



St Michael and All Angels' Church, Galleywood

What's On in April 2024

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

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



“See the place where they laid Him. He is not here, He is risen!” (Mark 16:6)

Sunday 7th April – 2nd Sunday of Easter

- 8:30 am BCP Communion – in-person only
- 10:00 am Service of the Word – in-person and live-stream on Facebook
Leader: Fiona Selden
Preacher: Geoff Windus – “Who Am I?”
Readings: Romans 5:1 – 5; Romans 8:9 – 17

Sunday 14th April – 3rd Sunday of Easter

- 10:00 am Service of Holy Communion – in-person and live-stream on Facebook
Leader: Revd David Cattle
Preacher: Chris Selden – “Transformed, not Conformed”
Readings: Romans 12:1 – 2; Luke 22:24 – 30

Sunday 21st April – 4th Sunday of Easter

- 8:30 am BCP Communion – in-person only
- 10:00 am Service of the Word – in-person and live-stream on Facebook
Leader: Cesca Watkinson
Preacher: Revd David Cattle – “The True Gospel”
Readings: John 8:1 – 11; Acts 17:16 – 31

Sunday 28th April – 5th Sunday of Easter

- 8:30 am BCP Communion – in-person only
- 10:00 am Service of the Word – in-person and live-stream on Facebook
Leader: Revd David Cattle
Preacher: Geoff Windus – “Carrying the Cross”
Readings: Mark 8:31 – 38; Mark 10:17 – 31

Services During the Week

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

Important Dates in April

Wed 3 rd	2:25 pm	– Wednesday Fellowship, Church Hand-Bell Ringers, followed by tea
Sat 6 th	10am – 12pm	– Coffee Morning in Church
Wed 10 th	9:00 am	– Wednesday Prayer (in Church)
Fri 12 th	10:00 am	– Churchyard Care Team meeting (in the vestry)
Sat 13 th	9am – 12pm	– Churchyard Tidy-Up and Church Cleaning
Sun 14 th		– start of Electoral Roll revision period
Mon 15 th	10:00 am	– Churchwardens' and MLT meeting (Fiona's house)
Wed 17 th	9:00 am	– Wednesday Prayer (in Church)

Future dates

Sunday 5th May – end of Electoral Roll revision period

Saturday 25th May, 9:30am – annual Marriage Day

Sunday 26th May, 11:30am – Annual Church Meetings

NOTICES

A Taste of Sri Lanka

We are holding an evening in church celebrating Sri Lankan culture on Saturday 11th May. Doors open at 6 pm for 6:30 – 9:00 pm. The evening includes a Sri Lankan meal with singing and dancing afterwards! There are just 75 tickets at £15 each available from Beryl Moss

(berylmoss111@gmail.com). Beryl would also be grateful for any large table cloths you might be able to donate for the evening.

New PCC Secretary needed

Sue Metcalfe has been our PCC Secretary for a number of years, and has done a great job at taking minutes at PCC meetings. We thank Sue for all her hard work for the Church. Sue has decided that the right time for her to step down from this role is the annual Church meetings on 26th May. If you would like to know more about the role, please speak to Sue.

Praying Together in Church on a Wednesday

This is an informal time of prayer at 9.00 am in the Church on the second and fourth Wednesday each month. It's a time of quiet reflection listening to God and to each other. All are welcome as we explore together the wonderful mystery of prayer. April's dates are 10th and 17th. See Sue Kitson for more details.

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.

Church Electoral Roll revision

Every year, we update our Electoral Roll. This is the official Church membership list, which all Church of England churches need to compile. If your name is already on the Electoral Roll, you don't need to do anything – you will stay on automatically (unless you would like to come off; if so, please contact us). If you are not yet on the Electoral Roll, please do consider joining.

We would recommend joining the Roll because:

1. It allows you to vote at our Annual Meeting, which takes place on Sunday 26th May.
2. It allows you to stand for election to the PCC or Churchwarden.
3. It is about belonging. It is a way of saying, this is my Church family and I belong here.

You can join the Roll if you are:

1. Baptised.
2. Aged 16 or over.
3. Resident in the parish OR worship with us regularly (or would usually worship with us, but are prevented from coming to Church, perhaps because of age or illness).

There are set dates for the revision of the Roll. The revision opens on Sunday 14th April and closes on Sunday 5th May. There will be forms available during this time for those who wish to join the Roll. Please speak to our Electoral Roll Officer, Jane Dougan, for more details (jmd8@post.com).

Car parking on the church drive.

With an increasingly aging church population, there is high demand for the 3 spaces that are there. If you are dropping someone off who is less mobile or needs assistance, please pull in in front of the porch door and drop them off or take them in and then move your car to the car park. Similarly if you are carrying heavy or bulky items for church, drop off and then move your car to the car park. This will leave the 3 precious spaces for those driving themselves but needing to be near the door. Please NEVER park on the grass, or under the tree, all 4 wheels of the car needs to be on the drive. In time we will have some signage up. Thanks for your understanding in this.

Two dates for your diary linked to volunteering in the Churchyard and Copse:

The Big Help Out was set up by the King for his coronation, it is being run again this year. **Friday 7 June – Sunday 9 June 2024**. We had a great time last year with Anne's campervan providing hot and cold drinks and cakes in the Copse. Save the date. Details to follow – ideas welcome.



Love your Burial Ground Week and **Churches Count on Nature Week** is being held the same week, **Saturday 8 to Saturday 16 June 2024**. We will look at creating some wildflower areas in the Churchyard and Copse, put in more wildlife boxes such as for hedgehogs and start a species count for plants and wildlife.



Does anyone know calligraphy?

We are looking for someone who knows how to write calligraphy to write names in our Book of Remembrance. If you think you can help with this, or know someone who might be able to, please see Karen Robertson.

Churchyard Tidy-Up and Church Cleaning

Do join us if you can for our monthly churchyard tidy-up on each second Saturday, 9 am – 12pm. For April it's the 13th. NB. Church cleaning is now part of the agenda, so if you could help in this area, do please come along. See Anne Pepper for more details.

Home visits

If anyone can't get to Church at the moment, for whatever reason, and would like David to visit, please let David know (contact details on the back page). David is also very happy to bring Holy Communion and celebrate it at home or in hospital.

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: travers.harpur@gmail.com.

Thought for the Month by Chris Selden:

A couple of weeks ago I bought a new bottle of golden syrup, and saw that the company had changed their label. No surprise in that; all companies update their artwork eventually. However, the old labels had for many years showed a dead lion, relating to an event in the Old Testament when Samson killed a lion and later found bees living in the corpse and making honey.

I don't work in marketing, but I expect this imagery will have been questioned many times: the Samson story is about honey, so why put it on our syrup? ...and does a rotting animal carcass really represent the quality of our product? But the decision was taken, the new labels were rolled out, and I since found out that various people (including numerous Christian groups) made a lot of noise on social media about the removal of the old Samson logo. That's not the part which interested me. What interested me is that the new image is the stylised face of a lion; not dead this time, but looking noble and very much alive. Aside from Samson, the lion is itself a popular biblical image – used over 100 times, sometimes relating to the actual animal, but other times as a simile relating to strength or ferocity. God kept Daniel safe when thrown to the lions. David recalls killing lions while working as a shepherd. The image of a lion resting with an ox illustrates a future peace. In Genesis the tribe of Judah is likened to a lion cub, and as King David was from the tribe of Judah the expected Messiah descended from his tribe was sometimes thought of as “The Lion of Judah”; a leader who would rule with authority and strength. The New Testament book of Revelation emphasises that Jesus is this Lion of Judah; that He is the only one worthy to receive blessing and honour and glory and power.

Easter gives us an opportunity to not only reflect on the sacrificial death of Jesus, but on His resurrection and the new life that He offers to all of us. As we move on from Easter we do not commemorate the decomposing body of a defeated leader, but we worship Jesus who is the risen Lion of Judah.

Whether the marketing department intended it or not, maybe that new and living lion still gives us something we can reflect on as we look at our syrup bottles.

Now, where are the crumpets...?

The deadline for articles for May is Sunday 21st April. Please send them to Geoff Windus (whatson@stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk).

NB. Please note the new address going forward for What's On input.

Church contact details:

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: suektsn9@gmail.com; 01245 265443