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**EASTER 2021**



**ST. MICHAEL & ALL ANGELS  
PARISH CHURCH, PELSALL**

## HOLY WEEK & EASTER SERVICES

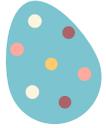
This year, as the coronavirus pandemic continues, our keeping of Holy Week and of the Triduum – the great Three Days commemorating Christ’s passion, death and resurrection – will be different. The restrictions and guidelines currently in place mean that some of the powerful symbols of this week, such as the Palm Sunday procession and the foot washing on Maundy Thursday, will not be able to happen. However, following last year’s Holy Week in full lockdown, it is a joy that the church has re-opened and that we shall be able to keep Holy Week together as far as possible. Seating will be limited so please book with Rev. Alison.

Please check our website at:

[www.stmichaelspellsall.co.uk](http://www.stmichaelspellsall.co.uk) or find us on Facebook or A Church Near You for any updated information.

### MARCH 2021

28th Palm Sunday – 10.00am  
*Holy Communion Service -  
Blessing of Palms*



### APRIL - TRIDUUM 2021

1st Maundy Thursday – 7.30pm  
*Holy Communion with Stripping of  
the Altar followed by The Watch*

2nd Good Friday – 2.00pm-3.00pm  
*Last Hour at the Cross*

4th Easter Sunday – 10.00am  
*Holy Communion Service*



### MAY 2021

10th -16th Christian Aid Week

13th Ascension Day

23rd Pentecost

30th Trinity Sunday



To Contact the Church, the Vicar or one of the Church Wardens please use the information below:

### PRIEST IN CHARGE

Rev. Alison M. Morris ..... 01922 477734

### LICENSED READER

Mrs A. Myatt ..... 01922 692420

### CHURCH WARDENS

Mrs S. Morris ..... 01922 516847

Mr A. Chantler ..... 07870 783614

### CHURCH OFFICE

TELEPHONE ..... 01922 685666  
(if office closed please leave a message)

### CHURCH E-MAIL

[stmichaelschurchpellsall@gmail.com](mailto:stmichaelschurchpellsall@gmail.com)

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Front cover photograph courtesy of Mike Reynolds



We hope you are enjoying our magazine – if you have anything you would like to include please email:

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and we will do our best to include as many as we can.



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Views expressed by contributors do not necessarily reflect those of the church.

# FROM THE VICAR'S DESK

REV. ALISON



## What is in your Easter basket?

**Take some time to fill up with His joy, hope and peace this Easter season.**

A few years ago my husband and I were invited by our Polish friends to a special church service on Easter Saturday. It was called Świąconka which means 'the blessing of the Easter baskets'. This is one of the most beloved Polish traditions whose roots date back to the early history of Poland. A basket is traditionally lined with crisp white linen and occasionally embroidered. It is decorated with sprigs of boxwood (bukszpan), the typical Easter evergreen with ribbon woven through the handle. Inside the basket are various items of Easter food such as meats, eggs, cakes and breads all which have a symbolic Easter meaning. During the service the priest offers a three part blessing of prayers which specifically addresses this symbolism. It is followed with the priest sprinkling the individual baskets to be blessed with holy water. For us as guests to watch this was a very spiritual experience which filled us with love, joy and peace which led me to reflect and ask.

**What is in your Easter basket this year? Will it fill you with love, joy and peace?** For many of us, life is filled to the brim just like a full basket. Diaries are filled with appointments, and lists of jobs which use up our time and energy - especially as we are preparing for Easter. So I feel that we all need a stop and pause —an opportunity to be still and allow God to fill us up with His grace, peace and love. The Easter season is a special time for this, as we start to consider the sacrifice of Jesus and all that His resurrection means. As we look forward to Easter Sunday, we will be writing Easter cards, buying Easter eggs, dressing up our children as Easter bunnies, organizing Easter egg hunts, preparing baskets and going to church.

### **But how are we preparing our hearts for Easter?**

Let's consider the question: Are we ready to empty our baskets and allow God to fill us with His love? Are our hearts ready to pour into others as Jesus did? If not, how can we prepare ourselves for an experience of His love, grace and resurrection? Here are some suggestions as we prepare our hearts for Easter:

**Creating Spaces:** Step aside from the daily routine and simply be with God! Of course He is always with us but it's good to completely focus on that cherished relationship with God. So create a space to sit down with Him... a special chair, bench or big cushion in a cozy corner. Light a candle and be still – make it a haven of peace and tranquility. **Reflective Journaling:** Find a notebook and reflect on all that is filling up your life today. Ask yourself questions like: What am I doing right now in my life? What is God calling me to do or nudge me to let go of? Then ask God to give you the courage and wisdom to take steps in response to your answers.

**Try Something New:** A change can lead to a new experience with Him. Maybe it's a short daily prayer walk, bible study or a course exploring vocation. If you haven't tried Bible journaling, it's a creative way to encounter the Word. Consider it as you discover a new way to appreciate the gifts He has given us and grow in His Word. **Everyday Reminders:** What do you spend a lot of time doing? Housework? Shopping? Answering email and texts? Find some ways to point yourself toward God throughout the day. Maybe use a devotional calendar to change each day. Use a mug with a message for your favourite drink. Set up the Church of England website and apps for an inspirational text. Finding simple ways to become aware of God's presence will become a thread of joy that runs all through the Easter season.

So as we enter Holy Week, let's each take time to fill up in our own way with His joy, hope and peace. Whatever you choose to do, may it be something that not only fills your heart, but allows you to pour into others His love, joy and peace.

**So what will be in your Easter basket this year?**

Rev. Alison

*Easter  
Blessing*

## WAR GRAVES WEEK - A WEEK TO REMEMBER

War Graves Commission are proud to bring us our first ever War Graves Week. Running from the **21-28 May 2021**, war graves week will shine a light on their work and the people who keep remembrance of our war dead alive. Through a series of talks, tours and events, both physical and virtual, War Graves Week will bring an immersive and inclusive programme that will reveal CWGC's work and history in all its variety and demonstrate its ongoing relevance today. In St. Michael's cemetery and church yard there are 6 war graves. It would be good to support the WGC in their new venture this year.

In the build up to War Graves Week, the WGC want us to remember those who died in the world wars by creating our own wildflower memorial. The WGC will send you free packets of wildflower seeds that you can plant in your own garden or in plant pots. If you plant them when they arrive, you'll have your own patch of wildflowers which will grow from May to October. Share a photo of your bloom on Twitter and Instagram to enter the WGC and win a prize. You can apply for these seeds at no cost, but we'd love for you to donate to the work of the Commonwealth War Graves Foundation. Your donation will help us to engage and educate people about our work.

#WarGravesWeek

commonwealth  
war graves  
foundation  
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WAR GRAVES

## CHURCHES COUNT ON NATURE

We at St. Michael's Church will be taking part in **'Churches Count on Nature'**.

From 5th - 13th June 2021 there will be a series of events in the churchyard spotting the plants, insects, birdlife and lichens that make our churchyards so special. Local schools, nurseries, wildlife groups and others will be invited to participate in the count.

If you wish register your interest with us please email the parish office for more information. Information and resources will be made available nearer the date.



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## CHRISTMAS GIVING AT ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH



For part of the year St. Michael's Church has not been open for church services and worship, due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

Because of this, the church has been unable to fund raise. However, helping those in need forms part of the mission of the church and as in previous years the church donated 10% of its direct giving (i.e. collection monies) to home and overseas charities.

At Christmas 2020, the church supported the following organisations: **Acorn's Children's Hospice**, **CRISIS** (national charity for homeless people), **Toilet Twinning** (providing proper toilets in some of the poorest communities in the world) and **USPG** (working alongside Anglican churches/communities around the world).

In addition to this, donations were also made to **The Children's Society** (charity who work with young people facing abuse, exploitation and neglect) following the Christingle Appeal.

As we are all aware 2020 was a difficult year, where we saw charities struggle due to reduced donations. Let us hope that 2021 will be a much better year where donations and support will increase.



## Prayers



*God, give us eyes to see  
the beauty of the Spring,  
And to behold Your majesty  
in every living thing -  
And may we see in lacy leaves  
and every budding flower  
The Hand that rules the universe  
with gentleness and power -  
And may this Easter grandeur  
that Spring lavishly imparts  
Awaken faded flowers of faith  
lying dormant in our hearts,  
And give us ears to hear, dear God,  
the Springtime song of birds  
With messages more meaningful  
than man's often empty words  
Telling harried human beings  
who are lost in dark despair -  
'Be like us and do not worry  
for God has you in His care.*

*Prayer courtesy of Helen Steiner Rice*



## Easter Prayer

*Lord,  
the resurrection of Your Son  
has given us new life and renewed hope.  
Help us to live as new people  
in pursuit of the Christian ideal.  
Grant us wisdom to know what we must do,  
the will to want to do it,  
the courage to undertake it,  
the perseverance to continue to do it,  
and the strength to complete it.*

*Prayer courtesy of New Saint Joseph People's Prayer Book*



# GROWING HERBS AND THEIR USES

*Spring is a good time to try growing herbs. They can be grown indoors or out, from seeds or plants, ideal for Casseroles, Sauces, BBQ's or Seasoning and Salads. Growing herbs allows you to use homegrown produce and does not take up too much space in the garden or on the window sill. You cannot get fresher than clipping a few sprigs to use in a recipe or add a garnish.*

## Follow these simple instructions to enjoy herbs all year round:

1. *Choose easy grow herbs such as Basil, Chives, Mint, Oregano, Parsley, Rosemary and Thyme. Start your herbs from seeds, cuttings or plants. Why not try transplanting or potting on a living herb from the supermarket shelves, with a little TLC they thrive and are good value for money.*
2. *If growing outdoors, choose a sunny site, plants can be placed in between established plants, in a designated herb bed, or Pots on the Patio. Indoor growing, use a container with some type of drainage and place on your sunniest windowsill.*
3. *Keep the soil consistently moist but not waterlogged, a small drizzle regularly is enough. If growing in pots, transplant if they outgrow their container and harvest a few sprigs at a time, regular cutting encourages new growth. Avoid cutting more than a quarter of the plant at a time, as it may not survive.*



## HERB MARINADE

Use any combination of herbs, depending on what you have grown to marinade, chicken, pork, lamb or salmon.

### Ingredients

Large handful of mixed fresh herb sprigs  
90 ml olive oil  
45ml white wine vinegar  
1 garlic clove crushed  
2 spring onions chopped  
Salt and ground black pepper to taste

### Method

- Discard any stalks or damaged leaves from the herbs and chop finely
- Mix the remaining ingredients in a large bowl and add the chopped herbs, mix thoroughly
- Add the meat or fish and coat in the marinade, leave in a cool place for 4-6 hours
- Remove meat or fish when you are ready to cook, use leftover marinade to baste the meat while cooking.

## GREEN HERB SALAD DRESSING

### Ingredients

2 tbs chopped mixed fresh herbs  
6 tbs olive oil  
1 tbs each of dijon mustard and cider vinegar or lemon juice  
Salt to taste

### Method

- Combine ingredients in a bowl and whisk or place in a screw-top jar and shake well until thoroughly mixed.
- Serve immediately or store in an airtight jar in the fridge for up three days. Whisk or shake again before serving.

### General Uses

Add to homemade bread or pizza dough, make fresh parsley, mint or tarragon sauces, add to butter and melt over vegetables and as the summer approaches a selection can be added to those cocktails to enjoy on a warm summer evening.

# WALSALL DEANERY SYNOD

You may not think of your Deanery very often. For some of us we may not fully understand what a Deanery is. St Michaels is one of many churches, chaplaincies and Fresh Expressions which are grouped in the Walsall Deanery. Walsall Deanery is one of 28 Deaneries in the Lichfield Diocese.

The role of the Deanery is to bring together the views of the parishes of the Deanery on common problems and formulate policies on those problems, to foster a sense of community and interdependence amongst those parishes and generally to promote in the Deanery the whole mission of the church – pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

As we are all acutely aware there, are many challenges facing us as a church, a Deanery and indeed a Diocese. Our Deanery will be part of a new initiative called 'Shaping For Mission'.

This is part of the direction of travel for Lichfield Diocese over the next 18 months.

## WHAT IS SHAPING FOR MISSION?

Working together as people of hope to make our mission sustainable, by shaping our deaneries to be effective bodies for developing discipleship, encouraging vocation and inspiring evangelism.

## WHAT IS THE AIM ?

- 1) To enable the parishes, schools, chaplaincies and Fresh Expressions in our diocese to be effective at developing discipleship, encouraging vocation and inspiring evangelism.
- 2) To reshape the Diocese, via the Deanery structure, to deliver this mission and ministry in an effective, affordable and sustainable way.
- 3) To develop the strategic deployment of lay and ordained ministers and reduce the number of paid ministry posts over the next three years.

## A DESIRABLE OUTCOME

- Change is happening. Our challenge is which changes we invest in. We aim to do that faithfully together.
- We have the opportunity to build a faithful, fair and just church for the future.
- Together we want to enable shapes of church that are fit for purpose, more agile, locally minded and eager to partner with others.

In the coming month the PCC will be invited to complete a questionnaire about our church. The questionnaire will help the Deanery team to shape a vision for supporting each other in the mission in our Deanery.

For more information on Deanery Synod please speak to Rev. Alison or our Deanery Synod representative John Maye.



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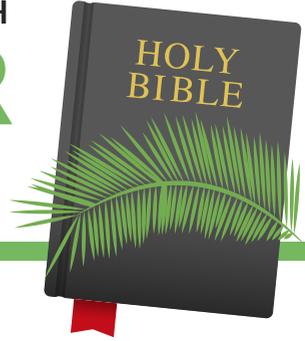
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*All photos shown are completely edible.*



# KNOW YOUR CHURCH



## HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Holy Week is the last week of Lent, beginning on Palm Sunday and ending on Easter Sunday. The week is observed with special solemnity at a number of services held at St Michaels during the week. The Sunday before Palm Sunday is called Passion Sunday. This is when all the Crosses and Statues around the Church are covered in purple veils. The veils are used as a reminder of the Passion which helps us to focus on the events unfolding in the days ahead.

### HOLY WEEK SERVICES EXPLAINED

Holy Week has a number of services that can help us reflect on the mystery of God's love for the world in which we live. The services during Holy week can be rich in meanings but have deep and complex understanding based on theology. Here is an insight into the themes of the various days.

### PALM SUNDAY

Our morning service is longer than usual as Christ's triumphal entry into Jerusalem before His Passion is commemorated in the Eucharist Service. This recreates the first Palm Sunday. The congregation meet at the Church Hall, and palms are handed out to those attending. The celebrant who wears red vestments blesses the branches they hold. The service begins with a reading recounting Jesus' entry into Jerusalem before the procession sets out for the church where the service continues. During the actual church service the Gospel reading recounts the full passion story, marking the beginning of Holy Week. The gospel reading changes each year, it can be from the gospel of Mark, Matthew or Luke. It is known as the Passion Narrative.

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The evening service uses an ancient form of devotion, inviting the congregation on a pilgrimage in Jesus' footsteps, recalling and reflecting on key moments during His journey to the cross. Each station is represented by a picture which tells the story of this journey.

### REFLECTION EVENINGS

On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, Church is open for a service each evening which focuses on a theme for reflection and devotional prayer.



Above: Alter on Palm Sunday.

## MAUNDY THURSDAY

There is an evening service where we remember Jesus sharing the Last Supper with his disciples. This service represents how He instituted the Eucharist. He commanded His first disciples to repeat this action in memory of Him. It was also at the Last Supper that He washed their feet and commanded that we should love one another as He loves us. This act is recreated during the service reminding us that Christian life means humble service.

At the end of the service the altar is stripped of all decoration. The Eucharistic Bread known as the Host is transferred to a side altar which we call The Altar of Repose. Here the congregation are invited to "keep watch" as Jesus asked the disciples to keep watch with him whilst he prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane.



Above: Altar of repose Maundy Thursday Watch

## GOOD FRIDAY

A three-hour devotional service is held between 12.00 noon and 3.00 pm, this can take many forms and is developed every year to be different. Although there may be members of the congregation that stay for the full three hours, it is possible for people to join and leave during the service if they are unable to stay for the whole service.



## EASTER VIGIL

This service varies at St Michael's, sometimes there will be an Easter Eve service held at dusk on Easter Saturday or at Dawn on Easter Sunday.

At this service the Church is in darkness and a fire is lit outside, a new Easter Paschal candle is lit from it. The candle represents Jesus Christ, the light of the world. The minister then processes followed by those gathered into the dark church proclaiming "Christ our Light". As the congregation follows into Church carrying candles lit by the Easter candle light returns to the Church

During the service water at the baptismal font is blessed. Baptisms are sometimes carried out at this service, but regardless of whether someone will be baptized or not the congregation gather around the font to renew their baptismal vows.

## EASTER SUNDAY

The Church is decorated and the altar dressed while the celebrant wears gold and white vestments, our services resume to our Easter Eucharist with an evening service of Easter Songs of Praise. We celebrate the empty tomb and the glory of the Resurrection.

*The Lord is Risen – Alleluia.*



Above: Easter Sunday



## POSITIVE OUTCOMES FROM THE PANDEMIC!

Ryders Hayes School would like to say a huge thank you to the community for their generous donations of devices, this has enabled our children to work effectively from home. Not only have we been proud of the community spirit, but also how well our children have coped with the new challenges that they have faced; they have been an inspiration to us all.

Our Early Years children have been using a blended approach with online live meetings through Google Classroom as well as Seesaw tasks being set to replicate learning through labs. The live story sessions have helped the children to take turns and see each other, this has had a positive impact on mental health.

KS1 and KS2 children have live-streamed throughout the day with their timetable mirroring their normal classroom routine, they have been able to see each other, share their work and work collaboratively. Technology skills have been boosted with all stakeholders (children, staff and parents) learning how to use Google Class room, Seesaw and Nearpod.

During this period, we have experienced many success stories and would like to share these for posterity:

Our very talented music teacher, Mrs Schwartz, has continued to bring music into the living rooms of our families through her weekly Singing Assembly. Search 'The Singing Schwartzes' on YouTube to join in the fun.



Year 1 children enjoyed writing short riddles and read them aloud to the class remotely, they spoke clearly and confidently whilst having fun trying to guess the riddle.

Year 6 children have been busy reading, watching and discussing Macbeth online as a full class and getting involved in conversations around Shakespeare. They have also experienced a week around building their own Theme Parks, understanding budgets; how to pay staff; how to attract customers by marketing the top attraction as well as showcasing the whole Theme Park to the class. Children have used a wide range of software to present this work with Year 6 staff being blown away by the creativity that they were able to share as a result of working from home. As well as this, Year 6 have spoken to Her Majesty's Ambassador to Djibouti: Jo McPhail, a former pupil at Ryders Hayes. Discussing Jo's journey to this role has inspired the children to think about their future aspirations.

Señora Holmes set children in Year 3 and 4 the task of hunting around the house for finding someone 'rojo' (red) or something you could wear on your 'cabeza' (head). The children enjoyed being set a task utilising their space at home.

Mrs Raxworthy-Cooper, Year 5 Teacher, shared her experience of remote-learning: 'In my experience, remote learning felt like I was a pupil again. Every day I was challenged to think of ways of teaching that

would be effective, and every day I learnt new things that I could continue to build on. The most important thing was making sure the children felt comfortable and confident with what they were doing. The more they rose to the challenge and produced excellent work - the more I was inspired to make sure they could access and use us as a resource to aid their learning. It was a real pleasure to see how much effort children put into their work and took their learning to new levels by adapting to the situation.

We used resources such as videos, dance moves, interactive lessons (Nearpod), independent tasks (StudyLadder, Times Table Rock Stars, Prodigy), online worksheets (TeacherMade), and we had a lot of fun doing it. I am now looking forward to the challenge of building on this and creating blended learning opportunities which will use a mix of online and face-to-face teaching to ensure pupils continue to progress to be the best they can be.'

Our Pupil Leadership Team spoke to the Oracy All-Party Parliamentary Group to share how Ryders Hayes have supported the children with their return to school and learning in a new style. We are so proud of how well they have represented Ryders Hayes. Search YouTube 'Oracy APPG Student evidence session', they appear at 8:35 if you wanted to listen to their fantastic discussion. We know that you will also be proud of them for putting us on the map.

We have still continued with our Careers Hub live events with Year 3 learning about the Animal Care

Sophie, Arjan and Ashton at their APPG Meeting



Sector and Year 5 virtually meeting people from the Sports Sector. This has helped children to think about the future and how our new technology-based landscape will affect it.

Year 2 were able to listen and talk with a member from Birmingham Central synagogue. The guest speaker was able to share artefacts such as the torah, yad and kippah as well as share pictures of different synagogues with the children. They asked lots of wonderful and thoughtful questions

and enjoyed speaking to someone with first-hand experience.

Year 4 were still able to enjoy 'The Christingle Service' from St Michael's Church, live-streamed by Reverend Alison, they were very grateful to have been able to continue the annual celebration. Year 4 have also created statues out of recycled materials. A fun project with fantastic results!

We have been lucky to receive messages of appreciation from our

parents, we would like to share an example: 'I work from home and the first lockdown was very difficult in supporting the kids and working so I'm really pleased and relieved how much easier it is now. XXXXXXXXXX has adjusted well and is so happy that she can still see and chat to her friends.'

Our biggest thank you has to go to the parents of children at Ryders Hayes. They have been supporting the children during this difficult time and we know that the children will look back on this time as precious with being able to create memorable family moments. We are looking forward to welcoming the children back into the classroom to continue their learning journey.

These are just a few examples of successes that we have encountered and as you can see, we are very proud of the way that staff, children and parents have risen to this new challenge, our learning landscape has forever changed as a result and we are so excited to see what the future brings for Ryders Hayes.

Written by Bridie White, Year 6 Teacher and Innovation Leader on behalf of Ryders Hayes Primary School.

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CATCHING UP WITH  
THE CONGREGATION

“SARAH  
MORRIS”

CHURCH WARDEN



### HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN THE PARISH?

I have lived in the Parish for 8 years now although I have been worshipping at St Michaels for a lot longer. I actually grew up in Sheffield so I haven't moved far.

### TELL US ABOUT YOUR FAMILY

I am married to Eric and we have 2 children: Toby who is 14 and Esme who is 9. The children have both grown up being members of the church and Toby became a Server 4 years ago. I have one brother; he and his family also live in the village. My parents recently moved into the parish too. We have a very close extended family and time spent together is very important to us. As have many, we have found it hard throughout the last 12 months with that time being restricted, but our closeness has helped us through.

### WE ARE ALL PROUD OF THE WORK YOU HAVE DONE AS AN NHS NURSE, WHAT HAS THE LAST 12 MONTHS BEEN LIKE ON THE FRONT LINE?

What a challenge! We could never have imagined what we would be facing a little over a year ago when the first patients started to arrive at the Hospital. It was certainly the scariest time I have faced in my career. I am extremely fortunate that I have mainly been involved in maintaining the provision of cancer surgery at Walsall. This has meant that I have been able to predominantly work within my usual department. It hasn't been the same story for many of my friends and colleagues and seeing the impact that it has had on them and supporting them through it has been tough. To see people so unwell, isolated from their families and so scared of what was happening was overwhelming. However, the way that the hospital staff have all pulled together and faced up to the challenge really does make me proud to be part of the NHS. Hopefully brighter times are ahead with the new hope the vaccine brings.

### WHAT DOES YOUR ROLE AS CHURCH WARDEN TYPICALLY INVOLVE?

Andy and I are the churchwardens at St Michael's. We work alongside Rev Alison and the PCC aiming to ensure the smooth day to day running of the church.

Our typical duties on a Sunday include, guiding and supporting the congregation and visitors to the church. Counting the congregation and recording this in the registers. We check that the volunteers for the bible readings, reading of the prayers, taking up of the offertory (and of course making the coffee), are all in place.

We are also involved in the record keeping relating to the church building and its assets, the church hall, churchyard and cemetery.

We are also involved in finances, planning, risk assessments and the implementation of policies. Fortunately, there is a great team of people at St Michael's who are always happy to help!

## TELL US SOMETHING WE WOULD NEVER HAVE GUESSED ABOUT YOU?

I have an irrational and embarrassing fear of balloons! Although this sounds ridiculous, I can often be seen at parties with my fingers in my ears panicking! I used to dread the children coming home from parties with them!

## CAN YOU SHARE YOUR CHRISTIAN JOURNEY WITH US?

I was around 4 years old when my family started to come to St Michaels, my brother had joined cubs at the Church and we slowly became more regular members of the congregation. At that time there were lots of children in the congregation and the youth fellowship groups were strong. We were all really involved in church life and the front 2 pews on a Sunday were packed full with us all wanting to sit together! Through the youth fellowship meetings, trips and residential my involvement with church grew. I was confirmed when I was 11 and became an Acolyte. I suppose at the time the emphasis was on having fun with my friends that I had made through church. As I reached my teenage years I drifted away from the church, as many do. It wasn't until I settled down and became a mom myself that I started to feel 'pulled' back to church. Toby was baptised, and over time we started to become more involved in church life once more. I had realised how important the foundations that I had built were to me and that I wanted the same for my children. Over the next 14 years my faith has become stronger and stronger and has helped me through some difficult times.

Life is hard, complicated and there are many challenges to face, but I feel that my faith in God always got me through and steered me back on to the right path.

## WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO ANYONE THINKING OF ATTENDING A SERVICE AT ST MICHAELS?

Obviously, things are a little different right now with restrictions in place but come and give us a try. We have a variety of services available, hopefully there is one to suit you. We also have a great social aspect to church life that you can get involved with once we are back up and running. You can look on the church website for service details.



# SIM MAYOU HARDWARE



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Seasonal - Compost - Coal - Bottled Gas - Key Cutting - Engraving Service

Gardening Supplies - DIY Tools



28 Norton Road, Pelsall Tel/Fax: 01922 682546



★★★ DAILY DELIVERY SERVICE ★★★

# FROM THE REGISTERS

## FUNERALS IN DECEMBER 2020

John Cater (SC)  
Kathleen Atkins (CC)  
Louise Jinks (SC)  
Sylvia Shaw (SC)

## FUNERALS IN JANUARY 2021

Winifred Pearson (SC)  
Malcolm Jones (CB)  
Sheila Maxwell (SC)  
Thelma Webster (CB@TB)  
David Green (FR)  
Mavis Tapper (SC)

## FUNERALS IN FEBRUARY 2021

Joan Daykin (CC)  
Sheila Steele (CB)  
Barrie Middleton (SC)  
Ray Haden (SC)  
Frank Garratley (CB)  
Irene Flavell (SC)  
David Beddows (SC)  
Megan Davies (CB)  
Roy Edwards (CC)

## FUNERALS IN MARCH 2021

William Wallace (SC)  
Graham Starkey (CC)  
Roy Horton (CB)  
Susan Hughes (CB)  
Ellen Lloyd (SA/SC)  
Cheryl Harper (CSU)  
Maureen Coyne (CBU)  
Winifred Tapscott (CB)  
Jason Perry (CB@TB)

## ASHES IN DECEMBER 2020

Maureen Newport  
Jeffrey Joyce

## ASHES IN JANUARY 2021

Anne Powell  
Kathleen Robinson (SC)

## ASHES IN FEBRUARY 2021

Kathleen Humpage

## ASHES IN MARCH 2021

Sylvie Shaw  
Mavis Tapper (Scattering@ SC)

## BAPTISM IN MARCH 2021 (ADULT)

Gemma Louise Westwood

### CODES FOR FUNERALS

(SC) Streetly Crematorium  
(CC) Church and Crematorium  
(CB) Church and Burial  
(SA/SC) Sandwell Crematorium/ burial at Streetly  
(FR) Fradley Crematorium  
(CBU) Church and Bushbury Crematorium  
(CBU) Church and Sutton Crematorium  
(CB@TB) Church and burial at Turnberry



# Easter Craft Ideas



Colour the stain glass window with paints or crayons.

Use wrappings from Easter Eggs to create a collage.

Cut out sections and use tissue paper to create a sun catcher to hang in a window.



*God made you and God made me,  
He made the world for us to see.  
God loves you and long ago,  
He sent his Son to tell us so.*

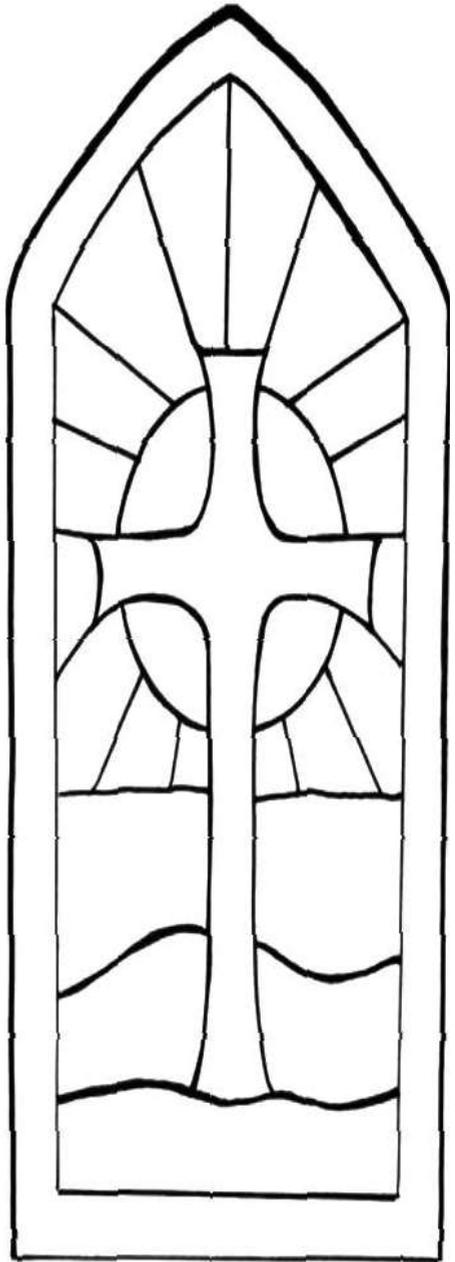
*Jesus showed us many things,  
To love and share and dance and sing.  
To learn and pray, to help and care,  
He promised he'd always be there.*

*He died but then came back to life,  
Let's celebrate for he's alive!*

**Amen**



Prayer courtesy of [www.living-prayers.com](http://www.living-prayers.com)



## CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 10TH - 16TH MAY 2021

Help ensure people around the world have the water they need to live. If you would like to make a donation St Michael's Church will have a retiring collection at services during the week or you can donate online at [christianaid.org.uk](http://christianaid.org.uk)



# CHAMBERLAINS

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01922 493131 | [www.chamberlainsfunerals.co.uk](http://www.chamberlainsfunerals.co.uk)

Chamberlains Funeral Directors and Stone Masons is an independent business owned and managed by vastly experienced funeral professionals. Under the personal supervision of Gary Lewis Dip FD Chamberlains provides a complete and dedicated personal service from our beautifully appointed funeral home in Bloxwich.