

Parish of St. Michael, Tadley (with Kingsclere) and St. Oswald, Burghfield Common

Priest-in-Charge: Father Stephen Vooght

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Pastoral Facilitation Team: Gerry Penfold (Chair)

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Office hours: Tues, Weds, Thurs, Fri: 9.45am-2.45pm. Closed on Mondays

Website: www.stmandsto.org.uk

MASS TIMETABLE

Day	Date	Feria, Memorial (M), Feast (F), Solemnity (S)	Time	Church	Mass Intention
Sat	8 th Aug	19 th Sunday - Vigil	6.00pm	St. Michael's	Amanda Togher RIP
Sun	9 th Aug	19 th Sunday	9.00am	St. Michael's	
			11.00am	St. Oswald's	Marc Mildenhall RIP
Mon	10 th Aug	NO MASS			
Tues	11 th Aug	St. Clare (M)	12 Noon	St. Oswald's	
Weds	12 th Aug	Feria	9.30am	St. Michael's	James Douglas RIP
Thurs	13 th Aug	Feria	9.30am	St. Michael's	
Fri	14 th Aug	NO MASS – FR. STEPHEN IS AWAY			
Sat	15 th Aug	Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary (S) - Vigil	6.00pm	St. Michael's	
Sun	16 th Aug	Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary (S)	9.00am	St. Michael's	Kevin Barnes RIP
			11.00am	St. Oswald's	

Fr. John Lee, our Pastoral Area Co-ordinator, will celebrate the Saturday Vigil Mass on 15th Aug.

Fr. Paul Gunter OSB, Abbot of Douai Abbey, will celebrate both Sunday Masses on 16th Aug.

Weekday Masses preceded by 30 mins of Eucharistic Adoration. Rosary after Mass

Confessions: Before Weekday Masses, Saturday at St. Michael's 11.00am - 12 Noon, or by appointment

Mass Intentions: If you would like a Mass Intention, please contact Dan in the Parish Office

ADVANCE NOTICE: Both our Churches and the Parish Office CLOSED from 17th August until 21st August
Further details in next weekend's Newsletter

RECOGNISING GOD'S PRESENCE IN ORDINARY AND UNEXPECTED MOMENTS OF LIFE



The readings for this Sunday reveal a beautiful truth about the way God comes to us. Both Elijah and the disciples find themselves overwhelmed by fear. Elijah has fled to a cave on Mount Horeb, discouraged and exhausted after threats to his life. The disciples struggle against fierce winds and waves as darkness surrounds them on the Sea of Galilee. Yet in both moments of crisis, God draws near.

Elijah witnesses a mighty wind, an earthquake and a fire, but the Lord is not found in these dramatic displays of power. Instead, God reveals himself in *"the sound of a low whisper."* His presence is quiet, personal and reassuring, inviting Elijah to trust and continue his prophetic mission.

In the Gospel, the disciples are initially unable to recognise the Lord. Seeing Jesus walking on the water, they mistake him for a ghost and are filled with terror. Their fear is dispelled only when Jesus speaks: *"Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."* Peter's attempt to walk on the water reminds us that faith flourishes when our eyes remain fixed on Christ but falters when we become consumed by the storms around us.



Together, these readings remind us that God rarely reveals himself in the dramatic ways we expect. Instead, when we learn to see with the eyes of faith, we begin to recognise his quiet yet abiding presence, gently at work in the ordinary and often unexpected moments of life. Elijah discovers that God is present in the stillness; the disciples discover that Christ is present in the midst of the storm. So too in our own lives, the Lord is never absent. He speaks quietly in prayer, strengthens us through his Word and comes to us most profoundly in the Holy Eucharist. When we recognise his presence and place our trust in him, fear gives way to faith, and despair is transformed into hope.

Marc Mildenhall RIP

It is with a great sense of shock and sadness that we received the news from Mel Stevens that Marc Mildenhall, from our St. Oswald's community, had passed away in the early hours this Friday morning.

At this difficult time, please join us in praying for the happy repose of Marc's soul and for the comfort of all those close to Marc. Our consolation at this time is that Marc had recently been received into the Catholic Church and was Baptised in Easter this year.

Marc's Funeral details will be announced as soon as they are finalised.



Photo courtesy of Pam Darroch

NEW! Children's Liturgy at St. Oswald's

A Children's Liturgy group will be starting at St. Oswald's on September 6th during 11am Mass and will be on the first Sunday of every month moving forward.

Welcome Anthony!

We are delighted to announce that the Baptism of Anthony McCarthy took place at St. Michael's Church in the afternoon of Sunday 26th July, and we welcome him into the Catholic Church. As evident from the photo, this was an occasion filled with great joy and happiness. Our very best wishes to Anthony and his family.



Photo courtesy of Rebecca McCarthy

ARCHANGELS SOCIAL GROUP

Parish Afternoon Walk and Tea – Please Sign Up by this Sunday 9 August

The Archangels' Annual Parish Walk, led by Pauline Penfold, will take place in Silchester on Sunday 16 August. The plan is to:

- meet at Silchester village playground car park at 2.30pm
- walk to St. Mary the Virgin Church down The Drove, passing the old museum. It's about one and a quarter miles, so should take about 40 minutes. This is a flat walk with no stiles.
- there will be tea/coffee and cake to buy at the Church and we can sit and chat. Non-walkers who would like to join the group at the church for the tea and chat, should aim to arrive around 3pm. There is some parking available.
- then the walkers will retrace their steps back to the car park the same way, unless some want to go back a different way alongside the outer wall on a green narrower undulating path - which is about a quarter of a mile longer route back.

Please register on the sign-up sheets in our church porches for the walk and/or the tea by Sunday 9 August, so that we can give St Mary's notice of the numbers expected for tea. Please make a note of Pauline's mobile number - 07749 409920 - in case your plans change on the day, so that you can let her know if you won't be joining her on the walk after all. Many thanks!

Picnic Tea & Rounders in Silchester – Sunday 6 September

This is now being run as a CTAT event, led by St Mary the Virgin Church community. Please see 'Praise, Pitch & Picnic!' below for details and sign up on the form in church porches to join in this fun afternoon and hopefully form a St Michael's team for the rounders - but spectators are equally welcomed!

CTAT

Praise, Pitch & Pastries!

Please come along to Silchester Playing Field, RG7 2NJ, on the afternoon of Sunday 6 September for a picnic tea from 3pm, followed by a game of rounders at 4pm. There will also be the opportunity to join with other CTAT churches in the marquee at 5pm for a joint worship service to round off the day. Please bring your own picnic. St Mary's will provide some hot and cold drinks.

CTAT Ladies' and Men's Breakfasts

There will be no meetings in August. The next Ladies' Breakfast will take place on Saturday 12 September and the Men's Breakfast on Saturday 26 September, both at the Immanuel Centre, Tadley URC, RG26 3NJ, from 10am to noon.

Refreshments at St Mary the Virgin Church, Silchester in August

The church will be open for the purchase of refreshments from 3pm – 5pm every Saturday and Sunday in August – tea, coffee, cold drinks and cake. All welcome.