

The Parish of Elstree & Borehamwood

All Saints * Holy Cross * St Michael and

All Angels * St Nicholas

"Four Churches, One Vision"

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/benefic/e/32-091BJ>

Sunday, April 26th

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



Welcome to Church – Today's Services:

9.15am	St Nicholas	Service of the Word	Mike Ford, Lay Reader
9.30am	Holy Cross	Holy Communion	Revd Louise Collins
9.30am	St Michael's	Service of the Word	Grace Silvera LLW
11.15am	All Saints	Service of the Word	Pam Kubica, Churchwarden

PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Risen Christ,
Faithful shepherd of your Father's sheep: teach us to hear your voice and to follow your command, that all your people may be gathered into one flock, to the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Merciful Father,
You gave your Son Jesus Christ to be the good shepherd, and in his love for us to lay down his life and rise again: keep us always under his protection, and give us grace to follow in his steps; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

TODAY'S READINGS

Genesis 7

Then the LORD said to Noah, "Go into the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you alone are righteous before me in this generation.
²Take with you seven pairs of all clean animals, the male and its mate; and a pair of the animals that

are not clean, the male and its mate; ³and seven pairs of the birds of the air also, male and female, to keep their kind alive on the face of all the earth.
⁴For in seven days I will send rain on the earth for forty days and forty nights; and every living thing that I have made I will blot out from the face of the ground."⁵And Noah did all that the LORD had commanded him. ⁶Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters came on the earth. ⁷And Noah with his sons and his wife and his sons' wives went into the ark to escape the waters of the flood. ⁸Of clean animals, and of animals that are not clean, and of birds, and of everything that creeps on the ground, ⁹two and two, male and female, went into the ark with Noah, as God had commanded Noah. ¹⁰And after seven days the waters of the flood came on the earth. ¹¹In the six hundredth year of Noah's life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened. ¹²The rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights. ¹³On the very same day Noah with his sons, Shem and Ham and Japheth, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons entered the ark, ¹⁴they and every wild animal of every kind, and all domestic animals of every kind, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, and every bird of every kind—every bird, every winged creature. ¹⁵They went into the ark with Noah, two and two of all flesh in which there was the breath of life. ¹⁶And those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him; and the LORD shut him in. ¹⁷The flood continued forty days on the earth; and the waters increased, and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. ¹⁸The waters swelled and increased greatly on the earth; and the ark floated on the face of the waters. ¹⁹The waters swelled so mightily on the earth that all the high mountains under the whole heaven were covered; ²⁰the waters swelled above the mountains, covering them fifteen cubits deep. ²¹And all flesh died that moved on the earth, birds, domestic animals, wild animals, all swarming creatures that swarm on the earth, and all human beings; ²²everything on dry land in whose nostrils was the breath of life died. ²³He blotted out every living thing that was on the face of the ground, human beings and animals and creeping things and birds of the air; they were blotted out from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those that were with him in the ark. ²⁴And the waters swelled on the earth for one hundred fifty days.

Psalms 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.
Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me.

Your rod and your staff—they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.

You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life. And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

Acts 2.42-end

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. ⁴⁴All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

John 10.1-10

"Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." ⁶Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. ⁷So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

NEXT WEEK'S SERVICES Sunday, May 3rd		
St Nicholas	9.15am	TBC
Holy Cross	9.30am	Holy Communion
St Michael's	9.30am	TBC
All Saints	11.15am	TBC

This Week

Monday, April 27th

9.30am Morning Prayer at All Saints

Thursday, April 30th

- 9.30 am Morning Prayer at St Nicholas
- 12.00-3.00pm Welcome Café, St Michael's
- 12.30 Funeral of Maureen Thelma Skeggs at All Saints

ANNUAL DISTRICT CHURCH MEETINGS

The ADCMs 2026 will now take place as follows:

ST NICHOLAS - Sunday, April 26th at 10.30am

ST MICHAEL'S - Sunday, April 26th at 10.45am

ALL SAINTS - Sunday, May 3rd at 12.30pm

HOLY CROSS - Sunday, May 3rd at 10.45am

The purpose of the Annual District Church Meetings is to hear reports on church life last year, to elect our churchwardens and lay representatives for the coming year and to look to the future. Role Descriptions are required for these roles, outlining what is involved. Draft Role Descriptions are provided, to be adopted by the PCC in May. Please consider who to nominate. The following papers are available in church and on church websites:

1. Formal Notices of Meetings and Agendas
2. Nomination forms, to be returned by April 25th:
 Churchwardens
 DCC lay reps
 Deanery Synod Reps
3. Role Descriptions (in the green folder)

**Barnet Deanery Quiet Afternoon
 GOBIONS WOOD, BROOKMAN'S PARK**

'Bluebell Pilgrimage'



Saturday, May 2nd

- ✦ A quiet hour or so among the bluebells in Gobions Wood, near Brookmans Park
- ✦ Moderate walking, some uneven paths, trip hazards
- ✦ BYO poems / drinks / snack / mobile phone
- ✦ Meet at **1.45pm** in the Car Park on Jonas Way, off Moffats Lane, AL9 7RW (down a short narrow track)

Just turn up or contact Revd Louise Collins: 07759 283337 / louise.collins59@hotmail.com

Further info on location and site at: <https://www.hertswildlifetrust.org.uk/nature-reserves/gobions-wood>