



# Saint Michael's Messenger

*The Newsletter of St Michael's Church, Beaulieu sur Mer for April 2014*

The Eucharist will be celebrated every Sunday at 10.00 am.

## HOLY WEEK AND EASTER



- Sunday 13 April - 10.00 am. Eucharist for Palm Sunday with the blessing of Palms and procession around the church
- Thursday 17 April - Maundy Thursday - 18.00 pm. Eucharist of the Lord's supper
- Friday 18 April - Good Friday - 10.00 am. Liturgy of The Lord's Passion
- Sunday 20 April - Easter Day - 10.00 am. Eucharist of the Resurrection of The Lord

Easter is the holy festival celebrated by Christians to commemorate the resurrection of Jesus Christ and is considered as a rebirth of Christianity. It is celebrated on the first Sunday of the first full moon after March 21. It usually falls between March 21 and April 25.

The earliest references of the celebration of this festival date back to the 2nd century. The festival marks the end of Lent, which is the 40 day fasting period for devout Christians. The traditional celebration of the festival involves special prayers sung in praise of Jesus Christ rising from the dead.

One further feature of Easter is the egg; which is a symbol of resurrection for the Christian community. Eggs which are decorated, as well as 'hunted', have become an important tradition during the Easter festival.

### **Chrism Eucharists**

Every year during Holy Week Chrism Eucharists are held in Anglican Cathedrals and other places throughout the world. At these services clergy, serving within a Diocese, come together with their Bishop(s) to renew the vows made at the time of their Ordination. Holy Oil for use in parishes/chaplaincies is also blessed by the Bishop and distributed. Oils are used for anointing Deacons and Priests at their Ordination, at services of Baptism and Confirmation and for those who are sick at home or in hospital.

In this Diocese in Europe there are usually two such services. This year one of the services is to be held at All Saints' Church in Rome and Bishop Michael Colclough (formerly Bishop of Kensington in the London Diocese, and, until his retirement last autumn, Canon Pastor at St Paul's Cathedral for seven years) will preside and preach. Thanks to it being only a short flight from Nice to Rome, I am planning to be there for the early part of Holy Week to attend the Eucharist on Tuesday 15 April. On that day please pray for all the clergy in this Diocese whether or not they are able to be present at a Chrism Eucharist this year.

Fr Philip.

### **Canon Geoffrey Grant**

Some of our readers will remember Canon Geoffrey Grant who was Chaplain at St Michael's 1997-2000 before he retired to live in St Paul de Vence. His wife Janet joined us on Shrove Tuesday for the supper and entertainment - it was good to see her there. Unfortunately Fr Geoffrey is now very immobile and is in the care of a residential home close to where Janet still lives. Churchwarden Barry and I visited Fr Geoffrey early in March and spent a lively couple of hours chatting with him. He would be delighted to hear from anyone who remembers him. If you have an hour to spare you would enjoy being in his company in his room in what appears to be a high-class, modern (just 2 years old) facility for those who are no longer able to be cared for in their own homes. The home is called Residence Lyna and the telephone number is 04 26 78 13 13. If you do intend to arrange a visit, a phone call in advance would probably be wise.

Fr Philip.

## **Mardi Gras**

*The evening of Tuesday March 4<sup>th</sup>, Mardi Gras, was spent happily at Saint Michael's by some 33 persons. Nicola, as always, surpassed herself with a delicious 'bake', followed by many pancakes which were served with lemons and also home-made lemon curd, generously supplied by Nicola and Joan. Over €400 was added to the Church funds. A delightful surprise followed, when we were cheered and entertained by Barry, offering a professional, well-rehearsed one man show; he was ably supported from the wings by music man Andrew, and to add to the pleasure Jane jived a number with the leading star. Thank you all for making it such a happy time This supper is always a good excuse to drink up our remaining wine before Lent. We were particularly happy to welcome Mr and Mrs Prettyman, visitors who had found us on the internet and turned up on the night.*

## **Ascension Day Picnic - 29th May**

The Riviera churches are hoping to organise a picnic day out to Lorgues. Minibuses will be available. It is a nice opportunity to meet people from our sister churches. At this stage the organisers want to know of potential interest. If you think you, perhaps together with friends, might like to attend, please e-mail to: [mailing@stmichaelsbeaulieusurmer.org](mailto:mailing@stmichaelsbeaulieusurmer.org)

## **A letter from America**

*We so appreciate receiving interesting articles from St Michael's friends and parishioners who live and worship abroad. The following has recently been received from Vance and Linda.*

*Worship in the Beauty of Holiness*  
*The Church of the Incarnation, Dallas, Texas*  
by Vance and Linda Johnson

It has been just over a year since Linda and I returned to the United States and we still greatly miss being with you. However, before leaving France, Linda conducted extensive research in order to find an Episcopal Church that offers exemplary scholarly standards held by clergy, coupled with quality liturgy that we were used to at St. Michael's.

We have found what we were looking for at *The Church of The Incarnation* in Dallas, Texas, reflecting the best of the Anglican liturgical and architectural tradition. The *enormous* stone Neo-Gothic church, founded in 1879, has continued to expand and today has approximately 4,000 members, under the leadership of The Right Reverend Anthony J. Burton. Five full-time clergy, three part-time clergy, and two retired assisting clergy complete the ordained staff. In addition there are another 60 staff members.

The Church of the Incarnation offers seven services with Holy Communion each Sunday, beginning with a 7:30am traditional service without music in the Chapel, followed by a 9:00am family traditional service in the Main Church, as well as a contemporary service in the Great Hall. In between the early services and later services, a multitude of Sunday School classes are offered. Then at 11:15am there is a traditional full choral service in the Main Church, as well as another contemporary service in the Great Hall. Choral Evensong from the 1662 English Prayer Book is held at 5:00pm on Sunday evenings. The combined average Sunday attendance for all services is over 1,200. The worship ministry also includes weekday celebrations of Holy Communion, a weekly healing service, intercessory prayer, and private confession. Growth Groups, student programs, Bible studies, and book groups are the beginning of the wide range of solid opportunities for Christian Formation.

In 2009, Incarnation began collaborating with Wycliffe College at the University of Toronto and the Diocese of Dallas to form *The Incarnation School of Theology* offering credit courses toward the Master of Divinity degree. Educating the young and old alike, Incarnation also runs a burgeoning pre-school, *The Incarnation Academy*, serving over 200 children, ranging in age from 9 months to 5 years.

*(The second part of this interesting letter will be published in the May edition of the Messenger)*

Want to get in touch?

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