

Parish News

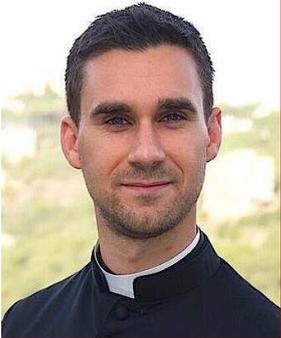


The community newsletter of Saint Michael & All Angels, Barnes

Michaelmas 2019



A TIME OF UNCERTAINTY



It would be fair to say we are currently in a time of **great uncertainty**. It's not just about politics, but about the whole direction of our nation, our public life and who we understand ourselves to be in the world. There will be a need for some sort of national reconciliation as the costs and benefits of any outcome begin to affect our lives. In all this ferment, I fear that we are distracted from some of the most pressing issues of our time such as ecology, social care and inequality.

An interesting feature of current debates is around Britain's unwritten constitution. It is something real, but not easily defined or described, and most of the time, when things are working well, there is no need to do so. There is a parallel here with our own lives. Most of the time we go through life in accordance with ideas and rules that are largely unacknowledged. It is only when some crisis happens – bereavement, redundancy, relationship breakdown - that we may be forced to consider what are the values that shape and govern our lives. In such circumstances, honest reflection can lead to a new self-understanding, a change in our principles, and a firmer foundation for our lives.

I like to describe Saint Michael's as a 'learning community of Christians', always exploring and reflecting on the faith handed down to us. There is a popular misconception that being a Christian (or having any kind of religious faith) means that you cease to think for yourself or, like the Red Queen in *Alice in Wonderland* believe 'six impossible things before breakfast'. For the most part, it is quite the opposite. It is about living within a framework that is constantly re-examined for its reality. It seems to me that we all bear responsibility, individually and collectively, for patterning our lives around what we know to be *factual*, what we understand to be *truthful*, and what we hope to be *eternal* – and this goes for politics as much as faith.

Father Stephen, Vicar

MICHAELMAS

Join us to celebrate Saint Michael's Day in style

Sunday 29th September

10.00am Sung High Mass

Children invited to come dressed as angels!

Followed by sparkling wine and canapes.

6.00pm Choral Evensong &

Benediction *With the joint choirs of St Michael's*

and St Mary's. Guest Preacher: The Very Rev'd

David Ison, Dean of Saint Paul's Cathedral.

Followed by a drinks reception.



SING WITH US!

If you like singing, you'll love our Choir

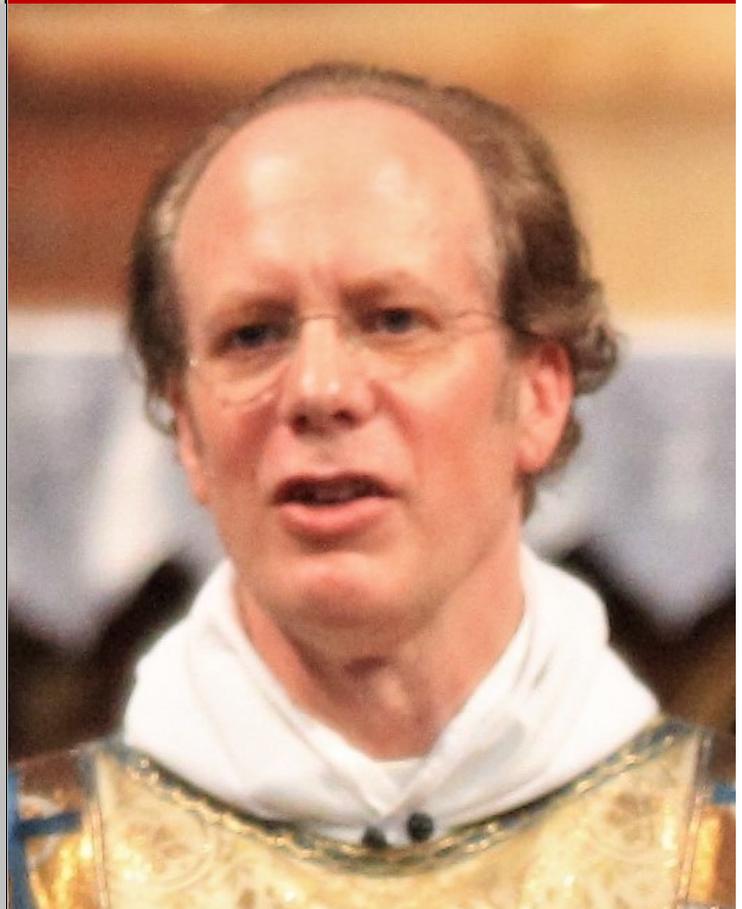
St Michael's is keen to hear from people who might like to join the Choir. We are looking for all voices, but particularly basses and tenors. Not all members sing every week and, although it is necessary to read music, choir members vary in prior experience and ability while maintaining high standards. Rehearsals are Wed 8.15-9.30pm and before services. Contact the Parish Office to arrange a friendly audition with the Director of Music. We have also recently launched **Choral Scholarships** up to the value of £1000 for young singers and are currently recruiting. For more information and how to apply, see our website.

WELCOME FATHER MARTIN

In late June, Father Martin Calderbank was ordained at Southwark Cathedral to serve as curate at Saint Michael's. He prepared for ordination at Saint Augustine's College, and he knows Barnes well because he spent time on placement at Saint Mary's. Before ordination, Fr Martin was a Reader (a licensed lay minister) at Saint Margaret's, Putney. Martin is married to Louise and they have three adult daughters. Fr Martin continues in employment in private equity, ministering at Saint Michael's on Sundays and a certain number of hours each week over the course of the next four years.

Fr Martin writes; *"I am delighted to join in worshipping with you at Saint Michael's and joining your mission in the wider community."*

Father Martin can be contacted on:
curate@stmichaelbarnes.org



A NEW CHURCH HALL FOR ALL

Over the last few months we've been working towards putting together more specific proposals for a new Church Hall to replace the current one on Elm Bank Gardens. Later this Autumn we hope to be able to share with you where we've got to, and hear what you have to say about some initial designs. There will be a community event in early November to look at and talk through the project. We will let you know the date shortly, but in the meantime, if you'd like to join our Church Hall mailing list please email churchhall@stmichaelbarnes.org, as we look forward to providing a wonderful new facility for the whole parish.



ST MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS, BARNES
MICHAELMAS CENTENARY DINNER

JAZZ NIGHT

FRIDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER

DUKES MEADOW GOLF CLUB
7.30PM-MIDNIGHT
BLACK TIE

RAFFLE & SILENT AUCTION

TICKETS £70 from
admin@stmichaelbarnes.org
020 8876 5230

DRINKS RECEPTION
THREE COURSE DINNER WITH WINE
LIVE MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT

AUTUMN EVENTS

This Autumn, there's a wide range of exciting services and events taking place. Here's just a selection - come and join in.

Family Mass and Harvest Festival

Sunday 6th October 10.00am

Please bring non-perishable food and toiletries to be given to a local food bank.

All Souls' Day Requiem Mass

Friday 1st November 8.00pm

The Choir sings Faure's Requiem as we pray for those we have known and loved.

Family Bonfire Party

Saturday 2nd November 6pm onwards

In the Vicarage Garden with apple-bobbing, marshmallow toasting and mulled cider for the grown ups!



Who's Who at St Michael's

Vicar: Father Stephen Stavrou

Assistant Priest: Mother Judith Roberts

Curate: Father Martin Calderbank

Churchwardens: Jane Bennett-Powell and
Andrew Childs

Treasurer: Jacqueline Russell

Stewardship Officer: Sue Pandit

Parish Administrator: Rachel Skilbeck

Community Centre and Church Hall Bookings:
Julie Law

Director of Music: Martin Neary

Sunday School Co-ordinators: Harry Hobson
and Hannah Childs

Parish Safeguarding Officer: Lucy Barnes

Sacristans: Roger Needham, Robbie Lyon

Head Server: Andy Puddifoot

Rota Coordinator: Lizzie Hackett-Brown

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lizziehbrown@gmail.com

The Parish Office

c/o St Michael's Vicarage, 39 Elm Bank Gardens, London SW13 0NX

020 8876 5230 (Office) 020 8878 7589 (Vicarage) admin@stmichaelbarnes.org

Regular Services at St Michael's

Sunday 8.00am Low Mass
9.00am Morning Prayer
10.00am Sung Mass (*Sunday School in term time*)
11.30am Children's Mass (*except last Sunday of the month*)
6.00pm Evensong (Book of Common Prayer)

Wednesday 12.00pm Angelus and Mass (*followed by lunch*)

Saturday 9.30am Mass (*followed by coffee*)

Morning Prayer every day at 9am (except Friday)

*For enquiries about Baptism, Marriage, Confession, Funerals &c. please contact the Parish Office.
The church is normally open every day from 8.45am until around dusk.*



/saintmichaelbarnes



@stmichaelbarnes