



ANGELS & SAINTS

MONTHLY PARISH NEWS

Issue 39

October 2020

Changing seasons

With the darker evenings and the brilliant autumn colours and trees ripe with berries, we can't miss the dramatic changes which signal the season of Autumn. It is one of the most colourful seasons of the year, those brightest of leaves which glistening in the rain wave a final farewell before floating free from the branches and stems that have nourished them. As leaves turn red and plants die down the earth begins the preparation for new life next Spring, in around 6 months' time. There will be lots going on but not all of it will be visible.

6 Months is the predicted time scale for the latest Government restrictions to remain in place. But we cannot take that timing for granted. It is not just the seasons that are changing, the speed of new regulations has also accelerated and our plans for the future are changing too. Timing is important for all things, whether that is the growing season, or the preparation of the soil, or paving the way for a new pattern of church services.

At the PCC, held in church last month, I spoke about the proposed pattern of services that will be put in place when it becomes safe to do so.

The two main weekly services in St. Michael's will be at 10am on a Sunday morning and 5pm on a Sunday afternoon leading into the evening worship.

The 10am service will be Eucharistic and will be family friendly including children's work. The 5pm service will be in a more informal style to include meet and greet, bible study, discussions and worship with the music group. This service will evolve and be able to respond to specific themes.

The 8am Eucharist will continue but under present staffing levels it will not be held every week.

There will be occasional evening services on special occasions which will be held during the week.

At All Saints, there will be a Eucharist once a month at 10am on a Sunday morning and there will be a service of Morning Prayer on some other Sundays.

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It may well be 6 months, or longer before we can fully put these plans into practice and once in place we will review them every three months. We will need to make decisions on the frequency of some of the smaller services. The time seems right to implement these changes since we have had, and will continue to have such a huge gap since our 'normal' church attendances. Pat and I had spoken of these plans before, and initially after, lock down, so they are not just a reaction to the pandemic, or to our decrease in the numbers of clergy. However, change is always difficult, so I ask you all to prayerfully consider and support these plans as we travel forward in hope during these darker days. It seems to feel more difficult to take on some of the new regulations as the weather turns and we look to winter with the prospect of limited opportunities to meet up and celebrate our special occasions, but we are a people of hope and as our Archbishops have recently said: 'We have the hope and stability of the gospel' and, it is this gospel joy, even in the darkest times that alone can help us through this crisis, bringing hope and an eternal perspective to the very pressing trials of the moment.

It is this hope and faith that will see us through the winter to a new Spring.

God Bless you, Much love, Deborah



APCM Thursday 15th October 7pm

The APCM has been rearranged and will now be held on **Thursday, 15 October at 7.00 pm in church**. We will need to restrict numbers attending to ensure social distancing. The Annual Report and the Annual accounts are now available in the Meeting Room and in the Parish Office .

Church Wardens If anyone wishes to be considered as a candidate for election as a Church Warden, please complete the appropriate form in the APCM packs in the Meeting Room and hand it to the vicar at least one week before the APCM.

PCC and Diocesan Synod There are vacancies for the PCC, and Diocesan Synod. Please prayerfully consider if you are being called to serve in one or more of these important roles for which elections will be held at the APCM. The PCC has 4 evening meetings a year, and its committees generally have a similar number of meetings. Please talk to any PCC member if you would like further detail.

If anyone is interested in being nominated for these positions, please complete a nomination form (in the packs in the Meeting Room), and get the completed form to the Parish Office, or me, before 12 October. Julia Palmer julia.palmer@jcplaw.co.uk (scans accepted)

Please contact the Parish Office on 01202 813256 if you need an APCM pack and are unable to collect one.



Armchair Oktoberfest - *A Socially Distanced 'Social'*

Friday 16th October

Select a drink of your choice, be it Weissbier, Vin Rouge or good old Tea. Find yourself a comfortable armchair

As you settle in and start to relax, think about where you would have liked to have been this summer, quietly or otherwise, enjoying your drink.

Pick up your phone and call a friend, preferably someone that you can have a good laugh **with (This is where the 'social' comes in).**

Afterwards: Thinking about where you would have liked to have been, donate a small proportion of the travel cost to your Church.

Cash in an envelope, marked 'Armchair Oktoberfest' to the collection plate or Parish Office. Cheques to Verwood PCC or direct to our Cafbank – Sort Code 405240, Account number 00014240

Drink, Chat, Enjoy, Donate

Harvest Festival Sunday 11th October 2020

Donations can be left in the Meeting Room at the following times:

Sunday 4th October – 10am – if you have been invited to attend this service

Wednesday 7th October – 10-10.30am – during Morning Prayer

Sunday 11th October – 10am – if you have been invited to attend this service

URGENTLY NEEDED ITEMS

- SPONGE PUDDINGS
- TINNED COLD MEAT
- TINNED CUSTARD
- MASHED POTATO

WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF

- BEANS
- TINNED SOUP
- CEREAL
- TEA
- DRIED PASTA



What are your thoughts.....?

We are considering starting a new service at St Michael's on a Wednesday morning.

This would be a 'said' Eucharist service at 10am each week and would replace the current Morning Prayer service.

Please could you let the Parish Office know by [email](#) or telephone if this is a service that you would be interested in attending.

Should there be significant interest in attending, then we will need to restrict numbers attending to ensure social distancing.

NHS Test & Trace

We are legally required to log details of visitors to our church buildings for the NHS Test and Trace system and retain this information securely for 21 days. From Thursday 24 September it is **strongly recommended** that we display official NHS QR code posters under law ahead of the NHS COVID-19 app being rolled out nationally. You will notice these on the church noticeboard outside and inside St Michael's. These QR codes can be scanned using the NHS Covid-19 app and will be used in addition to the current paper records that we keep.



Remembrance Parade

Sunday 8th November 2020



Please see the message below from Verwood Town Council....

There will be a short service at the Memorial Stone on Sunday 8th November at 11.00am this year involving Deborah, the Mayor and a representative from the Royal British Legion.

We are arranging to live stream the service and it will also be on Forest FM.

However, due to social distancing requirements, residents are being asked **not** to attend the Memorial Stone at 11am.

Should you wish to lay a wreath or cross the gates to the Memorial Stone will be open from 8.00am to 6.00pm on 8th November.

Let's hope next year we will be able to commemorate as normal.

A message from our Treasurer...

For the first time in many months, the PCC met in September.

As Treasurer to the PCC I have been asked to thank all of those that donated so generously to our emergency funding appeal in July. You have made a very meaningful difference to our Bank Account.

We are still short of funds, despite our best efforts at cost reduction, we continue to spend more than we earn. As we move into the winter period is it possible that you may find it within your ability to donate a little bit more each month? Many small contributions will add up to a large change.

Thank you for your regular donations as your contribution to the Mission of our Church.

Neil Gibson

Children's Society Christmas Cards. If you would like to pre-order Children's Society Christmas Cards we can send you a link to a virtual brochure and an order form. Please contact Carol Sampson on 01202 814072. Thank you for your continued support.

REST IN PEACE

Donald Campbell Rose Holland

Baptisms in October

Thomas William Tyrell

Sunday Services in October

Sunday 4th October

St Francis

10am

President: Revd Deborah Matthews

Preacher: Bill Seymour

5pm

Together on Zoom

Sunday 11th October

Harvest Festival

10am

President: Revd Deborah Matthews

Preacher: Duncan Moss



Sunday 18th October

St Luke

10am

President: Revd Deborah Matthews

Preacher: Revd Deborah Matthews

5pm

Together on Zoom

Sunday 25th October

Bible Sunday

10am

President: Revd Norman Moulard

Preacher: Revd Norman Moulard

Church Contacts

Rev. Deborah Matthews 01202 823707

(Day off Friday)

The Parish Office

stmichaelsverwood@gmail.com

Sue Shier (Communications!)

07585 900810 suejshier@me.com

Sunday 10.00am Service

We will do our best to ensure that everyone has a fair opportunity to attend and you will be contacted each week to be advised if you have a place for the service that week.

If you cannot attend, the service will be live recording – this can be seen on Facebook on our '[St Michael's, Verwood](#)' page and will also be available on our YouTube channel via our [website](#) shortly afterwards

Morning Prayer

Each Wednesday at 10.00am

Everyone Welcome!

Privacy Notice

Live Streaming of Public Worship

Please be aware that there will be a camera in church to enable us to broadcast the 10.00am Sunday services.

Unless prior consent has been obtained, the camera will avoid children/adults at risk, and will therefore be angled away should there be any involvement of children/adults at risk during the service. We will ensure that we adhere to Safeguarding Practices at all time.

Please contact either a member of clergy, the churchwardens or the Parish Office if you don't wish to be filmed.

We will all need to adhere to the Government and Public Health England guidelines at all times. For the purposes of the NHS Track and Trace system, we will be keeping a written record of who attends the service each week.