

KELVEDON & FEERING CHURCHES NEWSLETTER

Sunday 13th April to Sunday 20th April 2025

SUNDAY 13TH APRIL – PALM SUNDAY

- 9.30 am ALL SAINTS' Sung Holy Communion with Blessing of Palm Crosses
- 11.00 am ST MARY'S Sung Holy Communion with Blessing of Palm Crosses and procession of the priest, choir & congregation (if you are able) round the outside of the church
- 6.00 pm ST MARY'S Fauré's *Requiem*, sung by St Mary's Choir

OUR HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

WEDNESDAY 16TH APRIL Retreat at Pleshey Retreat House, 10am-4pm

MAUNDY THURSDAY, 17th April 6.30 pm – Informal Holy Communion in St Mary's chancel with Holy Week readings and prayers. *All very welcome*

GOOD FRIDAY, 18th April 10.00 am – Messy Church at St Mary's, followed by hot cross buns in the Church Rooms
1.30 pm – Stations of the Cross at All Saints'

On **HOLY SATURDAY, 19th April**, there will be **The Service of Light for Easter Eve at 7.30 pm in St Mary's Layer Marney, Roundbush Road, Layer Marney CO5 9UR**. Our own Natasha is singing solo the remarkable plainchant hymn *Exsultet* to welcome the risen Christ. Like to go? Please contact [Simon](#).

EASTER DAY 9.30 am – Easter Holy Communion Service at All Saints'

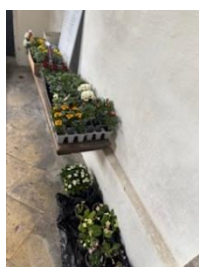
Sunday 20th April With the Blessing of the new Paschal Candle

11.00 am – Easter Holy Communion Service at St Mary's

With the Blessing of the new Paschal Candle and Renewal of Baptismal Vows

PALM SUNDAY at 6.00 pm in ST MARY'S – FAURE'S REQUIEM

Do join St Mary's Choir as they sing Fauré's beautiful setting of the *Requiem* on Palm Sunday evening, with a short opening section of readings, prayers and well-known Holy Week and Passiontide hymns for everyone to sing. This will be a very reflective, prayerful service – just right for the beginning of Holy Week.



EASTER GARDEN IN ST MARY'S CHURCHYARD

Many thanks to everyone who has generously donated small plants for the Easter Garden. The Payback Team will be making the garden this Friday, 11th April, so do make a point of looking at it this Saturday or Sunday. We hope you enjoy it.

GOOD FRIDAY MESSY CHURCH at ST MARY'S, 18th APRIL, 10.00 am–12 noon

Join us for our traditional Good Friday Messy Church, telling the Easter story. This free event is for any families with children under 11. There will be crafts with a Good Friday-Easter theme, ending with a short service, followed by hot cross buns in the Church Rooms.



GOOD FRIDAY STATIONS OF THE CROSS at ALL SAINTS', 1.30 pm

Join us at All Saints' to walk the Stations of the Cross, a series of pictures that show Jesus' last hours, focusing on the specific events of Good Friday, from his Pilate's condemnation to his death and burial. The Stations of the Cross have formed part of Christian devotion for many centuries and are a particularly vivid way of following in the steps of Jesus on his way to the cross. Our set of Stations by the nuns of Turvey Abbey are simple yet beautiful, and a real aid to prayer and contemplation.

ST MARY'S EVENING LENT COURSE

There were 10 people at St Mary's Lent Course to study Pete Greig's book, *How to Hear God*. Although not everyone made every session, we had a good number each week, and we all agreed we'd learnt a lot from the book.

Comments included: "I found myself talking to people more about God, bringing God into the conversation, even if it wasn't about God"; "I found myself bringing God into everything"; "I now have the feeling that God has a plan for me"; "Having



learnt how to read the Bible using 'Lectio Divina' (very slow, reflective reading) it has changed the way I read the Bible, slowing down, reflecting on every word". Very many thanks to Natasha, who led the course so inspiringly. We all felt we had grown in our faith and especially enjoyed the prayer exercises Natasha gave us at the end of each session. Thanks too to Sue Barham, who brought us rather 'unLenten' treats (above) to eat and gave us all a lovely mini-Simnel Cake (left) as an Easter present.



GODLY PLAY USED WITH BOTH TEDDY BEAR CLUB (TBC) & JUNIOR CHRISTIAN CLUB (JCC)

Natasha used Godly Play with both TBC and JCC last week to tell the Easter Story. Godly Play is a Christian movement centred on childhood spirituality. Children sit quietly as the leader tells the story, laying out small props taken from an enclosed box (to aid anticipation: what will come out next?) as the story develops. Making no eye contact, the leader introduces small figures and other items to illustrate the story, leaving space for anticipation and wonder, allowing the children to respond in their own way. That it can be used and enjoyed by both very young and older children shows what an excellent method of teaching and spiritual development it is.



NEW ELECTORAL ROLL AT ST MARY'S – DEADLINE: EASTER DAY, SUNDAY 20th APRIL

This is (almost) the final call for joining St Mary's Electoral Roll. Doing so shows your commitment to St Mary's – and allows you to vote at the Annual Church Meetings too! Forms are on the back table in church with a box for completed forms. **All application forms must be back by Easter Day, Sunday 20th April**, so Naomi can complete the new Roll and display it at least 14 days before St Mary's Annual Parochial Church Meeting on Sunday 11th May, which follow immediately after the 11 am service. **Please note: any forms received after 20th April can't be added to the new Electoral Roll.**

THE BISHOP OF CHELMSFORD'S LENT APPEAL 2025: supporting *HOUSING JUSTICE*

The charity **Housing Justice** works in partnership with churches, community & faith groups across England & Wales to help people experiencing homelessness (including in our diocese) find a stable home. Please support the appeal online or by bank transfer. There are fliers in church, or go to: www.chelmsford.anglican.org/about-us/our-faith-in-action/bishop-of-chelmsfords-lent-appeal-2025. *Donations accepted till Tuesday 1st July 2025.*

REMOVAL OF RUBBISH FROM ST MARY'S BURIAL GROUND

We're sorry to say that we're having problems with rubbish in our Burial Ground bins. If possible, please only use these bins for non-compostable materials (plant pots, cellophane wrapping, wire etc.). There is a large compost heap over near the railway line under the trees, near the bottom of the older section of the Burial Ground – please put all **compostable** material here (dead flowers, roots, grass etc.) but also please remove all bindings, tags, cellophane etc and put these in the bins at either entrance to the Burial Ground.

Several times recently, bags of grass cuttings, rolls of turf, cardboard boxes etc. have been left by the bins, or some of these materials have been put in them. Through an oversight by the council, our bins are no longer emptied by the binmen, so they have to be carried up to the grassy area opposite the church to be collected. We are very fortunate that Steve from our congregation kindly carries up the bags from our bins to be collected each week, but he cannot do this if they are overfilled with heavy and inappropriate items, as the binmen will just refuse to collect them. **Please let others know** – we hope those visiting the Burial Ground and tending graves will treat it responsibly, giving it the care and attention they'd like their own gardens to have.



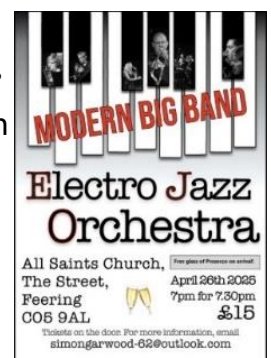
NEW COFFEE MACHINE AT ST MARY'S

We have a smart new Coffee Machine for after-church coffee which will be used for the first time on Palm Sunday. Here's Steve discovering how it works! Thanks to Robert, St Mary's kitchen is self-funding from after-church coffee donations, which have paid for the coffee machine & for all tea/coffee too (always Fair Trade) and other kitchen expenses (always environmentally-friendly). The donations also fund the set-up costs for the Christmas Tree Festival refreshments, so all the refreshments money we get that weekend is profit.

If you stay for coffee, please remember to leave a donation so we don't need to dip into church funds to pay for this popular facility. It would help greatly if you could make a cake from time to time, or provide good quality biscuits if you can't join the coffee-making rota. Please speak to Robert if you can do this. Many thanks and special thanks to all on the tea/coffee rota.

ELECTRO JAZZ ORCHESTRA at FEERING CHURCH! SATURDAY 26 APRIL, 7.30 pm

Come and hear a great 16-piece band, the [Electro Jazz Orchestra](#), on the Saturday after Easter. They cover jazz standards, contemporary songs, the *Mission Impossible* & *Pink Panther* themes and much more in between! They also have a great singer in local Feering girl Natalie Forster. If you came last year, you will know how good this band is. **Tickets still just £15 include a glass of Prosecco on arrival**, with much more Prosecco to buy during the interval... no need to book, tickets on the door – please contact [Simon](#) for more details. Feel free to bring your own cushions to make our pews just a little more comfortable!



MODERN BIG BAND
Electro Jazz Orchestra
All Saints Church, The Street, Feering, CO5 9AL
April 26th 2025
7pm for 7.30pm
£15
Includes a glass of Prosecco on arrival
Thanks on the door. For more information, email simon@arwood-62@outlook.com

TIPTREE FOOD BANK – Tiptree Food Bank | Tiptree | Facebook

The Food Bank needs: breakfast cereal, biscuits, tinned fruit, tinned tomatoes, squash, long-life milk, baked beans, shampoo, washing up liquid, toilet cleaner and kitchen cleaner. Please leave donations at either church to be taken to the Food Bank by our volunteers. Many thanks for all donations and to Betty & Jill for taking them to Tiptree. **Foodbank also needs volunteers to help on Thursdays, 1.30-4 pm** to pack parcels, process donations, meet clients coming to collect & deliver parcels. You need to be: DBS checked, a good team player, trustworthy, reliable, & able to manage stairs. Please let us know if you're interested & we'll pass you name onto the Food Bank.



KEEPING UP WITH K & F

Keep up to date with service times, events & info about both our churches via our United Benefice website: kelvedonandfeeringchurches.co.uk. Please send church info, photos & events on both parishes to me, [Sarah Openshaw](mailto:Sarah.Openshaw@kelvedonandfeeringchurches.co.uk), by Wednesday, for inclusion in that week's newsletter. Also the same email address for any church events to go on the Benefice Website. **Thank you.**

BENEFICE EASTER DIARY: SUNDAY 13TH to SUNDAY 20TH APRIL 2025

SUNDAY 13TH APRIL	9.30 am	All Saints'	Sung Holy Communion Service with blessing of palms
PALM SUNDAY	11.00 am	St Mary's	Sung Holy Communion Service
			<i>with blessing of palms and opening procession around the church</i>
	6.00 pm	St Mary's	Fauré's Requiem sung by St Mary's Choir
			<i>With short readings, prayers, hymn and times for reflection</i>

For the rest of our special Holy Week services and events, please see page 1 above

Tuesday 15th *Simon is on retreat and will be unavailable all day. He is working on Monday 15th*

Wednesday 16th *Teddy Bear Club and Junior Christian Club are both on their Easter breaks. Both restart after Easter on Wednesday 23rd April.*

Thursday 17th 8.30 am St Mary's Morning Prayer

SUNDAY 20TH APRIL	9.30 am	All Saints'	Sung Holy Communion Service
EASTER DAY	11.00 am	St Mary's	Sung Holy Communion Service

ADVANCE NOTICE

Friday 25th 8.30 am-3.30 pm St Mary's Payback Team in Churchyard & Burial Ground

Saturday 26th April 7.30 pm All Saints' Electro Jazz Orchestra: Jazz & Prosecco (*see pg.2*)

SUNDAY 27TH APRIL 10.00 am St Mary's St George's Day Service with Scouts, Cubs & Beavers, followed by a said Holy Communion service at 11 am
The 2nd Sunday of Easter

All Saints' Usual 9.30 am Holy Communion Service

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