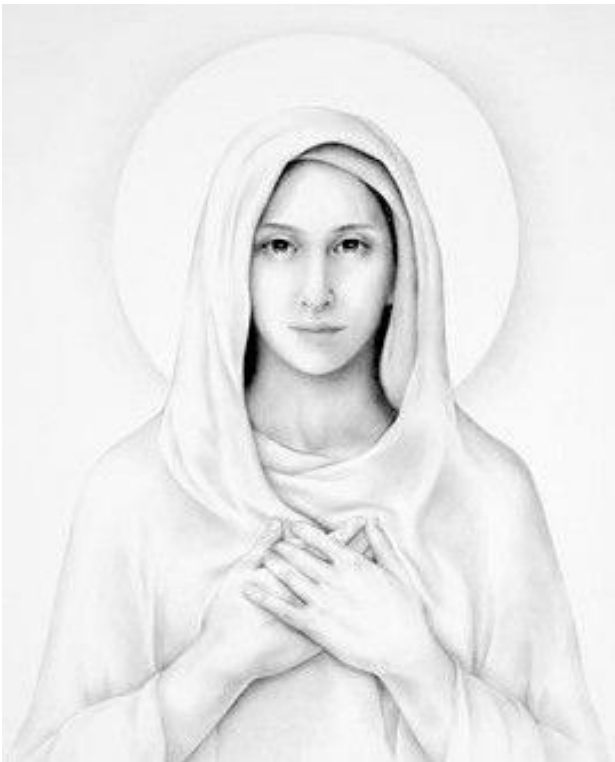


If you use this sheet in church please take it home with you. If you would like to receive it each week please email Fr David. dasherratt@aol.com

The Parish of S Michael and All Angels. Abbey Wood.
SUNDAY 16 AUGUST 2020

THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

We are now allowed to offer public worship again and the Sunday Mass has resumed. It may be many weeks however before everyone can be with us on a Sunday and so we are sending this sheet out to keep us all in touch. . Even if you cannot be with us you will be in our prayers. Please pass sheets or information on to those for whom we don't have an email address.



**COME TOGETHER
ON SUNDAY.
PARISH MASS
is at
10:00**

OUR PARISH LIFE

Coming together again.

WELCOME. We welcome you back to S Michaels this Sunday especially if you have been isolating or shelding and it is your first Sunday back.

OUR MASSES AND WORSHIP THIS WEEK

Mon 17	<u>Monday of week 20 in Ordinary Time</u>	Mass 18:00
Tue 18	<u>Tuesday of week 20 in Ordinary Time</u>	Mass 09:00
Wed 19	<u>Saint John Eudes, Priest</u>	
Thu 20	<u>Saint Bernard, Abbot, Doctor</u>	
Fri 21	<u>Saint Pius X, Pope</u>	Mass Sine populo
Sat 22	<u>Our Lady, Mother and Queen</u>	Mass Sine populo
Sun 23	<u>21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</u>	<u>Mass 08:30</u> <u>PARISH</u> <u>MASS 10:00</u>

FACE COVERINGS. We have for several weeks encouraged everyone to wear a face covering when in church. The government have now made it a **legal requirement for people attending Religious Worship to wear a Face Covering.** The Police have the powrs and responsibility to enforce this.

BUILDERS. The builders are giving us a new church! Please be very careful around the scaffolding and when they are at work. You must follow any safety advice or instructions -, This will be especially the case if you come to church on a week day.

EVERYONES SAFETY We have laid out our Church to allow Social Distancing and we have to do a lot of things in a different way. At the moment we are not allowed to sing to sing but our mass is accompanied on the organ. We cant have any Refreshments etc after mass and there won't be a Kids Zone for a while – but have made other provisions to make children feel welcome.

You must wear a face covering when in church.

Our Hall opened for regular users last week, although it will be sometime before many of them return. We have followed the advice with regard facilitating Social Distancing etc. It is requirement that all of our regular users carry out appropriate Risk Assessments and act upon them.

STAY AT HOME .

You **must not come** to church, if you have symptoms of Covid 19 or have tested positive or you have been in contact with someone who has or may have the Virus. You also should not come if you are quarantining.

We would still **strongly encourage you not to come** at the moment if you are vulnerable or have been told to shield or isolate, unless a medical professional has said that it would be ok and that also you feel happy

at being in a public place. If you have any questions or uncertainty, please have a chat with Fr David. **Please only come back to church when you feel happy to do so. We miss you, but we want you to be happy and safe.**

The current Government advice on people from more than one household meeting, can be accessed at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do/coronavirus-outbreak-faqs-what-you-can-and-cant-do>.

LECTORS. We have been asking for a few weeks if people would like to be a reader at Sunday Mass? You will have to read the First Reading, the Psalm with its response and the Second Reading. Then later in the mass you will read the biddings in the Intercessions. The readings and prayers will be sent to you. **We do need people to do this.**

CONFIRMATION. As Parish life resumes, we hope shortly to begin preparing candidates for Confirmation. If you would like to be confirmed please contact Fr David to have a chat about what is involved. The confirmation will be in S Michaels in Oct

WEEKLY OFFERINGS. We know that this will be a time of financial hardship for many, but regular giving is vital if we are to survive as a Parish. As in most shops we discourage giving in cash, but a plate will be by the church door if you cannot give in other ways. If you would like to give by Internet banking, the details are **Sort Code 30-99-88, Account No 00160771, Account Name is PCC Saint Michael and All Angels Abbey Wood.** In the reference section please put your name followed by; 'Offering'. Thank you for your support.

We can't currently accept cards, but we hope to be able to do this in the near future.

CHURCH LOCKING DOWN AGAIN. We hope we won't have to do so again, but if we do please email Fr David this Week at dasherratt@aol.com, to make sure that we have your email address. You will then receive the notice sheet each week and if we have to lock down we can stay in touch.

PARISH PRIEST. Fr David Sherratt. Tel. **07796 432357**

email dasherratt@aol.com

Assistant Priest Fr Derek Robinson

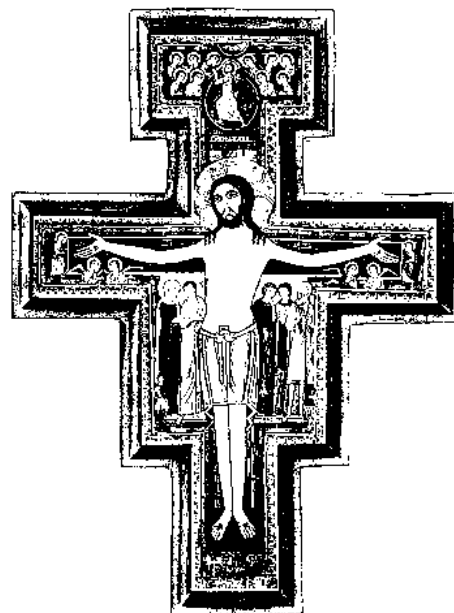
Churchwardens Mr Peter Ludlow, Mr Christopher Harper

Safeguarding Officer Mrs Susan Robinson

michaels.church



*And blessed is the fruit
of your womb*



Rebuilding the Church.

As I was saying Mass this week, I was being deafened by the noise of builders. But it wasn't a distraction, rather I had the sense that they were rebuilding our church. Certainly, if you look at it brick and stonework, it looks very new. It was the feast of S. Clare and in her great church in Assisi is a chapel containing a crucifix – the crucifix that spoke to S. Francis.

The story is that S. Francis was praying in front of the crucifix in a rather neglected and broken-down church. Francis sensed that the figure of Christ on the crucifix spoke to him, He could hear a voice saying, 'Francis rebuild my Church'.

S. Francis thought Jesus meant the neglected building in which he was praying and so he set about repairing it and cleaning it. He filled in the hole in the roof and the windows. and swept the floor. When he had finished doing so it looked as good as new.

But still Francis sensed the voice of Christ saying, 'Francis rebuild my Church', and he came to understand that the Church he was to rebuild was not a building, but the Church of Christ. His Franciscan order became a source of renewal in a church brown lame and tepid, reminding it again of spiritual things and focusing it again not on the rich. but on the poor.

S. Francis always had a great reverence and care for church buildings, but because he saw them as the house of God and the home of the Church.

Our building may be beginning to look as good as new, but we will not be faithful to Christ if we thought only that will bring about the renewal of our life in Abbey Wood. Our task is also to make new and rebuild the Church in this place. To fill that building with the richness of prayer and witness. We will fail also if we think that that prayer and witness can stay in our building, for like it we must stand as well in witness to Christ in our Community and neighbourhoods.

Let us then as our bidding is transformed, gather once again together in Christ – who makes all things new.

Fr David

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