



St Michael and All Angels' Church, Galleywood

What's On in April 2025

Follow our website link to watch our 10am services on Facebook, live or after:
<http://www.stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk/>



Sunday 6th April – 5th Sunday Of Lent: Passion Sunday

8:30 am BCP Communion
10:00 am Service of the Word (with Sonlight and MEGA)
Leader: Revd David Cattle
Preacher: Geoff Windus: "Peace and Joy In Troubled Times"
Readings: Isaiah 26:1 – 4; John 16:33 – 17:5 and 13 – 19

Sunday 13th April – Palm Sunday

8:30 am BCP Communion
10:00 am Service of the Word with Sonlight and Mega
Leader: Cesca Watkinson
Preacher: Travers Harpur
Readings: Psalm 118: 1 – 2 and 19 – 29; Luke 19:28 – 40

Special Holy Week Services

Monday 14th and Tuesday 15th 7:30 pm – Compline (Night Prayer) – on Zoom
Wednesday 16th 7:30 pm – The Way of the Cross – in Church
Maundy Thursday 17th 7:30 pm – Service of Holy Communion – in Church
Leader: Revd David Cattle
Preacher: Revd Stephanie Gillingham
Good Friday 18th 8:00 am – Meditation on the Cross – in Church
9:15 am – Walk of Witness starts at Church of the Holy Spirit,
Widford
11:00 am – High Street Open Air Service – in City Centre

Sunday 20th April – Easter Sunday

5:15 am Dawn Service at St Luke's, Moulsham and followed by breakfast!
Leader: Revd Stephanie Gillingham. Preacher: Revd David Cattle
10:00 am Service of Holy Communion (with Sonlight)
Leaders: Fiona Selden and Revd David Cattle
Preacher: Revd David Cattle
Readings: Acts 10:34 – 43; Luke 24:1 – 12

Sunday 27th April – 2nd Sunday of Easter

8:30 am BCP Morning Prayer – Geoff Windus
10:00 am Service of the Word (with Sonlight and MEGA)
Leader: Travers Harpur
Preacher: Fiona Selden, Colossians – 9
Readings: John 1:1 – 5 and 14; Colossians 2:8 – 12

Services During the Week

Weekly Morning Prayer on Tuesdays via Zoom at 9:30 am, **but NOT on April 15th**

Important Dates in April

Tue, 1 st ,	10:00 am	– Galleywood Infant School Easter service
Wed 2 nd ,	10:00 am	– St Michael's Junior School Easter service
	2:15 pm	– Wednesday Fellowship (Spring Afternoon Tea Party)
Sat 5 th ,	9 – 12 pm	– Coffee Morning in Church
Sun 6 th ,	11:00 am	– Fairtrade stall in church (after service)
Tuesday 8 th	6:00 pm	– Website Team meeting (on Teams)
Wed 9 th ,	9:00 am	– Wednesday Prayer (Church)
	9:15 am	– Friendship + (Keene Hall)
Sat 12 th ,	9 – 12 pm	– Churchyard and Copse Tidy-Up (just turn up and help!)
	7:00 pm	– Big Church Youth Group For Year 9+ (in Church)
Sat 26 th ,	7:00 pm	– Saturday Night Youth Group For Year 9+ (in Church)
Wed 23 rd ,	9:00 am	– Wednesday Prayer (Church)
Sat 26 th ,	7:00 pm	– Big Church Youth Group (in Church)
Mon 28 th ,	10:00 am	– MLT and Churchwarden's meeting (Fiona's house)
Fri 25 th ,	7:00 pm	– Upwards Youth Group

Future Dates

Sat 17 th May,	10:00 am	– “Why and How Should We Read the Bible” (in Church)
	7.30 pm	– Fundraising concert: People of the Green choir
Sun 18 th May,	11:30 am	– Church Annual Meetings (in Church after morning service)
Mon 19 th May,	7.30 pm	– Homegroup Leaders' meeting (Vicarage)
Thu 29 th May,	7.30pm	– Holy Communion service for the Ascension (St Mary's Widford)
Sun 8 th June,	12:00 pm	– Welcome Lunch (in Church after morning service)

NOTICES

Easter Flowers

If you would like to contribute to the cost of the Easter lilies and flowers for Easter Sunday, envelopes for this purpose will be available from Sunday 6th April. Also, if you would like a loved one's name to be placed on the Easter Memory Board, then please do write their name on the envelope. A basket at the back of the church will be available to receive envelopes. Please see Susan Drummond for further details.

Fundraising News

The coffee morning in March raised the sum of £216, and the Country and Western Supper, £1100. Congratulations and grateful thanks to everyone involved, for the hard work behind arranging these events. The next big event will be another visit of the 'People on the Green' Choir on Saturday 17th May at 7:30 pm. Tickets at £12, include a glass of wine or fruit juice: see Shirley or Beryl (berylmoss111@gmail.com).

Welcome Lunch

We have been delighted to welcome new faces at St Michael's recently and we thought it would be a great idea to get to know each other better by means of a special Welcome Lunch, which will be held on Sunday 8th June in Church after the morning service. There would be no cost but donations on the day would be most welcome. So, if you consider yourself 'new' to our church and now regard St Michael's as your spiritual home, you would be most welcome to come to the lunch. If that is you, please give your name(s) to Geoff Windus in person, or via whatson@stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk.

Full Revision of the Electoral Roll

Every year, we update our Electoral Roll in time for the Annual Parochial Church Meeting. The Electoral Roll is the official Church membership list, which all Church of England churches need to compile. This year we need to do a full revision of the Roll, which means that if you would like your name to be on the Roll you need to fill in an application form, even if your name is currently on it. And for those who are not yet members of the Roll, please consider joining. If you join the Roll:

1. You can vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting, at which we elect PCC members.
2. You can stand for election to be the PCC member or as a Churchwarden.
3. You make a statement about belonging - that this is your Church family.

You can join the Roll if you are baptised, and are aged 16 or over, and are resident in the Parish OR worship with us regularly (or would worship with us, but are prevented perhaps because of age or illness).

The closing date for applications is Sunday 20th April (Easter Sunday). There will be paper copies of the application form at the back of Church. For more information, please speak to our Electoral Roll Officer, Jane Dougan (jmd8@post.com).

Standing for Leadership Posts

At our Church Annual Meetings on Sunday 18th May, we will be elect people to be churchwardens and PCC members. Anne Pepper is stepping down as churchwarden this year, so we particularly need to replace her. There will shortly be forms at the back of Church, to be filled in by those who would like to be nominated. If you would like more information about any of the posts, please ask Anne, Gavin or David.

Pastoral Care

We are pleased to announce that Jane Windus is now officially in post as Pastoral Care Team Leader and she will be supported by a small team of Pastoral Visitors (once safeguarding issues, etc are satisfied). Please pray for Jane and her team as they fulfil this vital role in the life of our church. If you yourself, or someone you know within our church family, would value a personal visit or a phone-call, please see Jane, or email her on pastoralcare@stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk. Included within this ministry, David is also very happy to bring Holy Communion and celebrate it at home or in hospital. Please contact Jane in first instance.

Good Friday event on Chelmsford High Street (18th April)

"Churches Together in Chelmsford" is running its annual Good Friday open-air service on Chelmsford High Street at 11am. This will include worship singing, prayers and a Gospel message. This will be followed by an afternoon of fun, food, music, children's craft, prayer ministry and Gospel presentations from 1pm until 4pm. The organisers are looking for volunteers to be stewards for both events. If you would like to help out, please contact Pete Bardwell, pastor of River Church, at petebardwell@theriver.uk

The Churchyard Code

Anne, Travers and David have just written to all those whose loved ones are buried or remembered in our churchyard, to send them a copy of the latest version of our leaflet "The Churchyard Code" which summarises the rules of the churchyard. These rules are set by the Diocese, and are part of English law. We are aware that there are many items currently on graves which are not allowed to be there, so we are having a Spring Tidy-Up in the churchyard, and we are asking everyone to read the new leaflet carefully and then to remove any items which are not allowed. It is important that we do move towards complying with the law, over time, out of respect for the people and the place.

We know that different people grieve in different ways, and that removing cherished items from a grave can be hard. If anyone would like support from the Church, please do contact us (see the back for contact details). We always do our best to support our grieving families.

The leaflet, and our full Churchyard Policy, can be found on our website:

<https://www.stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk/churchyard> Thank you.

Churchyard and Copse tidy-up dates for the next few months

The next date is Saturday 12 April 9am-12pm, then 10 May, also 9am-12pm. Then it's the BIG one! – the whole day Saturday 14 June 10am-3pm with Anne's campervan, bunting, chairs and hot drinks tea/coffee and cakes, like last year. Please bring donations for cakes and thanks to those who have already volunteered to serve the drinks and cakes – we had a great day last year. If anyone has spare small tools, like trowels, forks and kneelers that you would like to donate, we would be very grateful to receive them. We do not need big tools – we have too many! We could also do with a wheelbarrow.

There are also other jobs inside the church such as polishing the wood and wiping down the windowsills and other areas that don't get done every week.

First Aiders

Do you have First Aid training, perhaps through your employment or another volunteer role? We are looking for First Aid volunteers for our services and events at St Michael's. If you would like to volunteer for this role, but are not qualified, we can arrange training for you. If you can help, please contact Rev David Cattle or Janella Coates (contact details are on the back page).

Safeguarding at St Michael's

We work hard to ensure that St Michael's is a safe place for everyone, and we have adopted the Church of England's policies and best practice. If you don't feel safe, or suspect that someone else is not safe, whether inside or outside the Church, you can talk to our Parish Safeguarding Officer, Janella Coates, our Vicar, Revd David Cattle, or our Churchwardens, Gavin Adlington and Anne Pepper (contact details are on the back page).

Thought for the Month by Revd David Cattle:

New Creation!

“See, I am making all things new”, says God in Revelation 21:5. In John’s great vision, which he wrote down in the book of Revelation, he sees a new heaven and a new earth; the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Exactly what this means is a great mystery, but there are some things we can say about it.

God is in the business of making all things new. At the end of time, he will renew the whole creation. There will be no more suffering or death, and no more evil. All past hurts will be healed, and people will live in the presence of God forever. It will be the same physical world, but somehow transformed so that everything is put right.

It sounds wonderful – too good to be true, in fact. Why would we believe such a thing? Because God raised Jesus from the dead on the third day after his crucifixion. The resurrection is the key to everything, and is the foundation of Christian faith. Without the resurrection, there is no Christianity. The resurrection was more than just a happy ending after the horrible events of Good Friday. It is also the beginning of this new creation.

Jesus was not raised as a ghost, but as an actual physical body (his tomb was empty). He could eat, he could be touched, he still had the scars from the crucifixion. And yet he was somehow different – he could appear behind locked doors, he could disappear at will, he could be with two disciples and not be recognised until he broke the bread, he would never die again but instead ascended to heaven to be with God the Father. This was a new kind of physical body, as if he existed on a higher plan of reality.

This is the fate of the whole creation – to be physical and yet somehow different; a new and better kind of physical. Yes, the whole creation will be saved. And this is the fate of all of us: Our ultimate fate is not to be spirits floating around, but resurrected physical bodies which will be somehow different and better.

When our time in this life is over, and we die, our bodies turn to dust, whether that is by cremation or slow decomposition. We are dust, and to dust we shall return – this is inevitable for all of us. And we believe that our spirits will go straight to be with Jesus. But this is not the end of the story. God loves his physical creation, and so he doesn’t leave our physical remains in the grave. He will eventually resurrect our physical bodies to live in his new creation – spirit and body will be reunited – to live with him forever.

Yes, it is still a great mystery, but we can have hope that God will one day bring all his good plans to completion. Praise be to God, who raised Jesus from the dead!

The deadline for articles for May’s What’s On is Sunday 20th April.

Please send them to Geoff Windus (whatson@stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk).

Church contact details:

Website: <http://www.stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk/>

Instagram:



@ST.MICHAELS_CHURCH_GALLEYWOOD

Vicar:	Revd David Cattle:	vicar@stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk ; 01245 956953
Churchwardens:	Gavin Adlington:	churchwarden@stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk ; 07565 888707
	Anne Pepper:	sexton@stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk ; 07703 586537
Safeguarding:	Janella Coates:	safeguarding@stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk ; 07981 419796
Evangelism Enabler:	Sue Kitson:	sueksn9@gmail.com ; 01245 265443
Children, Youth and Families:	Alice Loates:	childrenandyouth@stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk
Pastoral Care Leader	Jane Windus:	pastoralcare@stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk