

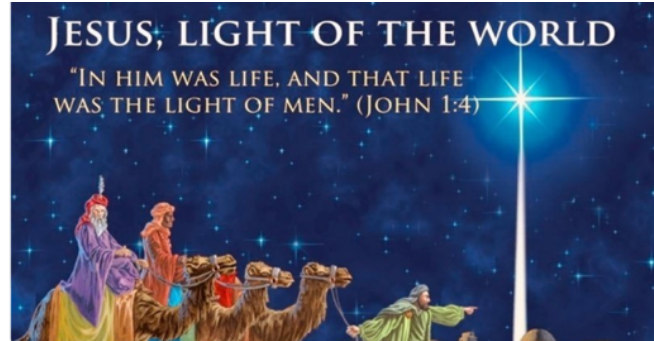


St Michael and All Angels' Church, Galleywood

What's On in December 2022

Follow the link from our web site for live streamed services:

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



Sunday 4th December – 2nd Sunday of Advent

10.00 am Service of Holy Communion – in-person and live-stream on Facebook
Leader: Jane Harpur
Communion President: Rev David Cattle
Preacher: Geoff Windus – “John the Baptist Prepares the Way”
Readings: Isaiah 11:1 – 10; Matthew 3:1 – 12

Sunday 11th December – 3rd Sunday of Advent

8:30 am BCP Communion – in-person only
10:00 am Short Service of the Word – in-person and live-stream on Facebook,
followed by Nativity Practice
Leader: Geoff Windus
Preacher: Jane Harpur– “Patience in Suffering”
Readings: Isaiah 35:3 – 10; James 5:7 – 11
4:30 pm Carol Service

Saturday 17th December – Carols on the Common

4:30 pm Galleywood Heritage Centre

Sunday 18th December – 4th Sunday of Advent

8:30 am BCP Communion – in-person only
10:00 am Children's Nativity – in-person and live-stream on Facebook
Leader: Barbara Webb
Preacher: Revd David Cattle
Reading: Matthew 1:18 – 25

Saturday 24th December – Christmas Eve

4:00 pm Christingle Service
Leader and Preacher: Revd David Cattle
11:15 pm Christmas Eve Service of Holy Communion
Leader: Revd David Cattle
Preacher: Chris Selden
Readings: Isaiah 9:2 – 7; Luke 2:1 – 20

Sunday 25th December – Christmas Day

10:00 am Family Service of Holy Communion
Leader: Revd David Cattle
Preacher: Fiona Selden
Reading: John 1:1 – 14

Services During the Week

Weekly Morning Prayer on Tuesdays via Zoom at 9:30 am (except 27th December).

Important dates in December

Friday 2 nd Dec	7.30pm – Worship Planning Team meeting (via Zoom)
Weds 7 th Dec	2.15pm – Wednesday Fellowship
Thurs 8 th Dec	7.30pm – PCC meeting
Friday 9 th Dec	5:00 – 8:00pm – Christmas Tree Festival set-up
Friday 9 th Dec	7.30pm – Carol Service practice
Saturday 10 th Dec	10.00 – 4.00pm – Christmas Tree Festival
Sunday 11 th Dec	3.30pm – Carol Service practice
Monday 12 th Dec	11am – 1pm and 5 – 7pm, Take down Christmas Tree Festival
Tuesday 13 th Dec	6:00pm – Fundraising Committee meeting (via Teams)
Weds 14 th Dec	9:00 am – Informal Prayer in church
Thursday 15 th Dec	10:00am – St Michael’s Junior School Carol Service (in Church)
Saturday 17 th Dec	4:30 pm – Carols on the Common at the Heritage Centre
Tuesday 20 th Dec	10:00am – Infant School Carol Service (in Church)

Future dates

Monday 8 th Jan	4.30pm – Joint MMU service at St Michael’s (New Year Praise and Worship) (refreshments from 4pm)
Sunday 15 th Jan	12:00 pm – Meeting of 150 th Anniversary Planning Team (Vicarage) 4:00 pm – Licensing of Suzanne McAllister as Associate Priest at St Luke’s Moulsham.
Sunday 29 th Jan	10am – Baptism of Harrison, Elliot and Edison Loates
Sunday 12 th Mar	10am – Baptism of Alexander Edwards

NOTICES

Christmas Tree Festival

Over the weekend 9th – 11th December we shall be holding a Christmas Tree Festival in the Church for everyone to enjoy and participate in, including local businesses and youth groups. £2.50 for adults at the door, children free. Set-up is Friday 9th, 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm, viewing is Saturday 10th, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm and take-down is Monday 12th, 11:00 am – 1:00pm and 5:00 – 7:00pm. If you plan to display a tree please contact berylmoss111@gmail.com.

Prayer Chain

If anyone has an urgent need, please be aware the Church has a small group of committed members ready and willing to support you in prayer. Please contact Jane Windus, the Prayer Chain Coordinator (janewindus@gmail.com), who will circulate your request amongst the team. Furthermore, if you would be willing to join the team and commit to supporting others in this important and privileged ministry, again please contact Jane.

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 that. Travers Harpur is our homegroup co-ordinator. If you would like to think about joining a group, please contact Travers for more details: travers.harpur@gmail.com

Thought for the month by Jane Harpur:

What Does Advent Mean To You?

Is it advent calendars (many now completely secular), all the preparations for Christmas, the lights and decorations in the shops and in peoples' homes, nativity plays, carol services, carol singing in the dark etc.? Some will be fearful this year because they don't know how they will afford the extra food and presents for their children. Life is also going to be very different for the Ukrainian people. But how many realise that Advent is as much about the Second Coming of Jesus as the first? The collects for the first two Sunday of Advent emphasise this. In the second- 'when your Son comes again as Judge and Saviour, may we be ready to receive Him who is our Lord and our God.'

We have all heard the warnings about climate change and this has been emphasised again at COP27 in Egypt. Many in the world have experienced famine this year (exacerbated by Putin's actions), extreme flooding and raging fires. But have we noted the warnings in the Word of God? From Luke 21: 'on the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. Men will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world. At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory'. A caption in a recent British medical journey- 'when our planet dies where do we go?'

Matthew's Gospel tells us that like it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. Before the flood people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the Flood came and only 8 people were saved. But it says in 1 Peter that God waited patiently in the days of Noah, and in 2 Peter it says- 'the Lord is not slow in keeping His promise. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish but everyone to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, the heavens will disappear with a roar, the elements will be destroyed by fire and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare... You ought to live holy and godly lives as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. But in keeping with his promise we look forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness'.

Doesn't this make the need for evangelism all the more urgent? Here are some verses from Isaiah 55:

"Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near.

Let the wicked forsake their ways, and the unrighteous their thoughts.

Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon."

May it be so this Advent.

The deadline for articles for January is Sunday 18th December. Please send them to Geoff Windus (geoffwindus@gmail.com).

Church contact details:

Vicar: Revd David Cattle revdcattle@gmail.com 01245 956953

Churchwardens: Gavin Adlington gavin.adlington@gmail.com 07565 888707, and Anne Pepper apecpper36@gmail.com; 07703 586537

Pastoral care: Karen Robertson k-robertson@blueyonder.co.uk 07941 857097

Safeguarding: Janella Coates janella.coates@gmail.com 07981 419796

Evangelism Enabler: Sue Kitson suektsn9@gmail.com 01245 265443