

St Michael's News June 2012

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Mission impossible?

What I will remember most about our Pentecost celebration of the Church's birthday is the cakes on the altar, decorated by the children, together with the flame-shaped cards given out by our young people. It was a picture of a community of young and old gathered together as one.

The Church was always supposed to be a community. Not an inward-looking club, but a movement of people who are willing to offer ourselves to God so he can use us to change the world. It is easy to become cynical about the feasibility of changing the world. But there are plenty of stories that could be told of how people in this church have been changed by God's Spirit; and plenty of examples of how charities we support have changed the lives of street children or communities suffering from poverty or injustice throughout the world.

Jesus' disciples must have felt so inadequate to carry on his work. But as Jesus himself once said, 'With God all things are possible'. Let's keep the faith – and keep putting it into practice every day!

John Castle



Please pray for those who were married here recently: Jonathan Lee and Louise Barnard, Lee Hetherington and Suzanne Cronin, Richard Jackson and Jennifer Clarke, Helen Blackman and Atif Qadar, Laura Newberry and Robert Stygall. Please pray for those who have recently passed away: Trevor Newell and Madelaine South.

Church Activities

June Coffee Rota Reminder

3rd June	David Bryant	Iris Bryant
10th June	Jenny Piggin	Ruth Eve
17th June	Ann Clough	Peter Clough
24th June	Joy Alexander	Marion Blackmore

Prayer Meetings are on the 3rd Saturday of the month (16th June) at 9.30–10.15am in the church and the 4th Wednesday (27th June) at 8.00–8.45 pm.

House Groups meet each week at these homes:

Monday	8.00 pm	11 Sylvan Ridge (Rupert & Sheridan)
Tuesday	10.15 am	6 Crowthorne Rd (Doris Saunders)
Tuesday	8.00 pm	28 Wiltshire Avenue, Crowthorne (Elizabeth Ritchie)
Tuesday	8.00 pm	2 School Hill (John & Sue Campbell)
Tuesday	8.00 pm	34 Albion Road (Linda Lemmon)
Tuesday	8.00 pm	25 Templar Close (John & Stephanie Martin)

If anyone would like to join a group, please speak to John White (01344 774349) for more details.

Young Church is part of the 9.30 Parish Communion Service every Sunday for children aged 3–10. Please register your children at 9.20 in the Pastoral Centre. The children join the adults towards the end of the church service. Parents interested in their children receiving Holy Communion are asked to speak to Rev. John Castle.

Crèche. A Crèche facility is now available for under threes in the Pastoral Centre lounge area. Please arrive prior to the 9.30 am service to settle your children, signing them in on arrival. Earlier collection can be arranged if you wish to be together to share Holy Communion as a family. Otherwise, collect your children after the service at coffee time. Initially, Angela Harper and Caroline Bowles (Ofsted Registered Childminder's) shall be caring for your children, although we would like to get a Crèche rota in place to share the load. If you are interested in helping out please contact Angela on 07932 333619 for further details. (CRB checks will be required.)

REACH runs parallel to the Parish Communion Service, at 9.30–10.45 am.

Toddler Time is on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month at 9.15–10.30 am, except during school holidays.

Church Flowers Please ring Jennie 01344 775881 for information if you wish to help arrange the church flowers. Thank you.

Blue Envelopes

Please use the gift aid envelopes for even small amounts of cash if you are a taxpayer and have paid enough tax to do so. This is free money from the government and worth doing because it all adds up!

Volunteers needed

Churchyard maintenance. Help is always welcome during the spring and summer months to cut the grass and maintain the flower border next to the Pastoral Centre. If you are available to help and would like to know more then please contact Peter Hulbert on 01344-775881 or leave a message in the Church Office.

Family Service. Help is urgently required for the family service with regard to refreshments, sides persons and technicians. I organise the rota for the family service and therefore would welcome any volunteers. Please email me at kirsty@tcb-arrow.co.uk. Thank you, Kirsty Dunlop

Church groups

Please book all planned events through the office (tel: 01252-873030) to ensure there are no double bookings. The office takes private bookings most weekends, so it is essential that dates are checked and then entered into the office diary. A booking form should also be completed giving times required. Please do not ask clergy to take on this responsibility.

The Social Committee

The social committee consists of John Martin, David Hunt, Jan King and Jill and John White. We attend either the 8.00 am or the 9.30 am service and



Youth in the Choir

Elizabeth Quigg (right) was invested as a full choir member on the 29th April. She is photographed with head chorister Emily Devine and choir member Bethany Brown.

because of that the main social events tend to be organised around them. We desperately need to cater for the younger age group, those who attend the family service, for example. We are by definition a very social bunch of people and would be pleased to welcome new younger members to our team. We meet about six to seven times a year, usually over a cup of coffee, starting at 8.00pm and invariably home by 10.00pm. If you would like to join us please make yourself known to one of the committee.

Sunday Lunch. The next Sunday lunch has been arranged for Sunday 10th June at the Bird in Hand, Little Sandhurst. If you would like to join us please let me know by email: king4kings@aol.com, or phone: 01344-750285, or tell me on Sunday. We meet at 12.30 pm and you have the choice of a large plated meal of beef, pork or turkey for only £8.95. Drinks are extra. Hope to see you there – all welcome. Jan King

Wanted! An enthusiastic helper to assist the Counselling Service run a fundraising campaign among local businesses this autumn. Please contact Dave Percival or the Rector.

Christian Aid love these sausages! Why?

The Good Little Company produces excellent pork sausages. For every packet of sausages sold they donate money to Christian Aid. Their pigs are free range and the sausages are reduced in fat, have no artificial additives and are gluten free.

So far The Good Little Company have donated 9,975,114 meals to Christian Aid and developing countries. You can help poor communities around the world find ways to improve their lives and have a brighter future.

Where can you buy them? Waitrose sell them; they are on the top shelf of their sausage shelves. They are also available at selected Tesco and Spar stores in Northern Ireland. They have a website: hello@goodlittlecompany.com. Do give them a try. John and I love them. Jill White



Finance

Here are the figures for March and April

For the year to **March** our monthly giving was £7,020 compared to our budget of £8,106 – so 13% too little. At end March we had £44,556 in the general fund bank account, which represents 3.2 months of our budgeted annual expenses. This is worse than the previous month, when we had 3.7 months but ahead of our target of 3 months.

For the year to **April** our monthly giving was £7,410 compared to our budget of £8,106 – so 9% too little. At end April we had £39,064 in the general fund bank account, which represents 2.8 months of our budgeted annual expenses. This is worse than the previous month, when we had 3.2 months and behind our target of 3 months.

RMA Freedom March, Saturday 23 June

St Michael's will be taking part in this important town event in Sandhurst. We will be helping to run a Sandhurst Churches Together stall from 12.00 to 4.30pm, giving out balloons and doing face-painting for children. We need volunteers to man the stall and be a friendly face to the public. (The face-painting is already taken care of.) Please contact Doreen Hallett at the office if you can help. In the evening, our choir will be singing in the musical entertainment, featuring Lizzie in a soprano solo. Do come and support us!

Food Bank. We have set up a Food Bank collection and wish to ask everyone, if they can, to buy an extra tin or packet when they go shopping, or make use of the buy-one-get-one-free offers. There is a large box in the church and in the office for any donations. When the boxes are full they will be taken to the Bracknell Food Bank. On the boxes and around the church are lists of the types of food needed. It would be good if we could keep this going for several months so that we can make a difference and help those in need in our community. Thank you so much for the donations so far – the people from the Bracknell Food Bank are very grateful. Karen Symons

Healthy Mind Healthy Body

On 20th June, a presentation on stress will be given at Sandhurst Community Hall at 8.30 pm. There will be exhibits from many local organisations, including our counselling service. Please see the poster on the Pastoral Centre notice board. More information can be obtained by emailing Sandhurst and Owlsmoor Patient Focus Group (sopfg4@gmail.com).

Donations We received donations totaling £674.00 for Tear Fund East Africa Crisis for Lent. Donations were also received in memory of Vera Johnson for St Michael's totaling £329.93.

Summer Beach Day

St Mike's Girls Group are arranging a summer beach day at Sandbanks near Poole, arriving at the beach between 11am and 12 noon. Everyone and anyone in the church is most welcome to join us for a relaxed day on the beach. Make your own way there. Bring a picnic and beach supplies, swimmers and sun cream and money for ice creams! RSVP to Rosaria Toohey (RosariaToohey@aol.com) and Kylie (kraziekylie@hotmail.com) so we have some idea who is interested.

IGNITE 2012 is about bringing local churches together. An extended weekend (1st–5th June) of fun, relaxation and entertainment to be enjoyed with friends and family alike. There will be live music, special events and all the activities of Wellington Country Park. For more information and to book tickets go to www.igniteaway.com.

100 CLUB DRAW

The winners of the April 2012 draw held on 6 May 2012 were:

1st Prize: Mr Clive Dobson No 58 £20

2nd Prize: Mr Richard Dobson No 15 £10

3rd Prize: Mrs Ann Harris No 109 £5

£36 has been passed to church funds. Rosemary Dobson

Church Calendar

Date & Time	Venue	Event	Contact
Sun 10 June 12.30 pm	Bird in Hand	Sunday lunch	Jan King 01344 750285
Sat 23 June 12.00–4.30 pm	Memorial Park	RMA Freedom March	Doreen Hallett
Sun 1 July 12.15 pm	Rectory Garden	Church picnic	John & George Castle
Sun 1 July 6.00 pm	St John's, Crowthorne	Confirmation	John Castle
Sat 14 July From 11.00 am	Sandbanks, near Poole	Girl's Group summer beach day	Rosaria Toohey
Fri 17 August time tba	Start: Memorial Park	Evening walk	David Hunt
Sun 16 Sept	Pastoral Centre	Bring and share lunch	

Regular Activities at the Pastoral Centre

Little Sandhurst Nursery. Daily! Phone Marian for details 07732 409095.

Line Dancing. Every Monday evening in the hall from 7.00 pm, £5 includes raffle. Just come along and have fun. Tea and coffee available or bring your own drinks. Ring Sue or Arron on 01344-485097 for information.

Rainbows meet on Tuesdays: 5.00–6.00 pm (5–7 year olds).

Guides meet on Tuesdays: 6.30–8.30 pm (10–14 year olds).

Pilates takes place in the large upper room, most days and evenings. For more information ring Carl on 01344-762712.

Karate Club for Children Friday's 5.45-6.45pm. Phone Neil on 07816 163845.

Zumbatomic after-school classes, 4.00 pm on Thursdays – the crazy-cool dance fitness workout for kids aged 4–12 years. Packed with choreographed routines to music like hip-hop, reggaeton and cumbia, Zumbatomic classes increase focus and self-confidence, boost metabolism and improve coordination. For more information contact Beth on 07976 231896 or go to www.zumbawithbeth.co.uk.

Sunday 17th June – 2nd after Trinity Proper 6 – Topic: David Anointed

Readings: 1 Samuel 15:34–16:13 (p287), 2 Corinthians 5:6–17(p1160), Mark 4:26–34 (p1006)

- 8.00 am Holy Communion
- 9.30 am Parish Communion
- 11.15 am Family service
- 6:30 pm No service

Sunday 24th June – 3rd after Trinity Proper 7 – Topic: David and Goliath

Readings: 1 Samuel 17:4–49 (p288), Mark 4:35–41 (p1006)

- 8.00 am Holy Communion
- 9.30 am Parish Communion
- 11.30 am Baptism of Nick and Finn Aumonier and Hannah Clay
- 6:30 pm Requiem Service

Weddings

Sunday 3rd June 1.30 pm – Wedding of Gemma Costello and Sam Goddard

Sandhurst Day Centre. Communion 11.30 am on the 1st Wednesday, and Songs of Praise 11.30 am on the 3rd Wednesday each month.

Early morning services. You may find it useful to come to the 8.00 am service if you are going out for the rest of the day!

June Church Services

Sunday 3rd June – Trinity Sunday – Topic: The majesty of God

Readings: Isaiah 6:1-8 (p690), Romans 8:12-17 (p1134) John 3:1-17 (p1065)

- 8.00 am Holy Communion
- 9.30 am Parish Communion
- 11.15 am Family Service
- 6.30 pm Contemplative Evening Prayer

Sunday 10th June – 1st after Trinity Proper 5 – Topic: The people ask for a king

Readings: 1 Samuel 8:4–11, 16–20 (p278), 2 Corinthians 4:13–5:1 (p1166)

- 8.00 am Holy Communion
- 9.30 am Parish Communion
- 11.30 am Baptism of Robert Baldwin and Louise Shearman
- 6.30 pm Ecumenical Service

Newsletter deadline. Please email William Lee at stmichaelschurch@hotmail.co.uk or leave written requests with the Pastoral Centre office. Deadline for July's edition: 18th June 2012.

Newsletter by email. To help the environment and save paper, you can now receive future editions of this newsletter by Email? These are in colour and are normally sent out a few days before the paper copy is available. To opt into this scheme please contact PCC member David Hunt david.hunt@bcs.org.uk.

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