

# St Michael's News May 2013

St Michael and All Angels, Lower Church Road, Sandhurst, Berkshire, GU47 8HN [www.stmichaels-sandhurst.org.uk](http://www.stmichaels-sandhurst.org.uk)

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Rector: Rev. John A. Castle



## Stages on the journey

By the time you read this I won't be Church Warden anymore! Another stage of my journey with the Lord complete – what did I learn?

Jesus had a system for training his disciples – times of teaching along with the crowds; times when he got them to do things, stretching them; and times of reflection with him in private. He uses that pattern with me too!

For me, the greatest teaching has come at Spring Harvest – five days of listening to some of today's best Bible speakers. I am excited that there is a growing core of people trying Spring Harvest from St Michael's!

Times of reflection too – often with Liz, but also each week at our house group – regular challenge to really think about what the Bible is telling me.

And times of stretching too – in the past four years I have had to confront many different parish situations and challenges; I've got some wrong, and been gently challenged by the Lord (and John!) to change, and got some right, and felt warm arms of affirmation encouraging me forward.

Where are you on your journey? Is it time for great teaching, quiet reflection, or stretch and challenge – the Lord knows; do you?

**Dave Percival**



*Please pray for those on the prayer board and for those who died recently: Jenny Howes, James Bradley, Peter Higson, Christin Smith, Brian Bannell, Loma Greener.*

## Church Activities

### April Coffee Rota Reminder

5th May	Lesley Gutteridge	Joy Alexander
12th May	Jenny Thorn	Jennie Pigginn
19th May	David Bryant	Iris Bryant
26th May	Janet Pilbeam	Ruth Eve

Prayer Meetings Prayers for Pastoral Care are on the second Wednesday each month (8th May), 7.30–8.15 pm in church.

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	7.45 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.

### Crèche

A crèche facility is available for under threes in the Pastoral Centre. 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 share Holy Communion as a family. Otherwise, collect your children after the service at coffee time.

If you can help with the rota, please contact Caroline Bowles on 07995 65850. You will need to complete CRB forms, which are available from the office. The crèche will not be available during school holidays.

Kidz Church is part of the 9.30 am Parish Communion service every Sunday for children aged 3–10. Please register your children at 9.20 am 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.

REACH, for children in Year 6 and above, runs parallel to the Parish Communion service, at 9:30–10:45 am and starts in the Upper Room in the Pastoral Centre.



# Youth for Christ

Youth for Christ (YFC) is a worldwide Christian movement that works with young people around the globe sharing the good news of God. YFC reaches young people everywhere, working together with local churches to raise up lifelong followers of Jesus, who with godliness in their life-style and devotion to the Word of God are committed to a life of integrity and Christian values.

British YFC works with over 250,000 young people each month, drawing teens from every background and culture in Britain. YFC's over 400 full-time staff and countless local volunteers specialise in working with un-churched youth, communicating and demonstrating the Christian faith. YFC dates from the early 1940s, when many young men, mostly ministers



In January 400 YFC staff and volunteers from across Britain came together for a week of fellowship and prayer.

and evangelists, held large rallies in Canada, England and the United States. These rallies formed the germ of today's movement. Billy Graham became YFC's first full-time staff member.

Graham and his team came to England in the winter of 1946–47. Despite terrible weather the response was extraordinary. Thousands were won to Christ; the team preached the Gospel and saw lives transformed. Families were reunited and prayers answered. Methods have changed, but in the 66 years since its formation, YFC has remained true to its original vision and has continued to be 'anchored to the Rock and geared to the times'.

**Camberley YFC** is based at Kings International School. It offers a wide range of spiritual activities including worship events, Christian clubs and Youth Alpha courses. There are two paid employees and a dedicated team of approximately 20 volunteers. Contact them by searching for [Camberley YFC](#) on the internet or by clicking the link.



Toddler Time is for everyone under school age and their carers. It's on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month, from 9.30 to 11.00 am 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!

## The Link Scheme

The Link Scheme is putting together a list of congregation members who would be willing occasionally to offer a lift to one of our church members. If you would be willing to be called on for this, please contact a member of the Link Committee: Hilary Smith (01252 872683), Stephanie Martin (01252 873316), Janet Pilbeam (01252 871386) and Linda Lemon (01252 874524).

## Church groups

Please book all planned events through the office (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.

## Call for interest in becoming an authorized listener

We are recruiting a small number of people who would be willing to act as volunteer authorised listeners for survivors of sexual abuse who wish to explore the way forward for them with someone from the church. This might involve one or two sessions.

This role was proposed by the national church in the policy document [Responding Well to Survivors of Sexual Abuse](#). The document can be found by searching for the title on the Diocese of Oxford website or clicking the link.

If you are interested, please provide the following details by 10th May with the following details:

- Your name and contact email
- Your current church role (if any)
- Relevant qualifications and experience (just a brief note)

I intend to put on a training session with an external trainer in due course. Stephen Barber, Safeguarding Adviser, Diocese of Oxford, Diocesan Church House, North Hinksey Lane, Oxford OX2 0NB.  
Direct line: Oxford (01865) 208290; Switchboard: Oxford (01865) 208200  
Email: [stephen.barber@oxford.anglican.org](mailto:stephen.barber@oxford.anglican.org)

## Monthly Prayer Diary

Sometimes it can be difficult to include our church, community and the world

around us in our prayers. I have written a new monthly prayer diary for 2013. The diary has 31 prayers with Bible references (one for every day of the month), which can be incorporated into your daily prayers. I hope you find it helpful and encouraging. The diary will be available at the back of the church.

Thanks, Sara Kaufman

### Know someone who is off sick?

If someone you know is ill at home or in hospital, we can make sure they receive a phone call, visit or a card, whatever is appropriate. We have some experienced visitors, as well as the clergy, and we can also arrange to take Holy Communion to someone at home. All you need to do is to tell the church office (01252 873030) and they will arrange for someone to get in touch. Please do make use of this service – it's part of caring for each other .

### Family Service

The Family Service is held on first and third Sundays of the month, including school holidays. It caters for families with primary-school and pre-school-age children. It is informal and child-friendly; there are action songs and an interactive talk. Refreshments (real coffee and pastries or cakes) are served before the service in the church from 11.00 am. The service starts at 11.15 am and lasts about 40 minutes. The Family Service is designed to be the place you *really can* come with your small kids and not worry how they will behave! Meet other families and make friends.



Help is always required for the family service with regards refreshments, sides persons and technicians. If you would like to volunteer, please email me at [kirsty@tcb-arrow.co.uk](mailto:kirsty@tcb-arrow.co.uk). Thank you, *Kirsty Dunlop*

### Our Winter Talks Series

If you have missed any of the talks, or would like to hear any again, please go to our website and click on the audio file.

### John Castle's Sabbatical

'But Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed.' Luke 5:16.

May sees the start of John's three-month sabbatical. This is the next step on his personal journey of faith, but it is also the next step on our corporate journey of faith. Many of us will be experiencing something new, whether as a member of the congregation, or taking on a new responsibility, or doing additional 'duties'. All of these need our prayers. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask.

Please pray for John on his sabbatical, for all members of the congregation who are taking on additional responsibilities and for our visiting clergy.

Emma Hodge

### Thriftswood Garden Party – Saturday 8th June from 3.00 pm till 7.30 pm.

This is one of our main fundraisers and is looking to be a fantastic afternoon's entertainment. Bring a picnic and all the family. Music will be provided by the Edgebarrow Swing band and John's Jazz quartet as well as our very own talented junior and senior choir. There will be entertainment for all the family, with focussed activities on the side lawn for younger children with Katy Ashworth (from CBeebies), starting with story time and autograph signing at 3.20 pm.

Tickets are available from the social committee or the Pastoral Centre – adults £8, children £4 and family tickets (2+2) £20 bought in advance. Tickets are slightly more on the door – adults £10, children £5 and family tickets £25.

Hope you can join us – looking forward to seeing you there. Jan King

The Social Committee would like to recruit one or two more members from the Family Service to help organise social events with a more youthful flavour The current members attend the 8.00am or the 9.30am service and new members from the Family Service would be most welcome. Please contact Jan King (01344 750285) or John White (01344 774349).

### St Michael's Churchyard

The grass is threatening to start growing again, which means that the grass-cutting team will soon be swinging back into action. Can you help us keep the churchyard trim and tidy by giving just a few hours of your time each month during the growing season? For details please contact the Parish Office or Peter Hulbert on 01344 775881 (Email: [hulbertx@gotadsl.co.uk](mailto:hulbertx@gotadsl.co.uk)). Thank you.

### Fundraiser

Phoenix Trading Fundraiser leaflets will be given out or be available at the back of the church to buy greeting cards and stationery whilst helping us to raise money for St Michael's at the same time. St Michael's will earn 30 per cent commission on every pack of greeting cards and stationery sold. Prices range from £5 to £30, and there are 11 packs to choose from. Perhaps you, and your friends may find a selection pack to suit your needs or to share?

Please return completed forms in the 'Phoenix' marked box at the back of the church or to the church office immediately. Please make cheques payable to Sandhurst PCC.

Thank you in advance for your support and participation. Angela Harper

## The Church Mission Society

*St Michael's is an enthusiastic supporter of the work of the Christian Mission Society (CMS), especially through its support of the work of Sabrina and Gautam Money.*

The Society is an evangelistic organisation with strong connections to protestant churches, especially Anglican churches, throughout the world. It was founded in London in 1799 by a group of activist evangelical Christians who were members of the 'Clapham Sect'. William Wilberforce, who famously worked for the abolition of slavery, was a founder member. The Anglican communion can to some extent trace its origin to the work of the CMS in the nineteenth century.

The founding fathers expected members of the Anglican clergy to step forward and volunteer as missionaries. When this did not happen, they looked to European protestant churches for recruits. The first missionaries were, in fact, Lutherans from Württemberg and were sent out to Sierra Leone in 1804.

The Society's work spread to other African countries, India, the Middle East, New Zealand and the Far East. CMS has a strong reputation for providing education, notably in India where Sabrina and Gautam Money, whom we support through our charitable giving, work.



Sabrina and Gautam work with the Delhi Brotherhood Society, which is a CMS partner. The Society has worked, since its inception in the 19th century, 'for the betterment of the poor and downtrodden'. Gautam works in the development of project proposals, Sabrina works with children in the brotherhood schools and Sunday schools. Gautam is a native of southern

India but was brought up Hindi in Zambia. When a child he moved with his family to England. At school here he became a Christian. He has a degree in Agribusiness management and graduated from Reading University with an MA in Applied Development. Sabrina and Gautam were married in 2007 and have a baby daughter, Tryphaena.

More information about the Church Mission Society can be found by searching for [CMS](#) on the internet or by clicking the link. You can support the work of Sabrina and Gautam Money by searching for [CMS Sabrina and Gautam Money](#) or by clicking the link.

## Spring Harvest

Well what can I say? It was BRILLIANT! A few families went to Spring Harvest at Minehead over Easter. The accommodation was basic, but warm, and suited our needs. There was an endless supply of food with plenty to choose from. The day began with an all-age celebration, followed by the children going to their groups. We then had a choice of a Bible study (1 John), or going to different groups, teaching or discussing other topics. The children found their groups inspiring, interesting and fun. The Bible study was challenging, encouraging and thought provoking. After the session was over, we met up for coffee. Then it was lunchtime.

Butlin's activities, swimming, funfair, etc were open. The children loved swimming and even swam in the evening. During the afternoon, there were lots of seminars to go to, or you could just chill with friends and family. I went to a couple on parenting and one on prayer. In the evening there was a big celebration which was amazing. The worship was incredible and the teaching inspiring. The children went to their groups again.

It was fantastic for the children to see thousands of Christians all meeting together to praise God. It made them realise God is so real to so many people, not just the people in our church. They have come back inspired to pray, to read their Bible and to sing the songs they learnt. I would recommend going. If you are interested in going next year it is a brilliant place for families. It would work well if you could go with a few other families with children of a similar age, as the children will have lots of fun together.

Rosaria Toohey (Tel. 07508816484) would be happy for you to contact her if you are interested in going next year. She will be booking from the 6th of June.

Sara Kaufman.



### Used Postage Stamps

Please keep collecting used stamps as this is a way we can easily help several charities. We currently support the British Kidney Patients' Association, the Star and Garter Homes, Research into Cot Death and The Leprosy Mission. Please cut round your stamps carefully to cut down on unnecessary weight. The gold labels from the post office are not suitable. If possible, please trim the stamps, leaving a small margin round each – see the stamp jar label for examples. Many thanks, Doris Saunders and Jenny Thorn

### Church Fundraising

If you would like to organise a fundraising event for the church, please contact John White (01344 774349) or Jan King (01344 750285).

### Pastoral Centre

The Pastoral Centre facilities are available to hire at reasonable cost – special rates available for church members. Please ring the office on 01252 873030.

### Food Bank

Thank you for the food donations so far. Please keep them coming. Collection boxes are located in the church and in the Pastoral Centre.

### Gift aid envelopes – new rules

If you are using gift-aid envelopes, please check that the following statement applies to your donations before using the envelopes:.

I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and council tax do not qualify. I understand that Sandhurst PCC will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I give on or after 6 April 2008.

Thank you.

### Sunday 19th May is Pentecost

Pentecost is when we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit to the disciples and is sometimes referred to as the birthday of the church. The gifts that we use each day are from the Holy Spirit, which is often represented by a dove or a flame. Come and join us to find out more and to celebrate Pentecost.



### The Triangle Café and Christian Bookshop

The Triangle has a very wide range of great devotional and other material available for all. See them on our website ([www.thetriangle.org.uk](http://www.thetriangle.org.uk)) or call 01252 519172. Visit us at 64 Kingsmead, Farnborough, Hampshire, GU147SL.

### Message from Richard

Thank you all so very much for the leaving ceremony held for me after the Easter Day service; to those who attended, and those who organized and executed it, and for the wonderful cake, as well as your generosity in presenting me with a very useful cheque and the picture to remind me of all the good times, love and support that I have received at St. Michael's over all the years that it has been my honour and privilege to have served you as organist.

I shall miss you all very much and St. Michael's will always be in my thoughts and prayers, and wish you well for the future in your singing and making melody unto the Lord. Richard Seaton.

### Newsletter

Please email notices to William Lee ([stmichaelschurch@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:stmichaelschurch@hotmail.co.uk)) or leave written requests with the church office. **Deadline for June edition: 20th May 2013.**

To help the environment and save paper, you can 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](mailto:david.hunt@bcs.org.uk)).

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## 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).

3rd Guides meet on Tuesdays: 6.30–8.30 pm (10–14 year olds).

4th Guides and Rangers meet on Fridays 7.00 –9.00pm.

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

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](http://www.zumbawithbeth.co.uk).

Karate Club for Children. Fridays 5.45–6.45pm. Phone Neil on 07816 163845.

The Rock and Pop Foundation. New Thursday guitar tuition sessions started here in April. For further information please call 0844 879 3305 or visit [www.rockandpopfoundation.com](http://www.rockandpopfoundation.com).



## Church Calendar

Date & Time	Venue	Event	Contact
Sat 8 June 3.00–7.30pm	Thriftswood	Garden party	David Ashworth + Social Committee
Sat 29 June	Church	Organ/choral concert	Choir
Sun 30 June	To be announced	Parish picnic (details to follow)	Emma Hodge & Dave Percival

# May Church Services

### Saturday 4th May – Wedding

2.00 pm Victoria Oakley & Edward Williams

### Sunday 5th May – 6th of Easter – Topic: Paul’s vision

Acts 16:9–15 (p1111); Revelation 21:10 (p1249), 21:22–22:5 (p1250);  
John 14:23–29 (p1082)

8.00 am Holy Communion  
9.30 am Parish Communion  
6.30 pm Contemplative Evening Prayer

### Thursday 9th May – Ascension – Topic: The Ascension

Acts 1:1–11 (p1092); Ephesians 1:15–23 (p1173); Luke 24:44–53 (p1062)  
8.00 am Holy Communion

### Saturday 11th May – Wedding

2.00 pm Jane Barney & Peter Rudge

### Sunday 12th May – Sunday after Ascension – Topic: Paul and Silas in Philippi

Acts 16:16–34 (p1112); Revelation 22:12–14, 16–17, 20–21 (p1250);  
John 17:20–26 (p1085)

8.00 am Holy Communion  
9.30 am Parish Communion  
11.30 am Baptism of Alana Horner  
6.30 pm Ecumenical Service at Baptist Church

### Sunday 19th May – Pentecost – Topic: Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1–21 (p1093); Romans 8:14–17 (p1134); John 14:8–17, 25–27 (p1082)

8.00 am Holy Communion  
9.30 am Parish Communion  
11.15 am Family Service  
Readings: Isaiah 40:12–23 (p724); 1 Corinthians 2:6–16 (p1145)  
6.30 pm No service

### Saturday 25th May – Wedding

12.00 noon Christopher McClelland & Sarah Shirley

### Sunday 26th May – Trinity Sunday – Topic: The Spirit of Truth

Proverbs 8:1–4, 22–31 (p641); Romans 5:1–5 (p1132); John 16:12–15 (p1084)

8.00 am Holy Communion  
9.30 am Parish Communion  
11.30 am Baptism of Hannah Woodhouse and Joshua Thompson  
6.30 pm Sung Evensong  
Readings: Exodus 3:1–15 (p59); John 3:1–17 (p1065)

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<https://twitter.com/#!/StMichaelShurst>



**Whirlwind @ St Michael’s**  
**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> June 8.00 till 2.00**

**Be there!**