

Bulletin for the weeks beginning 29th March – 26th April.

Sunday 29th March – Palm Sunday

10.30am: Palm Sunday Procession and Holy Communion – Archdeacon Ruth

Monday 30th March – Monday of Holy Week

Tuesday 31st March – Tuesday of Holy Week

Wednesday 1st April – Wednesday of Holy Week

10.30am: Parish Lunch

Thursday 2nd April – Maundy Thursday

Friday 3rd April – Good Friday

(church open for private prayer)

Saturday 4th April – Easter Eve

7.00pm: Service of Light – Archdeacon Ruth

Sunday 5th April – Easter Sunday

10.00am: Joint Holy Communion at All Saint's

Monday 6th April – Monday of Easter Week

Tuesday 7th April – Tuesday of Easter Week

Wednesday 8th April – Wednesday of Easter Week

10.30am: Community Coffee Morning

Thursday 9th April – Thursday of Easter Week

Friday 10th April – Friday of Easter Week

Saturday 11th April – Saturday of Easter Week

Sunday 12th April – Second Sunday of Easter

10.30am: Family Communion with Baptism of Kiana Firdos Bhatti

Readings: Acts 2. 14a, 22-32; Psalm 16; 1 Peter 1. 3-9; John 20. 19-end

Monday 13th April

11.00am: Chris Lays Funeral

Tuesday 14th April

12.00pm: Ladies Fellowship

Thursday 16th April

Isabella Gilmore, Deaconess, 1923

Sunday 19th April – Third Sunday of Easter

10.30am: Holy Communion at St Albright's

Readings: Acts 2. 14a, 36-41; Psalm 116. 1-3, 10-end; 1 Peter 1. 17-23; Luke 24. 13-35

Tuesday 21st April

Anselm, Abbot of Le Bec, Archbishop of Canterbury, Teacher, 1109

10.00am: Albright's Tots

Wednesday 22nd April

10.30am: Community Coffee Morning

Thursday 23rd April

George, Martyr, Patron of England, c. 304

Friday 24th April

Mellitus, Bishop of London, first Bishop at St Paul's, 624

The Seven Martyrs of the Melanesian Brotherhood, Solomon Islands, 2003

Saturday 25th April – Mark of Evangelist

Sunday 26th April

10.30am: Joint Holy Communion with Shrub End at St Albright's

Readings: Acts 2. 42-end; Psalm 23; 1 Peter 2. 19-end; John 10. 1-10

Services

We hope to hold services in church during March until 12th April.

Easter Eve

Service of light will be taking place on **Saturday, 4th April**. A special service for the blessing of the Easter candle by Archdeacon Ruth.

Please do come along!

St. Albright's in Vacancy

We are pleased to announce the appointment of our new Priest in Charge for St Albright's and All Saints with St Cedds.

Interview took place on 19th February and Bishop Roger has approved the appointment of Revd. Nikki Horsley who is currently curate at Black Notley Church.

We hope she will be installed on Tuesday, 23rd June 2026.

Pam and Ravi

Churchyard

The group for maintaining the churchyard is still happy to have any further volunteers Further information from Steve s.whitfield07@btinternet.com or 07833472766

Books

Next to the main door of the church there is a bookcase with many interesting and useful Christian books on a wide variety of subjects. Do take time to have a look at them and feel free to borrow as many as you like.

Children at St. Albright's

Children are welcome at all of our services. There are always crafts and activities available in church focused on the theme of the day.

Community coffee morning

Our community coffee morning is on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month, between 10.30am - 12 noon. Our next gathering will be on **Wednesday, 8th and 22nd April**. Everyone is welcome.

Family Communion

Usually on the third Sunday of the month, if there is a baptism, the 10.30 Eucharist follows a shorter and simpler form, and families are particularly welcome to this service.

St Albrights Tots

A great playgroup for younger children which meets every Tuesday, except the 2nd Tuesday of the month, from 10.00 to 11.30 in the hall during term time. The next meeting will be on **Tuesday, 21st April**.

New helpers are always welcome. Please speak to Pam if you are interested or if you know of anyone who might be.

Holy Communion at home

If you would like to receive Holy Communion at home, or if you know anyone who might, then please contact Pam.

Giving and Stewardship

Along with most parish churches, St. Albright's relies almost entirely on voluntary giving. We have received grants for specific projects, such as for the new roof and for our pioneering ministry, along with donations and legacies (some very generous) plus fee income from weddings and the like, but the everyday running of the church and our essential contribution to the wider Church, the diocese, comes from the giving of individuals. There is no state aid or subsidy, something which many find surprising. However, giving to the Church in terms of time and talents as well as money, has always been a fundamental aspect of being a Christian - supporting each other within the

Christian community is a firm Biblical principle and one which we achieve at St. Albright's. So giving is not just a worthy and good thing to do, it is an important, vital, part of being Church and of continuing our witness and ministry to the parish.

These days there are many ways to give:

We now have a new card reader in church so that donations may be made using a debit or credit card.

It is also possible to donate to St. Albright's online. There is a dedicated page on the website to make giving much easier.

If you would like further details about how to give, and there are many ways to do so, then please contact any of the ministry team or churchwardens. We particularly welcome regular giving, however small, either using weekly envelopes or by standing order, and, if you are a taxpayer we can reclaim Gift Aid.

It is also possible to sponsor a day in the life of the church. You may wish to make a one-off donation in memory of someone or to celebrate a particular event. Please contact any of the ministry team or Churchwardens. Flowers. If you would like to donate towards the cost of providing the beautiful flowers in church, then please speak to any of the ministry team.

Safeguarding

We aim to be a safe and welcoming church community. If you have any worries or concerns, you can speak to our parish safeguarding officer (Pam Higham) at any time (numbers at the end of this bulletin. Alternatively, you can contact the diocesan safeguarding team on 01245-294444

For your prayers

Collect for Palm Sunday

Most merciful God, who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ delivered and saved the world: grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross we may triumph in the power of his victory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Collect for Maundy Thursday

God our Father, you have invited us to share in the supper which your Son gave to his Church to proclaim his death until he comes: may he nourish us by his presence, and unite us in his love; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Collect for Good Friday

Almighty Father, look with mercy on this family for which our Lord Jesus Christ was content to be betrayed and given up into the hands of sinners and to suffer death upon the cross; who is alive and glorified with you and the Holy spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Collect for Easter Eve

Grant, Lord, that we who are baptised into the death of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ may continually put to death our evil desires and be buried with him; and that through the grave and gate of death we may pass to our joyful resurrection; through his merits, who died and was buried and rose again for us, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Collect for Easter Day

Lord of all life and power, who through the mighty resurrection of your Son overcame the old order of sin and death to make all things new in him: grant that we, being dead to sin and alive to you in Jesus Christ, may reign with him in glory, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be praise and honour, glory and might, now and in all eternity.

Collect for Second Sunday of Easter

Risen Christ, for whom no door is locked, no entrance barred: open the doors of our hearts, that we may seek the good of others and walk the joyful road of sacrifice and peace, to the praise of God the Father.

Collect for Third Sunday of Easter

Almighty Father, who in your great mercy gladdened the disciples with the sight of the risen Lord: give us such knowledge of his presence with us, that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life and serve you continually in righteousness and truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Collect for Mark the Evangelist

Almighty God, who enlightened your holy Church through the inspired witness of your evangelist Saint Mark: grant that we, being firmly grounded in the truth of the gospel, may be faithful to its teaching both in word and deed; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy spirit, one god, now and for ever.

A Prayer for the Middle East:

Almighty God, from all thoughts of truth and peace proceed: kindle we pray in the hearts of all the true love of peace, and guide with your pure and peaceable wisdom those who take counsel for the nations of the earth, that in tranquillity your kingdom may go forward until the earth is filled with the knowledge of your love; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

A Prayer for Ukraine:

God of peace and justice, we pray for the people of Ukraine today. We pray for peace and the laying down of weapons. We pray for all those who fear for tomorrow, that your Spirit of comfort would draw near to them. We pray for those with power over war or peace, for wisdom, discernment and compassion to guide their decisions. Above all, we pray for all your precious children, at risk and in fear, that you would hold and protect them. We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace.

There are many places in the world that are suffering from conflicts and warfare, in particular the Sudan and the DRC (Congo).

We pray for our King, HM King Charles III, our sovereign and Governor of the Church of England, Our Prime Minister and government, all our elected representatives - our MPs, county, city and parish councillors.

In our church community, please pray for:

Our churchwardens and PCC

Our Choir and Choirmaster

All who help lead our worship - especially readers, intercessors, servers and sidespersons

The ministry and pastoral teams as we seek to help those in particular need.

Those who care for the hall.

Our Architect and the building team

All those who are to be baptized and confirmed. Upcoming baptisms:;

Peace and Joshua Olatunde, Joseph Newman, Kiana Firdos Kirby

Pray for all those who have been baptised and for our continued connection with baptism families.

All those are getting married; Chris Palmer and Emily Dowrick, Ryan Scot and Gemma Story and all who are having their banns called here.

Our outreach, particularly with young people and to the schools in the parish.

In the diocese of Chelmsford, please pray for the Bishop of Chelmsford, the Rt. Rev. Dr Guli Francis-Dehqani, and for the Bishop of Colchester, the Rt. Rev Roger Morris. Please also pray for our Archdeacon, the Ven. Ruth Patten, and for all the other parishes in the Colchester Deanery.

The diocese of Chelmsford has links with several overseas dioceses in the Anglican communion: in Kenya - Embu, Meru, Mbere and Marsabit; and the diocese of Trinidad and Tobago. There are also links with the diocese of Karlstad in Sweden and the Archdiocese of Lasi in Romania. Please pray for the bishops, clergy and people of these places.

In the Anglican Communion, please pray for The Most Rev, Stephen Cottrell, Archbishop of York and acting Archbishop of Canterbury.

In the wider Church, please pray for the Orthodox Patriarchate of Ukraine, for the Church in South Sudan, for Christian communities in Israel and Palestine, and for all Christians persecuted for their faith.

In the wider world, please pray for a better and wiser stewardship of our natural environment.

For the peace of the world wherever there is conflict.

All the nations of the world and their leaders

In our Community

Please pray for : The medical and caring professions, Other Christian denominations - the Tollgate Methodist Fellowship, Stanway Evangelical Church, The Kingsland Church, St. Teresa's Roman Catholic Church, Lexden, Colchester Foodbank, Colchester Debt Centre, Colchester Korban Project, Colchester Engagement and Next Steps, The StanWell Hub, All families with young children, and for all our schools.

The elderly, vulnerable and for all those who support them, especially their families.

Loganberry Lodge - all residents, staff and supporters and all who are in care homes and hospital at this time.

Those who have asked for our prayers: Karl, Joan Alexander, Debra, Daniel, Carol Harvey, Gordon Harvey, Keith, Penny Miller, Daniel Butcher, Ann Booty, Marcus, Mark Claydon, Allison, Sophie, Jo and Richard, Doreen Hales, Jenny Richardson, Brian Greenaway, Ann and John, Graham and Viv, Alex, Alexander, Simon, Joshua, Jill Dixon, Mervyn, Maxine Humes, Jean Needs, Suzannah, Irene Brewer, John & Hazel, Morgan Burgoyne, Ann Adams, Dorothy Williams, , Vitaly and Rosolaka, Nicola Jones, Ali, Shirley Vaughan, Suviana, Arji, Edwin Lambert, Rafael and Rebecca, Joy Sparkes

If you have a particular prayer request there is a box in the church into which you can place a card writing the request or person's name on it. Alternatively you can send a message to the office.

The monthly prayer diary for **March** is on our website with printed copies in the church and distributed to those without access to the internet.

There is also the Church of England **Prayer Line** which is open 24/7 and is free: **0800 804 804**

RIP

Linda Brook, Joanne Marie Doman, Mason Morgan, Jean Gilbert, Babs Baker, Leonard Comben, Tony Momotiuk, Adeleye Adediran Aluko, Alice Bolton, John Cheale, Tony Windsor, Chris Lay

We hope you find this bulletin helpful. If you have any contributions, comments or questions then please contact the office or any of the ministry team.

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