

## Notices

**The Licensing Service** of our new Priest in Charge, The Revd Jayne Shillito, will take place on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July in St Michael, Smarden at 7.00pm. Light refreshments will be served after the service, and it would be helpful to know how many will be attending for catering purposes. Please let the church office know if you are attending by emailing Sarah on [office@sbcofe.org](mailto:office@sbcofe.org)

**St Michael – candles for Ukraine.** A green box will be left out in Smarden church from now until the **end of April** to collect candle stubs. These will be melted down and re-manufactured into TRENCH CANDLES for the soldiers, to give light and a hint of warmth and the whole candles used in homes.

**All Saints Flower Festival** - 25<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> May, 10am-5pm. There will be a plant stall, refreshments, musical interludes, and a chance to climb the church tower.

## 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:

**David King** 01233 770400 or 07502 025241

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**Edward Demery** 07515 770102 or 01233 770579

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### Biddenden Churchwardens:

**Martin Giles** 07503 486379 or 01580 291649

[martin.giles@sbcofe.org](mailto:martin.giles@sbcofe.org)

**Nigel Ralph** 0744 7773928

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**Active Church Leader: Stu Tucker** 07710 520466,

01233 770186 [stu\\_tucker@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:stu_tucker@yahoo.co.uk)

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



## Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2024 5th Sunday of Easter

### Our services today

8am Said BCP Holy Communion (All Saints)

10am Sung Eucharist (St Michael)

### Hymns – AMNS

80 Alleluia, Alleluia, hearts to heaven

135 Rock of ages, cleft for me

131 Love divine, all loves excelling

263 Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour

### Events this Week

#### Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April

11am Burial of Ashes of Carol Mitchell (All Saints)

#### Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> April

11.30am Burial of Ashes of Rupert Harvey (St Michael)

2pm Biddenden Community Library (All Saints)

#### Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May

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

#### Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May

10.30am Coffee Morning (St Michael)

#### Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> May

10am Biddenden Community Library and Takeaway Pantry (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 **Colin Steere** who has recently died and for all who mourn.

### Services in the coming weeks

#### Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> May – Easter 6

10am Sung Eucharist (All Saints)

#### Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May – Ascension Day

10am Said Eucharist (St Michael)

#### Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May – Easter 7

9.30am Breakfast Club (All Saints)

10am Sung Eucharist (St Michael)

#### Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May – Pentecost

10am Sung Eucharist (All Saints)

10.30am Active Church (St Michael)

**Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

**Easter 5**

**Collect**

Risen Christ,  
your wounds declare your love for the world  
and the wonder of your risen life:  
give us compassion and courage  
to risk ourselves for those we serve,  
to the glory of God the Father.

**Acts 8. 26-end**

26 Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) 27 So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship 28 and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. 29 Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' 30 So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' 31 He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. 32 Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: 'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. 33 In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.' 34 The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' 35 Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. 36 As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?' 38 He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. 39 When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. 40 But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

**1 John 4. 7-end**

7 Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. 8 Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. 9 God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. 10 In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. 11 Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. 12 No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. 13 By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. 14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. 15 God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. 16 So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in

God, and God abides in them. 17 Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. 18 There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. 19 We love because he first loved us. 20 Those who say, 'I love God', and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. 21 The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

**John 15. 1-8**

1 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. 2 He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. 3 You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. 4 Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. 5 I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. 6 Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. 7 If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. 8 My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.

**Post Communion Prayer**

Eternal God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way,  
the truth, and the life:  
grant us to walk in his way,  
to rejoice in his truth,  
and to share his risen life;  
who is alive and reigns, 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 Smerden

