



## St. Michael the Archangel, Mere

**Sunday 22nd April 2018**  
**Welcome to St. Michael's**

*Your prayers are asked for all those who are sick, bereaved or in need of God's special help, especially:*

- Sick:** Stephen Paterson, Charlotte Tyler, Anne Lloyd  
**Circle of Prayer:** Jean Rees, Sheelah Brown, Alf & Jean Cummings, Steven Burnip, Blanche Johnston, Peggy Collinge, Doreen Wickham  
**RIP:** Sheila Stott, Kevin Suter, Ray Larter, Theresa Cope  
**Year's Mind:** Rosemary Holbrook-Bull April 22nd  
Barbara Grant April 22nd  
Peggy Elcombe April 23rd  
Jack Hollindale April 26th  
Russell Carpenter April 26th  
**Prayer Diary:** Newly licensed pastoral assistants:  
Meg Oliver, Derek and Sandra Fisher, June Simons and Kim Baker from Maiden Bradley  
Downside Close & Chetcombe Road

*You are welcome to add the names of people who are ill to the prayer list. Please be sure you have the person's permission and let us know if they would like a home visit.. Also please ask for the name to be removed from the list when appropriate.*

### SERVICES THIS WEEK

- Friday:** 8.00 am Holy Communion (CW)  
**Sunday 29th:** 8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)  
10.30 am Parish Communion (CW)

- Priest-in-Charge:** The Rev. Carol Wilson-Barker 01747 861859  
e-mail: vicar@stmichaelsmere.org.uk  
**Lay Ministers:** Mrs Jane Hurd 01747 860218  
Mrs Christine Marsh 01747 861212  
**Churchwardens:** Mrs Lynette Elliott 01747 861646  
Mrs Elizabeth Howden 01747 863424  
**Parish Administration:** Sherry Dixon 01747 861319  
**Parish Office e-mail:** office@stmichaelsmere.org.uk  
**Website:** www.stmichaelsmere.org.uk

**Churches Together Quiet Day** at Sedgehill Manor 10-4 on May 16th (only 2 spaces remain) or May 23rd (plenty of spaces), led by Pepi Hughes. No fee, but please bring a donation if possible, and a packed lunch. Places limited, to book, please sign the list at the back of the church **by 30 April** or phone 860553 or 860884.

**The Fairer Share Membership Count** is scheduled to take place between 15th April and 13th May this year.

**Memorial Service for Michael Davies:** Friday 27th April 2.00 at St. Mary's Gillingham.

**'God's Comfort'** is the title of the book we will be studying. If you would like to discover how to meet God in the midst of struggles and receive his strength and grace, please come to 2, The Fields, Mere BA12 6EA on Thursday 27 April 4-5pm where we will read, learn and grow together.

**Rogation Service:** May 13th 11am at the Bison Farm, West Knoyle. After the service there will be a barbeque, plant and cake stalls. Come and enjoy communion in the bluebell woods.

**Town Council AGM:** April 25th 7 for 7.30 in the Grove Building. Do come and support your local council at this meeting.

**The Vicar PCC and Churchwardens** of St. Michael's wish to offer their grateful thanks to everyone who contributed towards the replacement of the Church's gates. All who see them are delighted. We also wish to thank Jeans of Mere for their continuing contribution to the lighting of the church, both inside and out. This wonderful generosity is appreciated, for without it the constant maintenance of such an ancient building could not be achieved.

## EASTER 4

**Collect:** Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Amen.**

**First Reading:** *Acts 4.5-12*

<sup>5</sup>The Jewish rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, <sup>6</sup>with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. <sup>7</sup>When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, 'By what power or by what name did you do this?' <sup>8</sup>Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, 'Rulers of the people and elders, <sup>9</sup>if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, <sup>10</sup>let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. <sup>11</sup>This Jesus is "the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone." <sup>12</sup>There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.'

**Second Reading:** *1 John 3.16-24*

<sup>16</sup>We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us – and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. <sup>17</sup>How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? <sup>18</sup>Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. <sup>19</sup>And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him <sup>20</sup>whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. <sup>21</sup>Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; <sup>22</sup>and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him. <sup>23</sup>And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. <sup>24</sup>All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

**Gospel Reading:** *John 10.11-18*

Jesus said to the Pharisees: <sup>11</sup>'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup>The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away – and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. <sup>13</sup>The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. <sup>14</sup>I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, <sup>15</sup>just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup>I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. <sup>17</sup>For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. <sup>18</sup>No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.'

**Post Communion Prayer:**

Merciful Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd, and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again: keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to follow in his steps; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**Next Week's Readings:**

Acts 8. 26–40: 1 John 4. 7-21: John 15. 1-8