



**THE ABBEY
CHURCH**
at St. Michael's

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**OCTOBER
NOVEMBER
2021**



The Abbey Church Epistle

Welcome to The Abbey Church. We are a welcoming, inclusive community where questions are encouraged and everyone has a place at God's table.

A message from Fr George...

On three consecutive Sundays we have been remembering All Souls, All Saints and Michael and All Angels. We are learning many important truths; that life is continuous and unbroken; that death is an illusion; that we are all connected, not just with each other, but with all things that exist; that we are younger brothers and sisters of those great souls, drawn from all faiths, who have gone before us, who have practiced gentleness, courtesy and love to all.

We have learnt that we are links in a vast chain of Being, and may have begun to grasp that however lowly we are, we have a definite purpose in being here, in our very existence. The realisation of this fact enables us to see ourselves and others as valuable and loved. To recognise that we are beloved children of God does something extraordinary to our minds, our bodies and our spirits.

It is now well known that children who are loved and cuddled benefit tremendously in both mind and body and stand a greater chance of becoming well-adjusted adults. At any stage of our life, to become aware that we are beloved of God has many wonderful effects. First and probably foremost, it makes us happy; and really, behind everything we do, however silly or misguided, is the search for happiness, that elusive thing that money cannot buy!

A happy person is much more likely to be healthy, for our immune system is tied closely to our state of mind; to the extent that genuine happiness prevents us contracting many illnesses, and assists us to cope better with such disease as may affect us.

And what does the realization that we are beloved of God do to our spirits? It *literally lifts our spirits, so that we may see the inner vibrations of being; we glow with an inner radiance; the light within is turned on fully! Even being in love with another human being can have a similar effect, by breaking down the walls of 'self' we build around ourselves, and perhaps for a moment we touch the Divine not only in the other but in ourselves, realizing our Oneness.*

Remember always that all things are sent to us by a God who loves us utterly and accepts us totally, just as we are, with all our failings, warts and all! God places no boundaries at all on Love. Ever enfolded, never outside those loving arms, no matter what we do!

Our loving parents, God, is preparing each of us to spread our wings, that we may fly Home; that flight of the spirit to the world of angels, to freedom, to LOVE.

Peace be with you
Fr George.



Act as if what you do makes a difference. IT DOES..... William James

*The most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched.
They must be felt with the heart... Helen Keller*

Why not come along to the **Morning of Prayer** on **13th October**. Edie has prepared a lovely program called **Our Truth** for you to enjoy and participate. And on **10th November** - **Our Inner Angel**.

You are welcome to come, bring your friends and be part of this Morning of Prayer. Share your thoughts about your own spiritual journey with others of like mindedness. There's a lovely morning tea afterwards on the verandah of the Abbey.

Starts at 9.30am

Please bring a plate to share.



We hope your time with us is special and that you are able to join us after the Service for tea or coffee and some morning tea. If you are visiting from another Church or tradition and you wish to do so, you are welcome to receive Holy Communion with us this morning. Children are welcome to come up for a blessing as well.

Church News

Our Singalong had to be postponed due to lockdown, but is NOW ON **Sunday 17th October**



For those who love Music and would like to participate in some singing and fun, why not join us. We will start with our usual morning tea and then move into shared pot luck lunch in the Hall. Then we'll start the Sing-a-long!!

Please bring along something to share for lunch if you're coming!

WHY NOT ENCOURAGE YOUR FRIENDS TO BRING ALONG THEIR PETS TO OUR PET SERVICE ON SUNDAY 3 OCT? IT'S A LOVELY SERVICE!

OCTOBER

- 2 Picnic at Pemberley
- 3 Blessing of the Pets
- 10 **Church BBQ**
- 13 Morning of Prayer
- 16 ARTefact - A Guided Tour by Geoff Ginn
- 17 Sing A Long & Pot-luck lunch

NOVEMBER

- 10 Morning of Prayer
- 13 Abbey Trivia Night
- 20 A Very Victorian Christmas - High Tea
- 27 A Medieval Christmas - Gregorian Chant

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

We extend our well wishes to all the congregation members who celebrate their birthday in October / November.

Rest In Peace

We remember the passing of Father Francis, our Archbishop on 10th November 2000 and Reverend Mother on 18th November 2012.

SUNDAY SERVICES

9.30am Eucharist Service

6pm Evening Service

Blessing of the Pets on
Sunday 3rd October at 3.15 pm

SPRING SERVICE

On the first Sunday in Spring we shared our communion Service together in the cool and shade outside the front of the Church. It was a delightful Spring day and everyone seemed to enjoy being outside enjoying the feeling of Spring in the air and the sound of the birds and the water feature.



The best view comes after the hardest climb... Anon

Christ the King

This beautiful window can be seen above the main altar and has been restored. The panel depicts Jesus Christ as a King. He is seen here seated, enthroned in an *aedicule* (a small structure used as a shrine) and wearing a crown and an elaborate robe. In his right hand he holds an orb and a sceptre in his left. Below the figure of Christ is an inscription that reads *In memoriam Edith Garwood obit Oct 30 Anno Domini 1921*. Edith Garwood was the aunt of the Reverend John Ward's wife, Jessie.



This window is English and it has been attributed to renowned artist, Walter Towers. However, it seems it is not all his original work, rather Towers re-used medieval (15th century) glass as the centre piece of the aedicule in which Christ is seated. It looks as though he may have developed the design for the background of the Christ the King figure, based on the medieval glass design he had in his possession.

On 31st October we will be celebrating the Feast of Christ the King. This is a special day for us all as The Abbey Church bears the name of Christ the King. A special Service was written and has been sung by members of our Confraternity since 1927 to celebrate the guidance of Christ throughout the years and to look forward to His Second Coming to bring Peace to our troubled world. **This Service will be sung at the Evening Service on the 31st October at 6pm.** Please come along and join in the singing as there are booklets containing the words of the Service for you to follow.

We are encouraged by the work we are undertaking within all the faiths and cultures of the world, as we realize that they too all pray for civic peace and the Peace that passes all understanding. May we all feel blessed during this Festival.

PICNIC of PEMBERLEY is on **Saturday 2nd October.**

If you are able to help in the Abbey kitchen making sandwiches and 'plating up' for this event feel welcome to come along at 10am. Please let Sr Veronica know. We always make it a fun time with lots of laughter!



CONGRATULATIONS

We will be remembering the Ordinations of Fr Hugh 16 Nov 2008, Sister Hilda 17 Nov 2019, Sr Veronica 27 Oct 2019 and Sr Maria 8 Dec 2019.

Please keep them in your prayers as they continue to bring the Light of Christ to all in their ministry to others.

ARTefact – An Artistic perspective of the Abbey Museum Collection

Have you visited the Museum and think you have seen all there is to see? Well think again! Why not join local artist, Geoff Ginn, who will give you a unique tour of the Abbey Museum's collection by looking at the amazing artefacts with new eyes... the eyes of an artist.

Geoff presents an engaging and enthusiastic exploration of artefacts in the Museum looking at the form, the colour, the line and decorations and how humankind from its earliest beginnings have decorated and enhanced

even utilitarian objects to make them beautiful to the eye and enrich the soul. Tickets – \$22.50 per person. Visit the Abbey Museum website or click [here](#) to book your tickets.



READINGS for

October and November

COMMUNION SERVICES

DATE		EPISTLE	GOSPEL
3 Oct	Michael & All Angels	Hebrews 1:1-10 Chapter 2:5	Rev 12: 7-12
10 Oct	1st Sunday after Michael & All Angels	Rev 8:2-5	Luke 2:8-14
17 Oct	2nd Sunday after Michael & All Angels	Jeremiah 1:4-10	Luke 1:11-17
24 Oct	3rd Sunday after Michael & All Angels	2Tim 3:1-5	Acts 1:9-11
31 Oct	Festival of Christ the King	Rev 19:6-16	John 18:33-37
7 Nov	1st Sunday after Christ the King	Psalms 71:7-14	Matthew 25:31-40
14 Nov	2nd Sunday after Christ the King	Daniel 7:13-14	Matthew 25:1-13
21 Nov	3rd Sunday after Christ the King	Zechariah 14:6-9	Luke 18:26-30
28 Nov	Advent Sunday	Isaiah 40:3-5	Luke 1:13-20



Congratulations to **Father George** who celebrated his 37 years as Bishop of our Abbey Church on 6th October. Please keep him in your prayers as he continues to serve God in his own unique and marvellous way.

If you are looking for a fun social night why not come to the Abbey Museum Friends Trivia Night on **Saturday 13th Nov.**

You can come along with a group of friends and enjoy the fun atmosphere and variety of questions prepared by Libby Gladwin on the theme "Consumption"— all we eat, drink and need in life! Sounds interesting!! Libby is one of our congregation members so you can ask her if you need more information. Tickets **\$15** with supper included.

Thank you for remembering these people in your

Prayers - Rob Bettridge,

Rosa Wort, Cecilia Goos,

Brian Newell, Val Breeze, Nancy

Foreshew, Tonia Selman, Br Charles,

Malachi Carmichael and Margaret

Thompson. We also send Light and

Peace to all those who in the world who

are affected by floods, fires and famine,

the homeless, disadvantaged, sad,

lonely, depressed, disillusioned, hungry,

displaced and those suffering from

COVID in anyway.

We pray for an end to this pandemic.



There is nothing in the world that resembles God so much as silence.

Meister Eckhart.

"Silence isn't empty, it's full of answers."

