



St Michael and All Angels' Church, Galleywood

What's On in April 2026

Follow our website link to watch our 10 am services on Facebook, live or after:

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



Wednesday – 1st April

7:30 pm The Way of the Cross – in Church

Maundy Thursday – 2nd April

7:30 pm Service of Holy Communion (St Mary's, Widford)
Revd Stephanie Gillingham
Preacher: Revd David Cattle

Good Friday – 3rd April

8:00 am Meditation on the Cross (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

Easter Sunday 5th April

5:45 am Dawn Service (Church of the Holy Spirit, Widford)
10:00 am Service of Holy Communion (with Sonlight, but not MEGA)
Leader: Revd David Cattle
Preacher: Geoff Windus – “Christ is Risen! – But what does it *mean*?”
Readings: Philippians 2:5 – 11; John 20:1 – 18

Sunday 12th April – 2nd of Sunday of Easter

8:30 am BCP Service of Holy Communion
10:00 am Service of the Word (with Sonlight and MEGA)
Leader: Geoff Windus
Preacher: Fiona Selden – “A Living Hope”
Readings: 1 Peter 1:3 – 9; John 20:19 – 31

Sunday 19th April – 3rd Sunday of Easter

8:30 am BCP Service of Holy Communion
10:00 am Service of the Word (with Sonlight and MEGA)
Leader: Revd David Cattle
Preacher: Revd David Cattle – “The Emmaus Road”
Readings: Acts 2:14a and 36 – 41; Luke 24:13 – 35

Sunday 26th April – 4th Sunday of Easter

8:30 am BCP Service of Holy Communion
10:00 am Service of the Word (with Sonlight and MEGA)
Leader: Fiona Selden
Preacher: Chris Selden – “The Early Believers in the Risen Jesus”
Readings: Acts 2:42 – 47; John 10:1 – 10

Services During the Week

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

Important Dates in April

Wed 1 st	2:15 pm	– Spring Afternoon Tea Party
Sat 4 th	10:00 am	– Coffee Morning with Fairtrade Stall (Church)
Sun 5 th		– Revision period for Electoral Roll opens
Wed 8 th	9:00 am	– Wednesday Prayer (Church)
Sat 11 th	9:00 am	– Churchyard and Copse Tidy-Up
	2:00 pm	– “The Big Brew” (Fairtrade Event – see below, in Church)
	7:00 pm	– Big Church (Church)
Sun 12 th		– Nomination forms available for church roles
Fri 17 th	10:00 am	– Churchyard Care Team meeting (Vestry)
Sat 18 th	10:00 am	– Know Why You Believe: “Do Science and Faith Belong Together?” (Church)
Wed 22 nd	9:00 am	– Wednesday Prayer (Church)
Sat 25 th	7:00 pm	– Big Church (Church)
Sun 26 th		– Revision period for Electoral Roll closes

Future Dates

Mon 4 th May	10:00 am	– MLT meeting (Fiona’s house)
Fri 8 th May	6:30 pm	– “Land of the Book” evening talk – see below (in Church)
Sat 16 th May	6:30 pm	– Quiz Night
Sun 17 th May	11:30am	– Annual Church Meetings
Sun 24 th May		– Pentecost Sunday
Sun 31 st May	4:30 pm	– Joint Service with partner churches (St Mary’s, Widford)
Sat 15 th Aug	1:00 pm	– David and Jacqui’s wedding – all welcome (Chelmsford Cathedral)

NOTICES

Fund-Raising News

Coffee Mornings: April’s coffee morning will be on the Saturday 4th April at 10:00 am. The team would very much appreciate any generation contribution of cakes. If you can help, please see Beryl or one of the team. May’s Coffee Morning will be on 2nd May. Gill will be present with her Fair Trade stall each morning.

Quiz Night, 16th May. 6:30 for 7 pm start.

The Big Brew, Saturday 11th April 2:00 – 4:30 pm

Come to St Michael’s and join in the 40th birthday celebration of Transform Trades (formerly Traidcraft). There will be LOTS of cakes, doggy treats, games, raffles and oh... – more cake! Money raised will help producers to grow their businesses, particularly in Africa and Asia, in their struggle for trade justice. For more information see Gill Wehren (07749 258527)

Churchyard Tidy-Up, Saturday 11th April, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

It would be helpful to let Anne know sexton@stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk if you plan to come, or ... just turn up! Do bring your own small tools and a kneeler.

“Know Why You Believe” – “Do Science and Faith Belong Together?”

“Know Why You Believe”, session 6 will be held on Saturday 18th April at 10:00 am when David will be asking “Do Science and Faith Belong Together?” For further information, contact Geoff Windus (whatson@stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk). **All are welcome to attend.**

“Land of the Book: The Impact of Landscape on Biblical Narrative” - Friday 8th May, 6.30 pm

We are hosting this joint event, which is run by Southwest Chelmsford Churches. Mark Hendley will speak about the land of the Bible, and how that has affected the stories in the Bible. It will be a fascinating evening. It will begin with refreshments at 6.30 pm, and end at 9.15 pm. The

whole of Chelmsford Deanery will be invited to attend, so there could be a good number of people here. We will probably need to run a ticketing system, and we will let you know how to book a ticket nearer the time.

Revision of the Electoral Roll

Every year at about this time, we need to revise our Electoral Roll.

What is it? It is the official Church Membership List. The vast majority of those who worship with us regularly are on the Roll.

Who can join the Roll? Anyone who: (1) is 16 or over, (2) is baptised, and (3) lives in the parish of Galleywood, or worships with us regularly.

Why join the Roll? Being a member allows to vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on Sunday 17th May, at which we elect PCC members to lead the Church for the forthcoming year, and allows you to stand for election to be a PCC member yourself. It is also a way of saying that this is your Church and that you belong to this Church family.

How can someone join the Roll? All you need to do is fill in a form.

When will forms be available? The Electoral Roll revision period starts on Sunday 5th April and finishes on Sunday 26th April. Forms will be available during these three weeks at the back of Church, or from Jane Dougan (our Electoral Roll Officer).

I am currently on the Roll – what do I need to do? If you are currently on the Roll, you don't need to do anything. You will remain on the Roll automatically.

Who can I ask for more information? Contact Jane (jmd8@post.com) or David (vicar@stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk).

Annual meetings, and election to Church offices

Our annual meetings take place on Sunday 17th May at 11.30am. There are two meetings, one after the other. First, the Annual Meeting of Parishioners is the meeting at which we will elect up to two Churchwardens. Second, the Annual Parochial Church Meeting is the meeting at which we elect PCC members, Deputy Churchwardens, and Lynchpin members, and we hear reports on the Church's ministry and accounts. Everyone is encouraged to attend if you can. From Sunday 12th April, nomination forms will be available for these roles. Please prayerfully consider whether you would like to explore standing for any of them. For more information, please speak to our Churchwarden Gavin or Vicar David (contact details on the back page).

Homegroups – would you like to join one?

If so, do contact our homegroup co-ordinators Martin (martinwilson03@hotmail.co.uk) or Veryan (veryanwilson@hotmail.co.uk) for more details.

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 Churchwarden, Gavin Adlington (all contact details are on the back page).

Prayer Chain

The Church has a small, trusted group of committed members ready and willing to support you in prayer. If you have a confidential prayer request for yourself, someone else, a group of people, or a situation, please let our Prayer Chain Co-ordinator, Jane Windus know: prayerchain@stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk.

Pastoral Care

Our Pastoral Care Team is run by Jane Windus who is supported by a small team of Pastoral Visitors. However, pastoral care within our church is as much the responsibility of all of us. If you know of someone within our church family who would value a personal visit or a phone-call, **or you have missed in church recently**, please contact Jane, pastoralcare@stmichaelsgalleywood.org.uk.

Thought for the Month by Chris Selden:

A Sense of Proportion

Psalm 8 is great for giving us a sense of proportion. The writer reflects on God's creation: "*When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and stars, which you have set in place...*".

More recently, science has measured God's handiwork – and the scale of the solar system is mind-bending. I did some rough calculations using some info from Google: suppose we represented the sun by putting a one metre wide beach-ball near the altar of St Michael's church, we could then add the planets to scale. Mercury (the nearest planet) would be a marble somewhere just outside the graveyard; a separate marble near the junction of Stock Road and The Street would represent Earth; Saturn would be a large apple in the car park at Seabright's Barn, and a lime at the Howe Green junction of the A12 with the A130 would represent Neptune.

So if our solar system is represented by eight small fruits within a 4km radius, just think about how much emptiness that includes. And that's only the beginning. The nearest star *outside* our solar system is 30 trillion km away. Based on my maths, to represent Proxima Centauri in our scale model would need us to place a coconut just south of Indonesia. As Douglas Adams once wrote: "*Space is big. Really big... you may think it's a long way to the chemist, but that's just peanuts to space...*"

But I mentioned perspective, so let's just think about the marble representing the earth. A speck of dust on that marble could cover a whole country – so you or I would be just some invisible dot on an invisible dot. Nothing we could ever do could have any meaningful or significant effect on the vastness of creation – so the psalmist asks God the question: "*What is mankind that You are mindful of them; human beings that You care for them?*"

And yet the Bible reassures that we are significant to God. Our significance is not based on what we can do; it is based on who we are: His treasured creation – known by God from the moment our bodies started to form in the womb. Invisible if we consider the scale of creation, yet God wants to have a restored relationship with you. It might mean a change in our priorities and our actions in response to His love, but we can trust that His perspective is reliable.

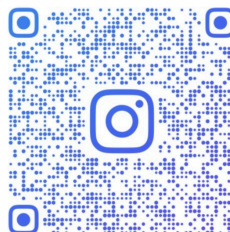
The deadline for articles for May's What's On is Sunday 20th April.

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

Church contact details:

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

Instagram:



@ST.MICHAELS_CHURCH_GALLEYWOOD

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