

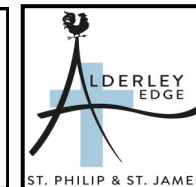
## Calendar for APRIL 2025

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Service</u>
<u>Sunday 6th April</u>	8am	Holy Communion
	10am	Choral Eucharist
	11.45am	Pipnjay
	6.30pm	Taize Service in Church
<u>Sunday 13th April</u> <b><i>Palm Sunday</i></b>	8am	Holy Communion
	10am	Family Communion
	6.30pm	Prayer Service on Zoom
<u>Sunday 20th April</u> <b><i>Easter Sunday</i></b>	8am	Holy Communion
	10am	Choral Eucharist
	6.30pm	No Evening Service
<u>Sunday 27th April</u>	8am	Holy Communion
	10am	Choral Eucharist
	6.30pm	Prayer Service on Zoom
<u>Every Wednesday</u>	11.30am	<i>Warm Wednesday</i>

*Please see website for details of our future services*  
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### St Philip & St James Parish Church, Alderley Edge APRIL 2025 NEWS SHEET



*Dear Friends,*

As a church, we are closely involved through our Foodbank and through the St Elizabeth fund in supporting people who are struggling financially and are, to a greater or lesser extent, dependent on welfare payments. So, the news that the government is planning to cut the welfare budget is rather worrying. We know people who will be directly impacted.

This news has been surrounded by talk about the recent significant increases in the numbers of people who receive PIP payments because of disabilities they have. A significant number of these disabilities relate to poor mental health and a significant number of people now claiming these benefits are young people. It seems that following the covid pandemic we are now seeing a pandemic of poor mental health amongst young people and that our country is leading other economically advanced nations in the number of young people who have poor mental health.

People tell me that our mental health services are in a sorry state. I know from my own experience that vocational training for young people was severely impacted by the years of austerity following the 2008 crash. Maybe these savings have turned out to be a false economy for us as a nation. When we think about young people with poor mental health, us older folks know that we must show understanding and compassion, but the sneaking suspicion that maybe the youngsters need to be told to pull their socks up is never far away; always there for when our patience runs out.

I wonder what a community that is good at looking after the mental health of young people might look like? And I wonder what part a church might play in helping a community develop skills like this? If this is a conversation you would like to be part of, why not send me an email? [revrobinpye@gmail.com](mailto:revrobinpye@gmail.com)

*Yours, Robin*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Mothering Sunday—30th March**

We are holding a special family service at 10am to celebrate Mothering Sunday with lots of opportunities for children to be involved.

### **Palm Sunday—13th April**

Meet in the park at 9.45am to be part of the palm waving donkey led procession as we make our way to church for a family friendly service.

### **Maundy Thursday—17th April**

Holy Communion with foot washing and stripping the altar at 7.30pm.

### **Good Friday—18th April**

The Walk of Witness starts at the Methodist church at 10.30am. We walk through the village to finish our service at St Philip & St James. Join us at the Methodist church or just show support as we walk down the High Street. We will be joined by Bishop Mark, the Bishop of Chester.

Stations of the Cross is at 2pm.

### **Wilmslow Passion Play—19th April**

A public dramatization of the passion of Christ will make its way through Wilmslow Town Centre starting outside Sainsbury's at 1pm. They are looking for local actors to help out. Email the vicar if you are interested. The Easter Vigil at St Philip & St James will be at 7.30pm that evening.

### **Easter Sunday—20th April**

Easter is late so dawn is early so Sunrise will be at Castle Rock at 5.30am! Followed by bacon butties at the Methodist church. St Philip & St James has services at 8am and 10am on Easter day.

### **Meditation**

Our meditation sessions will run on the following dates in April.

Tuesday's 9.00-9.30am on *1st, 8th, 15th and 29th April*

Thursday 8.00-8.30am on *3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th April*

So there will be no meditation session on 22nd April.

### **Taize**

Our Taize service will be held on 6th April at 6.30pm. A Taize service involves sung and chanted prayers, meditation during a period of silence, and readings from scripture. There is no preaching and the prayers consist of short repeated chants. This is a popular service at our church and provides an opportunity to be in God's presence in a contemplative and meditative environment.

### **Café Church**

Our weekly café church continues to be well attended at Lily & Rosie's Café on Wood Gardens. We meet every Thursday at 10.30am for half an hour where we read a passage from the Bible, have a short discussion and pray. Some people go straight away and some people stop for a chat afterwards. Some people who come have a clear Christian faith. Others are curious and open-minded. All are welcome.

### **ST PHILIP & ST JAMES MINISTRATIONS MARCH**

**FUNERALS:** *31st Helen-Klaire Binder*

**BAPTISMS:** *9th Teddy Reimann-Jones, 23rd Saint Stratton*