

Please remember in your prayers:

- the recently baptized and confirmed
- the joy of Easter may fill the whole world
- those who are ill, including: Nicola Cann, Ben Collins, Anne Fletcher, Jacqui Follett, Debbie Greenwood, Helen Huson, Rachael Hymas, Ingrid Kluckova, Joanne Laws, Sam Mahoney, Alison Munro, John Polhill, Alice Reardon, Pat Stroud, Cora Marie Varshney
- the recently departed, including Mike Clasby and Rhoda Limebear, and those who mourn them
- this week the diocese asks us to pray for: All who lead Bible Study Groups



St Michael with St Mary

NOTICES

Saturday 6th April: St Michael's Churchyard Working Party and Church Cleaning – 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. If you can spare some time to help either in the churchyard or in the church, it would be very much appreciated. For more information, please get in touch with Jim on 07770 324375 (churchyard) or Jane on janelarman@sky.com (cleaning).

Gorhambury House and Gardens - Events 2024

- **Gorhambury Garden tours with Head Gardener, Gill Hewis**
10.30 a.m. – 12.00 p.m. on 25th April & 1st May (spring bulb and rhododendron special events); **11th & 18th June, 30th July & 19th September.**
Tickets cost **£30** per person. **(Please note that there are a number of steps to be navigated)**
- **Gorhambury House tours led by Viscountess Grimston**
10.30 a.m. – 12.00 p.m. on 1st & 8th October
Tickets cost **£40** per person. **(Please note that there are stone steps and uneven floors throughout the mansion)**

Admission to all events is by pre-booked ticket only. Please email Olivia Berry for more information and to book tickets - office@grimstontrust.co.uk

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Before the **Annual Meetings on 19th May**, the parish **Electoral Roll** needs to be revised, and it is **now open for revision**. Please note that:

- If you are already a member of the Roll, you do not need to complete a form.
- If you are a regular worshipper aged 16 and above, and not yet on the Roll, please take an Electoral Roll Application Form from the back of either church, fill it in, and return to the Parish Office at the Vicarage. Membership of the Electoral Roll gives you voting rights at parish meetings and helps keep our pastoral contacts up to date.

Services this Week

All services take place at St Michael's unless otherwise stated.

Sunday, 31st March 2024: Easter Sunday

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
- 9.30 a.m. Parish Eucharist (All-Age followed by Easter Egg hunt in the churchyard)
- 11.30 a.m. Holy Eucharist (1662) (St Mary's)

Wednesday, 3rd April

- 10.30 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Sunday, 7th April 2024: Second Sunday of Easter

- 8.00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
- 9.30 a.m. Parish Eucharist
- 6.00 p.m. Evensong (St Mary's)

Contact Information:

- Vicar: The Rev'd Jonny Lloyd: vicar@parishofstmichaels.org.uk
- Address: St Michael's Vicarage, St Michael's Street, St Albans, AL3 4SL
- Parish Office: Georgie Ray: admin@parishofstmichaels.org.uk
(9.00 a.m.–12.00 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday)
- Telephone: 01727 835037 Website: www.stmichaels-parishchurch.org.uk

Welcome to our service this morning on Easter Sunday. Junior church is not meeting today so please feel free to use the children's corner in the north aisle or the Tower Room if you need privacy (e.g. nappy change) which has a sound relay of the service.

Toilets are available in the Parish Centre at the east end of the churchyard; please see a steward for access. All are welcome to stay for **refreshments** after the service in the Parish Centre. If you are new, we would love to meet you!

Collect

God of glory,
by the raising of your Son
you have broken the chains of death and hell:
fill your Church with faith and hope;
for a new day has dawned
and the way to life stands open
in our Saviour Jesus Christ.

New Testament Reading: Acts 10: 34-43

Then Peter began to speak to them: 'I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.'

The Gradual: We sing the **Alleluia Chorus** from **Handel's Messiah** – music and words are on a separate sheet – all sing lustily!

Gospel Reading: John 20: 1-18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from

the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."' Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Prayer Over the Gifts

Lord, with joy we offer you the sacrifice by which your Church is reborn and nourished through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Anthem during communion sung by the choir:

This joyful Eastertide,
away with sin and sorrow!
My Love, the Crucified,
has sprung to life this morrow:
*Had Christ, who once was slain,
not burst His three-day prison,
our faith had been in vain;
but now has Christ arisen,
arisen, arisen;
but now has Christ arisen!*

Death's flood has lost its chill
since Jesus crossed the river;
Lover of souls, from ill
my passing soul deliver:

My flesh in hope shall rest
and for a season slumber
till trump from east to west
shall wake the dead in number:

Music: Dutch trad. arr. Wood

Words: Woodward