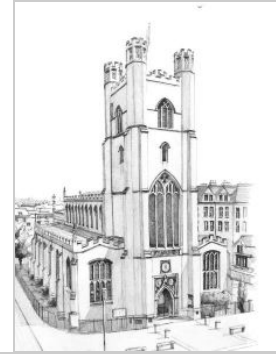


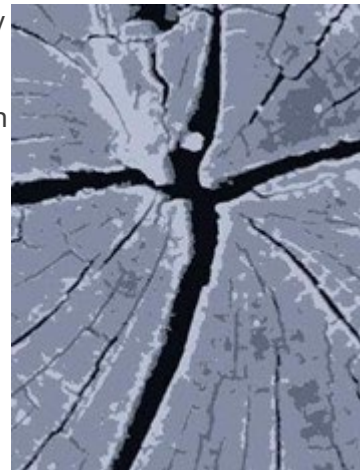
Great St Mary's e-mag

12-30 April 2025: Issue 172



A journey through Holy Week

In the Middle Ages, pilgrimage to the Holy Land, specifically to retrace the steps of Jesus in the last days of his earthly ministry, was the pinnacle of spiritual devotion, but it was an inaccessible dream to most faithful people. Spiritual practices such as following the *Stations of the Cross* became a way for those who could not make such an arduous journey still to follow in Jesus' footsteps in their minds and hearts. The liturgical pattern of Holy Week invites us to do the same, immersing ourselves in the emotional and spiritual journey to the cross, and beyond.



We invite all of you to participate in the journey through this most crucial week for our faith.

Palm Sunday morning (13th April) places us in the excited crowds as Jesus entered Jerusalem on a donkey and invites us to wonder what sort of King this might be, and how we might understand the hope of salvation that he offers. Within that same service, the dramatic reading of the Passion narrative seems to show that hope disintegrating in a story of betrayal, injustice, denial, and cruelty – it's a catalogue of human sin, which Jesus takes with him to the cross. The music and poetry in Stainer's *Crucifixion* later that day are another invitation to participate in heart and mind in that same journey.

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week, offer some time and space to think and pray. Morning Prayer at 9am continues, and on each day there is half an hour of silence at noon, followed by Holy Communion at 12.30pm.

The priest and poet Malcolm Guite is our guest preacher for Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Day. The Maundy Thursday service brings another rise and fall in the emotional journey: we join Jesus' disciples sharing bread and wine at the Last supper, giving thanks for the promise of Jesus' ongoing presence with us in the Eucharist. We re-enact his prophetic act as the one who came not to be served, but to serve, as he washed the feet of his friends – even Judas, who would betray him, and

Peter, who would deny him three times. Then follows the Vigil of the Watch in St Andrew's Chapel, until 11pm, when we watch and pray in the hours of darkness, in the presence of the consecrated bread and wine.

Good Friday (18th) is the most solemn of all days; we begin at noon in silence and then the beautiful poetry of Malcolm Guite will shape his *Preaching of the Passion* for us at 12.30pm, followed by the Liturgy of Good Friday, when we venerate the cross and consume consecrated bread from the night before. From now until the first Eucharist of Easter there is no sacrament in the church, as we ponder Jesus' death.

On Holy Saturday (19th), we make the Easter garden and ensure that the children in our community have a chance to explore the Holy Week and Easter story for themselves, and in the very early hours of Easter Day itself (20th) our celebration of the resurrection begins before dawn, with the vigil (readings that tell the story of God's new life) and the lighting of the new fire, and the most joyful celebration of the Eucharist. This year, we will also be celebrating baptisms, confirmations and reception into the Church of England for those from our own Church community and neighbouring churches who have been preparing during Lent. Bishop Martin Seeley will preside and preach at this service. Breakfast follows, then the 8am BCP Holy Communion, and another chance at the 10am service to renew our baptism vows, break bread together, and to be inspired by Malcolm Guite's preaching, followed by Mattins. Multiple celebrations through the morning remind us that the resurrected Jesus met his friends as they gathered: in the garden, in the upper room, and (as we will hear during Eastertide) on the road to Emmaus, and on the shore of lake Galilee. I pray that we will encounter Jesus afresh as we walk together this Holy Week journey to the cross and beyond.

Wishing you a blessed Holy Week and joyful Easter,

Ally Barrett

Associate Vicar

Resources

Most of the services during Holy Week will be livestreamed; if you cannot attend in person, please do join online: <https://www.youtube.com/@GreatStMarys>

A simple YouTube video of the Biblical stations of the cross is available here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hwO4ofULPpw>

And for children and families, a free download of resources to share together:

<https://godventure.co.uk/product/holy-week-box-free-downloads/>

HOLY WEEK AT GREAT ST MARY'S

Sunday 13 April: Palm Sunday

- 8am BCP Holy Communion
10am Choral Eucharist
Procession & Liturgy of the Palms and Reading of the Passion
5pm A liturgical performance of Stainer's *The Crucifixion*
Come-and-Sing event: contact music@gsm.cam.ac.uk

Monday 14 April

- 9am Morning Prayer
12.00pm Silent Prayer
12.30pm Holy Communion

Tuesday 15 April

- 9am Morning Prayer
10.30am The Ark (Michaelhouse)
12.00pm Silent Prayer
12.30pm Holy Communion

Wednesday 16 April

- 9am Morning Prayer
12.00pm Silent Prayer
12.30pm Holy Communion

Thursday 17 April: Maundy Thursday

- 9am Morning Prayer
7pm Choral Eucharist Preacher: Malcolm Guite
with the washing of feet, and vigil of the watch until 11pm

Friday 18 April: Good Friday

- 9am Morning Prayer
11.30am Ecumenical Act of Witness (in front of the Guildhall)
12.00pm Silent Prayer
12.30pm Meditations on the cross - Preacher: Malcolm Guite
1.30pm The Liturgy of Good Friday

Saturday 19 April: Holy Saturday

- 10am Activity morning with Easter Garden making,
crafts, story and song, refreshments
Children and their grown-ups are welcome (booking not required)

Sunday 20 April: Easter Sunday

- 5.15am Dawn Vigil and First Eucharist of Easter
With baptism, confirmation & reception into the Church of England
8am BCP Holy Communion
10am Choral Eucharist (all ages) - Preacher: Malcolm Guite
11.45am Choral Mattins



Livestreaming of Services - update

The services can be accessed via the Great St Mary's YouTube page on

<https://www.youtube.com/c/greatstmarys>

Some recent services:

[Choral Eucharist for Sunday 16 March 2025](#)

[Choral Eucharist for Sunday 23 March 2025](#)

Please note: If you have any comments regarding the on-line live-streaming, please email office@gsm.cam.ac.uk

Reading this e-mag online or forwarded from a friend?

Sign up for our mailing list at greatstmarys.org/emag

News & Events



Provision for children on Palm Sunday and Easter Day



There will not be Children's Church at the 10 o'clock service on Palm Sunday or Easter Day, but there will be various special moments for children to take part in on both Sundays: there will be the procession on Palm Sunday, and, on Easter Day, we will make a Joyful Noise!, we will gather round the font to renew our baptismal promises, and there will be an Easter Egg Hunt after the service.

On both Sundays, there will be space for children to spread out at the front of the north aisle, with toys, books, objects and activities offering them opportunities to engage with the stories and themes of the day.

On Palm Sunday, during the reading of the Passion Gospel, there will be some reflective activities for older children in St. Andrew's chapel.



Sat 12 April - Women's Breakfast



Women's Breakfast 9.30am


The women's breakfast will be held in the Montefiore Room at Michaelhouse

Join us for food, conversation and prayer



Sun 13 April - Come and Sing



**Come-and-Sing *Stainer's*
CRUCIFIXION**



Sunday 13 April 2025
Great St Mary's Church, Cambridge
14:30 Rehearsal | 17:00 Liturgical Performance

Conductor: Alexander Berry
Organist: Daniel Soper

To sign up for your free place, scan the QR code or email music@gsm.cam.ac.uk



Great St Mary's
THE UNIVERSITY CHURCH CAMBRIDGE

Sat 19 April - Men's Breakfast



Men's Breakfast 9.00am

Starting with Communion in the Harvey de Stanton Chapel
(Michaelhouse)
Followed by breakfast in the Montefiore Room.

All are welcome - you can just turn up.
Please contact office@gsm.cam.ac.uk for more information.

Sat 19 April - Michaelhouse Lunchtime Concert

Michaelhouse, Trinity Street, Cambridge 1.00pm to 2.00pm

A themed programme: The Seasons
Soprano Rachel Gordon
Flute Victoria Ayano Royce
Piano Matthew McCombie

Free entry, with retiring collection in aid of the Friends of Michaelhouse



Sat 19 April - Chorister Voice Trials

The Chorister Experience

On Sunday 16 March we welcomed nearly thirty children to take part in The Chorister Experience, an open afternoon for children aged six to eight to find out more about being a chorister at Great St Mary's. As the children took part in fun musical games and rehearsed together with the choristers, parents and carers listened to talks given by Alex Berry and Ally Barrett and observed an open singing lesson of two of our older choristers given by Helen Groves. The chorister parents then hosted a lovely tea during which parents were able to ask questions and get a feel for what makes music at GSM so special. At the end, we all joined together to hear the choristers and participants sing a beautiful



Voice Trials
for the Choir of Great St Mary's
the University Church, Cambridge

Voice trials will take place at Great St Mary's Church on
Saturday 29th March (afternoon)
Saturday 19th April (afternoon)

We are currently recruiting children who will be in
Years 3 and 4 from September 2025.
We typically take 3 boys and 3 girls in each year group.
We also have places for boys currently in Year 5,
who would be able to join mid-year.

To sign up, scan the QR code.

Contact: music@gsm.cam.ac.uk

 Great St Mary's
THE UNIVERSITY CHURCH, CAMBRIDGE

evensong, including Felix Mendelssohn's 'Lift thine eyes' from Elijah. It was the first time in recent years that GSM has hosted an open event for choristers, and it was great fun!

Voice Trials at Great St Mary's (29 March and 19 April)

Children who are interested in joining the choir are able to sign up for an informal audition, known as a 'Voice Trial', which take place on Saturday 29 March and Saturday 19 April. We are currently recruiting children who will be in Years 3 and 4 from September 2025. We typically take 3 boys and 3 girls in each year group. We also have places for boys currently in Year 5, who would be able to join mid-year. To sign up for a voice trial, click on the following link: <https://forms.office.com/e/ksFkiEnKRs>

Voice trials consist of two parts: an informal audition with Alexander Berry (Director of Music) and Helen Groves (Vocal Coach), and a short conversation with the Revd Ally Barrett (Associate Vicar)

What to prepare for a voice trial:

Prospective choristers should prepare an audition piece. This should be something they can sing well, and ideally should have a piano accompaniment. If in doubt about what to sing, we recommend children learn the first verse of Away in a manger.

After singing the audition piece we do some range and aural tests. The aural tests include singing individual notes and melodies back, clapping rhythms, and finding notes in two- and three-note chords.

We will also ask prospective choristers to read aloud a simple passage of text. If there's time, there may be the opportunity for the children to play a piece on an instrument, if they are learning one.

What to expect:

Voice trials are meant to be informal. We are looking for children who show enthusiasm, have great potential, and are willing to commit to the choir long-term. If your child doesn't play an instrument yet, that's no problem.

We know that auditioning can sometimes be scary, and we try to make the auditions as fun and low-pressure as possible.

Easter Garden

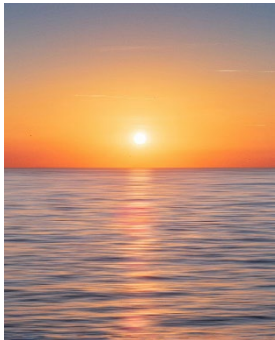
On **Saturday 19 April**, Holy Saturday, there is going to be an activity morning for children at Great St. Mary's, from 10:00 until 12:00. All are very welcome! Children will be able to help make the Great St. Mary's Easter Garden, and make Easter Gardens of their own to take home. There will be other craft activities too, and a time to mark the day in story and song. We will have tea,



coffee and hot-cross buns a-plenty!

If you have flowers growing at home, and your children would like to (and have your permission to!) cut some to bring for the Great St. Mary's Easter Garden, that would be lovely! But it is by no means required! The activity morning will be most suitable for children aged 3 and above, but younger children will be very welcome too. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Dawn Breakfast



Dawn Breakfast – sign up

On Easter Day after the very special Dawn Vigil at 5.30am and the first Easter Eucharist service there will be breakfast in the chancel at Michaelhouse to which all are warmly invited. It will be helpful to know in advance how many will be coming. There will be a sign-up list in church or please e-mail margaretj222@gmail.com

Christ is Risen - Alleluia! Happy Easter!

Easter Lilies



Easter Lilies in Great St. Mary's Church at Easter.

If you would like to have an Easter Lily in memory of a loved one, there will be sign-up sheets in church.

We invite a contribution of £5 per lily (to the nearby donation box.)

Tues 22 Apr - Something Understood

The GSM Poetry group, who meet to discuss some poems and how they might help us with our faith.



Our next meeting will be on
Tuesday 22 April at 3, Adams Road,
CB3 9AD
7.30pm-9.00pm

The Theme will be 'Rebirth'
You are most welcome to join us. Do
bring a poem to share if you would like

to.

If you have any questions, or would like a parking spot,

Contact: Juliet Jackson email: juliet@jmci.org

Next meetings:

Tuesday 20 May - Theme: Woods/Forests/Trees

Tuesday 24 June - Theme: The Sea

Thur 24 Apr - Chat-Play-Sing

Chat-Play-Sing resumes after the school break. It meets on Thursdays at 10am in Michaelhouse for toddlers with their parents or carers.



GSM Electoral Roll - PLEASE READ

New Electoral Roll for the Parish of St Mary the Great with St Michael, Cambridge

Every six years, we have to assemble an entirely new electoral roll, in accordance with Church Representation Rules. 2025 is such a year. Everybody who wishes to have their name on the new roll must apply to be enrolled. Joining the Electoral Roll is also a way of showing your support for Great St Mary's and to participate in the governance structures of the parish, if you wish to do so, as it is the register of lay persons who are eligible to vote at the Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) and to stand for election to the Parochial Church Council (PCC). Electoral roll forms need to be returned by **30 April at the latest**. This year's APCM will be held on Sunday 18 May, and the new roll must be completed by then.

Church Rules require us to follow a very specific timetable, which will start with the display

of a formal Notice in Great St Mary's and in Michaelhouse on Tuesday 11 March 2025. Applications, which can be made on paper or electronically, must be in the form specified. From 11 March a copy of that form can be accessed via a button on the home page of our website www.greatstmarys.org and there will be paper forms available in GSM and in Michaelhouse. The new Electoral Roll will be published on Friday 2 May, online and in hard copy in Great St Mary's and Michaelhouse. It will show names, but no other information, and must remain on display for at least 14 days prior to the APCM. Only those whose names are included in this new Electoral Roll will be entitled to stand for election or to vote at the APCM.

We hope that you will renew your membership of our Electoral Roll, or join for the first time. Please do not hesitate to contact the Electoral Roll Officer, Joanna Womack, or speak to the clergy, if you have any questions. It is really important that we gather together on the new Electoral Roll the names of all those who wish to exercise their rights in the Parish.

Pastoral Care



Pastoral Care at Great St. Mary's

Pastoral Visiting and Prayer at Times of Need

If you would appreciate a pastoral visit at home or to receive prayer (either by the Home Intercessors group or as part of the intercessions in GSM services) please do talk to one of the ministry team either in person or contact them via email on clergy@gsm.cam.ac.uk
If you would like to know more about either the Home Intercessors or the Pastoral Care Groups from the point of view of joining either group, do please talk to Ally or Clare (or send an email to clergy@gsm.cam.ac.uk).

In a pastoral emergency the phone number remains 01223 747277 (messages left on this number will be responded to within 24 hours)

Year's Mind

Almighty and eternal God, from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted, either by death or life: hear our prayers and thanksgivings for all whom we remember this day; fulfil in them the purpose of your love; and bring us all, with them, to your eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Richard Storey	3 April
Peter Meadows	2 April
Malcolm Clarke	5 April
Roger Hall	7 April
Simon Barrington-Ward	11 April
Malcom Edward Boston	10 April
Dido Whitehead	17 April
Baby Olivia	18 April
Denise Inge	20 April
Margaret Campbell	29 April

Service



Eco Tip – Taking action on climate change



Taking action on climate change 'right thing to do' - Bishop of Norwich. Acting to prevent global warming and biodiversity loss is the 'right thing to do' and a sign of Christian compassion, the Church of England's lead bishop for the environment has said. [Read more](#)

[here.](#)

Earth Day, April 22nd

The theme for [Earth Day 2025](#) is [OUR POWER, OUR PLANET](#), inviting everyone around the globe to unite behind renewable energy, and to triple the global generation of clean electricity by 2030. [Read more here.](#)

More reason to travel by bus

- **All-Day Free Travel:**

From April 1, 2025, concessionary bus pass holders in Cambridgeshire can travel for free all day, providing greater flexibility (it used to be after 9.30 am). Travel must start in Cams.



- You may be eligible if you are of state pension age (currently rising) or have a disability.
- This is an additional benefit on top of the nationwide English National Concessionary Travel Scheme (ENCTS).
- You can apply for or renew your concessionary bus pass online through the [Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority website](#).

Wider Concerns

Wider Concerns Easter Envelope collection – for the following projects.



The Jerusalem Princess Basma

Centre operates under the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem. In Gaza, Jerusalem and surrounding areas, and despite the conflicts, they are doing life-transforming work with Palestinian children with disabilities. They are developing a multidisciplinary model of rehabilitation and treat children with complex needs and their families holistically and in one place.

Jimmy's are doing remarkable work with the homeless in Cambridge. They offer various types of accommodation and work alongside each person to help break the cycle of homelessness in the city. Together with the City Council, they are pioneering a trauma focus peer support programme.

There will be brown envelopes in the pews and online donations are invited at this link: <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/gsm-easter>



Christian Aid Week



As ever, this is coming up in May and the official dates are 11 - 17 May. However, to celebrate the 80th anniversary of Christian Aid, we have been fortunate enough to scoop Bishop Rowan Williams on his way to another preaching engagement and so Cambridge will be holding its special service on **Sunday 18 May at 2.30pm in GSM**. Do make a note of the time and the date (and we shall be asking for refreshments, and servers, in due course).

It is the time of year when I ask house groups and individuals to consider holding a Christian Aid coffee morning or tea party. In 2024 we managed to raise over £1,000 and it would be lovely if we could do the same again this year. Gatherings can be held any time in May, and even into June, but I have to submit all the money to HQ by the end of June. I have the gift envelopes all ready, so do please ask for some if you think you can manage to hold an event, however small.

For the months of May and June only, the greetings cards on sale on the first Sunday of the month at coffee will also be supporting Christian Aid..... Lorna Atwell

Coming up.....

Cockayne Hatley Retreat

Cockayne Hatley retreat—Saturday 31 May

We are delighted to have received an invitation to visit St John's Church, Cockayne Hatley, for a day retreat. The retreat will comprise two morning sessions then, in the afternoon, a country walk for those who are able followed by a closing Eucharist. The morning sessions will be led by Dr David Grumett on the theme of growing with the desert fathers and mothers.

The retreat will begin at 10 a.m. and end at 4 p.m. A ploughman's lunch will be generously provided by our host Christine Armistead. The day will be free of charge to participants. For navigational purposes the postcode is SG19 2EA.

In order to book, please contact davidg@gsm.cam.ac.uk by 23 May with the following details: i) name(s); ii) any dietary requirements; iii) whether you are able to offer a lift or will require a lift.

We know that retreats are valued by church members and expect the next one to be the Clare Priory retreat in autumn. Further information about this will be available in due course.

A Multi-Faith Peace Conference

Revitalising Peace Theologies for Today

A Multi-Faith Peace Conference

The Centre for Faith in Public Life at Wesley House, Cambridge will convene religious practitioners, scholars, and theologians for a multi-faith conference which aims to revitalise non-violent theologies of peace.

For more information visit wesley.cam.ac.uk
Contact Dr Richard Davis rd652@cam.ac.uk



Wesley House
Cambridge



Foundation Governor Vacancy



Foundation Governor Vacancy - St Paul's C of E Primary School

The Church Schools of Cambridge is seeking new Foundation Governors to serve on the governing body of St Paul's C of E Primary School. Like all school governors, Foundation Governors

work to support the Headteacher and staff, but they also have a special responsibility to support the Christian ethos of the school.

This is an important and rewarding voluntary role, offering the opportunity to make a positive difference, and to be part of the team working to promote the school's success. If you would be interested to receive more information about the role and an application form, please email the Church Schools of Cambridge Trust at admin@csoc.org.uk.

We look forward to hearing from you.

The Church Schools of Cambridge

www.csoc.org.uk Registered Charity: 311326

A note from Lorna Atwell

As a Foundation Governor myself (at Park Street School), I would encourage anybody interested in the education of young people to consider this rôle. Governors are responsible for strategy, rather than operations, and support the school in ways which link to their particular interests. For a Foundation Governor this particularly means checking that Collective Worship and RE requirements are fulfilled but also getting to know how the school works and how it relates to its community. It usually involves a couple of meetings per term plus a possible extra one to check the budget (!) and if you are available to visit at least once a term during school hours it is helpful. It is not necessary to have a background in education as a variety of skills is helpful and you will find yourself working alongside an interesting group of people - or that is what I find anyway. Why not give it a try?

WORSHIP SERVICES & CONCERTS

March-April 2025

April

Thursday	10		No Chat Play Sing (school holiday)
Saturday	12	9.30am	Women's breakfast in Michaelhouse
Palm Sunday	13	8am	BCP Holy Communion
		10am	Procession, followed by Choral Eucharist
		5pm	Come and Sing Stainer's Crucifixion (1.30 rehearsal)
Monday	14	12 noon	Silence followed by 12.30pm Holy Communion
Tuesday	15	10.30am	The Ark in Michaelhouse (will be happening)
		12 noon	Silence followed by 12.30pm Holy Communion

Wednesday	16	12 noon	Silence followed by 12.30pm Holy Communion
Maundy Thursday	17		No Chat Play Sing (school holiday)
		7pm	Eucharist with foot washing (Preacher: Malcolm Guite) followed by Vigil until 11pm
Good Friday	18	11.30am	Ecumenical Good Friday service
		12.00	Silence <i>in GSM</i>
		12.30pm	Good Friday Meditations (Speaker: Malcolm Guite)
		1.30pm	Good Friday Liturgy of the Cross
Saturday	19	9.00am	Men's communion and breakfast in Michaelhouse
		10-12	Easter Garden workshop
		1.00pm	Friends of Michaelhouse Lunchtime Concert in Michaelhouse
Easter Sunday	20	5.15am	Dawn Vigil and Eucharist, with baptism and confirmation
		8am	BCP Holy Communion
		10am	Choral Eucharist All Together (all age)
		11.45am	Choral Mattins
Easter Monday	21	12.30pm	No Meditation or lunch today (Bank Holiday)
Tuesday	22	10.30am	The Ark in Michaelhouse
Wednesday	23	12.30pm	Holy Communion in GSM
Thursday	24	10.00am	Chat-Play-Sing in Michaelhouse
Friday	25	1.00pm	Free lunchtime concert in GSM
Sunday	27	8am	BCP Holy Communion;
Easter 2		10am	Sung Eucharist and Children's Church;
		5pm	Evening Prayer
Monday	28	12.30pm	Christian Meditation in Michaelhouse, followed by soup lunch
Tuesday	29		University Full Term starts
		10.30am	The Ark in Michaelhouse