



# Saint Michael's Messenger, Newsletter, April 2019

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

## Dates for Your Diary:

Sunday	7 <sup>th</sup> April	10h00	Eucharist – 5 <sup>th</sup> in Lent
Sunday	14 <sup>th</sup> April	10h00	Eucharist – Palm Sunday Followed by Annual Church Meeting
Tuesday	16 <sup>th</sup> April	10h00	CCC Meeting
Thursday	18 <sup>th</sup> April	18h30	Passover (Please book in Advance)
Friday	19 <sup>th</sup> April	15h00	Good Friday Liturgy
Sunday	21 <sup>st</sup> April	10h00	Eucharist – Easter Sunday
		11h45	Danish Lutheran Service
Sunday	28 <sup>th</sup> April	10h00	Eucharist – St Mark
Sunday	5 <sup>th</sup> May	10h00	Eucharist – Easter 2
Sunday	12 <sup>th</sup> May	10h00	Eucharist – Easter 3
Sunday	19 <sup>th</sup> May	10h00	Eucharist – Easter 4
Sunday	26 <sup>th</sup> May	10h00	Eucharist – Easter 5
		11h45	Danish Lutheran Service
Friday	31 <sup>st</sup> May		Wedding Blessing

**Also every Friday at 19h00 – Pentecostal Service (in French)**

## Father's Notes...



'The king is dead! Long live the king!' Many of us of a certain age and familiar with historical dramas will know that it is a proclamation on the death of a king. As a child I thought it must have been a mistake because it didn't make sense, until I realised that 'Long live the king' didn't refer to the same person who had died but to their successor in line to the throne. It was a very important proclamation because it reminded and reassured people of the permanence of order and government. It could mean a continuity of good things, but it could also mean a change from bad things as well – giving both comfort and hope to the nation.

At Saint Michael's, along with Christian churches throughout the world, we are remembering certain key events in the life of Jesus which have consequences for us all today. It begins on Palm Sunday when Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time; then we commemorate the Last Supper of Jesus and, the following day, his trial and execution on the cross. Three days later, as foretold by the Scriptures and Jesus himself, we celebrate his Resurrection from the dead. These are events that were documented shortly after they occurred, by the people who took part in them and witnessed them. When we remember and re-enact those events through our liturgies we could well say, 'The king is dead! Long live the king!' but we would be talking about the same person, Jesus Christ, and this could only make sense through faith.

The life of the Risen Jesus, our Lord and King, actually continues to this very day and beyond, as we say in one of the Eucharistic Prayers, '...he instituted and in his holy gospel commanded us to continue a *perpetual* memory of his precious death until he comes again.' Jesus also told us after his resurrection, 'I am with you always, even to the end of the age.'

Our celebration of Easter, as with every Eucharist, never actually ends but continues as the sign and reality of the permanence not only of God's order and authority in creation but his love and salvation for each and every one of us. It is a continuation of all the blessings and grace from God which is our comfort; and it's our hope because it is the opportunity to change what is bad in ourselves and in our societies. 'The king is dead! Long live the king!'

**Fr Tony**



**Passover Supper and Commemoration of The Last Supper  
on**

**Maundy Thursday 18th April at 18.30**

**If you would like to come to this service, we need to know in advance for catering purposes.**

**Please let Fiona or Fr Tony know as soon as possible as the list will be closing on April 7th.**

**The money raised from this event goes to one of St Michael's chosen charities,  
so we humbly ask for a donation of €25.**

**Thank you.**

### **Sale of Promises**

The Christmas Sale of Promises has now completed and, again, raised useful funds for St Michael's. A very big thank you to all those who offered promises, those who bid for them and to Jeremy and Fiona for organising everything.

Since 2014 the sales of promises have raised around 13,500 Euros but the amount has declined a bit each year so it may be that this format has served its time. We are considering moving away from the connection with Christmas so that promises may be offered at any time of year. More to come on this in future editions of the Messenger.

**Hugh**

## Are you our next Archdeaconry Synod Representative?

I'm sure most readers of the St Michaels Messenger will have read the Archdeaconry Synod reports, either through the links provided or a in paper copy to be found at the back of the church at the AGM's - no? - then let me tell you about the annual Archdeaconry Synod of the chaplaincies of France and Monaco: -

It's a three-day gathering of reps and clergy from each chaplaincy, sharing information and attending meetings intended to inform and enlighten, alongside worship in all Anglican traditions. The Synod has a relaxed and friendly atmosphere whilst at the same time it gives an opportunity for sharing concerns and protocols around our beloved Anglican church.

At my first Synod, in Arras, (when it used to be held in January- brr! now it's held in April or May - lovely) I arrived with instructions from St M's council about issues to raise with our then bishop Geoffrey. That first evening I realised that we, in our beautiful little corner of France, were the lucky ones. We are privileged to worship in one of the prettiest churches in France with a loving community around us, whilst some chaplaincies have a building but no chaplain and others a priest but no place of their own to celebrate their faith. Our concerns are few in comparison. But the Synod provides a network for information and guidance as well as support and encouragement - and for dialogue directly with the archdeacon (and lately the area deans) and a chance to meet, talk and listen to our bishop.

As you may have seen in the reports, Synods have entertained many knowledgeable and hugely interesting guest speakers, and we have learnt about, and discussed, the churches position on sexuality, marriage, Islam, safeguarding, targeted ecclesiastical insurance, the closeness of our catholic sisters and brothers and most importantly our mission. In recent years regular bible study sessions have been included and they have proved to be extremely popular.

If anyone in our St M's congregation has two or three days in April or May to spend with like-minded friends in a welcoming and accommodating part of France, why not step up and put your name forward as an Archdeaconry Synod rep at our AGM? You won't regret it - I never have.

**Justin Hayward**

Archdeaconry Synod Rep, St Michaels, Beaulieu sur Mer.

## Pancake Supper – 5<sup>th</sup> March

The pancake supper held on Shrove Tuesday raised over €400 for St Michael's and was a great success with some 30 attending. It was lovely to see new members of St Michael's there as well as guests from Ireland and St Paul's Monaco. Heartfelt thanks to Nicola and all others involved in making this happen.



## Contributions Needed!

We always need new content of the Messenger and for the next edition it would be good to have some first-hand reaction and pictures from the Easter Celebrations – the major event in our calendar. Ideally we could use

- Some one- or two- line comments and reaction from members of the congregation
- Pictures of the Church and the decorations for Easter
- Pictures of people (posed pictures work better than 'backs of heads')

Please just e-mail any contributions (or send a link to photo collections) to the address below. Suggestions for future content / features are always welcome too.

**Hugh**

[news@stmichaelsbeaulieusurmer.org](mailto:news@stmichaelsbeaulieusurmer.org)

### Want to get in touch?

Editor Hugh: [news@stmichaelsbeaulieusurmer.org](mailto:news@stmichaelsbeaulieusurmer.org)

Our website: [www.stmichaelsbeaulieusurmer.org](http://www.stmichaelsbeaulieusurmer.org)



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