



### Thought for the Month

*From Reverend Pete Steele*

A couple of weeks ago I put my car in for its annual service. I know that some argue that the car does not need to be serviced annually if the mileage is not high but I feel that it is always safer to have things checked so that I can feel confident when I am out driving. At nearly 80 I am not a 'boy racer' but also I am not a dawdler, particularly when on the motorway, so an annual service it is. This year no problems, other than my Sat Nav but that is another story, but I was informed that in one back tyre there was a nail and in the other two nails but not to worry they had sealed themselves. But I did worry so today I took my car to my favourite tyre place, have been going there for years, to find out what I needed to do.

As I was driving to Kinson I was listening to Radio Solent, and the presenter, Sam Fraser, was asking listeners to comment on two questions. Firstly 'Is Easter the new Christmas?' and secondly 'What is happiness?' The responses were interesting - high on the list of happiness was 'Our favourite team winning'. Now being a Cherries fan for over 70 years I can relate to that but I have to say in my case the euphoria does not last long (a defeat is just around the corner!) When it came to Easter it turns out that lots of people are now starting to decorate their houses both outside and in. I quite like that idea but when it comes to Easter Eggs being in the shops straight after the New Year and Hot Cross Buns available all the year round I do draw a line and most certainly I do not want to see Easter commercialised in the way Christmas has become a huge 'present buying' extreme.

So then what is happiness and what is Easter all about? In my mind the two are closely connected. Christmas is indeed a time of celebration when we remember the birth of Jesus Christ but, to me, Easter is a far greater celebration when we bring to mind the resurrection of the same Jesus Christ. A resurrection which opens heaven and our God to each one of us if we accept Jesus as Lord and Saviour. It is true that life cannot be one long laugh but knowing Jesus can bring the inner happiness that comes from joyful acceptance of the true meaning of Easter. Of course that does not mean that we shouldn't enjoy all those chocolate eggs I hope you have been given - but don't eat them all at once.

And the nails in my tyres - it turns out that I have self-sealing tyres and so long as they don't leak everything will be fine. If they should leak though my car will inform me of the fact - that indeed is progress but true happiness, I don't think so.





## Together @Six Calendar For April

**Sunday 7th April**  
What a week that was!

**Sunday 14th April**  
Jesus appears to the disciples  
(Holy Communion)

**Sunday 21st April**  
Why pray?

**Sunday 28th April**  
Why read the Bible?

## Family Service

With Trinity School Choir

**Sunday 21st April**  
**10am**



## ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH CHILDRENS GROUP: PLAY, CUPPA, CHAT

JOIN US FOR TOYS, STORIES, SONGS AND MORE.  
AN OPPORTUNITY TO SPEND TIME TOGETHER WITH OTHERS.

FRIDAY'S DURING TERM TIME 10.30AM-11.30AM

FREE AND ALL ARE VERY WELCOME



CONTACT MARINA, CHILDREN'S WORKER:  
STMICHAELS.CHILDRENSWORKER@GMAIL.COM



Vivienne Veevers  
Christine Gibbons

ALL SAINTS CHURCH, THREE LEGGED CROSS

# Coffee Morning



*Please join us on the 3rd Wednesday of every month for coffee and conversation.*

Everyone Welcome

## SAVE THE DATE

The next Bereavement Teas will be held  
on :

Wednesday 17th April - 2pm

Tuesday 9th July - 2pm

Wednesday 18th September - 2pm

Wednesday 20th November - 2pm

Everyone is welcome

If you have any queries, then please  
contact the Parish Office on 01202 813256  
or [stmichaelsverwood@gmail.com](mailto:stmichaelsverwood@gmail.com)



## Save the Date

Wedding Dress Festival Saturday 29th June  
10am—4pm

We are planning a wedding festival in June and will be asking for tailors dummies, life sized dolls for Christening gowns and wedding dresses for display. Please let the Parish Office, Ro or Michael know if you can help.

There will be music and refreshments throughout the day.



## SENIOR SPRINGTIME AEROBATHON

Tuesday May 14<sup>th</sup> 2024  
9.30am -12.30pm

ST MICHAEL'S PARISH CENTRE



Following the resounding success of past years, we are planning the above event once again, this time to help raise money jointly for the Verwood and Three Legged Cross Dementia Friendly Community Association and towards Church Funds.

The morning will consist of gentle exercise varying in intensity from active standing up sessions, chair based activities, weights and fun activities, all geared towards keeping us all more active as we get older. Participants are welcome to dip in and out of whichever activity they prefer and there is no pressure to 'perform'. **Please note - you are more than welcome to come along just as a spectator!** The Dementia Choir will also be performing during the morning for everyone to sing along with!

There will be a raffle, stall and ongoing refreshments, and we would like to welcome anybody of any age and ability to come and watch / take part and/or enjoy some company in what will hopefully be a fun filled morning!

To register to take part there is a fee of £10.00 which will all go to the funds raised and include a cup of coffee etc. Sponsorship forms will also be available on request for any who would like to use them to raise a little more money but these are purely optional. Spectators are welcome to make a small donation if they wish.

Thank you for supporting this event - and see you there! If you have any further questions please contact me on 07843 014381 or email me:  
annsmayo@yahoo.co.uk

Ann Mayo

## David Mankin's Birthday 29th February 2024

As he is a leap year baby, it was his  
21st!!



## Passover Meal 26th March 2024

Over 50 people gathered in the Parish Centre to enjoy our annual Passover Meal hosted by Duncan Moss. A huge thank you to everyone involved in this enjoyable evening. A special mention to the wonderful catering team!



## Lent Lunches 2024

There were three Lent Lunches held this year.

LPA's raised £198 which was donated to the National Foodbank Drive



All Saints church raised £135 to be donated to Church Funds

Brian & Lesley Cox raised £32 on the children's society raffle and £164 to be donated to Church funds

## Easter Garden Making

Saturday 30th March 2024



Thank you to everyone that came along to help to make our Easter garden.



## Routine Maintenance

Please look down the list on the Meeting room noticeboard to see what you can do, when you have done it, next time you are in here, simply tick off the job box for the relevant month.

If you think 'somebody else will do it', to everyone else, you are the person they are thinking will do it. So now is your chance!!

## Electoral Roll

Are you on the Church Electoral Roll? You can check on the list in St Michael's Meeting Room or by contacting the Parish Office.

If you want to attend the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) or stand for election to the PCC, or you are a sidesperson, you need to be on the Electoral Roll

You can ask for your name to be added at any time, but if you wish to attend the APCM and participate in votes, the closing date this year in this parish is Sunday 14th April.

## APCM & Election of Officers

It is time for our annual meeting again. The APCM will be held on **Thursday 9th May at 7.00 pm in church**. The Annual Reports and Annual Accounts will be available in the Meeting Room and [online](#) approximately 3 weeks in advance of this date.

**Church Wardens** If anyone wishes to be considered as a candidate for election as a Church Warden, please complete the appropriate form available [online](#), or in the Meeting Room, and hand it to the vicar at least one week before the APCM.

**PCC and Deanery Synod** There are vacancies for the PCC, and Deanery 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. Both usually involve around 4 evening meetings a year, and Deanery Synod involves the wider plans of the Diocese for our area. 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 (available [online](#) or from the Meeting Room or Parish Office), and get the completed form to the Parish Office, or me, before the meeting.

Julia Palmer (scans accepted)

## SERVERS ROTA

Would you like to help out at our Sunday services? In particular, there are vacancies for sides-persons and occasional acolytes, and for help with coffee.

Please have a chat with Deborah or the Churchwardens if you would like to know more about any of the servers roles. If you are interested please contact the Parish Office.

## Calendar of Events in April

Monday	1st	Choral Society (weekly)	7.00pm	St Michael's
Tuesday	2nd	<b>BCP Holy Communion</b>	<b>9.15am</b>	<b>St Michael's</b>
		Coffee Morning (weekly)	10.00am	Meeting Room
Wednesday	3rd	Service for those with Memory Loss	11.00am	St Michael's
		Verwood Dementia Friendly Association	12.noon	Meeting Room
Thursday	4th	Thanksgiving Service for Ruby Medcalfe	1.30pm	St Michael's
Friday	5th	Children's Group (weekly)	10.30am	Meeting Room
Wednesday	10th	Dementia Group	11.00am	Meeting Room
Sunday	14th	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>All Saints</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>17th</b>	<b>Bereavement Tea</b>	<b>2.00pm</b>	<b>Meeting Room</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>18th</b>	<b>HFC Meeting</b>	<b>7.00pm</b>	<b>Meeting Room</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>20th</b>	<b>Prayer for Healing</b>	<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Meeting Room</b>
Sunday	21st	<b>Sunday Lunch</b>	<b>12noon</b>	<b>Parish Centre</b>
Monday	22nd	Music for the Mind	2.00pm	Meeting Room
Sunday	28th	<b>BCP Holy Communion</b>	<b>8.30am</b>	<b>St Michael's</b>
		<b>Morning Praise</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>All Saints</b>

## Calendar of Events in May

Wednesday	1st	Dementia Group	11.00am	Meeting Room
Friday	3rd	Children's Group (weekly)	10.30am	Meeting Room
		Choir Practice (Weekly)	4.00pm	St Michael's
Monday	6th	Choral Society (weekly)	7.00pm	St Michael's
Tuesday	7th	<b>BCP Holy Communion</b>	<b>9.15am</b>	<b>St Michael's</b>
		Coffee Morning (weekly)	10.00am	Meeting Room
Sunday	11th	<b>Holy Communion</b>	<b>10.00am</b>	<b>All Saints</b>

### Regular Service Times

#### Sunday Services at St Michael's

10am: Holy Communion

6pm: Together @Six

3rd Sunday—10am: Family Communion Service

#### Weekday Services at St Michael's

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday

9am: Morning Prayer

See Calendar (above) for services at  
All Saint's, Three Legged Cross  
and for occasional services at St Michael's

### Church Contacts

Vicar: Revd. Deborah Matthews

**01202 823707** (Day off Friday)

#### Parish Office

9am to 12pm weekdays (not Weds)

**01202 813256**

[stmichaelsverwood@gmail.com](mailto:stmichaelsverwood@gmail.com)

Children's Worker: Marina Schettino

[stmichaels.childrensworker@gmail.com](mailto:stmichaels.childrensworker@gmail.com)

Website - [www.st-michael.org.uk](http://www.st-michael.org.uk)

YouTube - [St Michael's, Verwood](#)

Facebook - [St Michael's, Verwood](#)