

ST MICHAEL'S COMMUNITY UPDATE

No 50: 2.12.20

INTRODUCTION

- If you have a friend or neighbour who would like to receive this, please forward their details.
- I also invite you to send in items, especially humorous ones!
- For all correspondence please use office@stmbsands.org

CHURCH SERVICES AFTER LOCKDOWN 2

We are pleased to announce that our first service back in church after lockdown No 2 will be Sunday 6th December at 10.30am. We will also be sending out an identical service online for you that morning.

This will be our Toy Service. Unfortunately, the Salvation Army brass band are not able to play live but are sending us recordings of well-known hymns which will be included.

As usual the collection will go to the Salvation Army, please make cheques out to '**St Michael's PCC**'. We will be collecting TOYS which the Salvation Army will give out to children from poor families at Christmas. These can be for boys or girls, 0-18 years old and must be unwrapped. Please bring your toys to the service or drop off at church any time from 9.30-11.30am on Sunday 6th December. Once the service is over they will be taken away by the Salvation Army.

In the weeks leading up to Christmas we have lots of special services.

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|----------------------------|------------------|---------------------------------|
| Wednesday 9 th | December 10.30am | Holy Communion |
| Sunday 13 th | December 4.00pm | Christingle Service No 1* |
| Wednesday 16 th | December 10.30am | Christingle Service No 2* |
| Sunday 20 th | December 4.00pm | Christingle Service No 3* |
| Thursday 24 th | December 4.00pm | Outdoor Carol Service** |
| Friday 25 th | December 10.30am | Christmas Day Family Communion. |
| Sunday 27 th | December | No Service. |
| Sunday 3 rd | January 10.30am | Holy Communion |

* This year we will be running 3 identical Christingle Services. With maximum capacity about 45, we require everybody to book a place at one service or another. Send an email to Nerys in the office office@stmbsands.org or leave a message on the church answer phone 0151 924 0561. If several members of your family who are attending are in a bubble, please mention this.

**At 4pm on Christmas Eve we will be holding an outdoor Carol Service with singing which will last about 30 minutes. This will go ahead whatever the weather. We will set up a few chairs in the Church Hall for the elderly who need to sit in relative warmth!. We will open the windows so you can hear, but sadly you are not allowed to join in with the singing. The collection will go to the Salvation Army. For up to date details see the Newsletter on Wednesday 16th December.

BEAUTIFUL MOMENTS – Submitted by Anita McGill



WOODLANDS HOSPICE VIRTUAL SERVICE

Sunday 6th December 6pm

Unfortunately, we cannot hold our annual Woodlands Hospice Service at St Michael's this year. This is always a very special occasion when we can remember a loved one and support the amazing work of Woodlands. Listen to this short clip from Neil as he explains what has been arranged instead. <https://youtu.be/g3GSopPSdcQ>

Carole Riley from Woodlands explains how you can access this year's online service and support the work of Woodlands

- You can watch this year's live streamed service via FACEBOOK on Sunday 6th December at 6pm <https://www.facebook.com/WoodlandsHospice>
- Or you can watch the service at any time after this date by visiting the Woodlands Website: www.woodlandshospice.org/light-up-a-life

Don't forget to tell your friends about the service, and we hope to see you all back at St Michael's next year.

If you would like to make a personal donation to help Woodlands Hospice during this festive time please contact Carole Riley. Details below.

Carole Riley, Individual Giving Manager

Direct Dial: 0151 529 4143 Mobile: 07801 482157

Email: carole.riley@aintree.nhs.uk

ZOOM QUIZ NIGHT

The next quiz night is this Friday 4th December at 7.30pm. There will be a prize for those taking part on their own and another for those in a family group.

If you would like to be involved send an email to Richard Kemp at blundellsands@btinternet.com

There will be a special Christmas Quiz on Friday 18th December at 7.30pm

QUIZ - Submitted by Michael Stone

1. What is usually sold at reduced prices during a Happy Hour?
2. What colour is the shade of cobalt?
3. What sort of animal is Garfield?
4. Which country makes Gouda cheese?
5. What name is given to a fox's tail?
6. Which was Daniel Craig's first James Bond movie?
7. In which month is Thanksgiving Day in the USA?
8. In which century did Charles Dickens live?
9. Which Italian area produces Chianti wine?
10. Cheviot and Suffolk are both kinds of what?
11. On which island is Parkhurst prison?
12. Which flag in motor racing signals the end of a race?
13. Brazil has how many land borders?
14. To which throne did Prince Albert succeed in 2005?
15. What does a seismologist study?
16. In which war was the battle of Ebro?
17. Who was 'Man of the Match' in the 1966 football World Cup final?
18. In the Bible, who was father of King David?
19. What was discovered by Clyde Tomburgh in 1930?
20. Who wrote romantic novels as Mary Westmacott?



THOUGHT FOR THE DAY – WHAT’S IN A NAME?

Recently we had great news when our granddaughter Phoebe was born. Phoebe means ‘BRIGHT’. Unfortunately, because of Covid restrictions Margaret and I are still waiting to give her a cuddle.

However, on the few occasions we have managed to see her from a safe distance she has not lived up to her name.....she has been fast asleep!

In Matthew 1v21 it records that the angel tells Joseph concerning his wife Mary, “She will give birth to a Son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins”.

Some time ago now, a lady came to see me who was depressed and feeling guilty because of a particular sin she had committed. There was nothing she could do: she had committed the sin, she couldn’t undo it, and she couldn’t forget it.

I was able to remind her that Jesus came to save us from the shame and guilt of such sins and to give us a fresh start. Even more, Jesus is able to fill us with his Holy Spirit so that we can be strengthened to resist future temptation and to be able to live for him.

When the name is Jesus, there is a lot in a name.

QUIZ ANSWERS

1. Drinks 2. Blue 3. Cat 4. Holland 5. Brush 6. Casino Royale 7. November 8. 19th
9. Tuscany 10. Sheep 11. Isle of Wight 12. Chequered 13. 10 14. Monaco 15.
Earthquakes 16. Spanish Civil War 17. Alan Ball 18. Jesse 19. Planet Pluto 20.
Agatha Christie

PRAYER

The Bishop of Liverpool recently drew our attention to this ancient Lutheran prayer for courage. A prayer many of us may find helpful as this crisis continues.

***Lord God,
you have called your servants
to ventures of which we cannot see the ending,
by paths as yet untrodden,
through perils unknown.
Give us faith to go out with good courage,
not knowing where we go,
but only that your hand is leading us
and your love supporting us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

TALKS

For those who missed our Sunday talks you will find them here:

Sunday November 22nd : Link for talk 1: <https://youtu.be/g3rfkdU1MGc>

Link for talk 2: <https://youtu.be/RLuuaD4sA4>

and

Sunday November 29th <https://youtu.be/K9CsL2-rKU8>

If you are new to accessing YouTube clips and need some help, just give Margaret or I a ring on 0151 378 0332 and we will help.

ALWAYS LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE OF LIFE

Scientists have now confirmed that Women who have put on weight during Lockdown are likely to live longer than men who mention it. 🤔 😄



The things children say: <https://youtu.be/l-U5ryd6mHU>

Russ Abbott Master brain Contest <https://youtu.be/DA-ZWQAWr9o>

A recent study found that the average golfer walks about 500 miles a year.

Another study found golfers drink, on average, 22 gallons of alcohol a year, which means, on average, golfers get about 41 miles to the gallon.

Kind of makes you proud! I almost feel like a hybrid.



A couple for the golfing fraternity!

Together we will get through this.

Revd Neil Short

2.12.20