

St Michael All Angels

Southam, Woolstone, Gotherington & Oxenton

Sunday 8 March 2026 Third Sunday of Lent

Readings:

St Michael's– Southam – The Patriarchs – Genesis 22 (1-18)

WGO- The Patriarchs – Genesis 22 (1-18) Luke 13 (1-9)

9.30am Holy Communion- St Michael's Church

9.30am Holy Communion -Church of the Ascension, Southam

10.00am Morning Praise -The Old Chapel, Gotherington

11.15am Contemporary Worship- St Michael's Church

For the complete list of services see <https://www.stmichaelsbishopsleeve.co.uk/whats-on>



2 x Lent Courses - 25/26 February

The Quiet Revival research (<https://theresource.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/The-Quiet-Revival.pdf>) and widespread anecdotal evidence is telling us that more people are coming to church and exploring faith, especially young adults. Many are eager to understand the Bible better but aren't always sure where to start. As a church family, we want to respond. This Lent, we are running two Bible courses which offer a friendly, relaxed space to explore the whole story of the Bible together, in order to grow in confidence, and deepen faith. They are also designed for mature Christians who want to be better equipped to support and encourage others on their faith journey.

Ben will be leading the daytime course in Gotherington on **Wednesday afternoons at 1pm** on 25 February, 4 March, 11 March, 18 March, 25 March at Gotherington Old Chapel.

Tim will be leading an evening course in St Michael's on **Thursday evenings at 7.30pm** on 26 February, 5 March, 12 March, 19 March, 26 March. All are very welcome!!



The Last Supper – Maundy Thursday - 7pm St Michael's Church

Join us on Maundy Thursday for a Christian Passover Meal as we remember the Last Supper and explore the deep connection between the Jewish Passover and the Lord's Supper. The evening will include Scripture, reflection, and a full seated meal of lamb, with a vegetarian option available. As places are limited, tickets must be reserved in advance. Please scan the QR code to book

tickets. or contact Kate in the office on 07354 874617 or admin@stmichaelsbishopsleeve.co.uk We warmly invite you to gather around the table with us as we remember Christ's love and sacrifice.



Interim Revision of Church Electoral Roll (Bishops Cleeve)

Canon Law requires each PCC annually to revise the Parish Electoral Roll in time for the APCM.

There is a copy of our current Electoral Roll available in Church which will be revised between the dates of Sunday 1 March and Monday 30 March. The revised Roll will be available for inspection from Thursday 2 April.

If you are not on the Electoral Roll, please collect an application form from the office or the back of church and return it to the Church Office or the box at the back of church by the end of Monday 30 March.

Questions can be addressed to T/L me at jedowle46@gmail.com or by phoning 01386 882951.

If you were on the Roll last year, you do not need to reapply. Your name will be carried forward automatically. Julia Dowle Electoral Roll Officer

If you no longer wish to receive Weekly News, please email admin@stmichaelsbishopsleeve.co.uk

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Easter Egg Collection 2026

Every year we collect Easter eggs for the children we connect with through our children's work. The £2, 91g eggs are now in Tesco. If you can pick up an extra one and drop it at church or the church office, it would be wonderful. Alternatively, if you'd like to donate cash, please put it in an envelope marked 'Eggs' and place it in the big chest. Thank you

Friday Night Youth Club – Next Session 13 March

Gotherington Old Chapel 7pm to 8.30pm

Our youth group meets every other Friday during term time it is open to young people in years 7-13. Each session is packed with fun activities, including games, engaging discussions, and plenty of time to hang out over a hot chocolate and snacks. We aim to support and inspire young people, empowering them in their faith and personal life. The next date will be **27 March**

Save the Date

Holiday Club Summer - 11 August – 13 August 2026

We will be holding our Holiday Club from Tuesday 11 August to Thursday 13 August. More information to follow.

WHAT'S ON?

World Day of Prayer – 6 March 2026

Bishops Cleeve Methodist Church 10.30 am

Our Ecumenical World Day of Prayer Service – all welcome. Refreshments to follow.

Men's Breakfast – 7 March 2026

You are welcome to join us for Men's Breakfast on Saturday 7 March at St Michael's Church.

Men's Breakfast this week features Dave Kelly. Dave has previously led a house church in Gloucester and is currently building some men's ministry. He will be sharing what is on his heart for men's ministry. 8.30 as usual at the church followed by the usual hearty breakfast.

Easter Sunday Adult Baptisms

From around AD 150 it became traditional for adult converts to be prepared (and to fast!) and then to all be baptised together on Easter Sunday - a great celebration of the new life that they have received from Jesus' resurrection!

On this Easter Sunday (5th April) St Michael's will also be providing an opportunity for some of our congregation to be baptised by full immersion.

We would also like to offer this as an opportunity for any other members of our church family to reaffirm their baptismal vows at this celebration. This could be a great opportunity for a public confession of faith for people who have come back to faith or who were baptised/christened as children and would like to declare their adult faith in your local church family. If you are also interested in being baptised - or renewing your baptismal vows - please contact the church office at admin@stmichaelsbishopsclleeve.co.uk or talk to Tim, Ben, Nat or Lucy

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Would You Like to Volunteer?

If you would like to volunteer for a good cause, for as much or as little time as you have available please contact St Michael's Church Office where we can give you further information on the current volunteer need within the benefice. Please email: admin@stmichael'sbishopsclleeve.co.uk or telephone **07354 874617**

Volunteers Needed for Preparation of Mother's Day Posies

Saturday 14 March 10am – St Michael's Church

We will be meeting in church on Saturday 14th at 10 am to make 160 posies. No experience needed, but if you able to bring scissors and any short bits of foliage this would be greatly appreciated. Hopefully it will only take about an hour with many hands.

Elspeth Jenkins

Experience Easter – Volunteers Needed

On **23rd, 24th, and 25th March**, we will be welcoming children from three of our local schools to take part in **Experience Easter**. This interactive journey walks pupils through the Easter story from **Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday**, with six themed stations that help bring the narrative to life.

Each station needs a **storyteller**, can you help make these sessions meaningful and memorable?

Session times:

- **Morning:** 9:00–11:30
- **Afternoon:** 12:45–2:30

If you are **DBS-checked through the church**, have completed the **required safeguarding training**, and are available to help, please speak to **Lucy Betts** or email her at Lbetts@stmbsc.uk.

We'd love to have you involved in this special event

NOTICES

Annual Vision Meeting – Parish of Bishop's Cleeve with Southam

Monday 20 April at 6.30pm in St Michael's Church

Our Annual Vision Meeting – the AGM for the Parish of Bishop's Cleeve with Southam – will take place on Monday 20 April at 6.30pm in St Michael's Church.

The meeting, which will focus on our vision for the future of our ministry in our parish, will include the election of our Churchwardens, as well as our APCM.

All those on our electoral roll are encouraged to attend.

Our papers booklet will be published on our website in early April.

Funeral of T/L Roland (Roy) Bedford

The funeral of T/L Roland (Roy) Bedford will take place at Cheltenham Crematorium, **Willow Chapel at 12:00 noon on 19 March 2026**.

Watch Sermons on YouTube

Watch our Sunday sermons on our YouTube channel. Please do have a look and feel free to share with others.

If you Subscribe to the website (which is free) you will receive a notification when a new video is uploaded.

Visit the channel here: <https://youtu.be/RjbH3bo5jb8>

OUR MISSION PARTNERS - NEWS

North Cotswold Foodbank

Ad-Lent Calendar

You are invited to join in with the Ad-lent Calendar for the Foodbank. Their calendar transforms the traditional Lenten period of reflection into a practical opportunity to help others. For each of the 40 days of Lent, simply donate one food item from our calendar, ticking them off as you go. It's perfect for individuals looking for a meaningful Lent activity, families teaching children about giving, or groups at workplaces, schools and churches wanting to make a collective impact. By Easter, you'll have gathered a box of essential items that will directly support people in crisis.

For more information and to download your own calendar, please visit:

<https://nbsg.foodbank.org.uk/ad-lent-challenge-2026/> or scan the QR code.

There are some calendars printed at the back of church also.



Mission Partners

At St Michael's, we have three Mission Partners with which we have strong ties. Our three Mission Partners are: **North Cotswold Foodbank**, **Grassroots Rwanda** and **Mission Macedonia**.

For more information about these, and how you can help, please go to our website:

<https://www.stmichaelsbishopsclleeve.co.uk/world-mission>

If you no longer wish to receive Weekly News, please email admin@stmichaelsbishopsclleeve.co.uk

UPCOMING TRAINING COURSE FROM THE DIOCESE OF GLOUCESTER

For the latest training courses on offer from the Diocese of Gloucester [Please Click Here for Information.](#)

ECO-CHURCH - FEBRUARY

Terracycling

Please Note:

Tea & coffee scheme ended

Only Pringles tubes with metal bases are accepted now (the fully cardboard tubes and the plastic lid can now go in kerbside recycling and the seal in waste.) Cake and biscuit wrappers are still okay.

Terra cycling boxes are available in the office and in church every week. See the lists attached for acceptable items. Please contact Ro by email at ro.hunt60@gmail.com to arrange collection.

Our Energy Saving Tip This Month-Daily Habits & Appliance Usage:

Cook Smart: Use a slow cooker or air fryer instead of the oven, as they are more energy efficient.

FROM BISHOP'S CLEEVE METHODIST CHURCH

To find out **What's On** at Bishop's Cleeve Methodist Church, please follow the link: https://www.methodist-bishopsleeve.co.uk/page_2275125.html

Sunday:	Worship at 10.30am followed by refreshments.
Monday:	Meeting for Prayer at 12.45 pm. Meet Up Monday 2.00 pm – 4.00 pm.
Tuesday:	Prayer and Bible Study at 7.45 pm on alternate Tuesdays (next meeting 3 February)
Wednesday:	Communion Service with other churches at 9.00 am. Fellowship Group with a speaker at 2.00 pm on alternate Wednesdays.
Thursday:	Film Club at 2.00 pm on the first Thursday of each month.
Saturday:	Coffee mornings 10am - 12 noon as announced.

Keep up to date with church news, diary dates and more on our website.

www.stmichaelsbishopsleeve.co.uk

Service times: stmichaelsbishopsleeve.co.uk/worship-services

Safeguarding: stmichaelsbishopsleeve.co.uk/safeguarding

Church Office: stmichaelsbishopsleeve.co.uk/contact

Donate: [Bishop's Cleeve - Parish Giving Scheme](#)

[Southam - Parish Giving Scheme](#)

[WGO - Parish Giving Scheme Or ring 03330021260](#)

Watch Sermons: youtube.com/@StMichaelsBishopsCleeveChurchOffice

Different
ways to pray
at St
Michael's



Telephone Number and Opening Times

07354 874617 Kate for all enquiries including weddings. Monday to Friday

07871 602525 Tracy for enquiries relating to funerals, baptisms and DBS. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.

Church Office Opening Times: Monday – Thursday 10am – 2pm

Friday: Kate sometimes works from home, please ring to check before coming to the office

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