



# THE ARCHANGEL

St Michael's School and Parish • Harts Lane • Burghclere • RG20 9JW

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## Project Update

Dear Parishioners,

A few months ago we announced plans to build a small church on the school grounds to better accommodate the growing apostolic demand. With the renewed and vehement restrictions once again placed on the celebration of the Tridentine liturgy and the general malaise generated by the avant-garde positions and declarations of Church authorities, more souls are turning to the Society of Saint Pius X for guidance and help. As our Superior General recently wrote: « The Society of Saint Pius X has the duty to assist all those souls who are currently in dismay and are confused. Firstly, we have the duty to offer them the certitude that the Tridentine Mass can never disappear from the face of the earth. This is an absolutely necessary sign of hope. Moreover, each of us, whether priest or faithful, must extend a warm helping hand to them, for he who has no desire to share the riches he enjoys is, in all truth, unworthy of possessing them. » The new church building comes, therefore, at a crucial time. It will be a testimony to the fact that the Tridentine Mass will always be available to hungry souls.

This month we will submit the planning application. We have been working hard to finalise both the design and its technical aspects in order to facilitate planning permission. It is a challenge to fit all our needs into what is turning out to be a very tight budget. We are not simply replacing an existing space, but creating additional space for a proper sanctuary, two side altars and twin sacristies. There is also a new road and parking area behind the church and a new toilet block.

The planning application contains details of a building that is large enough to make a substantial difference to our present chapel. Its price, however, places us at an estimated 12% over budget. In order not to stall the project, nor take on additional financial risk, the building has been designed in such a manner that it can be easily be scaled down to the initial budget if additional funds cannot be found. We are thus able to continue the planning and design process despite the uncertainty of the church's final size. A decision will then be taken to delay the project or build smaller.

To date, just under £200, 000 has been collected, which brings available funds to £1.2M. There remains the hefty sum of £800, 000 yet to be found. The Society is unable to increase its own contribution of £1M due to important building repairs about to begin in Bristol and Woking.

As with every church built to the honour and glory of God, our project depends on small and large donations to become a reality. It also depends on our prayer and fervour, which is why I invite you to include in your family prayers a special invocation to Saint Joseph, patron of the Universal Church and heavenly project manager. Our needs are real, God's generosity is real and so must our sacrifices be real, that is, substantial. God will certainly reward those who dig deep into their pockets, however shallow, to help house His holy presence in the tabernacle. If you are unable to donate materially to the project, please consider donating spiritually, by way of some small sacrifice offered to God.

So many things have changed over the past two years, both in the civil and ecclesiastical world, leaving many with a sense of precariousness and fear. We wish for more certainty and stability.

A new church offers us hope of steadiness and strength. It will provide a firm base for better structured apostolic activity. The parish will acquire its own space to grow and the school, we hope and pray, will prosper as Catholic families look to the only place in England which provides the parochial setting that has always formed the backbone of Catholic living.

Finally, please remember that the month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. I need not insist on the importance of the family rosary, for the families that pray it and also for the Church whose leaders seem to be so caught up in causes alien to Her purpose: God's glory and the salvation of souls, nothing more.

**Fr. John Brucciani, Prior**

## Squaring the Circle

**O**n August 31, twelve superiors of the *Ecclesia Dei* Institutes signed a joint letter in response to Pope Francis' recent *Motu proprio Traditionis Custodes*. Fr. Gleize, professor at the SSPX seminary in Ecône, Switzerland, draws attention to the weakness of the letter's response and the logical incoherence of those who believe or hope in the peaceful co-existence between ancient worship and modern theology.

**W**orried that their Institutes would be subjected to apostolic disciplinary visits, which could result in their being deprived of the possibility of celebrating Mass according to the rite of St Pius V, the signatories protest their adherence to the Magisterium of Vatican II and after, and turn to the bishops of France, to implore their patience and their listening, their understanding and their mercy — in a truly human dialogue. Not a word about the fundamental harmfulness of the new Mass of Paul VI! Not a word about the bitter fruits of the Council. Not a word about the appalling acceleration of the Church crisis under Pope Francis! What about communion for remarried divorcees? And the scandal of the Pachamama? Diplomacy, if it is diplomacy, borders here on naivety or unconsciousness, if not hypocrisy. What will the poor and courageous faithful who attend these Institutes say?

What are all these major superiors asking for? They are asking for the freedom to continue celebrating the old Mass, while everyone else celebrates the new Mass. Yet, such freedom is impossible. And what is striking in their letter is the absence of any reference to the fundamental opposition that can never allow Pope Paul's new mass to peacefully coexist with the Tridentine rite.

Why such opposition between the two rites of Mass? *Lex orandi, lex credendi*: the law of prayer is the expression of the law of belief. Yet the new rite of the Mass is the expression of a new belief. Archbishop Lefebvre repeated this on several occasions, notably in his homily at the priestly ordinations of June 29, 1976: "We are convinced that this new rite of the Mass expresses a new faith, a faith which is not ours, a faith which is not the Catholic faith. This new Mass is a symbol, an expression, an image of a new faith, a modernist faith. This new rite underlies — if I may say so — another conception of the Catholic religion, another religion."

The old Mass is the liturgical expression of a faith that is not that of Vatican II, nor of Pope Francis, nor of many bishops obedient to him. It is for this very reason that the Pope has decided "to abrogate all the norms, instructions, permissions and customs that precede the *Motu Proprio Traditionis Custodes*" and "to suspend the faculty granted by his predecessors." The fundamental reason for this decision, the Pope tells us, is that "**there**

**is a close link between the choice of celebrations according to the liturgical books prior to the Second Vatican Council and the rejection of the Church and its institutions in the name of the so-called 'true Church'."**

The twelve superiors of the *Ecclesia Dei* institutes may seek to exonerate themselves, in pathetic maudlin and victimising verbiage, from suspicion of any such rejection ... but opposition to modernism remains embedded in the very essence of the old rite of the Mass. The celebration of the old Mass is, and can only ever be a rejection not only of Paul VI's new Mass, but also of the new Vatican II magisterium that gave birth to it.

Whether we like it or not, the Mass of Saint Pius V is made up of a theology and practice that will always reject modernism in principle. The old Mass is therefore incompatible with the conciliar Church. And this is why Pope Francis cannot tolerate the old Mass. Archbishop Lefebvre once said: "If, in all objectivity, we look for the true motive of those who ask us not to make these ordinations, if we look for their profound motive, we find that it is because we ordain these priests to celebrate the Mass of ages. It is because we know that these priests will be faithful to the Mass of the Church, to the Mass of Tradition, to the Mass of all time, that we are urged not to ordain them" (Homily for the ordinations of 29 June 1976).

The superiors of the *Ecclesia Dei* Institutes cannot combine their adherence to the Council with their request for the Old Mass. The requirement of ecclesial communion, based on the double law of the new belief (Vatican II) and the new prayer that expresses it (the Mass of Paul VI), forbids them to do so. But was not this already implied by Pope John Paul II, in n° 5 of his *Motu Proprio Ecclesia Dei Afflicta*? "*To all those Catholic faithful who feel attached to certain earlier liturgical and disciplinary forms of the Latin tradition,*" he wrote, "*I also wish to manifest my desire — with which I ask the bishops and all those who have a pastoral ministry in the Church to associate themselves — to facilitate their ecclesial communion by means of the measures necessary to guarantee respect for their aspirations.*"

In the mind of John Paul II, father and founder of the *Ecclesia Dei* Commission and the movement of the same name, all the measures taken in favour of "certain earlier liturgical and disciplinary forms of the Latin tradition shared one and the same goal: to facilitate ecclesial communion for the faithful of the Lefebvrist schism. Thirty-three years later, the *Motu Proprio Traditionis Custodes* merely takes the necessary steps to ensure this same goal.

The only way to safeguard the old Mass is to dispel and reject the false idea of "ecclesial communion" with beliefs that are not of the Catholic Faith. Will the twelve signatories be able to go that far? 🇨🇪

# Confirmations

On the 25th September, Bishop Alphonso de Galarreta, auxiliary bishop of the Society of Saint Pius X, conferred the sacrament of confirmation on 63 candidates, many of whom came in from distant locations. We were thrilled to see new faces and meet new people. Throughout the recent lockdowns, many souls have seen their parishes close or have been told that communion will only be given in the hand. Others saw their preparations for baptism abruptly cancelled "until further notice." These events explain the increase in attendance at our chapels.

The ceremony went smoothly with a good 300 people present. His Lordship explained to the candidates that the grace of confirmation is ordained to the spiritual combat, which requires that we be witnesses to the truths of the Faith, that we be soldiers fighting to defend it and apostles seeking to pass it on to others. The bishop also explained that confirmation is ordained not to the individual good of the person receiving, but to the common good of the whole Church. Hence the importance of our public witness to Christ through the holiness of our lives and our clear adhesion and defense of the moral goods of Church, such as marriage, family, Catholic schools, the liturgy, the sacraments, and most especially, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Finally, His Lordship encouraged devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary whom God wishes to be the primary instrument of His graces in these very troubled times.

I spoke with a diocesan priest who attended the ceremony. He was thrilled at its beauty and power. Deo gratias. He knows where to find us!

## Summer Autumn Fair

A tremendous thank you to the organisers of this year's School and Parish Fair, Mr and Mrs Tom Cullen in particular. It was a great success and afforded a very enjoyable family day for all. The fair raised the princely sum of **£4248** which helps our school in no small way. It also provided the opportunity for those attending the confirmations to see and enjoy the benefits of living close to St Michael's, in the company of fellow Catholics. We possess such a treasure in our Catholic community! We hope many more will come and share in its unique privilege of school and sacraments close to home!

### ST MICHAEL'S SCHOOL OPEN MORNING

**15th October - 09:00 to 13:00**

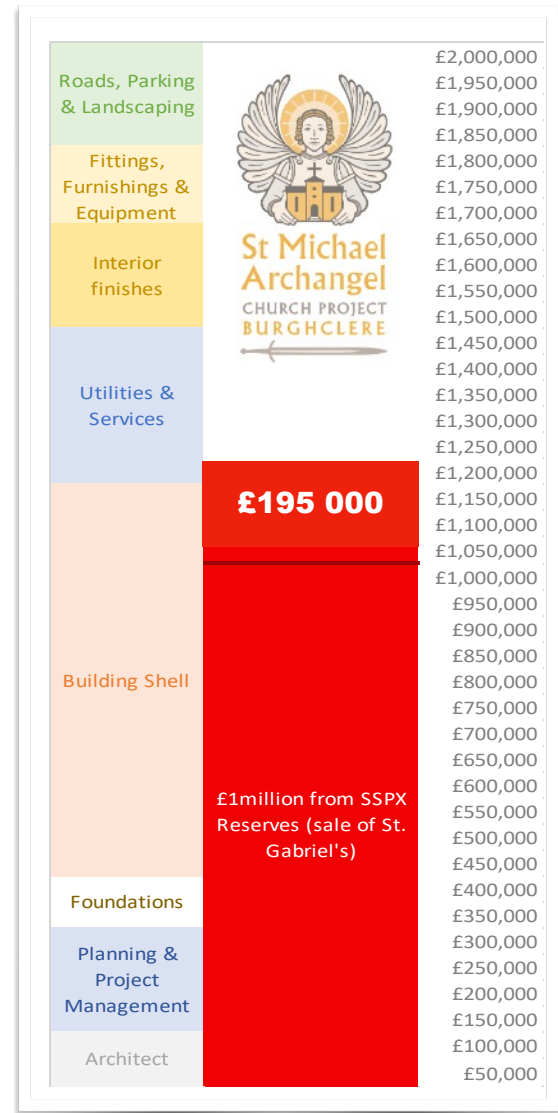
Visit the Primary and Secondary School.  
Meet senior staff members & teachers.

### October is the month of the Holy Rosary.

*"The rosary is the most excellent form of prayer and the most efficacious means of attaining eternal life. It is the remedy for all our evils, the root of all our blessings. There is no more excellent way of praying."*



Pope Leo XIII



[www.stmichaelarchangel.co.uk](http://www.stmichaelarchangel.co.uk)

### Vocations

Please pray for Theresa Blyth who has entered the teaching Dominican Sisters novitiate in Brignoles, France.

*"Lord, grant us many holy religious vocations!"*

## WELCOME TO BROTHER DOMINIC TOMASZYCKI

Brother Dominic joins us from the USA. He pronounced his first vows as a religious brother of the Society of St Pius X in 2010 and took final vows in 2017.

Over the past 11 years, Brother has served at our US seminary in Winona, MN (moved to Dillwyn, VA in 2016) and at Our Lady of La Salette Boys' Academy, IL.

Brother comes from a Michigan family of six children. I know them well from my time as prior in Armada, MI.

Brother Dominic takes over Brother Ignatius' role in the kitchen, a job he is very familiar with and enjoys very much. That's a relief!

St Michael's is incredibly blessed to have not only three priests in residence, but two religious brothers. Archbishop Lefebvre, our founder, liked to call the brothers "guardian angels of the community." They provide precious material help to the priestly community and support the communal life of prayer and religious observance in the priory. Simply put : they keep the priests on their spiritual toes!

The presence of Brothers in a priory constitutes a spiritual bulwark for the entire school and parish community. Please pray for them as they do for you.

**A**s usual, the summer holidays were busy with various maintenance works that ensure the smooth provision of Holy Mass to our growing parish.

**G**ate repairs were carried out: the reinforced steel runner was reset in a deep trench of reinforced concrete, enough to withstand heavy delivery vehicles. A new metal gate post replaces the unstable brick pillar that was threatening to collapse. Additional railings have also been installed to ensure security.

**Cost: Materials and Labour: £2900**

**T**hree new fire doors were installed in rooms above the chapel, in answer to the most recent fire risk assessment.

**Materials and Labour: £2292 (£764 each)**

**T**ree removal: the massive Western Cedar had to be removed in order to save the White House foundations and drains.  
**Cost: £1000**

**B**rother Ignatius' old room has been repainted and a new sink installed. Despite Brother's remonstrations, blackout blinds are on order to replace the see-through, faded, moth eaten curtains. **Cost of Materials: £392**

**PLEASE HELP US TO  
MAINTAIN OUR COM-  
MUNITY, CHAPEL AND  
GROUNDS.**

## Liturgical Calendar and Mass Times - October

Confessions before Saturday and Sunday Masses  
& during 1st Friday Holy Hour.

1	Feria	7:30 / 19:00
2	Holy Guardian Angels	7:30 / 12:00
3	<b>Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost</b>	7:30, 9:00
	<i>2nd Collection for Vocations</i>	18:00 Benediction
4	St. Francis of Assisi, Confessor	7:15
5	Feria	7:15
6	St. Bruno, Confessor	7:15
7	Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary	7:15
8	St. Bridget of Sweden, Widow	7:15
9	St. John Leonardi, Confessor	7:30 / 12:00
10	<b>Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost</b>	7:30, 9:00
		18:00 Benediction
11	The Maternity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	7:15
12	Feria	7:15
13	St. Edward the Confessor, King	7:15
14	St. Calistus I, Pope & Martyr	7:15
15	St. Teresa of Avila, Virgin	7:15
16	St. Hedwig, Widow	7:30 / 12:00
17	<b>Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost</b>	7:30, 9:00
		18:00 Benediction
18	St. Luke, Evangelist	7:15
19	St. Peter of Alcantara, Confessor	7:15
20	St. John Cantius, Confessor	7:15
21	Feria	7:15
22	Feria	7:15
23	St. Anthony Mary Claret, Bishop & Confessor	7:30 / 12:00
24	<b>Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost</b>	7:30, 9:00
	<i>(2 priests on retreat this week)</i>	18:00 Benediction
25	Feria	7:30
26	Feria	7:30
27	Feria	7:30
28	Ss Simon & Jude, Apostles	7:30
29	Feria	7:30
30	Saturday of Our Lady	7:30 / 12:00
31	<b>The Kingship of Our Lord Jesus Christ</b>	7:30, 9:00
		18:00 Benediction
1	<b>All Saints</b>	06:30, 7:15, 19:00
	<b>All Souls</b>	06:30, 7:30, 19:00

*"For alms deliver from all sin, and from death, and will not suffer the soul to go into darkness." (Job. 4:11)*

