

ST MICHAEL'S NEWSLETTER



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20th/21st November 2021

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Please ring Fr Tony on his number above in an emergency

Our Lord Jesus Christ King of the Universe — 20th/21st November

6.00pm	Andrew Harman RIP
8.30am	Philomena Edward RIP
10.30am	People of the Parish
Mon 22	NO MASS
Tues 23	Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion
9.30am	
Wed 24	NO MASS
Thurs 25	NO MASS
Fri 26	NO MASS
Sat 27	NO MASS

First Sunday of Advent — 27th/28th November

6.00pm	People of the Parish
8.30am	Mary O'Dowd RIP
10.30am	Intentions of Thomas O'Hare

All Masses are 'live-streamed' on YouTube 
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoCE16LH34tJGIR3_ytZLYg

This Sunday we welcome Fr Pak back to say Mass

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Vivienne Kelleher, Terry Grogan,
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,
Stephen Sullivan, Rachel Fulton and Michael Machese

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

Delia Dowd, Winifred Humfrey, Alexander Ross,
Stanley Alder, Francis Fitzpatrick, Timothy Berner,
Peter John Lane, Lilian Fox, Elsie McHugh,
Pauline Frances, Pauline Brotherton, Patrick Doherty,
Elizabeth Hayes and William Sheehy
May they Rest in Peace

My Dear Friends,

I wrote last weekend about the Pope's plans for involving as many people as possible in the Synod process in preparation for a gathering of the Synod of Bishops in the autumn of 2023. The Pope is trying to effect a major change in the way we do things in the Church. He is thinking especially of the way important decisions are made.

The Church is not a parliamentary democracy where everything can be "up for grabs". Clearly the fundamentals of the Faith have been given us by the Lord. At the same time we can always understand them more deeply and we can see more clearly what their implications are in our lives.

The Pope wants to involve people in thinking about the demands of the Gospel in the modern world. Science and technology have given us many new opportunities both for good and for evil. The internet, which has become part of so many lives, is a case in point. We need to look at our lives and the demands of everyday living in the light of the Gospel.

The Diocese is due to publish suggestions this weekend about how we can start the process of consultation in our parishes. I made the point last weekend that this is a highly ambitious project, which might easily fail. But this is not meant to be a 'one off' event but the start of something very much bigger.

I want to encourage as many of you as possible to get involved in this.

I think it would probably be more realistic to start in the New Year, but once we have the guidelines from the Diocese we will publish them and invite you to think about how you might get involved.

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

Vocations: The St John Vianney Group is for men 18-45 who wish to explore whether they have a calling to the priesthood. The next meeting is on **Sunday 21st November 3 – 7 pm**, at 2 Falkland Grove, Dorking RH4 3DL. For more information please contact Fr Con Foley, T: 01932 842643 or E: con.foley@abdiocese.org.uk To find out more about vocations, and to read about individual journeys, including those of Religious and non-secular, please visit our website - www.abdiocese.org.uk

The Meeting Room Christmas Lunch – at Fetcham Village Hall on Christmas Day.

Founded by the much-missed Graham Peddie, the Meeting Room Christmas Lunch hosts clients and friends of the charity who for many reasons would otherwise be on their own or without means to enjoy a proper Christmas lunch and happy afternoon. They rely on the generosity of our local Churches to make this happen. If you are able to help in any way email the meetingroom123@gmail.com or call 07413 978422 they will explain more about what they need and how to get it to them.

Covid and climate change are leading many to ask questions about life and faith. The Alpha course on Monday evenings from January 17th is an open and friendly space to ask those questions, explore the meaning of life and connect with others. Alpha is for everyone, whether you go to church never, rarely, sometimes or always, you are very welcome. Come along and bring a friend! Email alpha@olchurch.org.uk to find out more.

From today's Gospel reading:

Pilate said to Jesus, "Are you the King of the Jews?" ...
 Jesus answered, "My kingdom does not belong to this world."

Reflection:

Jesus' kingdom, his world, is with us now. We have, through our baptism and the gift of the Spirit, been given the vision to see the presence of the kingdom and its life-giving possibilities. It is a world of community, equality, respect, and dialogue. In the kingdom, under Jesus' rule, each person's gifts are recognized. The poor and neglected are empowered and no one is left out. Justice is given to each, regardless of their political influence, race, gender, or economic status.

So, we ask ourselves:

Who or what set of values rule my life and guide my daily decisions?
 What can I do to respond more fully to Jesus' rule in my life?

The **Soup Lunch** returned to its pre-Covid numbers, just two months after restarting ; showing how much the Ashtead community appreciates the hospitality that St Michaels offers. The majority of the Soup Lunch team have been in harness for the past 10 years, and not getting any younger! If this successful Parish event is to continue for another 10 years, we need new Team Members; soup/pudding cooks and staff on the first Friday of the month, between 11.00 and 14.30, to shift the furniture, help in the kitchen and wait on tables. If you are interested in volunteering contact Caroline Fitzherbert on 01372 273186.

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

Young Adults' (18-30's) Advent Retreat: 3rd-5th December

It is a Christian tradition to use the four weeks leading up to Christmas to prepare oneself for the celebration of Jesus' birth. This week-end retreat will provide an opportunity to start your preparations for the Advent season, including talks, small group discussions, opportunities for reflection and prayer. All this revolving around the rhythm of prayer of the Benedictine community of Worth Abbey. This retreat is offered by The Open Cloister, Worth Abbey in collaboration with The Wellspring Community, Brighton.

For more information visit www.worth.co.uk/retreats or contact our youth adviser lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk

The Christmas Edition of **The Trumpet**, the Parish magazine is eagerly awaiting your contributions - articles, poems, photos, family events, happy/sad etc etc deadline 5th December.

Christmas hampers. For full details please contact Janet on plevinsohn@hotmail.com page 3 of this n/l online.

The drop off for your hampers or gifts is the Dell Centre, St Giles Church Drive, Ashtead KT21 1EJ is on Monday 29th November between 9am and 12 noon and Tuesday 30th November between 1pm and 4pm.

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Hensen De Souza Bridges 8 and Anna Brock 8 on Thursday
 Aidan Fair 11, Elsie Sayers 6 and Imogen Dyer 11 on Friday
 Jessica Ribet 11 on Saturday

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

Parish Christmas Party

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.

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This Week's Readings

Daniel 7:13-14 ; Psalm 92;
Revelations 1:5-8 ; John 18:33-37

You can see these readings at:

<https://www.universalis.com/20211120/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/UCoCE16LH34tUGIR3_ytZLYg/

You can e-mail contributions to the Newsletter to

newsletter@stmichaelashtead.org.uk

Welcomers/Readers Rota

Weekend	6pm		8.30am		10.30am	
20th/21st November	W1	Roberto Simonetti	W1	Penny Weaver	W1	Cristiana Benini
	W2	Debbie Reynolds	W2	Margaret McGarr	W2	Marina Channing Pearce
	R1	Fina Tisi	R1	Betty Lapham	R1	C Balko
27th/28th November	W1	Antoinetta Caprano-Wint	W1	Simon Williams	W1	Tessa Davies
	W2	Gianluca Lelpi	W2		W2	Kathryn Casson
	R1	David Gwyther	R1	Martin O'Donovan	R1	Mary Merrett



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

