



Please take one

Newsletter

MAY 2022



Almost Back To Normal For Easter



With a full complement of servers, for the first time for two years, there was a real air of normality about our services on Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday morning.

Photos: Rob Oades

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St Michael's Vision Statement

As a Christian community, we seek to engage with the world around us and to be a place of welcome and acceptance for all on a journey to God – believers, doubters and those who are seeking.

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Vicar or the PCC or the official policy of St Michael's Church.

The Newsletter is published monthly (except January and August).

The next issue will appear on Sunday May 30. Material for inclusion should please be emailed to the Editor on pbrune@olcs.net by May 18.



COMMENT

The Servant Queen and the King She Serves

The first British monarch to reign for 70 years is shortly to celebrate her Platinum Jubilee. She has been one of the few constant aspects of life in this country for all these years. Her coronation was a very memorable televised event, with a large number of people watching or buying a television for the first time. Celebrities and politicians come and go but she has remained, calm and steadfast.

A statement, on her 21st birthday, set the tone for the life she intended: *I declare before you all that my whole life whether it be long or short shall be devoted to your service and the service of our great imperial family to which we all belong. ... God help me to make good my vow, and God bless all of you who are willing to share in it.* What a statement for a 21 year old to make! How many of us have been able to stay true to something we promised at that age?

In 2016, to celebrate her 90th birthday, a book called **The Servant Queen and the King She Serves** was published. This lovely book covers many aspects of her life history, her character and interests – and a main theme is her constant sense of duty and her devotion to God which is often referred to in her Christmas broadcasts.

I know just how much I rely on my faith to guide me through the good times and the bad. Each day is a new beginning. I know that the only way to live my life is to try to do what is right, to take the long view, to give of my best in all that the day brings and to put my trust in God. I draw strength from the message of hope in the Christian gospel. (2002).

Over the past few years, along with her subjects, she has indeed experienced 'good' and 'bad' times but has personally remained a steady and inspirational figure.

In June 2022 many of us will be thanking God for this remarkable woman, our servant Queen, and the privilege of living during her reign.

Joy Johns

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Introducing...

Tuffney Performing Arts Academy



Tuffney Performing Arts is a newcomer to St Michael's. It was set up by Kylie Tuffney in 2008; with a lot of determination, perseverance and courage Kylie has now created a performing arts academy which will serve the community for many years to come. Kylie is an experienced award winning dancer, she has been dancing since she could crawl and has always had a real passion for dance which is reflected in her students.

Kylie began to extend her training in Contemporary and Street Dance and went on to

study GCSE and A-level dance, achieving grades in the top 5% in the country. She then went on to further training in dance at the Ur-dang Academy and Birkbeck University. Alongside her training Kylie also studied the I.S.T.D. teaching qualifications, which has allowed her to teach extra curricular dance in both state and private schools.

Tuffney's are proud to offer Street Dance classes to all ages and abilities taught by experienced street dancers. We believe that dance is all

about expressing the heart of a community and this class fulfils this belief. These cool street classes will teach you to body wave, lock, pop and break, all the essentials needed to impress on the dance floor! The classes are full of energy, style and laughter and as an introduction to dance. are suitable for all.

Tuffney Street Dance classes take place in St Michael's Hall at 4.30 pm on Tuesdays.

Christian Aid Week May 15—May 21

The story of just one family suffering the effects of climate change

Jessica Mwedzi smiles with love for her children as she stirs a single bowl of porridge for them. But she knows they're hungry for more. This one bowl of porridge is all she and her family can eat today: "My children crave a decent meal, but I can't provide. We often go to bed on an empty stomach. It pains me to send them to bed hungry."

Women are at the mercy of climate change and hunger. For Jessica, drought means every day is a struggle for survival.

Like many women in rural Zimbabwe - 7 out of 10 rely on farming for income and food - she toils on her farm, but nothing can grow on ashen, dry land.

The Week is the major fundraising event of the year for Christian Aid. And as climate change strikes even harder in Africa the work of Christian is more important than ever

Drought starves. Intensified by the climate crisis, and the effects of war in Ukraine on global food production, it drives families into hunger. Jessica recalls that "One year, we had no rain. The scorching sun burnt my crops just as they were about to bloom. It was so painful and disheartening."



Jessica Mwedzi surveys her drought-stricken field

Update on Traidcraft Support of the Food Bank

The need remains great and growing; your continuing support is humbling and amazing and the economic challenges keep rolling down the track. We have achieved a milestone. In the 25 months since we began on this challenging pathway people have donated collectively £50,000, which we have spent buying ethically-sourced and fairly-traded qual-

ity goods requested by, and delivered to, the Food Bank. The original challenge around the first covid lockdown was superseded by the second and third, and then new cost of living challenges driven by rising costs, inflation-beating fuel price rises and the consequences of the terrible tragedy unfolding in Ukraine for

food and fuel prices. Throughout all of these challenges your generous support has been fundamental in enabling those in most need to be given a helping hand, and again demonstrating the value of our service, allowing the food bank to provide a balanced range of goods in support of their clients. Thank you so much.

Margaret Dykes

Margorie Redpath Retires from Missionary Giving Group

Marjorie Redpath was one of the founding members of the group that recommends to PCC the charities that the Church should support. And it was she, along with then vicar Brian Griffiths, who encouraged the PCC to see missionary giving as a primary commitment. In other words it should not be a matter of deciding each year what we could afford to give but committing to giving a fixed percentage of the previous year's voluntary income—10% to Christian charities working overseas and 5% to charities working in the UK. That policy has been faithfully followed until

the significant drop in our income as a result of the pandemic, forced PCC reluctantly to suspend it for the past couple of years.

Marjorie chaired the group with dedication and efficiency, maintaining close links with the beneficiaries, for more years than she cares to remember. She eventually handed over to Joy Tobler and the group is now chaired by Andy Connor, but she has remained an active participant right down to the present.

It was Marjorie who persuaded USPAG (as it then was) to

allocate our contribution to specific pieces of work that we could relate to and it was that that brought us the continuing link with Friends of St Anne's Hospital in Liuli, Tanzania. Marjorie became a good friend of the Rev Dr Sam Ndimbo, then the senior (indeed only) doctor at the hospital. She organised Sam's several visits to St Michael's and remains in touch with him by phone to this day. She served for several years as a Trustee of Friends of St Anne's.

Jo Harrington says "Perhaps a formidable person (in the French sense) would be a suitable tribute." And she adds: "So modest, focused totally on any job in hand, and a darn good car driver, too!"

Bishop's Visit

A reminder that our Diocesan Bishop, Bishop Steven Croft, the Bishop of Oxford, will be making a visit to the Amersham Deanery on **Thursday May 5, from 6.30 pm.**

The evening event is at St Mary's Chesham (Church Street, Chesham, The closest car park is the Water Meadow Car Park (HP5 1LF).

The event will include displays by the churches in the Deanery (including St Michael's) with refreshments, followed by Celebration Evening Worship with a talk by Bishop Steven, followed by a question and answer session.

If you intend to be at the evening event, it will be helpful if you will let the Church Office know by email: office@stmichaelsamersham.org.uk or by telephone: 726680.

Richard Baer

There will be a celebration of the life of Richard Baer, the son of Barbara Baer on:

**Friday 13 May
12.30pm – 3.00pm**

**Chesham and Ley Hill Golf Club,
The Common,
Ley Hill,
Chesham HP5 1UZ.**

All are welcome, and a buffet lunch will be served.

This is not a formal event, so please dress comfortably.

If you have any questions, please email davidbaer2@gmail.com or text 07980 176816.

COTHA FAMILY WALK AND PICNIC –

**Sunday, May 8
12noon – 2.00pm.
Little Chalfont Nature
Park, HP7 9QB**

Bring your sandwiches and drinks, and we will bring treats!

There will be games and quizzes, and a chance to look at what nature is doing at this lovely time of the year

Meet in the car park by the side of Little Chalfont Library, or in the park.

More information from Hazel Richardson or Liz Waumsley of Amersham Free Church.



St Michael and All Angels
Amersham-on-the-Hill

DIARY

MAY 2022

Eucharists will be celebrated each week
Sundays 8.30 am and 10 am
Tuesdays 10.30 am

The church is open for private prayer from 10 am until 4 pm Monday—Friday. The votive candle stand has been moved into the Lady Chapel, which has been set aside as a place of quiet.

The following link, https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-KJtHzLo0w2CM6RQl_50vg will access live-streamed services.

Weekly Activities in the Hall

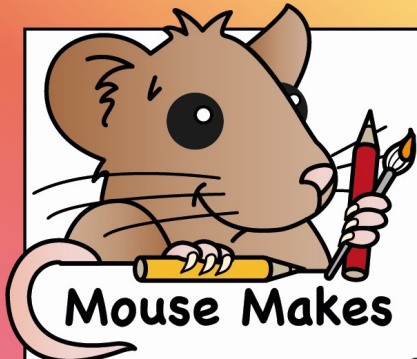
Mondays	Mature Movers. 1.45—2.45 pm
	Dance Studio. Hall. Children from 3+. Afternoon.
Tuesdays	Tuffney Performing Arts Academy. 4.30 pm
	Yoga classes 6 pm
Wednesdays	Karate Club. Hall. Beginners/Junior 6 —7 pm. Intermediate/Senior 7—8 pm
Thursdays	Dance Studio. Hall. Children from 3+. Afternoon.
Fridays	Stay Steady, Stay Strong.. Hall. 1.30—2.30 pm
	Karate Club. Hall 6 —8.30 pm

Other activities in May

Sunday	May 1	Easter 3. Warden: Claire Sinclair (07591 954701)
Tuesday	May 3	LUNCH BREAK. Free church. 1.10 pm
Wednesday	May 4	Nappy Days. 1.30 –3 pm
Thursday	May 5	Bishop of Oxford's Visit. St Mary's, Chesham. 6.30 pm
Friday	May 6	Pop in and Paint. 10.30 am—12.15 pm
Sunday	May 8	Easter 4 Gathered Round.. Warden: Andy Connor (723561)
Tuesday	May 10	LUNCH BREAK. Free church. 1.10 pm
Wednesday	May 11	Nappy Days. 1.30 –3 pm
Friday	May 13	Crafty Cuppa. 10.30 am—12.30 pm
Sunday	May 15	APCM. Easter 5. Warden: Roland Gillott (722674)
(Sunday	May 15 -)	Christian Aid
Sat	May 21)	Week
Tuesday	May 17	LUNCH BREAK. Free church. 1.10 pm
Wednesday	May 18	Nappy Days. 1.30 –3 pm
Sunday	May 22	Easter 6. Warden: Roger Leslie (726362)
Tuesday	May 24	LUNCH BREAK. Free church. 1.10 pm
Wednesday	May 25	Nappy Days. 1.30 –3 pm
Thursday	May 26	Ascension Day. Eucharist 10.30 am.
Sunday	May 29	Easter 7 Warden: Alan Bacon (774870)
Tuesday	May 31	LUNCH BREAK. Free church. 1.10 pm

Children & Families Page







Mouse Makes

"Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, His love endures forever"
Psalm 136:1


I praise you Lord for...




I thank you Lord for...




I pray for my family and friends



I ask for...



I am sorry for...



Jesus said, "This, then, is how you should pray:
Our _____
in _____
hallowed be your _____
your _____
come, your _____ be done, on _____ as it is in _____.
Give us this day our daily _____.
And _____
us our _____,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And _____
us not into temptation, but _____
us from the _____ one."
Read Matthew 6:9-13 to fill in the words.

"Never stop praying."
1 Thessalonians 5:17

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."
Philippians 4:6

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