



Saint Michael's Messenger

December 2012

We have been very pleased to hear from readers who have been in touch to say that they are happy to receive this newsletter and that it will be an easier way to keep in contact with what is happening on future dates at St. Michael's. If, by chance, anyone reading this Newsletter knows of someone who should have received a copy by e-mail but was unable to do so, please ask them to check their SPAM or Anti-virus settings.

News was heard from



Josephine, who writes to tell us that she is recharging her batteries after her latest hip operation, which unfortunately was followed by pneumonia. She has been on retreat in Assisi and liked it so much that she is returning for Christmas. We hope to see her back with us before too long.

Lyndon Williams mailed us from New York to announce his engagement to Thelma.

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Anne Mellor's mother, Margarete, who died on 9th November after a short illness. She was 92 and is survived by two daughters, five grand-daughters and three great-grandsons. We extend our sympathy to Anne, Hugh and their families.

To Heidi, whose Mother passed away recently, we send her and the family our sincere sympathy.

An au revoir was said to Helga at the service on November 11th. and by now she will have moved back home to Germany. As a former Church Warden, she has done much good work over the years, always with a smile.

On Thursday 15th November, Father Peter gave an inspirational lecture at the Bibliothèque Pour Tous here in Beaulieu, on the subject of "The Wife in Art". In one hour he covered five centuries and explained the role of the wife in five works of art from Jan van Eyck to David Hockney. He has promised, after many requests, to continue the lectures. Early next year he has said. We wonder what the next subject will be ????

From 7th - 17th December there will be an Exhibition of Illuminated Icons and Paintings by Yvette Paris at the Bibliothèque Pour Tous, 12, blvd. Marinoni in Beaulieu, tel: 04 93 01 12 32. You can meet the artist at the Vernissage on Friday 7th December, from 16.00h. The library has an excellent choice of books and a separate room that has a very good selection of English books. So, anyone visiting may like to browse, and at the same time borrow a book. Membership is 17 euros a year plus 1 euro for each book that you borrow.



The Christmas Market was a success, the donations of items for the stands were generous and so much hard work was put into making it a rewarding event. A slow but steady flow of folk arrived and the choices were examined and appreciated. Nicola's curry meal, the mulled wine and goodies, the traditional cakes and Christmas items were all appreciated. Over 3,000 euros were raised towards our running costs and a very weary, but happy, crew left St. Michael's at 5 pm after returning her to the condition that she is used to, from a market place.

Some Christmas words from our Chaplain.....

In the days of Advent the Church looks to prepare herself for the coming of the Lord at Christmas. She reflects upon the roles of the Patriarchs, Prophets, John the Baptist and our Lady Mary each playing their God-given part in preparing the way for the coming of His Son. The Patriarchs who obeyed and followed, the Prophets whose lives were given over to proclaiming hope to a disobedient and rebellious people, John the Baptist not claiming to be the Messiah but his lowly herald and of course Our Lady whose yes to God prepared her womb to receive the word incarnate. These seem daunting roles and rightly leave us in awe and admiration. We are reminded that amidst the pressure of our own Christmas preparations and the continuous round of daily life, we need to take time out and on the Sundays of Advent ensure we are in Church to hear again the wonderful story of those who made a pathway for our God.

I pray that you your families and all whom you love have a Blessed and Holy Festival and that your hearts are opened to the coming of the Son of God in this Holy Season.

My love and prayers, FP

Farewell wishes from Linda and Vance

Dear Fr. Peter and all our friends at St. Michael's,

It's Sunday evening 25 November and we are finishing packing prior to leaving for the states in a few days. As you all must know, St. Michael's has been the "anchor" for us for almost 16 years while we've lived in this beautiful part of the world and it has been our honor to serve the church. You have been there for us through joy and sadness and have made us feel part of this very special "family". Thank you!!

The absolutely gorgeous oil painting "Dauphines" by artist Jacques Grognet will be one we treasure forever as a tangible reminder of your kindness, love, care, and friendship. It will be hung in a very special place in our new home. Thank you for knowing that a piece of art would be a perfect gift for us.....especially one that shows where we once lived in France!

As we leave for the next chapter in our lives, be assured that our hearts will always be at St. Michael's.

We look forward to our return visit in [probably] April 2013, and we'll see you then!

With great appreciation for all the memories.....love, Linda and Vance

This month's events

Friday 14th	10.00	Eucharist (followed by Church Council Meeting)
Friday 21st	18.30	Carol Service, followed by Mulled Wine and Mince Pies
Monday 24th	19.00	Christmas Eve Eucharist by candlelight
Tuesday 25th	10.00	Christmas Day Festal Eucharist, followed by fizz
Tuesday 1 January	10.00	Eucharist
Sunday 6th January	10.00	Feast of the Epiphany Eucharist

As Christmastime is such a special occasion, and for those who will be attending St. Michael's Services over that period, there is hope that there may be some donations for flowers and decoration.

Want to get in touch?

Editor (Laura): news@stmichaelsbeaulieusurmer.org

Chaplain: peterpadova@ymail.com Tel 04 93 01 45 61

Check our website: www.stmichaelsbeaulieusurmer.org

Thank You!

