

ST MICHAEL'S NEWSLETTER



Vol. 61 No. 03

11th/12th December 2021

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Hall wi-fi: Netgear41 (password) grandcomet148
Please ring Fr Tony on his number above in an emergency

Third Sunday of Advent —11th/12th December

6.00pm	People of the Parish
8.30am	May Fernandez RIP
10.30am	Gervais Chan Lok RIP
Mon 13	St Lucy
9.30am	John Bomford RIP
Tues 14	St John of the Cross
9.30am	Mary O'Dowd RIP
Wed 15	NO MASS
Thurs 16	Weekday
9.15am	David Weaver RIP
Fri 17	Weekday
9.30am	Fiona Ryan RIP
Sat 18	Weekday
10am	Remo Dipre RIP
	<i>Immediately followed by the Sacrament of Reconciliation and at 5.15-5.45pm</i>

Fourth Sunday of Advent —18th/19th December

6.00pm	Intentions of Michael O'Hare
8.30am	People of the Parish
10.30am	Mark Cecil and Nelly Marie Nicholson RIP

All Masses are 'live-streamed' on YouTube

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Baby Fernandez, 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.

Michael Lynch, Clare Derry, Vera Union, Margaret Garrett, Elena Mashman, Mary Sreeves, Gerry O'Leary, Dorothy Passow, Bert Crayden, Mary Guy, Tim Adams, Helga Maria Suwalski, Sheila Coking, Bill Sharpe, Mary McDonald, Peter William Harvey and Richard Tufnell
May they Rest in Peace

My Dear Friends,
Last Wednesday was the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Our Lady. I was invited to preach at the Pontifical Mass in Chelmsford where the Parish of the Immaculate Conception is in the care of the Norbertine Fathers. The Norbertine order is celebrating the 900th anniversary of their foundation in 1221 by St Norbert.



They are priests living in community but involved in all kinds of active apostolic work. They are also a quite young community. Some of you met the Sub Prior, Father Stephen Morrison at my jubilee Mass in July.

The Prior of the Chelmsford community is Abbot Hugh Allen who is also the Administrator of the Apostolic Prefecture of the Falklands. He is responsible for several communities in the South Atlantic. This involves him twice a year in long and complicated journeys to visit the Catholic communities there. He is in effect the Bishop for these groups appointed to that post by the Pope.

He is an old friend of mine; Abbot Hugh I mean, not the Pope! It was very encouraging to see a pretty full Church for the Mass on Wednesday, especially at midday on a weekday. The Norbertine community must be doing something right. May God bless them in this special year.

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

Food Bank Collection

Many thanks for your generosity last weekend, it was truly outstanding. Your donations will make a real difference to many needy people in our area.

The next collection will be taken during the weekend of the **8/9th January**, a list of items required will be highlighted in our Newsletter beforehand.

Christmas Trumpet 2021

Please pick up a copy of the Christmas Trumpet, suggested donation £1



From today's Gospel reading:

The crowds asked John the Baptist, "What should we do?"



Reflection:

If we are going to welcome the Christ child at Christmas, we will need to face what hinders our openness to him and will dampen our welcome. We take up the question those who heard John asked him, "What should we do?" The issue at this point is not what people should ponder or think about doing. The imminent coming of the Messiah requires action now. We are to do something and do it now. No putting off action.

So, we ask ourselves:

- ◆ Am I giving the coming of Christ enough attention this Advent?
- ◆ If not, what is distracting me and what can I do to be ready for him when he comes?

Dear St Michael's
In the book of Matthew, chapter 25, Jesus talks about feeding the hungry and clothing the poor. St Michael's congregation have certainly done that this Christmas!



Delivery Day!

We have had many people from St. Michael's church who have contacted us to say they were making a hamper and countless other members of your congregation who turned up last week to deliver a hamper they had made. You have been truly amazing and so generous. We were able to give out 80 big hampers to people who otherwise would get nothing this Christmas or would struggle to bless their family. I spoke to so many people who said, "You will never know how much this means to me." May God bless you.

CAFOD World Gifts:

As we rejoice in once again celebrating Christmas with our loved ones, let us spread our joy around the world by having a CAFOD World Gift under the tree. From energy saving devices to weatherproof crops to emergency shelters, CAFOD's virtual charity gifts help transform the lives of families living in poverty. Buy online at cafod.org.uk/worldgifts or pick up a catalogue sent to your parish. You can also order by phone: 0808 14 000 14.

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

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Alex de Schulthess 13, Oliver De Souza Bridges 5 and Alexa Lang 4 on Monday
Nylah Luisis-Lynd 9 on Tuesday
Benjamin Newman 11 and Dylan Watkins 11 on Thursday
Helena Mansefield 7 on Friday
Freya Mancey 12 on Saturday

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.

Thank you to all who supported the December Soup Lunch. You raised £347.20 for our charities; the Princess Alice Hospice, CAFOD, Besom and Combat Stress. The next Lunch will be on Friday 7 January. See you all in the New Year!

ASHTEAD SINGERS invite you to their **Christmas Concert** next Saturday, 18th December at St Mary's Church, Leatherhead, starting at 7.30pm. A concert of wonderful music including A Ceremony of Carols by Benjamin Britten. Some tickets will be available at the door – £12 or £6 for children and students – but please see the poster in the porch for prior bookings.

Assistant Premises Manager Vacancy. The Trustees of St John's Seminary, Wonersh, Guildford (GU5 0QX) are looking to appoint, as soon as possible, a suitable person to assist the Premises Manager in all that is required to maintain, secure and prepare the building for its closure and sale. This is a fixed-term position, which will run up until December 2022, and attracts a salary of up to £25,000 per annum for a 37.5 hour working week, spread over 5 days – including some weekend work and some on-call availability. Single occupancy accommodation is provided for the better performance of duties. The closing date for applications is Monday 20 December 2021. Interviews will take place on Monday 10 January 2022. Please email CV, plus details of two referees, to Monsignor Gerald Ewing – Rector, at rector@wonersh.org from whom further details are available. (Strictly no agencies please.)

This Week's Readings

Zephaniah 3:14-18a ; Isaiah 12:2-3, 4, 5-6
Philippians 4:4-7 ; Luke 3:10-18

You can see these readings at:

<https://www.universalis.com/20211212/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

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
18th/19th December	W1	Denise Devaney	W1		W1	Cristiana Benini
	W2	L Baldwin	W2	Matt Pattinson	W2	Marina Channing Pearce
	R1	Maureen Anderson	R1	Martin O'Donovan	R1	James Close

Newsletter extras

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

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 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.

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?

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

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

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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 ?

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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