer and join study groups

COMMUNICATION

- Newsletter production and distribution.
- How the Parish might make more effective use of modern technology and modern media of communication.
- Contact with media in order to engage with the world outside the parish.

ADMINISTRATION

- Maintenance of property etc
- Office administration at the service of the mission of the parish.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES

Helping adults, young people and children and their parents to prepare for the Sacraments.

- Baptism
- First Holy Communion
- Confirmation

SOCIAL CONCERNS

- Local charities
- International Charities
- CAFOD
- Aid to the Church in Need.

This is by no means a complete list. You may well have other areas that could be developed that haven't been thought of before.

CCRS

The Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies

Join our CCRS course starting in September! The Catholic Certificate in Religious Studies (CCRS) is beginning again in our Diocese this September. The course is designed for teachers in Catholic schools, for Catechists and for anyone who would like to grow in understanding as they live their Catholic faith.

The CCRS offers a very flexible and accessible way of learning, it includes some online content and is made up of eight modules: six core and two specialist modules. Each module involves ten hours of course time and an assignment. To read an overview of the course structure [click here](#). You can access a range of helpful FAQs on the [CCRS website here](#). For more information or to register your place please [contact our Formation Adviser](#).

The Diocese and St John's Seminary, Womersley are delighted to offer a retreat in October exploring spiritual direction and spiritual traditions.

As the experience of Weeks of Guided Prayer spreads across the Diocese, there is a growing need for people to discern if they are being called to train as Spiritual Directors, or Accompaniers. This retreat, led by Canon Luke Smith, Spiritual Director at the Seminary, studies the nature of this vocation, explores the Benedictine, Cistercian, Franciscan, Ignatian and Carmelite traditions and offers the opportunity to be on retreat in the beautiful setting of St John's Seminary before its closure.

Residential and non-residential options are possible. The retreat will run Monday evening 11 Oct, to lunchtime on Thu 14 October. The cost will be shared in due course. For more information or to register your interest, [please contact our Formation Team Spirituality Adviser](#).

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