

## WELCOME GROUP

At our March Welcome Group we had a very inspiring talk by Norma on the Hospice movement. As a result of this and members' generosity £171.00 was raised for the John Eastwood Hospice in Mansfield.

At the April meeting on Wednesday 1st April, everyone is being invited to bring a hat and decorate it for an Easter bonnet.



## COMMUNITY CRAFTERS

Community Crafters continue to make many blankets of varying sizes to go to King's Mill Hospital and the Hospice. Donations of wool are welcome to help with all that is made.

## MEN'S BREAKFAST 4th April 9-10am

Please invite men, young or old to join our men's breakfast. A chance to chat and socialise while you eat.



## DECORATING FOR EASTER 4th April 10am

Please come along and help to make church beautiful for our Easter celebration.



## FUNERAL OF DAVID COLTON 14th April 1pm at St Mary's Church, Sutton

## NEW MEMBERS

It has been lovely to welcome so many new members to our church. Please speak to Kathy Hobbs if you would like to join the Electoral Roll or be included in the weekly email or WhatsApp diary messages. Please speak to Andrew Hamilton if you want more details about planned giving to St Albans or Gift Aid. Pat Chapman co-ordinates donations towards church flowers and the flower arranging rota if you would like to contribute.

## CHURCH BOOKINGS

These can be discussed by contacting Julie Rathbone on [juliestalbens@hotmail.com](mailto:juliestalbens@hotmail.com)



## ST ALBANS AGM Wednesday 6th May 7pm

## FUNDRAISING FASHION SHOW Wednesday 20th May 7pm

Details to follow



To all those who so generously donate to the Food Bank and the Mansfield Winter Night Shelter. We have recently received thank you letters from them both.

Also thank you to all those who organised, attended or supported our Sherwood Forest Coffee morning which raised £325.45 for church funds.

Items for next month's newsletter must be received by 15.4.26

Send them to Kathy at [khobbs200517@gmail.com](mailto:khobbs200517@gmail.com)



# St Albans Church Newsletter



## April 2026

### ST ALBANS CHURCH



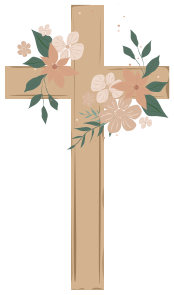
### FOREST TOWN

**Priest-in-Charge:** Revd. Philip Stead  
The Vicarage  
Forest Town, NG19 0EP  
01623 622177

email: [phil.stead1930@outlook.com](mailto:phil.stead1930@outlook.com)

**Facebook:** St Albans Church Forest Town NG19 0ED

**Website:** [stalbens-foresttown.co.uk](http://stalbens-foresttown.co.uk)



## DATES FOR APRIL SERVICES

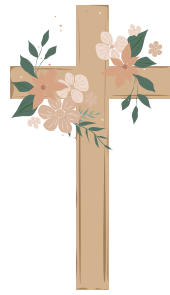
- 1<sup>st</sup> 10am Mid week communion
- 2<sup>nd</sup> 7.45pm Maundy Thursday communion
- 3<sup>rd</sup> 2pm Good Friday reflections
- 5<sup>th</sup> 9.30am Easter Day communion
- 8<sup>th</sup> NO MID WEEK COMMUNION
- 12<sup>th</sup> 9.30am Parish communion
- 15<sup>th</sup> 9.30am Mid week communion
- 19<sup>th</sup> 9.30am Parish communion  
11.30am Baptisms
- 22<sup>nd</sup> 10am Mid week communion
- 26<sup>th</sup> 9.30am Parish communion
- 29<sup>th</sup> 10am Mid week communion

### OTHER DATES

- 1<sup>st</sup> 2pm Welcome Group
- 4th 9am Men's Breakfast
- 10am Decorating church for Easter
- 15<sup>th</sup> 1.30pm Bereavement Group
- 29<sup>th</sup> 1.30pm Prayer group
- 16th/23rd/29th Bible study at The Vicarage  
(29th is a change of date as Xander's birthday on the 30th)

### LEGAL MATTERS

The Church of England has something called Faculty Jurisdiction. It is like the Church's equivalent of planning permission. That means all sorts of things can't be done without Faculty or Faculty lite, known as List B permission. Each church has to have an architect and she or he must be chosen from a list approved by the Diocese. The architect must be involved in applications for Faculty or Faculty lite. All this has been going on with the roof repairs over a huge length of time. The architect suggested a particular roofer and he has engaged in months of delaying tactics. The PCC is extremely frustrated and keep going. Every time we think the end is in sight we encounter a fresh delaying tactic. Please keep us in your prayers.



## A message from Philip



### IT CAN ALL END SO QUICKLY

Life can come to an end so quickly. That was the case with both Stuart and David. Both had so much to offer. Many in Ukraine, Gaza and Iran have lost it all in an instant, Incredibly they are not the only countries to suffer such a fate. Life needs to be lived much more in the present. That helps to bring us alive and increases the value we put on life.

When it comes to Easter it is easy to get distracted. But only one thing matters about it. This is the time when we have extra focus on Jesus' resurrection from the dead. He died. He was buried and his tomb was soon empty. His body was not stolen because hundreds saw him after he rose from the dead. If we follow him he has restored us to paradise. We no longer fear death as we are restored to a relationship with God that he wanted for us from the very beginning. In Christ we have it all but the scale of what has been given to us can only be grasped with the Holy Spirit's help. We are part of the life of the Holy Trinity.

