



# Saint Michael's Messenger, Newsletter, May 2017

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

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:**

Sunday	7th May	10h00	Eucharist – Easter 4
Sunday	14th May	10h00	Eucharist – St Matthias
Sunday	21st May	10h00	Eucharist – 6th of Easter
Thursday	25th May	10h00	Eucharist – The Ascension
Sunday	28th May	10h00	Eucharist – 7th of Easter
Sunday	4th Jun	After Eucharist -	Fundraising Lunch

## **EASTER DAY**

The congregation overflowed with over 100 members and visitors celebrating the joy of Easter at St Michael's church this April. Frs Anthony and Philip led the service celebrating Christ's resurrection and His gift of everlasting life. Very many thanks to everyone who helped prepare for the day: spring cleaning the church, providing beautiful flowers and pouring glasses of bubbly which contributed to a warm atmosphere of fellowship.



An especial thank you to Sophie and Deanne for providing and arranging the inspiring flower arrangements at St Michael's this year.

## FATHER'S NOTES...



Although it is now several weeks after Easter, I am still feeling the joy of having seen so many people come to the Easter Sunday service. St Michael's was overflowing – all the chairs were occupied, even the spare folding ones, and some people had to stand. What a magnificent way for us to celebrate the greatest festival of the year.

After a long Lenten observance characterised by sombre purple, no Gloria or Alleluias and minimum singing, the liturgy then burst out on Easter morning in celebration of Christ bursting from the tomb. The new lighting in the church was accentuated with festive candles on the altar and High Altar and of course the burning Easter flame and Paschal Candle; purple had changed to glittering gold and the once bare altar of Good Friday was adorned with a magnificent flower display. We sang nine times during the service, raising the roof with our Alleluias! The icon of the Crucifixion had been replaced by that of

the glorious Resurrection and the spring flowers decorating the church's columns reinforced the sense of new life that Easter brings. The faint waft of incense invoked the mystery of our communion with the choirs of angels and the company of saints in their eternal praise of the Almighty.

All of that lasted just over an hour – so what happened next? What did people take home with them when they left St Michael's on that Easter morning? Was it all just like a party, enjoyable at the time but then over and done with?

Easter Sunday is meant to change our lives; not externally but inwardly and spiritually. We are meant to leave the church with the words of Scripture – the Good News of the Resurrection - ringing in our ears and singing in our hearts. We are meant to leave behind the church but take away with us, through communion, the risen Christ's presence and power. We are meant to disperse our comfortable fellowship at St Michael's in order to reach out to suffering strangers in the streets.

Although several weeks have gone by, Easter hasn't ended and never will; its effects of joyful hope and selfless service should still be with us wherever we are and in every moment of our lives.

**Fr Tony**

## CCC SCENE

In this month's Messenger we begin a short extra article entitled *CCC Scene*. The CCC is of course your **Chaplaincy Church Council** who are responsible, by Church law, for the running of St Michael's. The majority of our congregation can only visit us occasionally and may not be aware of the many discussions and decisions that are made by the Council throughout the year.

The latest CCC meeting was primarily to settle in new members to the Council and try to bring them up to speed on current issues. We are considering a review on what the Council may charge for the use of the church and how this is administered; a clarification of the principles for hospitality and how this can affect fund-raising; a schedule of works by which we can prioritise and perhaps anticipate maintenance projects; advertising St Michael's for the tourist season; and we are also discussing the organ!

As you know, St Michael's is not an ordinary parish church and the seasonal nature of our congregation also applies to Council members who are not always available to physically attend meetings. In this case briefing papers are going to be prepared for members to respond to and, if necessary, vote upon. This should ensure the fullest participation of our council members for the future.

CCC Scene will appear in the Messenger following each of the council meetings and hopefully will provide the outcomes of the issues mentioned.

Please encourage your council members and continue your support for their work...

### **New Chaplaincy Church Council Elected (from April 9, 2017)**

	<b>After AGM 2017</b>	
Clergy	Rev Anthony Ingham	Chair
Warden	David Knight	
Warden	Vacant	
Synod rep	Justin Hayward	
Synod rep	Jenny Kerridge	Safeguarding officer
Lay member	Nicola Karlsen	Secretary
Lay member	Andrew McChesney	
Lay member	Jeremy Nordberg	Lay Vice Chair
Lay member	Ian Lawrie	
Lay member	Jo Norman	
Lay member	Hugh Mellor	
Lay member	Brian Johnstone	Treasurer
Lay member	Sarah Blundred	
Lay member	Vacant	

### **Church Council Changes**

We would like to say good bye and thank you to the following council members: Fr Philip Robinson; Nick Harley and Barry Coffey who have devoted a huge amount of time and effort behind the scenes, especially during our ineregnums at St Michael's. A big thank you too, to Brett Davy and Sarah Thompson who are leaving the council. Sarah will be returning with her husband to Wisconsin, we wish her blessings and best wishes with their move.

After 5 tireless years of service Barry Coffey is standing down as church warden - we thank him for all his tremendous hard work and wish him peace and joy in the future. Barry will continue to provide the liturgical music and act as cantor at St Michael's and in his spare time he has taken up a new sport. In the 1980s Barry was an international badminton player but more recently has taken to the rapidly growing sport of Padel. He is now a regular competitor, with some success on the international tournament circuit both "Open" and "Veteran" and has been asked to play as "guest" for both Great Britain Veterans and the Monaco National Team. Do ask him more about it when you see him at church. Good luck Barry!



## WHO'S WHO?

We are delighted to welcome 3 new CCC members: Brian Johnstone as Treasurer; David Knight, as Church warden; and Sarah Blundred as Lay member. In the following months *The Messenger* will give a short profile on each, please feel open to introduce yourself to them after one of our services. Thank you to David who is sharing part of his life with us this month. We wish him every success in this key role.



I was born in Covent Garden, London. My father was an officer in the Royal Navy and was posted to Fremantle Australia in 1954 when I was nine. As this was a five year posting, the family moved to Western Australia with him. I spent the next fifteen years in Australia and graduated from Sydney University with a BA Eng Lit. I moved back to the U.K in 1971.

1974 saw me in Beirut, Lebanon working for Middle East Airlines which was the start of a forty year career in the Middle East based in Saudi Arabia and Bahrain.

I retired in 2014 but my wife Yvette and I were unable to enjoy it as she was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in March 2015 and she died in June 2015.

Yvette was born and raised in Villefranche Sur Mer and we always maintained a home there for high days and holidays and it is now my permanent home.

When in Villefranche, we worshipped at St Michel, it being Yvette's Church but during her illness we worshipped at St Michael's many times as we enjoyed the service and the congregation. Since her death I have found great comfort at St Michael's and I am honoured to be asked to become Church Warden.

I have two sons and seven grandchildren all of whom are based variously in Paris, Marseille and Nice.

I look forward to being of service to St Michael's and the congregation and to working closely with Father Anthony.

**David Knight**

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS



Please stay for a **fundraising Lunch** in St Michael's Church garden on **4th June** after Sunday Eucharist.

25 euros per person. Champagne, starter, main course, dessert, coffee, wine and soft drinks all included.

Please let Nicola know by email, [ekarlsen@wanadoo.fr](mailto:ekarlsen@wanadoo.fr) or sign the list at the back of the church so that we know numbers to cater for.

### Want to get in touch?

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