

## Notices

**Trial at Easter**, St Margaret's, Bethersden – 21<sup>st</sup> March, 6.30pm. An inquiry into the events of the crucifixion. Donations will be received on behalf of The Bells Fund. Refreshments to be provided.

**The St Michaels Guild** are arranging the lent lunches again this year. These are informal and friendly gatherings in houses around Smarden village. No need to book, just turn up and bring friends. A selection of soups are served between 12.30pm and 2pm. £4 all proceeds to Pilgrims Hospice.

**March 22nd** Obeden Barn, Snugthorne Lane, TN27 8PR by kind permission of Tony and Jackie Richter.

**Biddenden Bell Ringers** are having an open house on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 10.30-4pm. If you have got ringing experience and would like to rekindle your interest or if you are new to bell ringing and would like to have a go, please come along. A warm welcome awaits plus drinks and home-made refreshments. Children welcome if accompanied by an adult.

**Save the date 24<sup>th</sup> March**: St Michael, Palm Sunday service at 6pm with the Dean of Canterbury Cathedral presiding.

**APCM meetings** – Biddenden APCM is Thursday 4th April at All Saints, 7pm for 7.30pm start. Smarden APCM date is Monday 15th April at St Michael, 7pm for 7.30pm start.

**Porchlight Charity Lunch** – Sunday 7th April at London Beach Hotel. The cost per head is £32.50 for a two-course roast lunch. The hotel's charitable arm donates the per head meal cost to Porchlight. To book, please contact Lindi Harman, mobile: 07718754636, tel: 01580 292134 or email: [lindi.harman@googlemail.com](mailto:lindi.harman@googlemail.com).

Don't forget to fill up your Smarties tubes for our Lent collection for Porchlight. If you haven't yet started, you can still pick up a tube from the table inside church and start now!

## Contacts

### Priest in Charge: Vacant

36 High Street, Biddenden, TN27 8AH

**Administrator: Sarah Jay** 01580 291454

Sarah works from the Rectory cabin office Tuesdays 10.30am to 2.30pm and Thursdays 11.30am-3.30pm. [office@sbcofe.org](mailto:office@sbcofe.org)

### Smarden Churchwardens:

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### Biddenden Churchwarden:

**Martin Giles** 07503 486379 or 01580 291649

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## St Michael the Archangel, Smarden All Saints, Biddenden



**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2024**  
**Sunday – Lent 5**

### Our services today

10am Sung Eucharist (All Saints)

10.30am Active Church (Zion Chapel, Smarden)

4pm BCP Evensong (St Michael)

### Hymns – 10am Sung Eucharist (AMS)

72 Lift high the Cross (omit vs 3,4,5,6 & 7)

234 Thine for ever! God of love

102 My God, how wonderful thou art

246 Just as I am, without one plea

235 O Jesus, I have promised

### Events this Week

#### Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March

2pm Biddenden Community Library (All Saints)

#### Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> March

10am Coffee Call-In, Biddenden Community Library  
and Takeaway Pantry (All Saints)

#### Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> arch

10.30am Coffee Morning (St Michael)

#### Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March

10am Biddenden Community Library and Takeaway  
Pantry (All Saints)

10.30am Biddenden Bell Ringers Open Day (All Saints)

### Prayers

For healing in body, mind, and spirit we pray for  
**Nick Gibson, Sheilah Drake, Maureen Watson and Sharon Muskett.**

For the family and friends of **Vera Wiltshire** who has recently died, and for all who mourn.

### Services in the coming weeks

#### Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March – Palm Sunday

10am Palm Sunday (All Saints)

6pm Palm Sunday – Passion Reading (St Michael)

#### Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March – Maundy Thursday

6pm Communion service followed by soup (All Saints)

#### Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March – Good Friday

Midday Vigil Service (All Saints)

#### Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March – Easter Sunday

9.15am Easter Worship (All Saints)

11am Sung Eucharist (St Michael)

#### Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> April – Easter 2

10am Sung Eucharist (All Saints)

#### Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> April – Easter 3

9.30am 'Breakfast Church' (All Saints)

10am Sung Eucharist (St Michael)

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent**

**Collect**

Gracious Father,  
you gave up your Son  
out of love for the world:  
lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,  
that we may know eternal peace  
through the shedding of our Saviour's blood,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Jeremiah 31. 31-34**

31 The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. 32 It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. 33 But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. 34 No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, 'Know the Lord', for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

**Hebrews 5. 5-10**

5 So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, 'You are my Son, today I have begotten you'; 6 as he says also in another place, 'You are a priest for ever, according to the order of Melchizedek.' 7 In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. 8 Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; 9 and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, 10 having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

**John 12. 20-33**

20 Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. 21 They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' 22 Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. 23 Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. 24 Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. 25 Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. 26 Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour. 27 'Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—"Father, save me from this hour"? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. 28 Father, glorify your name.' Then a voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' 29 The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, 'An angel has spoken to him.' 30 Jesus answered, 'This voice has come for your sake, not

for mine. 31 Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. 32 And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.' 33 He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

**Post Communion Prayer**

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you have taught us  
that what we do for the least of our brothers  
and sisters we do also for you:  
give us the will to be the servant of others  
as you were the servant of all,  
and gave up your life and died for us,  
but are alive and reign, now and for ever.

**Thank you to everyone who gives to the church financially.** We are very grateful for all your support.

If you would like to make a one-off donation, or set up a regular donation, an easy and tax efficient way is to use our online giving portal. Use your mobile phone to scan in the relevant code.

**All Saints Biddenden**



**St. Michael Smarden**

