

News from St Michael's Church

After the sudden death in August 2008 of Mgr William Mitchell which was a shock to us all; we were lucky to continue to celebrate Mass with a number of visiting priests to whom we shall always be grateful. That both Masses were able to continue we give our great full thank to those priests including Bishop Declan. In June 2009, Fr Patrick Eastman became our Priest in Charge until his health forced him to retire but we thank him for his spiritual guidance and for keeping the community of St Michaels together.

We now need to move forward but due to the shortness in vocations to the priesthood and priests are not getting younger, Bishop Declan Lang (Bishop of the Diocese of Clifton) set up new directives in consultation with priests, parish councils, religious and laity called Parishes in Communion for Mission to ensure that all parishes continue to serve the community .

Since April 2009, we here at St Michaels have a Parish Administrator (Elaine Wright) who is in the office Tuesday, Thursday and Friday at times which can be confirmed by checking the bulletin or parish website. As part of the Parishes in Communion for Mission Father Michael Davies, Parish Priest of St Peter's Church, Cirencester has taken responsibility for St Michaels too. He was inducted as our Parish Priest on Friday 10th June 2011 by Father David Ryan of Stroud Deanery on behalf of Bishop Declan. We here at St Michaels are determined to move the Parish forward as a family of God and we would like you to be part of our family.

Due to the recent changes our weekend Mass **is now on Sunday morning @ 9.00am**. There is also a Mass on Wednesday at 6.30pm, the day and time may change but details will be posted on the website. The Church is also open during the week at various times for quiet prayer and reflection.

But please check the weekly bulletin on the notice board or parish website to confirm the times.

WE WANT TO KEEP THE PARISH OF ST MICHAELS ACTIVE SO WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING OLD MEMBERS OF THE PARISH AS WELL AS NEW ONES SOON. MAY GOD BLESS YOU.

St Michaels Parish Pastoral Council

June 2011