

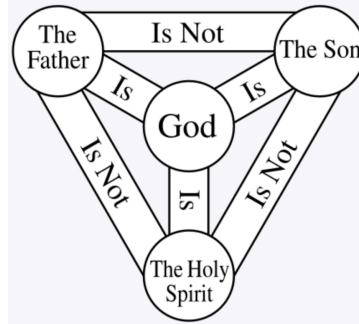


St Michael and All Angels' Church, Galleywood

What's On in June 2024

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

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



Sunday 2nd June – 1st Sunday after Trinity

8:30 am BCP Communion – in-person only

10:00 am Service of the Word – in-person and live-stream on Facebook

Leader: Travers Harpur

Preacher: Jane Harpur – “Listening to God’s Voice”

Readings: 1 Samuel 3; Luke 10:38 – 42

Sunday 9th June – 2nd Sunday after Trinity

10:00 am Service of Holy Communion – in-person and live-stream on Facebook

Leaders: Fiona Selden and Revd David Cattle

Preacher: Travers Harpur – “Slowing Down to Pray”

Readings: Psalm 131; Jonah 2

Sunday 16th June – Father’s Day

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: Revd David Cattle – “Our Father”

Readings: Luke 11:1 – 10

Sunday 23rd June – 4th Sunday after Trinity

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: Fiona Selden – “Praying Authentically”

Readings: Psalm 13; Nehemiah 1:5 – 11

Sunday 30th June – 5th Sunday after Trinity

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 – “Abiding in God’s Presence”

Readings: John 15:1 – 8; Psalm 84

Services During the Week

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

Important Dates in June

Sat 1 st ,	10 – 12 pm	– Coffee Morning in Church
Tue 4 th ,	6:00 pm	– Eco Church Team meeting (via Teams)
Wed 5 th ,	9:00 am	– Wednesday Prayer in Church
	2:15 pm	– Wednesday Fellowship: Brian Pepper and his Ukelele Group
	5:00 pm	– Teenager Confirmation Course starts
	7.30 pm	– Adult Confirmation Course starts
Thu 6 th ,	10:00 am	– Service for 80 th anniversary of D-Day (Keene Hall)
Fri 7 th ,	7:00 pm	– Upwards youth group
Sat 8 th ,	10 – 4 pm	– The Big Help Out (Group Leaders required 9 – 4 pm), see below
	7.30 pm	– Organ Recital by Philip Prior, fundraising event (see below)
Mon 10 th ,	1:00 pm	– MLT (Fiona's house)
Sun 16 th ,	10:00 am	– Father's Day Family Service
Wed 19 th ,	9:00 am	– Wednesday Prayer in Church
Fri 21 st ,	7:00 pm	– Upwards Youth Group
Sat 29 th ,	12 – 3 pm	– Church Family BBQ (Heritage Centre)
Sun 30 th ,	4:00 pm	– Joint Service (St Luke, Moulsham)

Future dates

Fri 5 th July,	7:00 pm	– Upwards Youth Group
Sun 7 th July,	10:00 am	– Stewardship Sunday
Mon 15 th July,	10:00 am	– MLT/Churchwardens' meeting (Fiona's house)
Wed 17 th July,	10:00 am	– St Michael's School Leavers' Service (Church)
Fri 19 th July,	7:00 pm	– Upwards Youth Group

NOTICES

Confirmation Courses – starting on 5th June

Confirmation is an important part of someone's journey of faith in the Church of England (other denominations do equivalent things). Confirmation is a service in which someone affirms the promises made during their baptism (either by parents and godparents on their behalf, or by themselves). The service is led by one of our Bishops, who prays for each candidate, "Confirm, O Lord, your servant with your Holy Spirit."

For those who would like to be confirmed, or who would like to explore confirmation, we are holding a 3-session preparation course on Wednesday afternoons for secondary-school-aged young people, and a 5-session course on Wednesday evenings for adults, starting on June 5th. We cover lots of aspects of the Christian faith, as well as many contemporary topics, and you can ask the Vicar your hardest questions about faith, the universe and everything! The course is also good for those who are considering being baptised. See David for more details.

Church Family BBQ

On Saturday 29th June we are holding a great St Michael's Family BBQ at the Heritage Centre from 12 pm – 3 pm. It's a free event but donations towards the cost of the food would be gratefully received. Please contact Alice if you could help with food preparation and cooking.

Fund raising Activities:

- 1. Organ Recital Saturday 8th June, 7:30 pm.** Philip Prior will play mainly on a D-Day theme. Tickets cost £12 and will include a glass of wine or fruit juice. There will also be a raffle. Raffle donations would be gratefully received. Tickets: Beryl (berylmoss111@gmail.com) or Shirley (07510-286598), also on the door.
- 2. St Michaels School 'Smash Fest', 22nd June.** This is a school event but the church has a tombola table where proceeds will be shared between the school and the Church. Beryl requests offers of tombola prizes.
- 3. The New City Singers Choir Saturday 6th July at 7:30 pm.** Tickets cost £10 and will include a glass of wine or fruit juice. There will also be a raffle. Raffle donations would be gratefully received. Tickets from Beryl (berylmoss111@gmail.com) or Shirley (07510-286598).
- 4. Christmas Cards!** Before the end of June submit your pictures of St Michael's to Beryl in a competition to have yours selected for our 2024 Church Christmas cards. The prize is a free pack of cards!

The Big Help Out

Volunteer and help us at St Michaels Churchyard and Copse – bring your own gloves and small hand tools – all welcome - large tasks and small or just visit and have cake and refreshments. There will be lots to do:

- serve the refreshments and cakes
- weeding the paths in the Copse
- taking out small laurel bushes that regrow
- strimming the grass in the Copse, around the church, around benches and on graves

- emptying and repairing the Compost heap
- tending a bonfire
- inside sweeping the Bell Tower steps
- moving boxes in the church

We need people to offer to lead a small group of volunteers. Please email Anne who will suggest some areas (see above) for you to lead.

Bring your own gloves and small hand tools – we have a selection of larger tools.

If you have a petrol or battery strimmer please let Anne know and bring it.

There will be a campervan serving tea/coffee/cakes – donations of cakes welcome.

Contact Anne Pepper sexton@stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk

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.

SONlight and MEGA

As part of 'Churches Count On Nature' Week, SONlight and MEGA will be in the Copse for their session on Sunday 9th June. We will be celebrating creation, focusing on the brilliant wildlife found in our outdoor spaces, counting and identifying plants and insects and enjoying s'mores around the firepit. We will be out, whatever the weather, so bring a coat/old trainers, if it looks like rain!

Churchyard Summer Tidy-Up

We are so fortunate to have a beautiful churchyard. We are grateful to those families who lovingly tend the grave of their loved ones. We are also grateful to our volunteers and paid grounds-team, who work so hard to care for this beautiful place.

Everything that happens in the churchyard is covered by a set of rules, which are set by the Diocese of Chelmsford, and come to us as part of a legal framework so they are part of the law of the country. In the past, the Church has not always been good at telling people what the rules are. So, in recent times the Churchyard Care Team (Anne, Travers and David) have been hard at work designing a new leaflet called "The Churchyard Code", which explains the rules. We are also working on signs that we will put up around the churchyard.

In the next few weeks, we will send The Churchyard Code to all of the families for whom we have contact details, and we will encourage people to remove those items from their loved one's grave which are not allowed under the rules (e.g. vases, pots, stones, tablets, ornaments, etc.) over the summer, so that by September the churchyard is much more compliant with the law.

One reason that some items are not allowed is that they are not biodegradable, and we want the churchyard to be as "green" as possible, especially now that we have just received our Silver Eco Church Award. If you have any questions about this, please see a member of the Churchyard Care Team. Thanks.

Praying Together in Church on a Wednesday

This is an informal time of prayer at 9.00 am in the Church usually on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday each month. It's a time of quiet reflection listening to God and to each other. All are welcome. For June, it's the **first** and **third** Wednesdays, 5th and 19nd. 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.

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 Anne Pepper:

Caring for God's Creation – How do I play my part?

We are delighted to announce that St Michaels has recently been awarded its Eco-Church Silver award! This is great news and congratulations to Richard and his team who have worked so hard on our behalf, to achieve this goal. This achievement has focused our minds on this aspect of our Christian Life. In Genesis 2:15 we are told

The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it.

Work it and take care of it. Not misuse it, deplete it or destroy it, but to conserve and renew it. We are stewards of God's creation. But we are clear that we worship the Creator – God Himself and not Creation itself. In Psalm 24:1 we are told

The Earth is the Lord's and everything in it.

We are not the owners of creation but its stewards and we must approach our stewardship of creation with humility and caution.

So what are we doing? This month in June we are starting to conduct a survey of the plant and wildlife of our Copse and Churchyard. On Friday 7th June our Upwards Youth group will begin the first steps of the plant and wildlife survey. On Saturday 8th June we have the Big Help Out (10am-3pm) in the Copse and the Churchyard (see above) and on Sunday 9th during the morning service our children and young people will begin their part of the plant and wildlife survey. Over the summer holiday our school-age children are using the theme of creation throughout their programme on Sunday mornings and will be building bug hotels amongst many other things.

As part of our Eco journey, we are swapping to recycled paper, using more eco-friendly products in the kitchen and as part of cleaning, and also moving to use more Fairtrade items. We are looking at a more sustainable mowing and grass-cutting regime that hopefully achieves a good balance between leaving some areas more wild, and tending other areas to allow use of the churchyard and access to graves. We won't crack it this year, but hopefully we will build and learn how best to manage this balance from year to year.

So what could you do? Join in on Saturday 8 June 10am-3pm. Volunteer your expertise if you are knowledgeable on plants or animals. Do you have artistic skills to record our plant and wildlife findings to make display boards for the churchyard? Can you help us draw up an artistic Impression of what areas of the Copse and Churchyard should look like when they are stewarded well?

I hope this has given you a flavour of what is very much the start of our journey.

The deadline for articles for July is Sunday 23rd June. Please send them to Geoff Windus (whatson@stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk).

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: suekitson9@gmail.com; 01245 265443

Children, Youth and Families Leader:

Alice Loates childrenandyouth@stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk