

St Michael and All Angels, Lower Church Road, Sandhurst, Berkshire, GU47 8HN  
The church building is only open at certain times, please visit our website:  
[www.stmichaels-sandhurst.org.uk](http://www.stmichaels-sandhurst.org.uk) for up-to-date information.

## PARISH OFFICE OPENING HOURS

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 10:00am-1:30pm**

For enquires about hall bookings, baptisms, weddings, funerals, the best way to contact us is by phone on a Monday or Thursday.

If you wish to visit the office in person, please contact us in advance to agree a suitable time.

**T: 01252 873030 / E: [office@stmichaels-sandhurst.org.uk](mailto:office@stmichaels-sandhurst.org.uk)**

For pastoral matters you can phone the Rector, **Rev John Castle** on:  
**T: 01252 872168** or email him at: [rector@stmichaels-sandhurst.org.uk](mailto:rector@stmichaels-sandhurst.org.uk)



## Who's responsible?

Like it or not, we're now heading for a General Election on 4th July. Each party wants us to believe that we can trust them with the future of the country. And we, the electorate, have been entrusted with the responsibility of choosing who will govern.

One of the most important things that children need to learn as they grow up is to be responsible for themselves, and to act responsibly in the world. The current climate crisis reminds us all of our responsibility to live sustainably as well as ethically.

God also expects us as individuals and corporately to act responsibly in the way we live, showing love for

him and for our neighbours.

This month's focus on Stewardship is about how we respond to his love for us, shown in creation, in Jesus and through the many blessings each of us has enjoyed during our lives.

How responsible do you feel for the success of our church in its worship and mission? St Michael's can only operate through the giving of time, talents and money by its members. Please take time this month to consider prayerfully all that God has blessed you with, and what might be your responsibility for the future of your church.

**Rev John Castle**

## OUR PURPOSE AS A CHURCH

**Knowing** God for ourselves. **Growing** as individuals and as a church.

**Showing** God's love in the world.



Please pray for all those on the Prayer Board, and for Albie Wilkinson who is being baptised during our Parish Communion Service on 9 June.

## CHURCH MISSION SOCIETY (CMS)

Our charity focus for June

CMS works all over the world, partnering with local churches and Christian organisations to bring practical and spiritual relief and development. We hope to have a speaker from CMS later in the year, but for now, here's a glimpse of work they are doing to help refugees from the civil war in South Sudan:

▶ When the war in South Sudan began at the end of 2013, many communities descended into anarchy as different tribes fought each other. Children were drafted in as soldiers, women were raped, men were killed.

Over the next few years, many ran for their lives to Uganda. Betty remembers running from gunfire with her brother and his children. Betty's brother looked back and was shot down. Betty kept running with his children and they made it to the border, where they were taken to a refugee camp.

In the refugee camp, people are safe from the war, but their suffering stays with them. "Everyone is traumatised," says Satimon about people arriving in the camps. Satimon is a facilitator of Bible-based trauma healing first trialled in 2018 as church leaders saw how trauma affected refugees' daily lives.



*Writing things down on pieces of paper and burning them is deeply symbolic of God's work of healing*

Many people also felt justifiably angry towards those who killed their loved ones. For adults, in many cases, this leads to domestic violence, alcohol and substance abuse and sometimes suicide.

Children in the refugee camps act up, doing whatever they want, and their parents are unable to control them.



*Audio players help more people access trauma healing teaching*

Betty lived with terrible pain in her heart and became very thin, wasting away through bitterness towards those who had killed him. One day, someone gave her a digital audio player (DAP), and it played Bible stories such as the story of Joseph being sold into slavery and later forgiving his brothers.

Betty was also invited to a trauma healing group, where she could open up and talk about her trauma when she was ready. Through meeting Jesus, spending time in God's Word, sharing with others and actively working at forgiveness, she has found God's healing and now has peace in her heart. She has even been able to forgive those who killed her brother, and others can see the difference in her. She has returned to a healthy weight.

You can read more about this work and other ways CMS is bringing the love of Jesus to people all over the world, including in the UK, at <https://churchmissionsociety.org>.



WHAT'S HAPPENING?



and



Crowthorne Churches Together

present...

# Captain Noah and His Floating Zoo

by Michael Flanders and Joseph Horowitz

**Sunday 9th June 2024**

**6 pm**

**St John the Baptist Church,  
Crowthorne**

**RG45 7AW**

**Admission Free**

**Retiring Collection**

**Refreshments available**



## WHAT'S HAPPENING?



**When?** Monday 10 June 8:00-9:30pm

**When?** Online Zoom meeting

**Cost?** FREE

**What's it about?** *Primary Parenting* is a light-hearted event about the ups and downs of raising under twelves. We will be showing the video of a talk by Rob Parsons and Katharine Hill, in which they present insights and top tips gathered from their combined experience of working alongside thousands of parents for over thirty years. You may laugh, you may cry, but we hope to leave you feeling uplifted and inspired.

There will be 15 minutes or so at the end of the video for discussion.

**Please contact Sarah Bishop to confirm you'll be attending. and for the Zoom link:**

[familyworker@stmichaels-sandhurst.org.uk](mailto:familyworker@stmichaels-sandhurst.org.uk)

## REDWOOD EARLY YEARS NURSERY

### Open Now!

*Redwood Early Years* is now accepting applications for our new setting, for children aged 2-5 years, based at St Michael's Pastoral Centre, GU47 8HN.

### About us...

At *Redwood Early Years*, we are passionate about early years education and care and pride ourselves on our unique curriculum.

Visit our website: [www.redwood-ey.com](http://www.redwood-ey.com) or scan the below QR Code, for more information.

**Sarah Gresty, Early Years Teacher and Owner**

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



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## WHAT'S HAPPENING?

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### Praying together for Sandhurst 5@5 on Thursday 13 June

If you can, please pause and pray for 5 minutes at this time.

On this occasion let us pray for the Christian presence in Sandhurst. We give thanks for all God has done; all that He is doing and all He will yet do in this place. May we pray for individuals to:

Churches Together

*'...grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.'* Isaiah 43:2

We might also pray for:

- our churches, house groups, activities... • our ministers, chaplains, deacons, stewards...
  - Christians in positions of influence in our community • 'you in your small corner and I in mine'
- Jesus called His followers to help make Him known wherever they went. He calls us to:

*'let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.'* Matthew 5:16

I ask You Father, Lord of all, to let your light shine in every part of our town. May that light shine through every street, shop, workplace, school, and church. Let the gospel permeate every part of

our community and break through every area of darkness. Strengthen your people for service and draw many more into a knowledge of your love.

*Amen*




### On the social side

Well that's May done & dusted and our Plants & Preserves Sale and Ceilidh over. The Plants & Preserves Sale on the 5th raised over £350 and the 'extra' sale of leftover plants on the 19th contributed a further £100. So, thank you to the various stall-holders and to those who came along and spent their hard-earned pennies.

Ticket sales for the Ceilidh were not helped by the Eurovision song contest taking place on the same night (though at least one person came along to escape it!) but, in the event, around fifty adults & children came. This turned out to be a nice number as it meant there was plenty of room for dancing. Not such a wide age range as

last year – we didn't have any eighty year olds (but plenty in their seventies). Having a caller with pre-recorded music rather than a live band also helped ensure there was plenty of room and full use was made of the space. Overall, a great evening which contributed a further £425 to church funds. A big "thank you" to John Fletcher, our caller, and to everyone who came to the event.

 No social committee events now till after the summer, when we will be holding our **Annual Quiz on Saturday 21st September**. An important date for your diary.

**Chris Harris, Social Committee**



### St Michael's 'SPACE ACADEMY' Holiday Club

I am looking for volunteers to help with running of our children's holiday club this summer. It will run on **Monday 29 July, 5, 12 & 19 August from 1:30-4:00pm** (see also page 9):

There will be lots of activities, including crafts, games, bible readings and worship. If you can offer any assistance for one or all of the dates, please contact me by email:

[familyworker@stmichaels-sandhurst.org.uk](mailto:familyworker@stmichaels-sandhurst.org.uk)

Sarah Bishop, Family Worker



## SEEING OURSELVES AS STEWARDS OF GOD'S GOOD GIFTS

In the first three weeks of June in our sermon series we will be considering different aspects of Christian Stewardship.

On **2nd June** we'll consider that "All things come from you, and of your own do we give you" (*1 Chronicles 29:14*), and reflecting on the example of the poor widow who generously gave back to God all that she had.

On **9th June** we will think about how as Christians we are all members of the Church, and that we all need to make our contribution for the Body of Christ to flourish.

Finally, on **16th June**, which we have designated **Stewardship Sunday**, we'll look at how the tabernacle was made in the book of Exodus from contributions freely offered by the people of Israel.

Please read the separate leaflet which explains more about the rationale and the practicalities of Christian Stewardship, especially in relation to how vital it is for the mission and future sustainability of our church.

On **Stewardship Sunday, 16th June**, we will be asking everyone at each of that day's services to make a pledge of time, talents or money to St Michael's, using the form provided in the leaflet. The forms will be collected in a box, and anyone who requests help in joining the *Parish Giving Scheme* or offers their time and talents will be contacted by the relevant person.

On the financial side, the most efficient method of regular giving from the church's point of view is the *Parish Giving Scheme*, because they do the admin for us, including claiming Gift Aid. You can either access it online using the QR code or web address opposite, or you can fill in a paper form. There is the option to make your contribution increase annually with inflation, so that it retains its value to the church. You are contacted before the increase, so you can opt out if you wish.

Other ways of helping the church financially include making a one-off donation or including a legacy to the church in your will. There is a separate leaflet on legacies.

However you give, if you pay tax and gift-aid your giving, St Michael's will benefit from a 25% tax rebate, which amounted to an extra £17,278 in 2023.

To all who generously give of their time, talents and money for the mission and worship of St Michael's, a big THANK YOU! Please pray that each member of our church would discover afresh the joy and fulfilment of contributing to its worship and witness through offering their unique contributions.

Rev John Castle and Catherine Wilkins,  
Stewardship Officer



**We need you!**  
Every time you shop online you can raise **FREE donations** for us!

• You shop • 4,400+ Retailers **Donate** • For Free **Register on easyfundraising**

## YOUR CHURCH NEEDS YOU...



### *New /assistant Churchwarden*

It would be great to have someone appointed to assist Karen Allen. Please do speak to **Karen Allen, Catherine Wilkins** or **Rev John Castle** if you'd like to know more about the role and its responsibilities.



### *We are always looking for volunteers!*

There are plenty of opportunities to volunteer at St Michael's. Please do speak the **Parish Office, Karen Allen, or Rev John Castle** if you'd like to know more.



## PARISH GIVING SCHEME

**This Parish is registered with the Parish Giving Scheme which allows you to give to this Parish securely and safely online. This QR code will take you to the Parish Giving Scheme website:**

<https://www.parishgiving.org.uk/donors/find-your-parish/sandhurst-st-michael-berkshire>

***All things come from you, and of your own have we given you*** (1 Chronicles 29 v14)

At St Michael's, we give thanks to God for all his gifts so freely given.

Members of St Michael's are encouraged to give generously and regularly in the context of **KNOWING** God better, **GROWING** in faith, and **SHOWING** our love in action.

Every gift given to St Michael's will be used to further the work of the church:

- in our community, including our Family Worker and Youth Worker;
- in the church nationally through our 'parish share';
- and more widely as 10% of each gift goes to support our nominated charities every year.

Regular gifts through Parish Giving Scheme help us plan confidently for the future.

They can even be index-linked to the cost of living if you wish.

Thank you for giving through the Parish Giving Scheme.

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**St Michael and All Angels Church, Lower Church Road, Sandhurst, Berkshire GU47 8HN**



## Intergenerational church in practice!

31 adults and children have signed up to attend **Spring Harvest at Butlins, Minehead** from 14-18 April next year and we would love more of the Church family to join us!! It's a Christian conference offering excellent bible teaching, discussion sessions to unpack the teaching, plus seminars on a whole range of subjects! The Childrens sessions are age themed and incredibly fun! The Butlins site means swimming pools funfairs and a whole range of activities for everyone.

I am acting as Lead for our group booking so if you want me to assist in booking accommodation please contact me as soon as possible as the booking lines open at 8:00am on 12 June. By booking as a group we can access free places depending on the size of our group!



The church does have funds to assist with costs as we are keen to enable as many as possible to come.

If you would like to know more, please contact me on 07940 825553, or visit the Spring Harvest 2025 website:

[www.springharvest.org/events/minehead](http://www.springharvest.org/events/minehead)

**George Castle**



Spring Harvest 2024





St Michael & All Angels

# SPACE ACADEMY HOLIDAY CLUB

MONDAY 29 JULY  
MONDAY 5 AUGUST  
MONDAY 12 AUGUST  
MONDAY 19 AUGUST

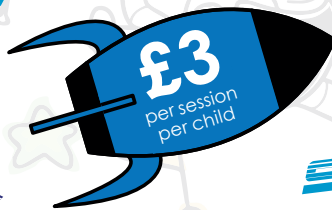
1:30-4:00PM

CRAFTS

GAMES

BIBLE  
STORIES

SINGING



St Michael's Pastoral Centre  
Lower Church Rd, Sandhurst GU47 8HN

Places are limited. For more information  
and to register, email Sarah Bishop:  
[familyworker@stmichaels-sandhurst.org.uk](mailto:familyworker@stmichaels-sandhurst.org.uk)

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## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

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### Meet the Artist An Evening with Tom Butler

A big THANK YOU to everyone who supported this fundraising evening in aid of our *Spire Appeal*, whether by attending in person or buying tickets for the prize draw.

The majority of the audience were not otherwise connected with our church, and we all enjoyed a fascinating talk from local professional artist Tom Butler about the development of his artistic style and his career. In addition to being intrigued at how each painting takes shape and the techniques he uses, we were impressed by how many paintings Tom is able to produce in a month.

The prize draw for one of Tom's limited edition prints and a colour book of his works brought in £1090, and with entrance ticket sales and top-up donations the total raised for the *WinSpire* fund came to £2,000. More fundraising events will be notified in due course! In the meantime, please pray about how we will raise the rest of the target of £170,000 needed for repairs to the Spire, bells and clock.

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## 100 CLUB DRAW

January 2024

**1st Prize - £20 :** George Castle No. 17

**2nd Prize - £10 :** Janet Pilbeam No. 4

£33 has been passed to church funds.

**Brandon Ashton**

## 100 CLUB DRAW

February 2024

**1st Prize - £20 :** Ken Wilkins No. 56

**2nd Prize - £10 :** Rosemary Dobson No. 29

£33 has been passed to church funds.

**Brandon Ashton**

## 100 CLUB DRAW

March 2024

**1st Prize - £20 :** Mike Sherren No. 24

**2nd Prize - £10 :** Sue Campbell No. 121

£33 has been passed to church funds.

**Brandon Ashton**

## 100 CLUB DRAW

April 2024

**1st Prize - £20 :** Di Pidgeon No. 8

**2nd Prize - £10 :** Ruth Eve No. 3

£33 has been passed to church funds.

**Brandon Ashton**

## GROUPS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

### baby & toddler TIME



**Baby and Toddler Time** is a friendly group for babies, toddlers and their parents/carers. It is held in the Pastoral Centre on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month during school term time, from 9:00am to 11:00am.

For the first hour and half we have lots of toys for children to play with, toast and fruit (with coffee/tea for adults) and a craft activity. Breastfeeding support is also available (please ask at the welcome desk). In the last half-hour we have a Bible story and lots of singing of nursery rhymes etc. Booking is not necessary.

**Kidz Church** takes place on Sundays during the 9:30am service. It provides age-related activities in the Pastoral Centre, for children aged three up to school Year 5, every week. There is something for the *Kidz Church* age group all year round.

**The Family Service** is held at 11:15am on the first and third Sunday. We are back to our all-singing, all-dancing norm. Family Service is a great Sunday morning activity, whether in the school holidays or in term-time.



**Bible Bites** is for children in Years 5 and 6, on Monday lunchtimes in school, under the leadership of Sarah Bishop. Please contact her for more information at: [familyworker@stmichaels-sandhurst.org.uk](mailto:familyworker@stmichaels-sandhurst.org.uk).

**Reach** (Year 6 and up) is held in the Pastoral Centre during the 9:30am service. More information is available from Sarah Bishop on 07764 548714, by email at: [familyworker@stmichaels-sandhurst.org.uk](mailto:familyworker@stmichaels-sandhurst.org.uk) or the via church *Facebook* page.

### Additional youth support services

**Dream Big Youth Club**, held on a Sunday evening, is run by *Sandhurst Youth*. Contact Liz Percival on 07950 690729, or **Mike Gower** on 07591 240161 for more information.

**XLM Mentoring** is a free mentoring support, for young people in the Sandhurst area needing someone to talk and chat with. Contact **Mike Gower** for more information on 07591 240161.

**Youth line counselling service** is available by phone, on: 01344 311 200 or via email at: [ask@youthlineuk.com](mailto:ask@youthlineuk.com)

**Youngminds** has a crisis messenger text service. For text support, text YM to 85258.

**Kooth.com** is a youth online support service.

### Families booklet available online

A families booklet, with further information about activities for families at our Church, and includes resources for helping you to share faith at home, is available on our website:

[www.stmichaels-sandhurst.org.uk/families](http://www.stmichaels-sandhurst.org.uk/families)



## JUNE CHURCH SERVICES

Charity: Church Mission Society

### Sunday 2 June – 1st after Trinity

**Theme: Giving back to God**

Readings: *1 Chronicles 29:6-14 (p433-434);  
Mark 12:41-44 (p1018)*

8:00am Holy Communion

9:30am Parish Communion (Traditional) 

11:15am Family Service

**Theme: The Widow's offering**

Reading: *Mark 12:41-44 (p1018)*

6:30pm Contemplative Evening Prayer


**Theme: Vocation**

### Sunday 9 June– 2nd after Trinity

**Theme: One body, many gifts**

8:00am Holy Communion

Readings: *Romans 12:1-13 (p1139);  
Luke 6:32-38 (p1034)*

9:30am Parish Communion (Informal)   
and baptism of Albie Wilkinson  
Reading: *Romans 12:1-13 (p1139);*

6:00pm **Captain Noah and his floating zoo**  
at St John the Baptist Church,  
Crowthorne (*see page 3 for details*)

### Sunday 16 June– 3rd after Trinity

**Theme: Stewardship Sunday**

Readings: *Exodus 35:4-9, 20-29 (p94-95);  
Luke 16:10-13 (p1050)*

8:00am Holy Communion

9:30am Parish Communion (Reflective) 

11:15am Family Service

**Theme: Making your contribution**

Reading: *Exodus 35:4-9, 20-29 (p94-95)*

6:30pm Evensong

**Theme: David is anointed king**

Readings: *1 Samuel 15:34-16:13 (p287)  
Mark 4:26-34 (p1006)*

### Sunday 23 June– 4th after Trinity

**Theme: David and Goliath**

Readings: *1 Samuel 17:4-11, 32-37, 41-51  
(p288-290);  
Mark 4:35-41 (p1006)*

8:00am Holy Communion 

10:30am Church Together Service

### Sunday 30 June - 5th after Trinity

**Theme: David weeps for Saul and Jonathan**

Readings: *2 Samuel 1:1,17-27 (p304-305);  
Mark 5:21-43 (p1007-1008)*

8:00am Holy Communion

9:30am Parish Communion (Traditional) 



Find us on Facebook



[www.facebook.com/  
StMichaelsSandhurst](https://www.facebook.com/StMichaelsSandhurst)

If you have any comments, events,  
news or updates for the website,  
please email David Hunt at:

[david.hunt@bcs.org.uk](mailto:david.hunt@bcs.org.uk)



**Live-streamed services**

Services marked with the above icon are  
being live-streamed on our Facebook page:  
[www.facebook.com/StMichaelsSandhurst](https://www.facebook.com/StMichaelsSandhurst).



**Coffee**

Coffee will be served in the Pastoral Centre  
**after each 9:30am service and before the  
Family Service in church.**

Bacon and vegetarian sausage butties will be  
served in the Pastoral Centre **before the Parish  
Communion Service on Sunday 9 June.**



**Contact us**

Do you have something else you'd like to appear in the newsletter? Please send emails to:  
[newsletter@stmichaels-sandhurst.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@stmichaels-sandhurst.org.uk).

**Please note: The deadline for entries in the August 2024 edition is Monday 24 June.**

If you'd like to receive a version via email, please contact David Hunt at: [david.hunt@bcs.org.uk](mailto:david.hunt@bcs.org.uk).