



Saint Michael's Messenger, Newsletter, November 2016

The Eucharist is celebrated every Sunday at 10.00 am followed by refreshments

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Sunday	6 th November	10.00 Eucharist, 3 rd before Advent
Tuesday	8 th November	10.00 CCC Meeting
Sunday	13 th November	10.00 Eucharist, Remembrance
Sunday	20 th November	10.00 Eucharist, Christ the King 11.45 Danish Lutheran Service
Sunday	27 th November	10.00 Eucharist, 1 st Advent

FATHER'S NOTES...



Every now and then someone asks me why I'm wearing a particular colour of vestment for the service. I recall writing in a previous article for the Messenger; *The Church, carefully and clearly, marks those seasons with special variations in the Liturgy, by the colours of vestments, and with specific Readings from the Lectionary*, but I didn't actually mention what those colours were and what they meant.

All the major Church denominations, including the Church of England, use colour to denote liturgical seasons, festivals or special occasions. It's only in the more Protestant churches that you will find clergy not using vestments and not making use of traditional colours. But at St Michael's you will see the priest's stole and chasuble, the chalice veil and burse, the lectern and

any altar facings in green, purple, rose, red, white and gold - in keeping with the norms of the catholic churches of the West.

Green is for non-special Sundays, sometimes called the Sundays in Ordinary time or Sundays after Trinity. This is a long season between the end of Easter and the start of Advent but we don't always have green because on some Sundays we transfer feast days. White is the normal colour for the feast day of most saints, apart from martyrs, apostles and the evangelists who are represented with red. Red is also the colour for festivals that feature the Holy Spirit.

Advent and Lent, which are predominantly sombre penitential seasons, are represented by purple which is also used for some funerals. To bring some relief during Advent and Lent there are just two Sundays, Gaudete and Laetare respectively, which instead of purple use pink (rose). White is used for the festive seasons of Christmas, Epiphany and Easter. Gold is often reserved for the great solemnities such as Easter Day and Christmas Day.

As you might expect, there are variations; in the Orthodox Rite and the medieval Sarum Rite, used by the Church of England, you can find blue being used on occasions. You can also find black still being used in some churches - mainly for funerals though white has become more common.

The wearing of such colours complements and enhances the richness and variety of the Church's worship. Just as the world provides a feast of colours for our eyes - the green of the grass, the white of the clouds and blue of the sea, the rose and purple of flowers, the red and golden light of the sun and the black of night - so we try to acknowledge what God has created for us in our offering to him.

It is as the priest says in the prayer on receiving your offerings, *for everything in heaven and earth is yours, and of your own do we give you.*

Fr Tony

'THE VIEW FROM THE PRESBYTERE...



This year seems to be flying by, and I can't believe that we are once again in the season of Remembrance. We as a church start off the month by remembering with thanksgiving all the saints and martyrs, known and unknown, throughout Christian history who served Christ's church here on earth and who now rest in glory in God's Kingdom, often looking to them for strength or inspiration and asking them in prayer to intercede for us. We also remember this month those who served and died that we may be free, not forgetting to pray for those who are still serving. On the 11th we are asked to stop for a moment, to fall silent and to remember the Armistice, a time that has become our focal point in remembering all the brave men and women who have paid that ultimate sacrifice.

Remembering isn't just about looking back though, as in doing so it can help us to shape our future in a way that is positive and good. There is a strong link between remembering and reconciliation and there are some amazing stories of forgiveness and reconciliation in the annals of history that can serve to inspire us in our own lives. There are veterans of both world wars who suffered unimaginably, who in later years not only forgave, but some befriended their captors and torturers and when Nelson Mandela was released from prison he said that he knew that if he didn't leave all the anger, hatred and bitterness behind he would still be in prison. We could learn so much from these brave and strong men and women.

This month let us pray especially for reconciliation in our own lives and, as we honour the past, may we put our faith in God's future as He is the source of our life and hope.

Fiona

Concert for the School of Joy, Bethlehem

Some 300 people gathered at St Charles church in Monaco on 9th October to hear a concert by Friar Allesandro 'The Voice of Assisi'. He was supported by Collette Marx-Nielsen, the choir of the International School of Monaco and Jean-Pierre Bader, the organist of the church. The concert was a great success and it raised just under 10,000 Euros all of which goes to the very good cause of the School of Joy which supports otherwise destitute children in Bethlehem.

We at St Michael's are proud to be associated with our good friend Josephine Attar who worked so hard to arrange this event, as she did for the first such concert last year. We congratulate her!



Fra. Allesandro

Wanted 1

We are always on the lookout for news items and features for future editions of the Messenger. If you anything you would like to contribute please e-mail the editor on news@stmichaelsbeaulieusurmer.org

Wanted 2

There is a new section on the website for archive pictures of St Michael's. Find it under About Us / Gallery. If you have, or know of, any photos going back, say, 20 years or more please contact Hugh on info@stmichaelsbeaulieusurmer.org

St Michael's Christmas Sale of Presents and Promises



Much work has gone onto preparing the new list of presents and promises which are offered by our congregation and supporters to help raise funds. The final catalogue will be e-mailed out to all who are on our Messenger circulation list. There are some wonderful treats available in return for your contribution to church funds and they include:

- ✚ A day out on a sailing yacht
- ✚ A week in a luxury flat in Beaulieu (choice of two!)
- ✚ Opera at Holland Park, London
- ✚ Gardening and home services
- ✚ A Mont Blanc fountain pen
- ✚ A magnum of Bordeaux wine
- ✚ A selection of paintings and drawings
- ✚ The Oxford History of England
- ✚ A Chinese style rug
- ✚ A sofa for your terrace
- ✚ A traveller's set of Clive Christian perfumes



Your copy of the catalogue will be e-mailed direct to you or you can request a copy by e-mail to Fiona on:

sale@stmichaelsbeaulieusurmer.org

We are very grateful to Jeremy Nordberg and to Sarah Saunders-Thompson for their work in putting this together.

Want to get in touch?

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