

St Michael's News September 2018

St Michael and All Angels, Lower Church Road, Sandhurst,
Berkshire, GU47 8HN www.stmichaels-sandhurst.org.uk

Office open: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 10.00am–1.30pm

Open for Counselling: Wednesday 10.00am–1.30pm.

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OUR PURPOSE AS A CHURCH

Knowing God for ourselves. *Growing* as individuals and as a church.

Showing God's love in the world.

Time for an MOT?

Every year I take my car for an MOT and a service. It's required by law, but it also means I can be reasonably sure I'll be driving a vehicle that is safe and won't break down on me.

Sometimes there's bad news to face: a major part needs replacing, and there's a big cost to put things right. The same could be true with a check-up at the dentist's, or a medical check. But if we want to be healthy, it's worth addressing things that are wrong, and perhaps making changes to our lifestyle. Burying our head in the sand is self-defeating.

This month we will be having a bit of a spiritual MOT as we study the letter of James. There may be some home truths to face, but if we want to live spiritually healthy lives, as disciples of Jesus, it's essential reading. We could end up making a real impact on the world around us, both as individuals and as a church.

John Castle



Please pray for those on the prayer board and for those being Baptised here this month.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Do you give regularly to the church?

God's nature is to give... and give... and give again! As we grow in his likeness, then giving becomes part of our nature too.

Many already give generously and regularly to the church by standing order and those gifts are the core of our finances. Over the next few weeks we will be asking you to change the mechanism by which you give, from Standing Order to Direct Debit through the Parish Giving Scheme. We'll be writing to all those who give this way explaining the changes and including the necessary forms.

The PCC members have already made the transition, and some have been able to use the opportunity to review their giving to enable the church to do even more; perhaps you could do the same. Or perhaps you would like to start giving regularly – the forms will be available for you too.

God loves a cheerful giver – especially one who fills in the forms and does it promptly! Dave Percival, Stewardship Secretary

Heritage Open Days

The National Heritage Open Days give us a chance to explore our national heritage – and all for free! We take part each year, but with a slightly different theme so each year there is a chance to see something different of our heritage. Our theme this year is around two important centenaries: the end of the First World War and the first women receiving the right to vote in the UK. There will be activities for all ages.

This is a great way to take a new look at the building that is St Michael and All Angels' church. It may be familiar but how well do you really know it and the churchyard?

- Saturday 8 September: 10.00–17.00. Tour at 15.00 of church and at 15.30 of churchyard
- Sunday 9 September: 12.00–17.00. Tour at 15.00 of church and at 15.30 of churchyard
- Sunday 16 September: 12.00–17.00. tour at 12.30 of church and at 13.00 of churchyard

Look forward to seeing you! Emma Hodge and Catherine Wilkins

Heritage Quiz

This a great way to test your knowledge (or the person in your family who thinks they are quiz champion). A paper quiz is on sale at the back of church and in the parish office for £1 – proceeds for general funds. The questions are on three topics, firstly about St Michael and All Angels Church, secondly World War 1 and thirdly women's equality.

Becoming a more Pastoral Church

At the open meeting on 19th July we discussed ways in which we could show more pastoral care to each other within our church, and reach out more effectively to people on the fringe of the church and in the wider community, as an expression of our aim to 'show God's love in the world' (part of our Knowing, Growing and Showing church purpose).

As part of our efforts to be more effective in this area, we are planning to run some one-off workshops on related themes such as 'being a better listener'. There are also several practical ways people could offer their time to help our efforts, such as giving people lifts to church, helping in the kitchen at an outreach lunch, or visiting people who are going through a difficult time, whether through sickness, bereavement or any other cause. You may have other ideas that you'd be willing to turn into reality. Becoming a more pastoral church needs everyone to be on board, so will you please consider what you could contribute to help us be a church that practises what we preach? Steph Martin, John Castle, John White and the churchwardens are waiting to hear from you!

100 years since the end of World War 1

This November marks 100 years since the end of World War 1, the war that was supposedly to end all wars. Families and communities were torn apart with the loss of loved ones – Sandhurst lost 69 people. The town was a lot smaller then and several areas of what we now consider Sandhurst were part of Crowthorne. St Michael and All Angels is marking the sacrifice that was made in several ways.

- 1. Poppy Cascade.** A cascade of poppies made by people of all ages will start in September and carry all the way through to November. People can add their poppies at any time; they are also welcome to write names on ribbon which will be used to attached the poppies to the cascade – names can be either from their families or from the town. It's not too late to make your poppy.
- 2. Ladies' Poppy Evening.** Friday 19th October (time to be announced).
- 3. There but Not There.** With the help of donations from both individuals and from the [Armed Forces Covenant Fund Trust](#), there will be Perspex silhouettes representing the holes left by those who paid the ultimate sacrifice.

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toddler time is for everyone under school age and their carers. It's on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month from 9.00am to 11.00am in the Pastoral Centre (not school holidays). Come and join us for songs, craft activities, drinks and toast, a Bible story and prayers, and an opportunity for play (children) and chat (parents). NB – Dads also welcome!

Parish Communion (9.30 am). During term time, including half-term breaks, there are age-related activities in the Pastoral Centre for children aged three up to school year 5 every week, and for Year 6+ on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. They should come to the Pastoral Centre by 9.25 am to be registered, except on the 2nd Sunday of the month, when we all meet in church to take part in the beginning of the service. The group leaders bring the children into the church for the last part of the service every week. Our crèche is not currently running, but arrangements can be made at short notice to care for children under three years. Please ask one of the welcome team.

During the main school holidays children should come into the church with their parents at the beginning of the service, and will be invited to join a leader after a few minutes of the service to watch a Christian story based DVD in the Pastoral Centre. The group leaders bring the children into the church for the last part of the service. For young children staying in the service there are play-bags for them to enjoy – please ask one of the welcome team.

The Family Service is held on the first and third Sundays of the month, including school holidays. It is informal and child friendly, with action songs and an interactive talk, and is a place you really can come to with small children and not worry how they will behave! Refreshments are served in the church from 11.00am; worship begins at 11.15am and lasts about 45 minutes. Come and meet other families and make friends. We need help with refreshments and welcoming, so please email Kirsty Dunlop at kirsty@tcb-arrow.co.uk if you'd like to volunteer!



Weekday Youth Activities.

Youth group on Monday evenings from 7.30–8.30 at the Pastoral Centre. Separate activities for Years 7–9 and Years 10–13. Contact Liz at dave.percival@btinternet.com for more information.

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4. **Prayers and Readings.** There will be a selection of prayers, Bible verses and reflections for people to use in their private prayers. You may wish to visit <https://www.remembrance100.co.uk/100-days/> for more ideas.
5. **Tour of the churchyard** as part of the Heritage Open Days in September (other dates and times can be arranged upon request). The tour includes a visit to two World-War-One war graves and other graves of people who fought in World War One.
6. It is hoped that on Remembrance Sunday a **peal of half-muffled bells** will be rung close to 11.00am.

St Michael's School – our prayer focus for September

If we think about it, St Michael's School is probably the very first independent organization that our church founded in Sandhurst. It is the oldest school in Sandhurst and a happy place, alive with the buzz of learning, where our children rise to the challenges that school and life present them with and are always striving to be the very best they can be. St Michael's children are resilient, aspirational learners who are encouraged, supported and nurtured through their educational journey at St Michael's.



School life, however, is not without its challenges. In these straightened times funding continues to be an issue. We need to keep the whole family of St Michael's School in our heart as another school year starts, and pray for the head teacher and the staff as well as all the pupils of St Michael's starting or returning that they may thrive and grow in this special place.

Sue Campbell, Churchwarden and School Governor, St Michael and All Angels, Sandhurst

What is Sandhurst Youth doing in the community?

Work has been about finding out the needs and working towards meeting these needs. The first stage has been about making contacts and building up a picture of the community. This has involved visiting businesses and meeting people such as the police, local councillors and shops. The next part has been starting to do detached youth work, which is about meeting young people where they are and working with them there.

The team consists of three volunteers, who come out with me into the Memorial Park, Snaprails Park and the field behind the sports centre. They have carried out surveys contacting 40 young people and have had hundreds of conversations, ranging from job interviews to cannabis usage. We are being remembered and spoken to.

The other piece of work has been going into Sandhurst School. This has been about working with students who are struggling in school with low self-esteem, low self-worth and anger issues. Spending an hour a week going through the issues and learning tools to help deal with these issues is what is delivered. The work is respected by the students and teachers and if possible we would like the role developed.

The Youth Club in the park is a five-evening summer experience, with water fights, messy games, drumming and t-shirt designing. The final two evenings will be Viking combat, led by the All Abilities Martial Arts Club. It is aimed at teaching self-defence. These will run from 6.00pm to 8.00pm at the rear of Pistachios, in the park café.

So, I hope this gives you an idea of what is going on in the community.

Mike Gower, Youth Worker Sandhurst Youth

Introducing the letter of James

How do you know if someone is a real Christian? Is it by how enthusiastically they worship on a Sunday, by their Bible knowledge or their ability to improvise eloquent prayers?

Not according to James, the brother of Jesus, who is believed to be the author of the letter which we will be studying in September in our sermon series at 8.00 and 9.30 am. The words you speak about others or to them, your commitment to treat everyone equally and justly, regardless of background, and your humility before God are all indicators of your integrity as a disciple of Jesus.

There will be something for all of us in this teaching, with a strong emphasis on the practical difference being a Christian makes. I hope it will be a source of inspiration as we consider how we can be a more pastoral church (see page 3). To get the most out of James, you need to chew it over a bit, so see if you can make the time to read each chapter before it is preached on, and maybe afterwards as well!

John Castle

Work on the windows to begin in September

The first stage of the work to repair and conserve the windows at the west end of the church will begin this month. On Monday 17th scaffolding will be erected above the font and vergers' pew, and on Tuesday 18th Salisbury Glass will carefully remove the main west window and take it to their workshop. The hole will be made secure with plastic sheeting and plywood. We plan to have the scaffolding out of the church again before the following weekend. The window will be cleaned, all defective areas made good and, in critical places where detail has been lost (for example the faces of the apostles), the detail will be added back on hand-painted backing glass panels.

We hope to put the window back in before Christmas. It will not look very different from now, but will be safe and secure for the years to come. When the main window is back in, work will begin on the two other windows on the west wall, and we hope to have this complete before Easter.

Apologies for the disruption to the church whilst the work is carried out. If you have any questions do please feel free to ask me.

Dave Percival

Altar Frontals and Pulpit Falls

Have you noticed the Altar Frontal and Pulpit Fall which have been on since the beginning of August? Did you know that they are over 100 years old? The High Altar (the one under the window) used to be narrower and the frontal used to be on it when we had only one altar. The background fabric is velvet and there is gold-work and silk-shading embroidery on them, as well as glass beads in the centre. Some work will need to be done to re-attach some of threads at a date later this year. When you are next in church, please take a closer look at it.

The Gold Altar Frontal that is used on the High Altar has come to the end of its life and the green one is nearing the end of its life. We will shortly be asking people their views on different options so that the PCC can make a decision at a subsequent meeting. Please look out for the display which will be on the Parish Chest in September/October.

Berkshire Churches Trust

Thank you to everyone who helped with the visit of Berkshire Churches Trust on the 4th August. Through donations and sale of the History and Guide book we raised just over £75.

On the social side

Firstly, congratulations to Abby, Nicki and their team, and an enormous *Thank You* to the Mighty Lemons. What a great evening the WinSpire Summer Party was!

There is still just time to book yourself an invitation to the Heritage Afternoon Tea Party, to be held in the Pastoral Centre on the 9th September. Everyone is welcome, so if you would like to come, or can help on the day or make cakes for the event, please let Steph Martin know asap.

We will be holding our Harvest Supper on Saturday 13th October in the Pastoral Centre, with a meal and entertainment from the Belles and our choir. Tickets will be on sale shortly from the social committee or the office, and will cost £12.50 adult, £6 child, £35 family (max 2A+3C). Please bring your own drinks and glasses. We hope to fit in another Parish Lunch in late October/early November, the date to be announced.

It seems very early to be thinking of Christmas shopping but the early bird... Our pre-Advent Fair will be held on Sunday 18th November from 8.30 to noon in the Pastoral Centre. As always, there will be lots of lovely craft items to buy and much more besides. If you would like to run a stall that day please let me know. And, finally, we would welcome donations of raffle prizes suitable for adults or children. Chris Harris, Social Committee

100 Club Draw June 2018

1st Prize: Mrs Jennie Rolfe No 112 £20
2nd Prize: Mrs Jennie Hulbert No 27 £10
£36 has been passed to church funds.
Rosemary Dobson

100 Club Draw July 2018

1st Prize: Mr Ed Berridge No 97 £20
2nd Prize: Mrs Jenny Thorn No 31 £10
£34 has been passed to church funds.
Rosemary Dobson

100 Club Draw – the future

I need to pass on the role of running the 100 Club Draw to someone else after doing it for 20 years. I would be very pleased to talk to anyone interested.
Rosemary Dobson

Hurray! A huge thanks to everyone who helped with the Summer Party. We raised an amazing £2,350 for WinSpire. Abby Coleman & Nicki Ray

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

House Groups meet each week at these houses:

2nd and 4th Mondays	1.00 pm	Sara Kaufman & Karen Carter	138 College Road 01276 31389
Monday	8.00 pm	Rupert & Sheridan Cremer-Evans	11 Sylvan Ridge 01344 777137
Tuesday	7.30 pm	Elizabeth Ritchie	28 Wiltshire Avenue, Crowthorne 01344 762147
Tuesday	8.00 pm	John & Sue Campbell	2 School Hill 01344 776655
Tuesday	8.00 pm	Rebecca Brown	Arcum Lodge, 130 High St 01252 878747
Tuesday	7.30 pm	John & Steph Martin	25 Templar Close 01252 873316

If anyone would like to join a group please speak to Karen Symons (01252 872161) or email karen@2symons.com for more details.

Coffee Rota

2 September	Anne Clough	Peter Clough
9 September	Betty Wilson	Di Pullar
16 September	Gillian Davies	Jennie Hulbert
23 September	George Castle	Jenny Thorn
30 September	Gill Robertson	Rosemary Dobson

Newsletter. Please send emails to newsletter@stmichaels-sandhurst.org.uk or leave written requests with the church office. The deadline for the October edition is **24th September**.

You will normally be able to view or download a colour copy of the newsletter on the website. If you would like to receive that version as an email attachment please contact David Hunt at david.hunt@bcs.org.uk.

ACTIVITIES AT THE PASTORAL CENTRE

Little Sandhurst Nursery Group. Daily! Contact Karen on 07730 340734 or email: enquiries@LSNG.co.uk for details.

Line Dancing. Every Monday evening in the hall from 7.00 pm, £5.50 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).

3rd 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.

The Rock and Pop Foundation

Guitar tuition sessions are on Thursdays. For further information please call 0844 879 3305 or visit www.rockandpopfoundation.com.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Date & Time	Venue	Event	Contact
Sat 8th Sept		Ride & Stride	Catherine Wilkins & Emma Hodge
Sat 8th – Sun 9th Sept	Church	St Michael's Heritage open days	See p2
Sun 9th Sept	Pastoral Centre	Heritage afternoon tea party	See Steph Martin for an invitation.
Sun 16th Sept	Church	St Michael's Heritage open day	See p2
Sat 13th Oct	Pastoral Centre	Harvest Supper	See p8 for ticket prices etc.
Fri 19th Oct	Pastoral Centre	Ladies' Poppy Evening	Emma Hodge & Catherine Wilkins
Sun 18th Nov 8.30am–12.00 noon	Pastoral Centre	Pre-Advent fair	See p8

SEPTEMBER CHURCH SERVICES

Charity: St Michael's School

Sunday 2nd September – 14th after Trinity – Theme: Practical religion

James 1 (p1213); Mark 7:1–8, 14–15, 21–23 (p1010)

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 9.30am Parish Communion (Traditional)
- 11.15am Family Service
- 6.30pm Contemplative Evening Prayer – Theme: Redemption

Sunday 9th September – 15th after Trinity – Theme: Faith without works is dead

James 2 (p1214); Mark 7:24–37 (p1010)

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 9.30am Parish Communion (Informal)
- 11.30am Baptism of Alfie Blogg, Theo Luca, and Jack Ellison
- 6.30pm Ecumenical Service at the Baptist Church

Saturday 15th September – Wedding

- 4.00pm Brian Cox and Hazel Marsham

Sunday 16th September – 16th after Trinity – Theme: The power of the tongue

James 3 (p1214); Mark 8:27–38 (p1012)

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 9.30am Parish Communion (Reflective)
- 11.15am Family Service and Holy Communion and Baptism of Parker Robson-Malone
- 6.30pm No service

Sunday 23rd September – 17th after Trinity – Theme: Money and Power

James 4:13–5:6 (p1215); Mark 10:17–31 (p1014)

- 8.00am Holy Communion
- 9.30am Parish Communion (Community) and Baptism of Phoebe Long
- 11.30am Baptism of Elsie Fitzsimmons and Remy Keene
- 6.30pm No service

(Continued over)



Go to Sandhurst Pride (www.sandhurstpride.co.uk) if you need information about local services and amenities.

Sunday 30th September – 18th after Trinity – Theme: The prayer of faith

James 5:13–20 (p1216); Mark 9:38–50 (p1013)

8.00am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish Communion (Traditional)

11.30am Baptism of Elodie Handley and Shepherd Kellett

6.30pm Festal Evensong – Theme: St Michael and All Angels

Readings: Psalm 103:1–8, 19–22 (p605); Judges 13:2–21 (p256);

Acts: 12:6–17 (p1106)

St Michael's Church

is holding a Heritage Day

AFTERNOON TEA

Sunday 9th September 2018

at the Pastoral Centre

St Michael's Church, Lower Church Road

3.00 to 4.45 pm



**If you would like an invitation please contact the
Pastoral Centre 01252 873030**

Contact email: stephmartin@btopenworld.com

**Please let us know if you need transport, use a wheelchair,
have special dietary needs or need any other help.**



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If you have any comments, events, news or updates for the website, please email David Hunt on david.hunt@bcs.org.uk.