



# ST MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH NEWSLETTER

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24th May 2026  
Pentecost  
Year A

Parish Office: Rocío Opazo-Aniotz  
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## My Emmaus Journey - Matt Gilbert

Over the past year, being part of the Emmaus group has been an important and rewarding step in my faith journey. I was inspired to join because I wanted to deepen my understanding of the Catholic faith and find a place where I could ask questions openly and honestly. I hoped to learn more about God, the Church, and what it truly means to live as a person of faith. What I found was far more than information. Emmaus became a place of welcome, friendship, prayer, and encouragement. I especially enjoyed listening to the experiences and reflections of others, which reminded me that faith is a journey we share together. The group created a safe and supportive environment where everyone could speak freely without judgement.

At times, it was challenging to reflect deeply on my own beliefs and to make space for faith within the busyness of everyday life. Yet those challenges helped me to grow. Through prayer, scripture, and discussion, I have become more trusting of God and more aware of His presence in my daily life.

Joining the Catholic faith has brought me a sense of peace, belonging, and purpose. It has strengthened my relationship with God, given me a greater appreciation of the Church community, and also for the people around me. I am grateful for everyone involved in Emmaus and for the blessing this journey has been. I look forward to continuing to grow in faith and service in the years ahead.

To anyone thinking about Emmaus, or who knows someone searching for direction or deeper meaning, I would say: take the invitation. You do not need to have all the answers. Emmaus is a place to explore faith, grow spiritually, and encounter God alongside others on the journey.

*Interested? To find out more about the next Emmaus group, please see the note overleaf.*

## PENTECOST

23rd/24th MAY

**SAT 23 Saturday after the 7th Sunday of Easter**  
No Mass  
**SUN 24 Pentecost**  
8:30am Maria Zélia Gomes RIP  
10:30am People of the Parish  
**MON 25 Mary, Mother of the Church**  
10am Leonor Parada  
**TUE 26 Philip Neri, Priest**  
10am Canon Tony Whale RIP  
**WED 27 St Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop**  
No Mass  
**THU 28 Our Lord, Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest**  
No Mass  
**FRI 29 Feria in Ordinary Time**  
No Mass  
**SAT 30 Feria in Ordinary Time**  
10am Priest's intentions  
**SUN 31 Most Holy Trinity**  
8:30am People of the Parish  
10:30am Intentions of Cathey Risbey

**Adoration:** Friday, 5pm-6pm  
**Reconciliation:** Friday, 5pm-6pm; Saturday, after 10am Mass or by appointment

## PENTECOST

(Mass Book p. 288)

**Psalm 104** *Send forth your spirit, O Lord,  
And renew the face of the earth*



## Please pray for the wellbeing of

Lorraine Lynch, Bill O'Neill, Sarah Gerth,  
Shaun Wallace, Peggy Brogan, Bill Danson,  
Nina Grant, Rachel Fulton, Monica Volpin,  
Gabriela Castaños, Lynn Lenoci (nee Ficken),  
Maria Welsby, Garrick Thordsen, Ann  
McEntire, Robert Channing-Pearce, Sally Dick,  
Remy Perumal, Niamh Kilcullen, Grainne Freeman, John  
O'Driscoll, Maria Elisabete de Lima and  
Suzanne de Lima-Roberts



**St. Michael's Help Team**  
(Queries to: [caromking8@gmail.com](mailto:caromking8@gmail.com))

Drivers who can help with getting a **lift to a hospital appointment**, or **help with shopping** are below.

<b>W/C 12.05</b>	<b>Laura Jackson 07919287675</b> <b>Caroline King 07905 360466</b>
<b>W/C 19.05</b>	<b>Lisa Dowd-Patel 07966 619357</b> <b>David Hiley 07522 435062</b>
<b>W/C 28.05</b>	<b>Keith Merrett 07931 377337</b> <b>David Hiley 07522 435062</b>
<b>Back-Up</b>	<b>Caroline King 07905 360466</b>

**Interested in the Catholic faith? Emmaus - a journey with Jesus.** In the account of the journey of the disciples to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-35), Jesus walks with them, listening as they talk of the struggles and hopes that occupy their minds and hearts, and leading them, little by little, to see his presence in the Scriptures and at table with them in the breaking of the bread. The Emmaus Group (RCIA) is a means by which those who are enquiring about the Catholic faith, or seeking full communion with the Church, can likewise, be accompanied; listened to, helped to see the presence of God - in the Scriptures, in the Church, in their lives - and respond in love and prayer. Perhaps this is you, or perhaps it's someone you know and whom you could bring along - you're invited to an informal gathering on **Tuesday 9th June, 7pm**, St Michael's Hall, to find out more.

**24 Adoration.** Our grateful thanks to all those who throughout the Deanery helped arrange and facilitate our shared time of Eucharistic Adoration. To prayer leaders, musicians, those who signed up, those who 'popped' in, and the clergy, our appreciation. The fruits of this time we leave with the Lord and, who knows, maybe it is something we can do again...

**The famous Carpet of Flowers returns in celebration of the Feast of Corpus Christi.** Arundel Cathedral will be open to view the carpet on Wed 3 June from 9.30am-7pm and on Thurs 4 June from 9.30am - 5.30pm, when the Mass and Procession to the Castle for Benediction begins. Booking **is not required** and entry is free.

**The Tea Tent at Ashtead Village Day** (13th June) organised and run by Ashtead Churches Together is a great opportunity to provide a service to our local community and demonstrate the presence of the Churches. We are seeking volunteers to make cakes; to spend an hour serving on the day; to assist in putting up and taking down the marquee; or to transport kit to and from the Rec. If you feel you can help please put your name down on the sign-up sheets in the Narthex, which will be available there until Sunday 31st May. Contact point Martin O'Donovan (01372 276812). We're also looking for a small number of volunteers to help with the **outreach aspect of the Tea Tent**, which needs volunteers with good people skills and the sensitivity to know what is helpful to say. If you'd like to help with this, or know more, please speak to Fr Chris.

**Pray for Ashtead.** That spirit of prayer together has been a feature of the Christian communities in Ashtead for many years. On **Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> June, 7.45pm**, at **St George's**, we'll have another opportunity to pray together for local issues and initiatives, and for national and international issues, too. Please do come, bring a friend, and bring what's on your heart for this area to your brothers and sisters for prayer.



**Are you new? Welcome to St Michael's!**

A very warm welcome and our prayers for you and all your loved ones. It would be great if you could register with the parish - there's a link on our website [www.stmichaelashtead.org.uk](http://www.stmichaelashtead.org.uk) and if you'd like to find out about opportunities for taking part in parish life, speak to Fr Chris, Deacon David or one of our Welcomers. We look forward to saying hello!

**Please pray for the repose of the souls of all those whose anniversaries occur at about this time**

Fr John Chatterton, Eileen Early, Joseph Rogers, Karen Gill, Malcolm Legge, Muriel Fairs, Charlotte Rees, Marian Brown, Rev William McKenna, Christopher Waters, Edward McGaugh, John Cox, Ruby Cunningham, Len Blaskowski, Maureen Fitzsimmons, Canon Tony Whale, Romano Galelli, Kathleen Teresa Bird

**May they rest in peace**

**Coffee, tea, squash and biscuits** are available **every Sunday after 10.30am Mass** in the Hall. Please do come in and take time to chat with your fellow parishioners.

**Wednesday Café, between 10.30am and 12.30pm** in the church hall. Everyone is welcome. A selection of teas/coffees and cakes. Come along to the social event of the week! We support Action in Africa and CAFOD.



We pray for **Kallum and Kieron Potts** who will be baptised on the 31st May at 12:30pm, at St Michael's.

**The Life and Loss Café (Bereavement)** will take place on Friday May 29th between 12 and 1pm in the church hall. All are welcome as it is also a drop-in session. The Focus is *How have you tried to cope with your grief and how might you help a friend having the same experiences?*



**St Peter's Catholic Primary school** is seeking Foundation Governors to join the Governing Body.

This is a rewarding voluntary role supporting the Catholic life and strategic direction of the school. No previous experience is needed, and training is provided.

We warmly encourage members of our parish community to consider this important opportunity to serve.

For more information, please contact the school office or Lisa Kelly: [office@stpeters-leatherhead.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:office@stpeters-leatherhead.surrey.sch.uk)

This week's second collection will be for **The Missionary Endeavour of the Diocese** (Gift Aid) - Diocese of Chuluquinas.

**Ways for you to contribute to the Finances:**

Please set up your standing order directly with your bank using the details below, or use the contactless machine in the narthex or cash, all is greatly appreciated. Don't forget your Gift Aid form (available in the narthex) if you are a taxpayer.

**RCD A&B St Michael Ashtead**

**A/C No. 21076248**

**Sort Code: 40-05-20**

**Bank Reference: Your Name**

Thank you to everyone who contributes so generously

Sunday 17th May Offertory: £ 1466.69

Second Collection for **World Communication Sunday**: £469.75