

April 2026 50p

Parish News

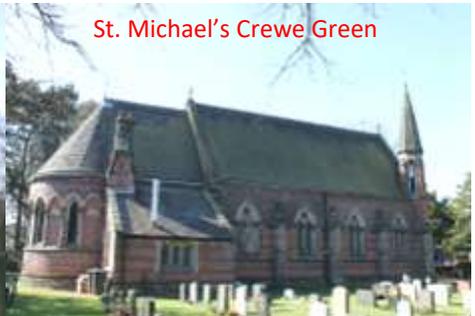
Church and Community News for Haslington and Crewe Green



St. Matthew's Haslington



St. Michael's Crewe Green



Church Leadership

Vicar:

Rev. Dr. Jane Lloyd

 **Mob:**

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Lay Readers:

Linda Clarke

07752050003

Anne Thompson

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Church website:

www.hcganglican.org

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/haslingtonandcrewegreen/

St. Matthew Haslington

Church Wardens:

Alan Wheeler

501450

Colin Booth

696000

Hon. Secretary PCC:

Jane McCombie

581769

Hon. Treasurer PCC:

Chris Betts

589324

Vergar

Arleine Bloor

216548

St. Michael and All Angels Crewe Green

Church Wardens:

Hon. Secretary PCC:

Helen Ledward

07707948005

Hon. Treasurer PCC:

Thelma Malabar

07940039010

Vergar

Linda Clarke

07752050003



Pastoral Letter

The Heart of the Resurrection: Why the Empty Tomb Matters

Easter can feel familiar because we know the story so very well. The stone rolled away. The angel's announcement. The women running from the tomb. And yet the heart of it still startling: the tomb was empty.

Christian faith does not begin with an idea, or even with a teaching. It begins with an event. On the third day after Jesus' crucifixion, his followers found the place where he had been laid was empty. It was bewildering, disruptive, world-altering news.

The resurrection is not simply the happy ending after Good Friday. It is God's decisive act — God's declaration that sin, death and evil do not have the final word. On the cross, Jesus bears the weight of human brokenness and sin. In the resurrection, God vindicates Jesus. Love is not defeated. Sacrifice is not wasted. Forgiveness is not foolish.

If Christ is not raised, St Paul says, our faith is futile. That may sound stark, but it shows how central this is. The resurrection is not an optional extra. It is the foundation. It means that death is not the end. It means that despair does not get the last word. It means that what God began in Jesus, God will complete. And yet Easter is not only about life after death. It is about life before death too. The risen Jesus comes to frightened disciples and speaks peace. He breathes on them. He sends them out. Resurrection life is not simply future hope; it is present transformation.

The empty tomb tells us that God is still at work in places that look sealed and hopeless. It tells us that what appears finished may not be finished at all. It tells us that love is stronger than evil, that life stronger than death.

Easter invites us not just to admire the story, but to step into it. To trust that the risen Jesus is alive now. To allow him to speak peace into our anxieties. To believe that new life is possible — not because we are strong, but because Jesus is risen. Alleluia. Christ is risen. He is risen indeed.

With every blessing

Vicar Jane



St. Matthew's PCC

PCC Members— Rev Jane(Chair), Alan Wheeler (Warden) Colin Booth (Warden) ,Jane McCombie (Secretary) Arleine Bloor, Roger Pearce, Barbara Harris, , Viv Grunner, Anna Betts, Steve Grunner, Celia Booth, Shelagh Haukinson

Our next PCC meeting will be held on Thursday 22nd May at 10 am at the home of Jane McCombie

Our APCM is on Sunday 12th April Following the morning service.

Church Hall cleaning and maintenance

The next hall cleaning is on Friday 10th April, starting at 9:00am. New volunteers welcome.

Anna Betts



Parish email address

Please note that a parish email account has been set up for emails of a parish nature could you please use this address. hcganglican@gmail.com

Church website:

The church website is now updated with all services and activities on a regular basis, see www.hcganglican.org. if you would like anything advertised for church activities on the site please contact Chris Betts. chris_betts_@hotmail.com

Church Diary April 2026

Holy Week

Wednesday	1 st	10:45 am	Holy Communion (BCP) at St Matthew's Church
Thursday	2 nd	4:00pm	Service of the Word for Maundy Thursday at St Matthew's Church
		7:00pm	Last Supper and Stripping of the Altar at Christ Church
Friday	3 rd	10.00 am	An Hour at the Cross at St Matthew's, Haslington
		2.00 pm	An Hour at the Cross at Christ Church, Wheelock
		6:30pm	Service of Shadows at Christ Church

Sunday 5th Easter^d Sunday

		9:30 am	Holy Communion at St Matthew's Church
		10.30am	Holy Communion at Christ Church
		11.00 am	Holy Communion at St Michael & All Angels.
Wednesday	8 th	10:45 am	Holy Communion (BCP) at St Matthew's Church

Sunday 12th 2rd Sunday of Easter

		9:30 am	Holy Communion at St Matthew's Church
		10:45 am	Service of Morning prayer at Christ Church
		11.00 am	Holy Communion at St Michael's Church
Wednesday	14 th	10:45 am	Holy Communion (BCP) at St Matthew's Church

Sunday 19th 3th Sunday of Easter

		9.30 am	Service of Morning Prayer at St Matthew's Church
		10.45 am	Holy Communion at Christ Church
		11.00 am	Service of Morning Prayer at St Michael & All Angels.
Wednesday	22 nd	10:45 am	Holy Communion (BCP) at St Matthew's Church

Sunday 26th 4th Sunday of Easter

		9.30 am	Holy Communion at St Matthew's Church
		10.45 am	Service of Morning Prayer at Christ Church
		11.00 am	Holy communion at St Michael & All Angels
		4.30 pm	Service of Evening Prayer at Christ Church
Wednesday	29 th	10:45 am	Holy Communion (BCP) at St Matthew's Church



Haslington Women's Institute

Our March meeting was a very social affair. We had a game of bingo (great fun) and then time to catch up with friends.

The dining club went to The Wilbraham Arms in Alsager. Newly refurbished. The food was very good, as was the company of our ladies.

We now have dates in place for the pottery painting session, and for The Mercia Link meeting at The Cosey.

In March the book club have been reading "There's Been a Murder"

Several ladies have also started going to Crewe Odeon on a Tuesday, "Called Silvers" Need to be over 60 to watch a film for £2.00, which includes tea/coffee and a biscuit.

The WI meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7.30 at The Cosey Club. All Welcome.

Janet Dake.....haslingtonwi



St. Matthew's Social Committee

St Matthew's Social Committee

Our next coffee morning is on Friday 24th April in the church hall, between 10:00am and 12.00 noon. Everyone is welcome to join us for a morning of friendship and fellowship.

St Matthew's Easter afternoon tea is on Saturday 4th April, starting at 2.30pm, the cost is £12:00. The Easter draw will take place during the afternoon.



Date for your diary,
Saturday 27th June A wine and cheese evening

Our March meeting met at Viv's home. We started with prayers and notices. Viv then took us through the history of our country's canal system and the role of the chaplains that patrol our canals today. Their role is to assist the boaters in any way they can. We concluded with the usual tea and delicious cake.

Our next gathering will be our Easter meeting centred on the Flowers of Spring on Wednesday 15th April, at the home of Jane McCombie

We are always glad to welcome visitors if you would like to come along. Or if you would like more information about the work of the Mothers' Union worldwide, please contact me or any of the members.

Jane McCombie
Branch Leader



The stone lies rolled, the grave stands bare,
yet fragrance lingers in the air—
a whisper through the olive leaves,
"The Lord is risen; death now grieves."
The sky, once veiled in sorrow's hue,
breaks open with a trembling blue;
and every bird, in holy flight,
proclaims the triumph of the Light.
The nails, the thorns, the shadowed hill
are silenced by the Father's will;
the Lamb who bore the world's despair
now breathes eternal mercy there.
O risen Christ, our hearts awake,
our chains fall loose, our spirits quake;
till every tongue and soul shall sing—
You live, O everlasting King!





St. Matthew's Church Hall

if you require any information please contact any of the below.
Church Hall Bookings for Parties etc. Please See following
<https://www.hcganglican.org/calandar> .

Young People

Cubs	Tuesday	17:45 – 19:15	Katrina Fearn email: crewegreenscouts@hotmail.co.uk
Scouts	Monday	19:30 – 21:00	Verity Ashcroft / Jamie Davies email: crewegreenscouts@hotmail.co.uk

Health/Wellbeing/Hobbies

Cameo Our Cameo Group, a luncheon club for the bereaved and anyone else who, through circumstances, finds themselves alone. On the 3rd Thursday of the month at 1:00 in St. Matthew's Church Hall. We welcome anyone from anywhere.

Contact Viv Grunner (501538) for further information.

Mothers Union Meet on a Wednesday please Speak to Jane McCombie (581769)

Coffee Mornings Friday Morning Coffee Mornings are held in St. Matthews Church Hall 10:00 –12:00 on the 4th Friday of the month.

Gardening Club Meet on the 1st Thursday of the month 19:30 – 21:00

Pre School Dance`
Thursday 10:45—11:45
Friday 10:45—11:45

Prayer Breakfast 4th Saturday every 2 months at 10:00am

Café Church / Open table 2nd Sunday in the month at 4:00pm



Simnel Muffins

Ingredients

250g mixed dried fruit
grated zest and juice 1 medium orange
175g softened butter
175g golden caster sugar
3 eggs
300g self-raising flour
1 tsp mixed spice
½ tsp freshly grated nutmeg
5 tbsp milk
175g marzipan
200g icing sugar
2 tbsp orange juice
mini eggs



Method

Tip the fruit into a bowl, add the zest and juice and microwave on medium for 2 minutes (or leave to soak for 1 hour). Line 12 deep muffin tins with paper muffin cases.

Preheat the oven to fan 180C/ 160C/gas 4. Beat together the butter, sugar, eggs, flour, spices and milk until light and fluffy (about 3-5 minutes) – use a wooden spoon or hand held mixer. Stir the fruit in well.

Half fill the muffin cases with the mixture. Divide the marzipan into 12 equal pieces, roll into balls, then flatten with your thumb to the size of the muffin cases. Put one into each muffin case and spoon the rest of the mixture over it. Bake for 25-30 minutes, until risen, golden and firm to the touch. Leave to cool.

Beat together the icing sugar and orange juice to make icing thick enough to coat the back of a wooden spoon. Drizzle over the muffins and top with a cluster of eggs. Leave to set.



Church Rotas
For St. Matthew's



**St. Matthew's
Reading Rota**

05/04/2026	Colin Booth
12/04/2026	John McCombie
19/04/2026	Alan Wheeler
26/04/2026	Doris Farrell
03/05/2026	Jane Peach

**St. Matthew's
Intercession Rota**

05/04/2026	Pat Hills
12/04/2026	Rev Jane
19/04/2026	Arleine Bloor
26/04/2026	Alan Wheeler
03/05/2026	Tba

**St. Matthew's
Eucharist Server Rota**

05/04/2026	Roger Pearce
12/04/2026	Tom Llyod
19/04/2026	_
26/04/2026	Arleine Bloor
03/05/2026	Tba

**St. Matthew's
Sides-person Rota**

05/04/2026	Anna & Chris B
12/04/2026	Jean C & tba
19/04/2026	Viv & Steve G
26/04/2026	Anna & Chris B
03/05/2026	Tba

**St. Matthew's
Flower Rota**

05/04/2026	Easter Flowers
12/04/2026	----"----
19/04/2026	----"----
26/04/2026	Ann Faulkner
03/05/2026	----"----

**St. Matthew's
Church Locking up**

05/04/2026	Roger Pearce
12/04/2026	Colin Booth
19/04/2026	Arleine Bloor
26/04/2026	Vicar Jane
03/05/2026	John Brassington

April Sudoku

		9	8		3			
	5			7		1		
2		4	5	6	9	8		
5	2	7				9		4
				4				
3		8				5	7	1
		5	1	3	7	2		9
		1		2			5	
			6		4	7		

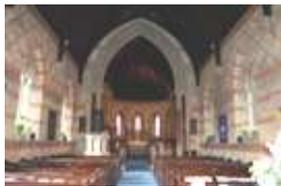
Easy

		5	2			3	7		
6							9		
			1	2			5		4
4						6		5	1
		9			5			2	
2	6			1					7
8		7				2	3		
			9						5
			6	3			2	8	

Medium

7		6						
			8	9				
	5		6		3			1
	4	3				8	9	
5			7		9			6
	6	7				2	3	
3			2		1		8	
				4	7			
						1		4

Hard



St. Michael's PCC

P.C.C. Members: Rev Jane(Chair), Helen Ledward (Secretary, Deanery Rep), Thelma Malabar (Treasurer) Linda Clarke (Deanery Rep), Nancy Kay, Ron Taylor, Anne Thompson, Jeanette Allman, Barrie Blood, Margaret Hepburn,

Notes From The PCC Meeting will now be posted at the back of church.

St. Michael's next PCC meeting will be held on Thursday 12th March at 2.30 pm in Church.

The APCM will be on Sunday 26th April after the 11:00am morning service.

St. Michael's next PCC meeting will be held on Wednesday 6th May at 2.30 pm in church



St. Michael's Social Committee

Many thanks to all who supported our Brunch Coffee Morning on Saturday 14th March which was a lovely social occasion for all who came, and enjoyed especially by the 6 lovely dogs who joined us !



ST MICHAEL'S EASTER EGG HUNT, CRAFTS AND EASTER STORY

SATURDAY 4TH APRIL 2.00 - 4.00 PM

PLEASE ARRIVE BY 2.00 PM TO AVOID MISSING THE EGG HUNT !

GREAT AFTERNOON OF FAMILY FUN WITH REFRESHMENT.....

AND OF COURSE THERE WILL BE CHOCOLATE !



Church Rotas
For *St. Michael's*



**St. Michael's
Prayer Rota**

05/04/2026	Ron
12/04/2026	Linda
19/04/2026	Anne
26/04/2026	Helen
03/05/2026	Ron

**St. Michael's
Reading Rota**

05/04/2026	Ron
12/04/2026	Linda
19/04/2026	Anne
26/04/2026	Helen
03/05/2026	Ron

**St. Michael's
Cleaning Rota**

04/04/2026	Ron & Irene
11/04/2026	Linda
18/04/2026	Helen
25/04/2026	Anne
02/05/2026	Ron & Irene

**St. Michael's
Coffee Rota**

05/04/2026	Ron & Irene
12/04/2026	Helen
19/04/2026	Barrie/Janette
26/04/2026	Linda
03/05/2026	Ron & Irene

**St. Michael's
Sides-person Rota**

05/04/2026	Helen
12/04/2026	Barrie
19/04/2026	Helen
26/04/2026	Margaret
03/05/2026	Helen

March Sudoku Solutions

Easy

8	5	7	6	3	4	2	1	9
3	2	1	9	8	7	4	5	6
6	4	9	5	2	1	7	3	8
2	3	8	1	7	9	6	4	5
7	1	4	8	6	5	3	9	2
9	6	5	2	4	3	1	8	7
1	7	6	3	9	8	5	2	4
4	8	3	7	5	2	9	6	1
5	9	2	4	1	6	8	7	3

Medium

3	8	4	2	1	6	7	9	5
2	6	9	7	8	5	3	4	1
1	7	5	9	3	4	8	6	2
9	3	2	1	4	8	6	5	7
7	5	1	3	6	2	9	8	4
8	4	6	5	7	9	1	2	3
6	1	8	4	5	7	2	3	9
5	2	7	6	9	3	4	1	8
4	9	3	8	2	1	5	7	6

Hard

4	9	5	3	2	6	7	1	8
2	8	7	9	1	5	6	3	4
1	6	3	4	8	7	5	9	2
3	4	6	1	9	2	8	7	5
8	2	9	5	7	4	1	6	3
5	7	1	6	3	8	4	2	9
6	1	2	8	5	9	3	4	7
7	3	8	2	4	1	9	5	6
9	5	4	7	6	3	2	8	1



Prayer Subjects

Easter Prayers

Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Resurrection

Lord Jesus,

On this glorious Easter morning, we rejoice in Your victory over death.

Thank You for the empty tomb that proclaims hope,

for the cross that speaks of love,

and for the promise that we, too, will rise with You.

May our lives reflect the joy of Your resurrection today and always.

Amen.

Prayer for Renewal and New Life

Heavenly Father,

As the stone was rolled away, roll away the burdens from our hearts.

Let the light of Christ shine into every shadow of our lives.

Renew our faith, refresh our spirit,

and help us walk in the power of the risen Lord.

Amen.



Prayer for the World

Risen Savior,

You conquered sin and death for all creation.

Bring peace to nations in conflict, comfort to the grieving,

and hope to the hopeless.

Let Your resurrection power transform hearts and heal the world.

Amen.

In Memoriam

Burial of Ashes of Margaret Stubbs 4th March, Christ Church.

Burial of Ashes of Judith Jodrell 6th March, Christ Church.



Around The Community

Dates for your Diary

Following a meeting of the Social Committee, Please see list below our programme for 2026,

Saturday 4th April An Easter afternoon tea

We don't know the date for village day, but we hope to have a (weather permitting) book stall.

Saturday 27th June A wine and cheese evening.

Saturday 18th July A strawberry tea

Saturday 15th August A walk and lunch

Saturday 12th September A concert by The Strings and Sunshine Community Ukulele Band

Sunday 4th October A bring and share Harvest Lunch

Saturday 17th October Prize Bingo

Saturday 7th November The Autumn fair and lunch

Saturday 5th December Soup and carols

Saturday 23rd January 2027 Beetle drive and fish and chips tea

We hope that we will have lots of support at these events.

St. Matthew's Social Committee

Quiz Night Thanks.

The Quiz Night held on 14th March was very well attended with 10 Teams taking part. The winning team were 'The Boomers', and the team taking the 'Booby Prize' were 'Green Energy'. We hope everybody enjoyed themselves. Thank you to everyone who supported the event, which raised an amazing **£528.10**.

Thank you to all who bought a Raffle Ticket on the night, sold tickets and folded them, and those who donated us a prize for the Raffle. Thanks again to Chris Betts for printing the Answer Sheets, and doing the Score Table. Thank you to Pat H. and Arleine for marking the answer sheets.

Thank you to Anna for sending out the Invitations and dealing with the replies. Thanks to all who helped set the Buffet Food up, and worked in the kitchen on the night. Finally thank you to my Chris, Mark and Katie for helping to set the questions.

Alan, Chris and Anna.



Around The Community



Village Hall Week celebration

Thank you to all who came to St Matthews Church Hall on the 20th March for tea and cakes and to look at the future plans for the convenience area in the porch. We raised £100, to the Refurbishment fund.

The team and I say, many thanks
Viv and Fund-Raising team



I've Got Mail.



I'm looking through a large pile of mail,
Trying to find something cheerful, to no avail.
A Bank Letter says the Interest Rates down,
Next a Parking Fine leaves me with a frown.

Charity begging letters come often without pause,
Each and every one a good and worthy cause;
And adverts for unwanted goods galore,
Just keep coming through my door.



For everything you could want or not,
Through the letterbox they continually drop.
For Broadband, Furniture or a Mobile Phone,
A Credit Card, or a luxury new Mobile Home.

Then come details of a Lottery I can play,
With lots of Cash Prizes, Cars, or even a Holiday.
These are all the spectacular things I can win,
But these I'm afraid go straight in the bin.



Then a type written letter, just for me,
Gets me interested, oh what can it be?
I rip it open, excitement hard to contain,
To find my Dentist's Appointment's cancelled again.



I skip over the Bank Statement and Gas Bill,
Beginning to lose hope, that's until,
There it is, right at the bottom of the pile,
A hand written Invitation that makes me smile.



Christine Wheeler. March 2026.

Maundy Thursday is the Christian holy day falling on the Thursday before Easter. It commemorates the Maundy and Last Supper of Jesus Christ with the Apostles, and the distribution of alms and the washing of the feet on the Thursday of Holy Week are an ancient tradition.

The Royal Maundy can be traced back in England to the 13th century, with the first recorded Royal Distribution at Knaresborough, North Yorkshire by King John in 1210. From the 15th century, the number of recipients has been related to the years of the Sovereign's life.

The King and Queen will attend the Royal Maundy Service at St Asaph Cathedral, on Thursday 2 April, the first time the occasion has been held in North Wales, and only the second time ever in Wales, in its 800-year history.

During the service, The King will present the Royal Maundy gifts to approximately 77 men and 77 women mainly from Wales but also from dioceses across the UK. The Maundy Money is a symbolic gift given in recognition of recipients' outstanding Christian service and for making a difference to the lives of people in their local communities. His Majesty will present recipients with two purses containing the unique Maundy Money. In the white purse will be a set of specially minted silver Maundy coins totalling 77 pennies, to match The King's age, and in the Red Purse will be a £5 coin commemorating 100 years since Queen Elizabeth II's birth, and a 50p coin that celebrates the 50th anniversary of The King's Trust.

The Kings Maundy Coins



April Quick View Diary

Wednesday	1 st	2:00pm	Bingo at 65 Club
Thursday	2 nd	7:30pm	Gardening Club in St. Matthew's church hall
Sunday	5th	Easter Sunday	
Tuesday	7 th	2:00pm	Walking For Health meet Waterloo Rd Car Park
Wednesday	8 th	2:00pm	Bingo at 65 Club
Friday	3rd	9:00am	Church Hall Cleaning party
Sunday	12th	2nd Sunday Easter	
Tuesday	14 th	2:00pm	Walking For Health meet Waterloo Rd Car Park
		7:30pm	Haslington WI meet at the Cosy Club
Wednesday	15 th	2:00pm	Bingo at 65 Club
			MU Flowers of Spring at the home of J McCombie
Thursday	23 rd	1:00pm	CAMEO in St. Matthew's church hall
Sunday	19th	3rd Sunday of Easter	
Tuesday	21 st	2:00pm	Walking For Health meet Waterloo Rd Car Park
Wednesday	22 nd	2:00pm	Bingo at 65 Club
			MU
Thursday	23 rd	1:00pm	CAMEO in St. Matthew's church hall
Friday	24 th	10:00am	Coffee Morning at St. Matthew's church hall
Sunday	26th	4th Sunday of Easter	
Tuesday	28 th	2:00pm	Walking For Health meet Waterloo Rd Car Park
Wednesday	29 th	2:00pm	Bingo at 65 Club



Please use the following

QR Code

To Make a Donation



Parish News Deadline for the **May** edition is **Wednesday 23rd April**

Chris Betts, 3 Park Rd. Haslington Tel: 589324 Email: chris_betts_@hotmail.com