

ST MICHAEL'S NEWSLETTER



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3rd and 10th January 2021

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Website: www.stmichaelashted.org.uk
To book the Parish Hall please email the office.
Hall wi-fi: [Netgear41](#) (password) [grandcomet148](#)
The Parish Office smichaeloffice@gmail.com
Please ring Fr Tony on his number above in an emergency
or to request Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Second Sunday after Christmas - 3rd January 2021

6.0pm People of the Parish
8.30am Private Intention
10.30am John Fulton RIP

Mon 4th Weekday
9.30am Marva Ambrose Intentions

Tues 5th Weekday
9.30am Theresa Grogan RIP

Wed 6th **The Epiphany of the Lord**
11am People of the Parish

Thurs 7th Weekday
9.30am Intentions of McGaugh & Cahill Families

Fri 8th Weekday
9.30am Mary O'Dowd RIP

Sat 9th Weekday
10am Fr Albert Van Der Most RIP

The Baptism of the Lord - 10th January 2021

6.0pm Joanne Smith RIP
8.30am People of the Parish
10.30am Fr Tim Garrett RIP

All Masses are 'live-streamed' on YouTube
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoCE16LH34tJGIR3_vtZLYg

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Sureeporn Crosby,
Shaun Wallace, Simon Warren, Mavis Bazeley,
Philip MacDonald, Sylvia Crampin, Margaret McArdle,
Mike Morley, Peggy Brogan, George Stuart Baxter,
Sheila Hanks, Sarah Bishop,
Michael Roche, Pauline Hooper, Elizabeth Samson,
Fr Alan Sharpe, 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.

From today's Gospel reading:

They [the Magi] were overjoyed at seeing the star,
and on entering the house
they saw the child with Mary his mother.
They prostrated themselves and did him homage.

Reflection:

Foreigners led to the Christ child's home do him
homage. National boundaries and differences dissolve
when we respond to God's invitation to come to Christ.
We are always welcome into God's presence and in
gratitude our commitment is to Christian hospitality
throughout this year – to welcome visitors as we would
welcome Christ.

So, we ask ourselves:

- How do I practice hospitality?
- Have I ever been treated as an outsider?
- Do I treat any people or groups as outsiders?

Tier 4 and increase in infection rate.

Sadly the rate of infection in Surrey has risen sharply but
Churches remain open. This is just to remind everyone
that we cannot relax but must redouble our efforts to
continue wearing a mask, use the hand sanitizer and
clean the areas where we have been sitting.

Please remember to sign in or use the QR venue code
and not to 'hang' round the porch area (we all like to
chat) but to move quickly to the outside. It is no doubt
that the vaccine is great news, so that at some point in
2021 these restrictions will be a thing of the past.
Happy New Year from the newsletter team.

In line with Government guidelines the Parish Office will
only be 'manned' when necessary. Please email with
enquiries smichaeloffice@gmail.com

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

Mary Hancock, Madeleine Alder, Doreen O'Brian,
Loraine Sheehan, John Earl, Patricia Dobbe,
John Fulton, Emily Traboulsi, Ellie Wenman,
Norah Adamson, Julia Perkin, Jean Corr and

Michael Roche who died recently

May they Rest in Peace

**WE WISH ALL PARISHIONERS AND THEIR FAMILIES A
HAPPY AND HOLY NEW YEAR**

Christmas Offerings.

Fr Tony would like to thank everyone for their generous gifts over the Christmas period.

The Christmas Trumpet is still available in the Porch untouched in a cardboard box. If you are passing the Church just pick one up. Many thanks once again to everyone who contributed to make it possible. *Alison*

School forms for St Peters

Forms that have been signed can be picked up on the table outside the Parish Office on Monday 4th and Wednesday 6th January between 10 & 12 am.

Parish Bereavement Team-

2020 has been a difficult year in so many ways, and one example of this is through experiencing bereavement which can take many forms; loss of a loved one, family separation or indeed loss of a job. If therefore you need someone to talk to please contact the parish office by emailing smichaeloffice@gmail.com You will then be contacted by a member of the Parish bereavement team who will be available to offer support.

Calling all Young Adults of the Diocese (20-30 somethings)

Before the current restrictions, our Youth and Young Adults' Advisor had plenty of big plans for helping you get to know other Catholics of a similar age, to form communities where you are free to be yourself, to explore your faith, to grow in friendship, and to be a safe place for you to realize your Catholic identity. However, this has all had to go on hold. We cannot have a Prosecco and Praise night and remain Covid secure! What we would like to do is invite anyone who is interested to join a focus group. This group will meet virtually to discuss the needs and desires of young adults in the Church, and, if you would like, be involved in coming up with some creative ways to meet those needs.

If this sounds like a project you would like to be a part of, please contact the Youth Service Secretary Rosie at rosie.read@abdiocese.org.uk or 01293 651161

Online Giving – Coronavirus

When our Church was closed, the Coronavirus affected us materially as well as spiritually. Bills keep coming, but income is significantly down.

A good many parishioners give via standing order. If you can do this, it simplifies the admin and is great for self-distancing!

For more details email smichaelweb@gmail.com

About half the week's income usually arrives via the collection baskets so we are missing that.

The Diocese has set up a web page for online giving. <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/parishoffertory>

The money will come into the Diocese and then be sent to the parishes accordingly. **So, don't forget to name the parish, area or priest when donating.**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

Thomas De Vincentiis 9 on Friday 1st Jan
Joseph Barnes 11, Gabriela Davies 5,
Charles Keun 4 and Alice Hilliard 3 on Monday
Harry George 13 on Tuesday

Week End	Weekend Masses		
	Saturday 6:00 pm	Sunday 8:30 am	Sunday 10:30 am
2 nd /3 rd Jan	W1 L Baldwin	W1	W1 C McBride
	W2	W2	W2
	W3	W3	W3
	R1 F Tisi	R1 B Lapham	R1 D McBride
9 th /10 th Jan	W1	W1	W1
	W2	W2	W2
	W3	W3	W3
	R1 T LeRiche	R1 P Dupénois	R1 J Close

As you can see from the Welcomers Rota above we are very thin on the ground for volunteers at the moment. We completely understand why you may feel unable to come to Church at the moment but if you are there and can help please do put yourself forward.

Emails – a new year office plea...if your email address bears no relation to your name or your family/childrens names can you make that clear in your email. That would help so much.
Thank you.

Breaking Bread – is a local charity providing meals and hampers to local families who are struggling. If you are in need, would like to help or just find out more, they have a beautiful website <https://breakingbread.org.uk/>

This Week's Readings

Ecclesiastes 24: 1–2, 8–12; Psalm 147;
Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-18; John 1:1-18

You can see these readings at:

<https://www.universalis.com/20210103/mass.htm>

Parish Communications

Do keep an eye on our Social Media

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_ytZLYg/

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

St Michael's Thursday on-line Worship and Prayer

*Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances;
for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus*

1Thessalonians 5:16-18).



On-line prayer on a Thursday evening has become a part of our church life at St Michael's. When we were in the first lockdown, we also worshipped online at Easter, to celebrate the Assumption and for the Children's Liturgy. These occasions were a wonderful opportunity to quite literally see one another and keep a sense of our church community through shared worship. Bill O'Neill and Jeff Pearce worked especially hard to work out the technicalities of this style of worship and patiently supported those new to the technology. *God has created me to do Him some special service* wrote John Henry Newman!

Thursday evening prayer meetings have been a source of comfort and spiritual growth (please God) through the pandemic. We almost always pray for the current situation and for the sick and the bereaved. We have prayed every week for an early vaccine and treatments, and for all those suffering as a result of Covid 19. But in general we meet to share our worship and prayers. We have also grown together by having a variety of parishioners lead our sessions, sharing their thoughts and concerns about issues close to their hearts. We have learnt about and prayed for Prisoners, Food Poverty, the work of CAFOD, the crisis in Yemen, Aid to the Church in Need, Wealth and Faith, and a host of other challenging and inspiring topics. Sometimes we meet to pray the rosary together, or as last week, share a meditation on the gospel. Last night Ted Le Riche led us in a beautiful Service of Remembrance.

Please email Alison (smichaeloffice@gmail.com) and she'll add you to the Parish circulation list. Or contact me directly on k.lynych4@btinternet.com if you'd rather talk about how these meetings work before joining. I'd be delighted to then talk to you.



CAFOD World Gifts

World Gifts, CAFOD's range of virtual gifts, make a real difference to families living in poverty across the world. While we have the coronavirus pandemic and lockdown here, we can still be good neighbours to our sisters and brothers overseas by giving World Gifts as Christmas presents to family and friends. The Keep Clean Kit gift for £6 and the Vegetable Garden gift for £10 are just two gifts that will help vulnerable families affected by the pandemic to protect and feed themselves. Let's spread joy and hope around the world this Christmas.

Visit cafod.org.uk/worldgifts.

Celebrate Advent with CAFOD

After a year of uncertainty, we all need the hope, peace and true comfort and joy that the Advent season can offer. CAFOD has a range of resources and virtual events to help us come together online to pray, reflect and celebrate as we prepare for the coming of our Lord. Visit cafod.org.uk/parishes to learn more. This Advent you can help share comfort and joy with families around the world, like Saba's. Saba and her three children fled their home in Myanmar to escape horrific violence and persecution. They were targeted because of their ethnicity. Thanks to your support last year, Saba was given essential materials to build a shelter – so finally her children have a safe place to call home.

We can stretch out our hands to people living in poverty and refugees by donating to CAFOD's Advent Appeal at cafod.org.uk/advent.



THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF
ARUNDEL & BRIGHTON

JUSTICE AND PEACE ASSEMBLY WEBINAR

How should we respond to the
current food poverty crisis?

The number of people experiencing food insecurity has **increased dramatically during the Covid-19 crisis**, with families across our Diocese under increasing pressure. Trussell Trust food banks distributed more than **1.2 million** emergency food parcels to people in the UK between April 1st and September 30th this year, with **2,003 food parcels given to children**.

Join our free Justice and Peace Webinar and find out what our parishes can do to help.

January 16th 2021

10.00am - 12.30pm

To book your free place and receive the zoom link contact:

Rosie Read

rosie.read@abdiocese.org.uk.

To find out more visit our website:

<https://abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/news>

www.abdiocese.org.uk

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