



Welcome to our church - everyone is welcome here! April 2024



Message from one of our Authorised lay Ministers (ALM):

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! It's a great pleasure to be writing my newsletter introduction for the first time. I'm taking advantage of a quiet house to write, and I'm sat looking out over our beautiful - if somewhat overgrown - garden. Spring is trying its very hardest to take hold; there is blossom on the trees, flower buds are forming on the rhododendrons and the lawn seems to need mowing already. Our calendar dictates that January is the first month of the year but, if I were in charge, the beginning of April would herald the arrival of the new year. No-one feels like making changes and starting new things in the dark, dreary, cold early days of January, but at this time of year, as the days get longer and the sun (hopefully) starts to shine, it is far more possible to envisage yourself trying new things and taking leaps into the unknown (albeit small ones!). Easter is a time of new beginnings. In fact, the eggs we traditionally give to one another at this time of year symbolise new life. In the days following Jesus' resurrection the whole world began again for the disciples and, although our new beginning won't be quite as dramatic, I hope you can embrace and enable your own new beginning too. We are an Easter people, and Easter is our new beginning, so... what could you start? Happy Easter everyone! Jen Durber

Upcoming Events – Easter and beyond

- Sunday April 7th Eucharist 9 am and Orchard Service (all age)10.15am
- Sunday April 14th Eucharist 10.15am
- Sunday April 21st Eucharist 10.15am
- Sunday April 28th Eucharist 10.15 am

Regular Events: (term time only)

Monday: Family Church 3.40pm in church – all welcome

Second Wednesday of month (just for April 2024): Wednesday 10th April, Walking Group 9.30 am at the Croft.

Church Poetry Group at 7pm and 8pm Pub church in the Church inn – a Christian presence in the pub – **all welcome.**

Third Thursday of month 2pm Mothers' Union in the Croft



Dates for your diary - 29th June Summer Fair from 11.00 until 3.00. Further details to follow. Any ideas to Lesley White



Thursday May 5th Ascension Day Shared Mission Community service 7.30pm at St Mary's Davyhulme

Confirmation service with the Bishop on June 9th at 6pm - if you would like to deepen your faith and have never been confirmed (this means re-committing and confirming your baptism vows) please speak to Rev Huw as confirmations are only done by the Bishop and take place annually. We would love to help you explore your faith and share in this beautiful event with you.

Items for this newsletter to be sent to : Rev Caroline Bailey carob2000_2000@yahoo.com

FINDING A VOICE

A Lent Course on
THE KING'S SPEECH



REVIEWED: Lent Discussion Group – how was it? Valerie Phillips: We watched the film one evening in church first of all, although I think most of us had actually seen it before. It was interesting to watch it again with fresh eyes & a different perspective. A week later we reviewed the film weekly for 3 weeks. We looked at how George VI overcame his lifelong speech impediment & embarrassment of speaking & used his voice to be heard on important occasions. We compared the film to quotes & verses from the Bible as well as characters from the Bible who had similar difficulties. I think I can say certainly for myself & I think for all who took part it was a very enjoyable & enlightening course & I certainly am looking forward to the next one.

Lynda Sandbach: We explored the theme of finding a voice and faith and discussed the importance of using our voice to support and strengthen not only our own faith but the faith of people we meet. We looked at the importance of really listening to others in order to discern barriers or fears which may be preventing them from moving forward or growing in their relationship with God. As Christians we have a duty and responsibility to share our faith. Even if this may not be easy in today's busy world. We looked at the way God used people who were afraid or unsure when he called them such as Moses, Elijah, Jeremiah. They found their voice with the guidance of God, they and us have the right to speak strengthened by the Holy Spirit. Thank you to Caroline and Val for leading the course it was challenging and interesting. Importantly it was a time for us to get to know one another and explore our faith on a deeper level.



Restoration & Development Trust AGM

The Trust are holding their Annual General Meeting on Sunday 12th May at 12 noon in Church Croft. If you are interested in the future of St Michael's, please get involved! All welcome.

Thursday May 23rd Cheetham's Musical Concert in church – Chethams's students perform for us - free but make a donation for church funds.

Newly Baptised Gathering 19th May 4pm



As a church we are inviting all those who have been baptised in the last year and their families and carers to celebrate their baptism and get to know us and each other - if this something you feel called to be involved in - please ask Huw or Caroline how you can help.

