

# ST MICHAEL'S NEWSLETTER



Vol. 61 No. 02  
4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> December 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

## Second Sunday of Advent —4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> December

6.00pm	Joanne Smith RIP
8.30am	People of the Parish
10.30am	Intentions of Bernadette Griffin
Mon 6	St Nicholas
9.30am	Hugh Hooper RIP
Tues 7	St Ambrose
9.30am	Kieron Fry RIP
Wed 8	NO MASS
Thurs 9	NO MASS
Fri 10	Our Lady of Loreto
9.30am	Philip Christopher Scarborough RIP
Sat 11	St Damasus 1
10am	Chantal Witchalls RIP <i>Immediately followed by the Sacrament of Reconciliation and at 5.15-5.45pm</i>

## Third Sunday of Advent —11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> December

6.00pm	People of the Parish
8.30am	May Fernandez RIP
10.30am	Gervais Chan Lok RIP

All Masses are 'live-streamed' on YouTube   
This weekend we welcome Fr Richard Madders to say Mass for us

### 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.

Joan Clarke, Marie Menjou, Joanne Smith Carter,  
Barbara Fullerton, Nora McCaughtrie, Feliks Lewandowski,  
Anthony Turner, Kieran Fry, John Bird,  
Michael Brown and Regina Hickey

May they Rest in Peace

My Dear Friends,  
I am writing this week in the library of the English College where I am staying for a few days before returning to England on Friday, where I will have to take the PCR test, which means that I must self isolate for 24-48 hours until I get a negative result. Unless the result comes back very quickly I may not be able to celebrate Mass at the weekend. In the next few days I hope to find someone to cover for me.



I had hoped to write this weekend about our plans for Christmas, but in view of the ongoing Covid concerns it would be wise to wait and see how the situation develops before taking any definite decisions.

If all goes well, I hope to have the usual family Mass at 3pm on Christmas Eve and the "Midnight Mass" at 9pm, and one Mass on Christmas Day at 9.30 am. On Boxing Day, which is Sunday, there will again be one Mass at 9.30 am.

Meanwhile the present situation is an opportunity for all of us to pray for those who are suffering from Covid 19 in one way or another, and to pray for our hard pressed doctors and nurses and other medical personnel.

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

### Friday 24th December - Christmas Eve

**3pm**—First Mass of Christmas

Children's Family Mass

**9pm**—'Midnight Mass'

### Saturday 25th December—Christmas Day

**9.30am**—Family Mass

### Sunday—26th December—Feast of St Stephen

**9.30am**—Family Mass

Please email the office to book the 3pm Mass on Christmas Eve

**Advent 2021** Please pick up a 'My Day by Day' booklet for Advent; adult, junior and infant versions available and a children's advent calendar.

### Cancellation of the Parish Christmas Party

**Sadly, we felt in the light of the new omicron variant that to go ahead with a party was not a good idea. It's very disappointing in view of the preparation involved etc and those planning to come. But the risk is too great. We would be mortified if the party caused an outbreak of covid whatever the variety. There will be other times and other years....:(**

**However, some of the Christmas crafts that were planned will be available in the Porch for the children to do at home. With our best wishes and your understanding, Sally and the Parish office.**

**From the prophet Baruch:**

Jerusalem take off your robe of mourning and misery; put on the splendour of glory from God forever: wrapped in the cloak of justice from God.



**Reflection:**

The prophet Baruch promises a time when we will be “wrapped in the cloak of justice.” Justice is not merely one virtue among many. For God’s community, it is the key virtue. It reflects the very way God treats us. In a community guided by justice, all are treated equally; all share in the community’s resources; no one goes hungry or is treated unfairly.

**So, we ask ourselves:**

How did I feel when an injustice was done against me?  
That can I do to help another person not be treated in the same way

**Action in Africa**—there will be a retiring collection for Action in Africa this weekend; it’s been 2 years since the last one!

**Epsom medical Equipment Fund** are pleased to announce 'Carol Singing 'outside in the Market Place Epsom with local schools and choirs raising money for Epsom General Hospital. Mon 6<sup>th</sup> December between 11am to 3 pm, Tues 7<sup>th</sup> 10am to 3pm with lunch breaks, Wed 8<sup>th</sup> 10-11am. Come and support St Clements Catholic primary Ewell and Saturday 11th 10.30 to 11.45 St Josephs Church Choir! All welcome but keep warm. Dr Sylvia Roberts Trustee EMEF. Thank you for your support

**Bingo**—Why not come and win some money at the next monthly bingo session on Wednesday, 8th December 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

**Men’s Breakfast—Christmas Special** is on Saturday 11th Dec at 8.00am at St. George’s. Full Monty breakfast, Carol Singing and our own particular brand of home-spun entertainment!

**Andy and Kay McGregor are launching the St Michael’s Coffee morning on Wednesday 12th January (see page 4 online for more details)**

**ROTAS**—I am about to prepare new rotas for **Church Cleaning and Sunday Coffees**.. Please, please can we have some more volunteers coming forward as some of us have been on these rotas for a very long time!!!! **Church cleaning** involves offering about one hour of your time once every six weeks and Sunday coffees even less!!! Please contact me as soon as possible on 01372 379244 or email [mary.merrett@gmail.com](mailto:mary.merrett@gmail.com) if you would like to add your name, if you would like a little more information or if you are wanting to come off a rota. Many thanks.

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

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:**

Matilda Kearney 10 , Rosalie New 8 and Edward Shiels 10 on Sunday  
George Latham 13 and Lucy Devaney 9 on Monday  
Amanda Tyburn 12, Alice Greene 9 and Lucia Dowd-Patel 2 on Tues

**Epsom & Ewell Foodbank** Here at St Michael’s we are turning our concern into action with monthly collections.

The items they currently require are:-

Custard, UHT Milk - Full Fat And Semi Skimmed, Longlife Fruit Juice, Spaghetti In Sauce, Nappies & Pull Ups 4+ and 6+, Bags For Life, Selection Boxes, Christmas Puddings (Non Alcoholic), Savoury Snacks -Crisps, Twiglets, Cheeselets etc, Tinned Ham, Seasonal Biscuits, Chocolates, Sweets And Treats, Mince Pies, Packet Stuffing, Christmas Napkins, Christmas Tea Towels, Gift Cards Of £10 For Argos, Boots, Superdrug, Wilkos You can find more details at <https://www.givefood.org.uk/needs/at/epsom-and-ewell/>

**Starting this weekend the 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> December**—Please put your donations in the box in the porch . On the last weekend of each month, there will be a reminder in the Parish Newsletter with the list of required items for the following weekends’ collection.

**Parish Accounts**—every week we used to publish what had been given in the collection the previous weekend. Including totals for retiring collections. Since covid restrictions and various lockdowns the collections have either not happened or been very low. Now we think is the right time to publish the collections again, but on a monthly basis. So the totals will include money received from Standing Orders, loose money in the baskets, planned giving envelopes and Contactless.

**November 2021**—standing orders— average £3614.00  
Loose cash and envelopes—£1851.47

Contactless—£996, making a grand total of £6461.47

**There are brand new GiftAid forms available in the Porch**

**This Week’s Readings**

Baruch 5:1-9 ; Psalm 125:  
Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11; Luke 3:1-6.

You can see these readings at:

<https://www.universalis.com/20211205/mass.htm>

**Parish Communications**

Visit St. Michael’s Parish website [www.stmichaelashtead.org.uk/](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\\_ytZLYg/](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoCE16LH34tJGIR3_ytZLYg/)

**You can e-mail contributions to the Newsletter to [newsletter@stmichaelashtead.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@stmichaelashtead.org.uk)**

**Welcomers/Readers Rota**

4th/5th December	W1	Antoinetta Caprano-Wint	W1	Penny Weaver	W1	Tala Gogy
	W2	A Grimmer	W2	M McGarr	W2	
	R1	Felix Grimmer	R1	G Hayter	R1	James Close
11th/12th December	W1	Roberto Simonetti	W1	D Warnock	W1	Radka Dodge
	W2	Debbie Reynolds	W2		W2	Pamela Durrett
	R1	Andy McGregor	R1	G Hayter	R1	Tom Durrent

## Newsletter extras

### **Young Adults' (18-30's) Advent Retreat: 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> 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 weekend 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](http://www.worth.co.uk/retreats) or contact our youth adviser [lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk)

**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 Ashted  
Account no. 21076248 Sort code 40-05-20  
Sort Code: 40-05-20

### **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](mailto: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 17<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:alpha@olchurch.org.uk) to find out more.

# ST MICHAEL'S COFFEE MORNING

Join us for **coffee and chats** with the  
community.

All are **welcome** - young and not so young,  
and you can bring a friend along!



Every Wednesday morning in the Church Hall

**10am - 12.30pm**  
Starting 12th January

# 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 7<sup>th</sup> at the latest. Alternatively please send your responses to the following email address-**

**[andymcgregor59@gmail.com](mailto:andymcgregor59@gmail.com)**