

# St Michael and All Angels' Church, Galleywood

# What's On in February 2025

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



#### Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February – Candlemas

8:30 am BCP Communion
10:00 am Service of the Word (with Sonlight and MEGA) Leader: Revd David Cattle Preacher: Travers Harpur Readings: Matthew 22:34 – 40; Colossians 1:3 – 8

# Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February – 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday before Lent

10:00 am Service of Holy Communion (with Sonlight) Leaders: Geoff Windus and Revd David Cattle Preacher: Fiona Selden Readings: Luke 18:1 – 8; Colossians1:9 – 14

## Sunday 16th February – 3rd Sunday before Lent

8:30 am BCP Communion

10:00 am Service of the Word (with Sonlight and Mega) Leader: Cesca Watkinson Preacher: Chris Selden Readings: John 14:8 – 14; Colossians 1:15 – 20

## Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday before Lent

 8:30 am BCP Communion
 10:00 am Service of the Word (with Sonlight and MEGA) Leader: Jane Harpur Preacher: Revd David Cattle Readings: John 3:16 - 21; Colossians 1:21 – 23

#### Services During the Week

Weekly Morning Prayer on Tuesdays via Zoom at 9:30 am

#### Important Dates in February

Sat 1 <sup>st</sup> , 10:00 – 12:00		– Coffee Morning in Church
Sun 2 <sup>nd</sup> ,	11:00 am	<ul> <li>Fairtrade stall in church (after service)</li> </ul>
Tue 4 <sup>th</sup> ,	6:00 pm	<ul> <li>Website Development Team Meeting (on Teams)</li> </ul>
Wed 5 <sup>th</sup> ,	2:15 pm	<ul> <li>Wednesday Fellowship (Table games and quizzes)</li> </ul>
Mon 10 <sup>th</sup> ,	10:00 am	<ul> <li>MLT meeting (Fiona's house)</li> </ul>
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup> ,	9:00 am	– Wednesday Prayer (Church)
	9:15 am	– Friendship + (Keene Hall)
Frid 14 <sup>th</sup> ,	7:00 pm	<ul> <li>Upwards Youth Group</li> </ul>
Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> ,	12 noon	<ul> <li>Funeral of Artin Cornish (Church)</li> </ul>
Wed 26 <sup>th</sup> ,	9:00 am	– Wednesday Prayer (Church)
Fri 28 <sup>th</sup> ,	7:00 pm	<ul> <li>Upwards Youth Group</li> </ul>
Future Dates		
Wed 5 <sup>th</sup> March 7:30nm — Ash Wednesday service at St Mary's Widford		

Wed 5th March, 7:30pm – Ash Wednesday service at St Mary's, WidfordThu 13th March, 7:30pm – PCC meeting (Church)Sat 22nd March, 6:00pm – 'Country Evening' with sausage supper (See below)Sun 23rd March, 4:30pm – SWCC service, St Luke's MoulshamSun 30th March- Mothering SundaySun 20th April- Easter SundaySun 18th May, 11:30am – Church Annual Meetings

#### NOTICES

#### 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 <u>pastoralcare@stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk</u>. Included within this ministry, David is also very happy to bring Holy Communion and celebrate it at home or in hospital. Again, please contact Jane in the first instance.

#### "How and Why We Should Read The Bible"

This is the title of a short course for anyone run by Sue Kitson which will be held in the church on Saturdays 15<sup>th</sup> February and 15<sup>th</sup> March from 10 am to 11:30 am. Sue says, "We will be sharing and learning together to get to know more of Jesus through His word for our everyday life." Contact Sue for more information (details on back page).

#### Welcome Lunch

We have been delighted to welcome many new faces to St Michael's since the pandemic. If this includes you, we would like to invite you to a special Welcome Lunch. This will take the form of a BBQ to be held after the Sunday morning service on 8<sup>th</sup> June. If you consider yourself new to the church, then you will be very welcome, so place this date in your diary! See Geoff Windus for more information, but further details will follow in due course.

#### **Country Evening Sausage Supper**

To support our fund-raising efforts, we have a 'Country Evening Sausage Supper' arranged for Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March (6:00 for 6:30 pm) which will include a sausage supper, a raffle and music entertainment from Alice Loates. Tickets (£12) are now available from Beryl Moss (07939 283841), or one of her team.

#### Southwest Chelmsford Churches – services coming up

St Michael's is part of a group of churches called Southwest Chelmsford Churches, along with St Mary's Widford, Church of the Holy Spirit Widford, and St Luke's Moulsham. We hold occasional joint

afternoon services with these churches, and we also share some services on special occasions. There are two joint services in March: On Ash Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30pm, there is a service of Holy Communion and Imposition of Ashes at St Mary's Widford (David is preaching, and Revd Stephanie Gillingham is leading), and a joint service at St Luke's Moulsham on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> at 4.30pm (with tea and cakes from 4pm).

## **Churchyard Care**

We are so fortunate to have a beautiful churchyard, which is lovingly cared for by our volunteers, paid grounds-team, and those who tend the graves of their loved ones. David, Anne and Travers (the Churchyard Care Team) have recently designed information leaflets, to help people to apply for headstones, reserve burial plots, and place memorial benches. We are also designing signs which will shortly be put up around the churchyard. These things also explain the laws regarding what is allowed to be placed on graves in churchyards in this Diocese. There are currently many items in our churchyard which are not allowed under the law (e.g. borders, loose stones, vases, pots, ornaments, tablets, etc.). We will very soon be sending the new leaflet "The Churchyard Code" to those for whom we have contact details, and we will encourage people to remove those items which are not allowed under the law. Getting the balance right between caring for our grieving families, and upholding the law so that what happens is fair and safe for everyone, is a sensitive and demanding task, as well as being a huge piece of work, and one for which we will, no doubt, be criticised on social media; so please pray for our Churchyard Care Team.

## Church, Churchyard and Copse Tidy-Ups

We are pausing the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays' tidy-ups for the winter. There will still be jobs to do outside mainly leaves. For inside the main emphasis will be cobwebs on windows, window sills, and high up as well as mopping and hoovering the creche room floor. If you find yourself wanting to pop up and do something it would be so welcome – contact Anne Pepper (<u>sexton@stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk;</u> or 07703 586537). We will let you know when an organised activity is planned.

#### Prayer Chain

The Church has a small, trusted group of committed members ready and willing to support you in prayer. If you have a prayer request for yourself, someone else, a group of people, or a situation, please let our Prayer Chain Co-ordinator Jane Windus know on the new prayer chain address: prayerchain@stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk. Jane will then forward your request by e-mail to Prayer Chain members. Prayer requests will remain confidential within the Prayer Chain membership. If asking for prayer for an individual, please obtain their consent, or the consent of a parent or guardian for prayer for those under 18. (Consent is not needed for information already in the public domain.) If you would like to ask to become a member of the Prayer Chain, please let Jane know.

## Homegroups - would you like to join one?

Lots of our Church members are already part of a homegroup. Homegroups are small groups that meet in people's homes, perhaps once or twice each month, where we study the Bible, pray, support each other, and enjoy ourselves with friends. They are places where people grow in faith, and find encouragement for the journey of life. We have a variety of styles of homegroup – some lean more towards serious Bible study, while others more towards friendship and support. Everyone is welcome to join a homegroup, and if we need to start more homegroups we will do so. Travers Harpur is our homegroup co-ordinator. If you would like to think about joining a group, please contact Travers for more details: <a href="mailto:travers.harpur@gmail.com">travers.harpur@gmail.com</a>.

#### Safeguarding at St Michael's

Here at St Michael's we take safeguarding seriously. We work hard to ensure that this Church is a safe place for all, and we have adopted the Church of England's policies and best practice. All of our volunteers who have significant roles with children, young people or vulnerable adults are DBS-checked, trained to spot abuse and respond well to disclosures of abuse, and follow best working practice. We also recognise that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. If you don't feel safe, or if you suspect that someone else is not safe, whether inside or outside 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 Fiona Selden:

As we approach Valentine's Day this February, our thoughts often turn to expressions of love between friends, family, and significant others. While flowers, chocolates, and cards are common symbols of affection, as Christians, we are called to reflect on the deeper and more enduring love that God demonstrates toward us every day. Valentine's Day presents a perfect opportunity to not only celebrate love in its many forms but also to consider the greatest love of all: the love of God.

In 1 John 4:9-11, we read, "This is how God showed His love among us: He sent His one and only Son into the world that we might live through Him. This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins." The Bible reminds us that true love is not merely an emotion or an act of affection but a choice of selfless, sacrificial love. This love is unconditional, unchanging, and beyond measure.

Valentine's Day often emphasizes romantic love, but in the Christian faith, we are encouraged to extend love beyond our relationships with partners. Jesus teaches us in Matthew 22:39 to *"love your neighbour as yourself."* This command calls us to love others with the same selfless care and compassion that Christ showed us, whether it's our neighbours, strangers, or those in need.

As we celebrate the love in our lives this month, let us also focus on loving as Jesus loved sacrificially, abundantly, and without expectation. Let this Valentine's Day be a reminder of the profound love God has for us and an invitation to share that love with the world. Through acts of kindness, forgiveness, and service, we can reflect the love that has been lavished upon us by our Heavenly Father.

# The deadline for articles for March's What's On is Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> February.

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

Church contact details: Website:

http://www.stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk/

\_\_\_\_\_



©ST.MICHAELS\_CHURCH\_GALLEYWOOD

Vicar: Churchwardens:

Safeguarding:Anne Pepper:Safeguarding:Janella Coates:Evangelism Enabler:Sue Kitson:Children, Youth and Families:Alice Loates:Pastoral Care LeaderJane Windus:

Instagram:

Revd David Cattle:

Gavin Adlington:

vicar@stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk; 01245 956953 churchwarden@stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk; 07565 888707 sexton@stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk; 07703 586537 safeguarding@stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk; 07981 419796 suektsn9@gmail.com; 01245 265443 childrenandyouth@stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk pastoralcare@stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk