

## **Bulletin for the week beginning 30<sup>th</sup> March**

### **Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March – Mothering Sunday (Lent 4)**

No 09.00am Holy Communion

10.30am: Family Communion

**Readings: Exodus 2. 1-10; Luke 2. 33-35**

### **Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March**

John Donne, priest, poet, 1631

09.15am: Morning Prayer

### **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April**

Frederick Denison Maurice, priest, teacher of the faith, 1872

10.00am: Albright's Tots

6.30pm: Lent Reflection

### **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April**

09.30am: Holy Communion

10.00am: Parish Lunch

### **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April**

10.30am: Holy Communion at Loganberry Lodge

6.00 pm: Stations of the Cross at St. Teresa's

### **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> April – Fifth Sunday of Lent (Passiontide begins)**

09.00am: Holy Communion

10.30am: Parish Eucharist

## **Lent at St. Albright's**

### **Lent Reflections**

A series of talks from visiting speakers on the Sermon on the Mount. In church at 7.00pm on Tuesday evenings (Refreshments available in the hall at 6.30pm)

### **1<sup>st</sup> April – Fr Adrian Gabb-Jones**

8<sup>th</sup> April – Rev. Seb Harries (Chelmsford Cathedral precentor)

### **Stations of the Cross**

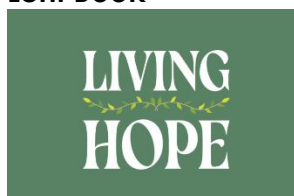
Every Friday evening during Lent at 6.00pm at St. Teresa's, this Friday, 4<sup>th</sup> April and 11<sup>th</sup> April.

## **The Bishop of Chelmsford's Lent Appeal 2025**

The Bishop of Chelmsford's Lent Appeal is seeking to raise funds to support the work of housing Justice, a Christian charity working across England and Wales to alleviate homelessness in all its forms.

To find out more about this year's appeal and to donate, visit [Diocese of Chelmsford Lent Appeal 2025](#). Donations will be open until 1<sup>st</sup> July 2025.

### **Lent Book**



The Church of England's Lent theme for 2025 is 'Living Hope'. We have pocket sized reflection books with 40 daily reflections for the 40 days of Lent. Copies will be available in church and you can also download on [Living Hope - Resources for Lent 2025 | The Church of England](#)

### **The Rev. Tony Bushell**

After ten and a half years as priest in charge of Stanway, I have decided to retire on 10<sup>th</sup> August this year. A difficult decision but I believe that the time is right to be moving on - not so much retirement as a change of direction. I have hugely enjoyed my time as your priest and the support I have received from so many people has been wonderful.

### **Churchyard shed**

We are hoping to install a shed in the church yard to store gardening equipment. We have to apply for a faculty and the legal notice about this is in the church. Further information from Steve [s.whitfield07@btinternet.com](mailto:s.whitfield07@btinternet.com) or 07833472766

### **Electoral Roll**

We are updating the Electoral Roll for 2025. Every 6th year from 2025, the church is required to complete a revision of the Parish Electoral roll.

All persons previously on roll will need to complete new application form. To have your name entered on the Electoral roll, you must complete the application either electronically or paper based.

Click this link for electronic copies - <https://forms.churchdesk.com/f...>

Paper copies can be returned to Mark Claydon (Electoral Roll Officer), Rev Tony Bushell (Priest in Charge) or Bimbola (Office Administrator).

Names will not be added or removed from the roll between 30<sup>th</sup> March and 15<sup>th</sup> April 2025. The Annual Parochial Church Meeting, for which the new roll needs to be prepared, is on 27<sup>th</sup> April at 12.00.

### **Stanway Parish**

As you know I have always been an SSM (Self-supporting minister) on a part-time, unpaid basis. It will not be possible to continue that arrangement here after I leave in August so the idea is that the parish of Stanway will be served by the same full-time priest as the parish of Shrub End. They have not had an incumbent for over five years and the hope is that someone will be appointed there who will also be licensed to Stanway. Plans for this have already begun and it is anticipated that an appointment could be made in the next few months.

With that in mind the PCC's of the two parishes have met and agreed to have some joint services in our respective churches, so that we can get to know each other

better. This will begin in May with a service at Stanway on the first Sunday of the month and at Shrub End on the fourth. There will be more details about this arrangement in due course, including transport arrangements, but in the meantime do pray for our friends at Shrub End and for the future closer working together.

### **Jansma Park**

Stanway Parish Council has published a Public Open Space Consultation for Jansma Park in which they would like the community to participate. Jansma Park is located next to the Westside Centre on London Road. It is a newly acquired greenfield site, and Stanway Parish Council want to ensure it serves the need of the community.

Copies of the survey are in church. You can also scan the QR Code on the paper copy, to complete online. Please feel free to fill them and drop back into the provided box by **Sunday, 13<sup>th</sup> April**.

### **Schools in Stanway**

The church maintains links with schools in the parish, especially St Marys which has regular services at St. Albright's, Fiveways where Tony takes assemblies and lessons every term and Stanway Primary where an ecumenical group does an Open the Book presentation twice a term. If you are interested in participating in Open the Book then please have a chat with Tony about it. Next Wednesday, Tony will be taking a group of students from Fiveways to the Town Hall for a guided tour.

### **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.

### **Church Gardeners**

The group for maintaining the churchyard is still happy to have any more volunteers. Please contact Steve Whitfield on 07833-472766 or [s.whitfield07@btinternet.com](mailto:s.whitfield07@btinternet.com)

### **Community coffee morning**

Our community coffee morning is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of the month, between 10.30am - 12 noon. Our next gathering will be on **Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> April**. Everyone is welcome.

### **Children at St. Albright's**

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

### **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. The next one will be this **Sunday, 30<sup>th</sup> March** for Mothering Sunday.

### **St Albrights Tots**



If you are able to help, please speak to Tony or Pam or if you know any family who may be interested, please let them know. The next one will be this **Tuesday, 1st April** for Easter.

## Stanwell Hub



**The Stanway Wellbeing Hub is a place for people to be with people.**

Meet in St Andrew's Hall next to St Albright's Church, Stanway, CO3 8LR  
1:30 - 3:00pm  
1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays  
Every Month

f StanWellHub  
office.stanwellhub@gmail.com  
07818 424114

*"Our vision is to help everyone in our community to thrive socially, emotionally, physically, spiritually and economically."*

ST ALBRIGHT'S Funded by SDF Fund

The next one will be on **Tuesday, 8th April**, with a speaker from Essex Home Help Service. Essex Home Help Service is a registered Charity supporting the elderly, vulnerable and carers of loved ones across Essex. They offer a range of services from housework, shopping and sitting/companionship. You can find out more on [www.essexhomehelpservice.com](http://www.essexhomehelpservice.com)

Also, on **Tuesday 15th April**, we will be having Julie Harding from Home Instead, who will be giving us a talk about all things fraud and scam. For more information, click here <https://www.homeinstead.co.uk/care/> and <https://www.takefive-stopfraud.org.uk/>

## Holy Communion at home

If you would like to receive Holy Communion at home, or if you know anyone who might, then please contact any member of the ministry team. There is also a Parish Pastoral Support Team whose members are able to visit, help and support those in particular need.

## 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.

There is now a clear shortfall between our giving and our outgoings and there will be a circulated shortly to everyone on the electoral roll setting out our financial situation and the importance of Christian stewardship.

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.

## St Andrew's Hall

### This Hall is available for hire

The Hall for St Albright's Church (known as St Andrew's Hall), is next to St Albright's Church, London Road, Stanway, CO3 8LR



We have sessions available Monday to Saturday for regular or occasional bookings.

For details please contact:  
Ivor and Pam Ellis.

Email: [ivorellis@btinternet.com](mailto:ivorellis@btinternet.com)

The hall is available to hire for regular or occasional bookings. For more details, please contact Ivor and Pam Ellis – [ivorellis@btinternet.com](mailto:ivorellis@btinternet.com)

**For your prayers**

**Collect for Lent**

Almighty and everlasting God, you hate nothing that you have made and forgive the sins of all those who are penitent: create and make in us new and contrite hearts that we, worthily lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness, may receive from you, the God of all mercy, perfect remission and forgiveness; 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 Mothering Sunday**

God of love, passionate and strong, tender and careful: watch over us and hold us all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

As we pray for peace in the Middle East we give thanks for the ceasefire and pray that it will continue:

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.

We continue to pray for the people and nations of Ukraine and Russia. For peace and for the relief of suffering.

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. **Amen**

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**

**In our church community, please pray for:**

Our churchwardens and PCC especially for the preparations for our APCM in April.

Our director of music and the choir

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: Joseph Newman.

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

All those who have been married at St. Albright's in 2024 and all who have had 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. Our Area Dean is Canon Erwin Lammens, vicar of Wivenhoe. The Assistant Area Dean is the Rev. Hannah Cooper, vicar of St. Luke's, Highwoods, and the Lay Chair is Lynne Gettings.

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

Please also pray for the Provincial Episcopal Visitors - The Bishop of Richborough, the Rt. Rev. Luke Irvine-Capel, the Bishop of Ebbsfleet, the Rt Rev Dr Rob Munro, and the Bishop of Oswestry the Rt. Rev Paul Thomas.

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 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

Our Prime Minister and government.

### **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.

All our elected representatives - our MPs, county, city and parish councillors.

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, Antony Watson, Maxine Humes, Jean Needs, Suzannah, Irene Brewer, John & Hazel, Morgan Burgoyne, Ann Adams, Dorothy Williams, John Perfect, Tony Windsor, Vitaly and Rosolaka, Nicola Jones, Ali, Shirley Vaughan

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 **April** 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**

Robert Radcliffe, Phyllis Evelyn Clark, Richard Ives, Shirley McCormack, Snowy Barron, Stephen Spice, Veronica Morgan, Valeria Florea, Richard Mugford, Ida Totham, Donald Rampton, Paul Williams, Virginia Windsor, Damian Taylor, Tom Morgan, Linda Brook

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.



With best wishes,

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*Pamela Higham, Spiritual Companion, Lay Funeral Minister, Churchwarden and Pastoral Assistant, [pam@stalbrights.org](mailto:pam@stalbrights.org) 01206 768817*

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*Ravi Natarajan, Deputy Churchwarden*

*David J. Tibbetts-Chaplin, Organist and Choirmaster [david@stalbrights.org](mailto:david@stalbrights.org) 07933 783683*