

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### THE SYCAMORE COURSE

We are running the Sycamore module on Prayer at St Martin's Catholic Primary School over six weeks.

**Starting this Tuesday 23rd January** and continuing to 5th March

Beginning at 2.30pm prompt and finishing just before the end of the school day.

Sycamore is a video series about the Christian faith and its relevance to life today.

**Everyone is most welcome to attend and there is no need to commit to every session.**

### YEAR OF PRAYER 2024:

A young diocesan priest, Fr Toby Duckworth, is producing a series of short videos called 'Pause for Prayer.'

The first was released in December introducing the Year of Prayer and the Jubilee.

It can be found on the diocesan website:together with other resources.

<https://www.vocations.org.uk/year-of-prayer-2024>

### ST MICHAEL'S QUIZ

#### WITH FISH AND CHIP SUPPER

10th February, 7.30pm

Teams of 4 recommended

Tickets on sale now

£10.00 per person

Includes fish and chip supper

Drinks will be available on the evening for a donation but please feel free to bring your own bottle

### FAMILY BOARD GAME AFTERNOON

Sunday 4th February 2pm — 4pm

For ages 6 and up In the parish hall

Sign up sheet now available at the back of church

This is a free event

### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Here at St Michael's Church on Friday, 1st March, 6.00pm

## Thought for the Week 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time (B) 21st January 2024

*"Brothers, our time is growing short"*

St Paul's 1st letter to the Corinthians is just one of more than 20 important verses about time in the bible. Well known is Ecclesiasticus Chapter 3

*"All things have their time, and all things under heaven continue during their interval*

*A time to be born, and a time to die..."*

Throughout the ages scholars from all disciplines have written on the subject of time: Andrew Marvel in his poem 'To My Coy Mistress' makes clear he would rather not rush the woo-ing of the lady in question.

*"But at my back I always hear Time's wingèd chariot hurrying near."*

Today's technology has brought us digital time. Its impact is such that some young people struggle to tell the time from a clock face. A digital radio will play a few seconds behind a traditional wireless radio. There is a further time-lag when listening to the same programme online. If we pause a news bulletin we may forget later on resuming it that we are no longer listening to live news and may be late for an appointment.

The ancients Greeks referred to Chronos time and Kairos time. Chronos time is the clock time that can be measured, hours mins seconds. In the West it is a huge part of our working lives—meeting deadlines, ticking off things on our daily to do lists. Awareness of chronos time might mean we get there on time, but still we 'miss the moment'- perhaps being on our mobile and not truly present.

Kairos time by contrast is qualitative, relating to the right moment, the opportune moment. It requires being attuned to the spirit, to the soul.

Creator God who exists beyond our notions of time, help guide us to pause often and be receptive to Kairos or quality rich time, so that regardless of the day or the hour we feel our way towards an opportune moment to be kind, to be loving, in word or in deed.

Jim McGuigan



**We ask you please, to pray for the following people  
who continue to ask for your prayers;**

Please pray for Carl Stitt the Uncle of Krissie for a safe and successful outcome for his heart operation on 25th January .

Thank you for your continued prayers for Robert Brooks who had an operation for Bile Duct Cancer and is still recovering.

Rosemary continues to need our prayers having undergone major surgery, as the recovery will be long and slow.

Please pray for Kim, Paul and Joe Bunton (Joe has severe learning difficulties ).  
Please pray that they get the help they need.

Please pray for Father Paul Rowan who has had a second corneal graft to save the sight in his right eye. The final stage of his cancer treatment is further delayed.

Please pray for Peter Halter's sister Jean who has macular degeneration and for her great grandson Rogan who continues to need our prayers following his bone marrow transplant,

Please Pray for Jim Hardiman.

Please Pray for Maria McNamara's niece who is undergoing chemotherapy.  
Her name is Alison Flynn née McNamara.

Please pray for Reuben Muston aged 17 (Theresa and Mike Muston's grandson) who had Aplastic Anaemia. He still needs our prayers that he will continue to improve.

Please pray for Beth Selwood.

Please pray for Savanna Clark (aged 2 with eye trouble).

Please pray for Shirley Trollop.

Please pray for Isobel Messenger (Vera Bird's great granddaughter) she has now had her operation to improve her hearing.

Please pray for Simon Keen who is recovering from an operation.

Please pray for Mary Hagger.

Please pray for Vivien Kear (Krissie's friend) who has cancer.

Vera Bird has asked for our prayers for her Great, Great Grandson Harry.

Prayers please for Antonita's nephew Peppin who has long covid.

Please pray for the residents and staff at St Lukes and Abbeycrest nursing homes



**Please remember in your prayers those whose  
anniversaries occur at this time including;**

Lily Deegan, Bernard C. Oates, Imrie Osz,  
Philomena Smith, Leslie Archard, Winifred Dougan,  
Winifred Halter, Henry Clay, Philomena Smith,  
William Tillotson, Frederick Wareham, Alan Graves,  
Rev. Canon Frederick Smythe, William Woodward,  
John Cano, Kieran Cotter, Briget Gurney,  
Carlos Ramirez, Carmel Barker, Eugenie Micotti,  
Barbara Pike, Jane and Ramsay Mikhail,  
Angela Sealey.