

ST MICHAEL'S NEWSLETTER



Vol. 60 No. 50

6th/7th November 2021

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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

32nd Sunday— 6th/7th November

6.00pm Jean Wheeler RIP
8.30am Anthony Benedict RIP
10.30am People of the Parish

Mon 8 NO MASS

Tues 9 NO MASS

Wed 10 NO MASS

Thurs 11 St Martin of Tours
9.30am Emily Scarborough RIP

Fri 12 NO MASS

Sat 13 Weekday
10am Ewan & Winifred Humfries RIP
immediately followed by the
Sacrament of Reconciliation and at 5.15-5.45pm

33rd Sunday— 13th/14th November

6.00pm People of the Parish

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

8am Intentions of Bob & Maria Adams
9.30am The Fallen of WWI & WWII

All Masses are 'live-streamed' on YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoCE16LH34tJIGR3_ytZLYg

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Terry Grogan, Alan Kelly, Bob Adams, Doreen Peters,
Francesco Pisa, Shaun Wallace, Simon Warren,
Mavis Bazeley, Philip MacDonald, Margaret McArdle,
Peggy Brogan, Sheila Hanks, Pauline Hooper,
Bill Danson, Jean Rawlinson,
Margaret Beeby, Anne Burman, Alfredo Sheffield,
Nina Grant, Barbara Long, Johanna Rainsbury,
Stephen Sullivan, Rachel Fulton and Michael Machese

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

Audrey Soanes, John Greenland, Paddy Kennedy,
James Berry, Martin Hilley, Isabelle Wood,
Clara Harber, Emily Scarborough, Kathleen Doyle,
John Bond, Alicia Martin, Lilian Blount,
Olive Norval, Patricia Bacon and Kathleen Bowler
May they Rest in Peace

News from the Parish Office

Dear Parishioners, firstly the good news is that we have been upgrading our computer system, the bad news is that the timing has impacted on our ability to cope with collating the information for the Census at the same time, so therefore we will have to delay this again. It's very frustrating for those that have worked so hard to make this happen, but it will happen just not as soon as we hoped.

Secondly, on the 2nd Sunday of Advent, 5th December, after 10.30 Mass, there is going to be a Christmas Party in the Hall. If you remember the Parish family Group party from 2 years ago, we had tables with Christmas crafts for the children and other seasonal activities, which we will replicate again this year. So there will be teas/coffees and drinks followed by a 'bring and share lunch'. We thought the theme for the shared lunch would be 'your favourite Christmas dish'. If you would like to help in any way please contact Sally Bahri (salbahri@yahoo.com) or the Parish Office smichaeloffice@gmail.com. We met a lot of new families at the AGM/St Michael's Feast social in September and it would be good to give new parishioners another chance to meet up again. But everyone is invited, whether you arrived last week or have lived here forever! Best wishes, the Parish Office.

Face Masks and keeping covid safe. Thank you so much for continuing to wear masks after all this time but Covid is still about and infections are on the rise again, so let's continue to wear masks, hand sanitize etc, etc

Ashtead Remembrance Sunday Service:

10.30am 14th November St George's Memorial

St George's is calling for volunteers to help manage the Remembrance Sunday Service. This usually involves directing people who attend, and perhaps redirecting passing traffic. Warm clothes recommended! If you would like to help please contact Andy Carter at SGSG: andy@ashtead.org

Station Masses For those who have Died:

This last year has been a very challenging time for everyone, especially when our thoughts and prayers turn to those we have lost, whether through the time of the pandemic or before. Many of us have found it difficult to get to Church through lockdowns, to sit with the Lord and to share our thoughts or find comfort in His embrace.

Join Bishop Richard as he offers Mass for your intentions, for your friends and loved ones. There will be Mass said in each Deanery across the Diocese throughout November 2021. Here are the details for our Deanery Mass:

Friday 19th Nov: Epsom & Redhill Deanery Station Mass at 7.30pm, SACRED HEART CATERHAM (Fr Sean Finnegan)

Bingo

Why not come and win some money at the next monthly bingo session on Wednesday, 10th November in the Church Hall at 1.45pm for 2pm (**so we can start promptly**). The cost is as little as £1 for 10 games. All sales money goes out as prizes. We have a 50p per ticket raffle, the proceeds of which go to My Time, a local children's charity. Free refreshments at half time.

St Michael's Ashtead Coffee Morning

Andy and Kay McGregor are keen to launch a midweek coffee morning that serves the parish community.

There is a questionnaire in the Porch designed to gain feedback /views ideas on the scope of the coffee morning and how it can best serve our community.

Please take a few minutes to respond and return your answers by 7th November or reply to Andy directly andymcgregor59@gmail.com

From today's Gospel reading:

"Amen, I say to you, this poor widow put in more than all the other contributors to the treasury. For they have all contributed from their surplus wealth, but she, from her poverty, has contributed all she had, her whole livelihood.

Reflection:

Jesus not only praises the widow but offers a lament for her situation. In addition, his words also contain good news. The poor may be overlooked by even the religious establishment, but God has noticed their situation. God can read the widow's heart and honors her. As far as the corrupt religious leadership who profit from her generosity, Jesus is the sign that God notices them as well and will deal with them.

So, we ask ourselves:

When did God notice me in my poverty and come to my aide?
Shall I stand on the side of Jesus and see, as he does, the neediest around me?

The Repository is the small shop in the Porch next to the coffee area where you can buy cards, Christmas cards, advent candles, FHC gifts etc. Tala Gogy has very kindly offered to run the shop and the rota. It would be lovely to have a few more helpers so the shop could be open at all Masses. If you are interested email Tala tbaraya@googlemail.com

Weekly collection. If you would like to make your weekly collection by Bank transfer, or for any other payment ie Mass intentions, see details below.

St Michael's Bank Account details.
HSBC Bank—RCD A&B St Michael, Ashtead
Account no. 21076248 Sort code 40-05-20

Climate Change St. George's is holding an event at St George's Christian Centre on Monday 8 November, where Guest speaker Helena Ritter, from climate change charity 'Hope for the Future' will speak on the COP26 summit and how we communicate the urgency of climate change and act now. The event is free of charge and all are welcome.

Christmas Hampers (See page 4 in online)

Besom in Ashtead want to bring God's message of love to those in need this Christmas through the giving of Hampers. Your gifts bring so much joy to those that receive them. A hamper can be for a single person, couple or family. contact Lynne Slater by email on lynne.slater@btconnect.com

St. Martin's Epsom invites you to a **Centering Prayer Taster Day** on Sat 13th Nov, from 10-30 am to 4.15 pm.

Centering Prayer is a method of silent prayer where we consent to God's presence and action within. See poster on page 7 for details, (online).

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Sienna Langley 11 on Tuesday
Joseph Dixon 13 and Annabel Rose 6 on Thursday
Charlotte Mason 12 and Daisy McBride 11 on Saturday

The Next Baptism Course will now be next year, please contact the office if you would like a Baptism or be on the next course.
smichaeloffice@gmail.com

THE CHILDREN'S LITURGY TEAM are delighted to be able to restart their Children's Liturgy programme during 10.30am Mass from 7th November until Christmas. Once it has restarted and numbers are established, it will be easier to see how many more helpers are required.

If you would still like to volunteer no experience is needed just your time once a month or less (depending on numbers) to talk to the children about the week's Gospel and perhaps organise a game or activity to help the children think about and understand its meaning.

If you would like to find out more or join the team please contact Marie at mtnewman3109@outlook.com or

PACT: Operation Elf: Bishop Richard writes: 'In the last part of this difficult year, we can begin to look forward to the celebration of the birth of Christ at Christmas. For those families where a parent is in prison, Christmas can be a particularly painful time. Through PACT's Operation Elf, parishes and individuals can support prisoners to give a gift to their child, sharing a little love and joy and strengthening the family bond. This simple act can nurture the hope that redemption and a fresh start is possible.' Register at parishaction@prisonersadvice.org.uk, buy a Gift card with the value of £10, and post to PACT. Full guidance and details at www.prisonadvice.org.uk Thank you.

This Week's Readings

1 Kings 17:10-16 ; Psalm 145;
Hebrews 9:24-28 ; Mark 12:38-44

You can see these readings at:

<https://www.universalis.com/20211106/mass.htm>

Parish Communications

Visit St. Michael's Parish website 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_ytZLYg/

You can e-mail contributions to the Newsletter to

newsletter@stmichaelashtead.org.uk

Welcomers/Readers Rota

Weekend	6pm		8.30am		10.30am	
6th/7th November	W1	D Devaney	W1	K Tybura	W1	Armi Stokes
	W2	L Baldwin	W2		W2	
	R1	M Anderson	R1	Martin O'Donovan	R1	C Stokes
13th/14th November NB 8am/9.30am	W1	L Taylor	W1	D Warnock	W1	
	W2	A Grimmer	W2	M Pattinson	W2	
	R1	P Dupenois	R1	G Hayter	R1	J Shanbankareh



Why a Census?

The past 18 months have been a difficult time for all of us, with the pandemic making incursions into our business, personal and spiritual lives. At St. Michael's our services have been severely disrupted. With the church closed for all but private prayer during the depths of lockdown.

We have been fortunate in that we have been able to take advantage of 'online' technology to continue to offer services virtually, if not physically and to continue to make contact through our email and Facebook groups. But we have found that not all of our contact information is accurate or up to date. And, of course, computers and on-line services are not for everybody.

We think that the parish is growing, from the new faces we are now seeing in church and the ongoing growth in Ashtead, but (to paraphrase Donald Rumsfeld) we don't know who we are missing, or whether there are parishioners, perhaps in need, who are still isolated. So, as we hopefully come out of lockdown, we want to refresh our parish register to help us plan for the future.

What information are we gathering? The Census form is divided into 5 sections –

1. The Household

The household section describes your household or family group, living together at a single address and with a primary contact person and phone number.

2. Family Members

In this section you will need to enter one record for each family member in your household detailing Name, address, date of birth and email / mobile (optional) phone numbers.

The form also asks if the family member is a Catholic and, if so, which sacraments they have received. We realise that you may have non-Catholic family members and it is up to you whether you include them in the census, but we would prefer that you do. Many non-Catholics participate in Parish activities and attend services and are, of course, very welcome. Finally, for younger members we also ask which school they are attending.

3. Parish Support

This short section is focused on identifying particular needs for any member of your household. Perhaps to do with infirmity, pastoral care or mobility and access to the church.

4. Financial Support for the Parish

There is a single question to determine your preferred methods of giving to the Parish.

5. Church Ministries

Like all parishes, St. Michael's is heavily indebted to parishioners who support its daily activities as volunteers. The scope of ministries is very broad, ranging from Liturgical and sacramental programmes to Administration, Finance, Working with Care and Outreach groups and even communications and IT. Following the pandemic, we are keen to re-establish our lists of volunteers. So if you are already participating in one or more ministries or are interested in doing so, please tick the appropriate boxes.

How does it work?

Online or Paper

During lockdown the Parish has moved increasingly towards online communications through emails, Facebook and the Parish Website, but we realise that not everyone has access or ability to correspond with us this way. So we are offering both online and paper alternatives.

In either case, the content of the form is the same. The big advantage for the Parish office is that if you are able to enter your data online, then it is automatically captured for us and for this you have our eternal gratitude! We can also automatically give you a record of what you have entered.

The Online Form

We have created a new page on the Parish website that contains everything you need to complete your return –

- Father Tony's introductory letter, Guidelines to help you complete the form and An electronic link to the form itself

We will be sending out details of how to access this page via email and the parish Facebook group.

It will also be possible to download and print a copy of the paper form from this page (should your nerve fail you!).

The Paper form

Copies of the paper form will be placed in the Church porch along with guidelines and Fr. Tony's letter (above). And we will do our best to distribute forms to those who can't come to church.

Completed paper forms should be returned to the Parish Office.



Christmas Hampers

Bringing God's message of love and provision to those in need.

Would you like to provide a hamper for people in need in the local area? Your gifts bring so much joy to those that receive them.

Ideas for your hamper

Use a cardboard box decorated with Christmas paper, a plastic crate or a wicker basket.

★ Food

It is lovely if the items are 'special' rather than 'value' everyday items. Please do not include alcohol, perishables, nuts or home-made items.

Cakes / Biscuits / Chocolates / sweets
Honey / jam / marmalade
Tea / coffee / hot chocolate / Fruit Juice
Cereals
Cranberry Sauce
Pasta / sauce
Soup

★ Cash donations

Will be used to buy gifts or
Supermarket Gift cards.

★ General gifts

Body wash / shampoo / Body lotions
Razors & shaving foam
Socks / slipper socks
Hat / scarf /gloves
Colouring pens / soft toy
Hot water bottle
Christmas tree / decorations
Crackers /Napkins /Tablecloth

★ Gifts for a specific family

Besom can give you the Christian names and ages of a family so you can tailor your gifts just for them.

Hamper drop off point

For the Besom team to deliver the hampers in time for Christmas please could you drop your hamper at The Dell Centre, St Giles Church Drive. Ashtead. KT21 1EJ

Monday 29th Nov Between 9am – 12 noon.

Tuesday 30th Nov Between 1pm and 4pm

Contact

Lynne Slater lynne.slater@btconnect.com

The Lord has anointed me
To proclaim good news to the poor.
Isaiah 61:1

For more details about the work of
Besom please visit our website
www.besominashtead.com

Coffee morning Questionnaire

1.The Coffee morning would be open **Wednesday 10am to 12 in the church hall**. Would you be interested in attending ?

.....

2.Would you be interested in volunteering to help out occasionally? Please circle your response –
Yes No

3.What would you like to see the coffee morning offering in terms of drinks and food?

.....
.....

4.Would you like a choice of activities to be provided during the coffee morning eg. Cards/board games / children's toys? Please specify

.....
.....

5.Are community events and therefore a sense of parish community important to you?

.....
.....

6.Would you support the establishment of a parish social club and if so what activities would you like to see being organised over the course of the year ?

.....
.....

If your answer to question 2 is yes please give your contact details below-

Name-

Mobile number-

Landline number-

Email-

Many thanks for completing the questionnaire and please return to the box in the church porch marked St. Michaels coffee morning returned questionnaires by Sunday November 7th at the latest. Alternatively please send your responses to the following email address-

andymcgregor59@gmail.com



Monday 8 November

St George's Christian Centre, Barnett
Wood Lane, Ashted, KT21 2DA

7.45-9.30pm

Caring for Creation - Action Now

Guest speaker

Helena Ritter,

from climate change charity

'Hope for the Future'

will speak on the COP26 summit
and how we communicate the urgency of
climate change and act now.

Free of charge - All welcome

**HOPE FOR
THE FUTURE** 

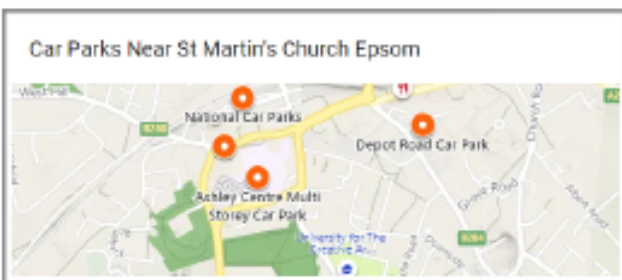
An Invitation to a
**Centering Prayer
Taster Day**
at St Martin's Church, Epsom
KT17 4PX
Saturday, November 13th
10.30am - 4.15pm

Centering Prayer is a method of silent prayer where we consent to God's presence and action within. It is a movement away from more active modes of prayer into a receptive prayer of resting in God. It is both a relationship with God and a discipline to foster that relationship.

This is rooted in the work of Fr. Thomas Keating, OCSO, one of the principal founders and teachers of Centering Prayer. Fr Thomas began this work in 1983 and it is now practised worldwide.

Taught by trained and commissioned presenters, the Taster Day familiarises participants with the method of Centering Prayer and its roots in the Christian tradition, whilst offering two opportunities to experience the prayer. All are welcome but places will be limited to 40 people.

If you need more information on Centering Prayer please contact:
Dr Lynne Scholefield
stmcenteringprayer@gmail.com



There is also parking at Dulshott Green



The cost of this Taster Day is £5.50 which includes refreshments and takeaway literature. There will be a BYO/DIY lunch break (the neighbouring Old King's Head will offer a soup and sandwich special).

To book your place please contact Judith Mitchell at stmcenteringprayer@gmail.com
To make a payment for attending the day you can do one of the following:

1. Click on the link:

<https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/18085>

2. Use your Smart Phone and Scan the QR Code below



If you are unable to use the electronic transfers you can pay by cheque to The PCC of the Ecclesiastical Parish of Epsom, via the Church Office, KT17 4PX, with the envelope marked "Centering Prayer Day".

Following the Taster Day, participants will be invited to attend six weekly, continuing, sessions, at St Martin's, Epsom, in which to establish a personal Centering Prayer practise tutored by trained presenters.

