

# NEWSLETTER

## from the Church of St. Michael's Bray

April 2022



The Parish Church of Bray with Braywood,  
Holyport & Moneyrow Green, Fifield,  
Touchen End and Oakley Green



## From our Vicar Rev'd Ainsley

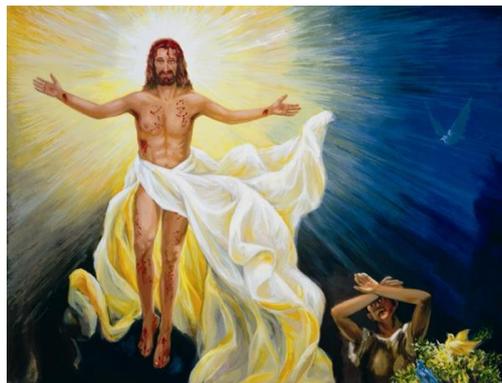
I cannot believe that the world has changed so much in the last two years and that this is the first Easter since 2019 that will be almost 'normal' again (whatever 'normal' is these days).

The story of Easter, when kept with even a tiny seed of faith and hope in our hearts is a story about life; life above and beyond all expectations. Life when we have given up hope, life even when it seems that death has already taken place.

I believe in the resurrection of Christ; for me, the importance of the resurrection does not rest in *how* we understand it, that is, what physically happened on the day but rather what difference it makes to the present. Death, the final frontier, has been destroyed by the resurrection. Whatever 'death' we are thinking of, physical, spiritual, emotional, the resurrection promises that it will not be the end. If we have this hope, however tentatively we hold it, then it gives us the power to go on and to expect healing, however it may come; peace, through whatever outward disturbances; and, most of all, love however cold the world may have become for us.

The resurrection is not a 2,000-year-old theological controversy but a story that tells us death is not the end, and that God loves life, and new beginnings are always possible.

Hallelujah, Christ is risen... Hallelujah, He is risen indeed!



## St Michael's Church Bray Holy Week Services 2022



<b>10 April 8.00am</b>	<b>**Palm Sunday Holy Communion</b>	<b>In church only</b>
<b>10 April 10.00am</b>	<b>Palm Sunday Eucharist</b>	<b>In church and on Zoom</b>
<b>11, 12 &amp; 13 April 7.30pm (aprox 45 mins)</b>	<b>Holy Communion Quiet, reflective services for Holy Week</b>	<b>In church only</b>
<b>14 April 8.00pm</b>	<b>Maundy Thursday</b>	<b>In church and on Zoom</b>
<b>15 April 3.00pm</b>	<b>Good Friday Liturgy of the Cross</b>	<b>In church and on Zoom</b>
<b>17 April 8.00am</b>	<b>Easter Holy Communion</b>	<b>In church only</b>
<b>17 April 10.00am</b>	<b>Easter Service Sung Eucharist</b>	<b>In church and on Zoom</b>

**Also on April 10<sup>th</sup> – Palm Sunday - there will be a performance of *Stainer's Crucifixion*\* by St Michael's Choir**

***\*A meditation on the Sacred Passion of the Holy Redeemer***



## St. Michael's waves the flag in support of Ukraine

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

The lent lunch raised £693! which has been gratefully received by Maidenhead for Ukraine.

The charity has just purchased a mini bus in conjunction with Beech Lodge School in Stubbings Lane, which will be used for transporting refugees as well as trips to the Ukrainian border. The charity is mainly concerned with supplying medical supplies and is currently based at the Community Centre, 4 Marlow Road, Maidenhead, SL6 7YR ([facebook.com/maidenheadforukraine](https://facebook.com/maidenheadforukraine)). The money raised by St Michael's was used towards fuel costs, for a truck which left on the 31<sup>st</sup> March.

The following message was received from Maidenhead for Ukraine;

*"thanks again to all at St Michael's Church for such a generous donation ... This will be a huge help in funding fuel for our coming truck going to Poland / Ukraine "*

Following the Lent Lunch there was a concert in St. Michael's when musicians, young and old, professional and amateur came together to raise some much needed funds for The Red Cross - Ukraine appeal.

Organised by Jo Woolliscroft in under 2 weeks, we heard a variety of music from around the world, classical to pop, vocal and instrumental. Many thanks to all who took part.





.Last Sunday, April 3rd, a peal was rung at t. Michael's Church. A peal is a ringing performance that consists of at least 5040 changes. This means that each bell strikes that many times and that the order of the bells is never repeated. Peals are a significant mental and physical challenge for all the participating ringers, and tends to take about 3 hours, although as Bray bells are heavy, peals here are slightly longer. It involved 8 ringers from across Hampshire and Berkshire, with 4 of the band being local Bray ringers. Just to increase the challenge, we rang 23 different methods which were changed roughly every minute, so our brains as well as our arms were given a good workout! With heightened concentration required, the ringing settled quickly and a very respectable peal was rung in 3 hours and 7 minutes. Repairing to the bar at the Cricket Club afterwards, we were congratulated by the staff and customers who had obviously been listening all afternoon.

*Maggie Ross/Tower Captain*



## **Sunday Afternoon Recitals**

**at 3.00pm**

**(Free with Retiring Collection)**

**April 10<sup>th</sup> Stainer's *Crucifixion***

St Michael's Choir presents Stainer's *Meditation on the Sacred Passion of the Holy Redeemer*

**May 8<sup>th</sup> Violin and Piano Recital**

***Philippa Mo (violin) Matthew Schellhorn (piano)***

To include Elgar's *Sonata in E minor* and *Salut d'amour*

**June 12<sup>th</sup> Matthew Schellhorn (piano)**

Works to include Paul Spencer, Martin Bussey, Howells, Chopin and Rachmaninov

**July 17<sup>th</sup> Jazz on the Vicarage Garden**

Join us for this popular annual event in the beautiful setting of the Vicarage garden

**Tickets: £10 (on the gate)**

We were very disappointed that the inaugural recital on the new piano, from renowned pianist Lara Melda, (**BBC Young Musician of the Year 2010**) on Sunday March 13<sup>th</sup> had to be cancelled because Lara tested positive for Covid.

We wish her a speedy recovery, and are delighted that the performance has been rearranged for **Sunday 9 October at 3 p.m.**

## CONTACT LIST

**The Vicar:** Ainsley Swift 633113  
**Curate:** Kevin Colyer 07967 105273  
[RevKevinColyer@gmail.com](mailto:RevKevinColyer@gmail.com)

**For general enquiries (Christenings, Weddings etc) in the first instance please contact our Parish Administrator, Richard Severn: 01628 633113 [stmichaelsbray@gmail.com](mailto:stmichaelsbray@gmail.com)"**

### **The Churchwardens:**

Helen Pearson 639648

### **Deputy Churchwardens:**

Jim Tucker 673685

Penny Murray 623041

### **Sacristan & Lay Funeral Minister:**

Lynda Jones 635178

**Verger:** Audrey Ashby 629868

### **Parochial Church Council:**

#### **Hon Secretary:**

Katrin Brunning: [katrin.brunning@btinternet.com](mailto:katrin.brunning@btinternet.com)

#### **Hon Treasurer:**

Richard Severn [richarddb7@outlook.com](mailto:richarddb7@outlook.com)

### **Planned Giving & Gift Aid Sec:**

Tony Ellison 622090

### **Electoral Roll Officer:**

Penny Murray

### **Director of Music:**

Oliver Gooch

### **Assistant Director of Music:**

Lindsay Bramley

### **Assistant Organist:**

Lesley Burch 629979

### **Sunday School:**

Natasha Teeder 674469

### **Bellringers:**

*Tower Captain:*

Maggie Ross [maggieross@live.co.uk](mailto:maggieross@live.co.uk) 07450 944585

### **Friends of St. Michael's**

Lynda Jones 635178

**Church Flowers:** Maggie Jans 635732

### **Holyport School Headteacher:**

Mrs Amanda Featherstone 627743

### **Braywood School Headteacher:**

Mrs Susan Calvert 623660