

Across the Downs

Church News Sheet for the Downs Parishes of
Chilbolton, Crawley, Littleton, Sparsholt and Wherwell
Rector: Revd Kevin Rogers 01962 880845

Sundays 12th January 2025



Services for Sunday 12th January 2025

The Baptism of Christ

10.00 am (Li) Family Communion

10.00 am (Wh) Morning Prayer



Services for Sunday 19th January 2025

Second Sunday of Epiphany

8.00 am (Sp) Holy Communion (BCP)

10.00 am (Ch) Holy Communion

10.00 am (Cr) Morning Worship

6.00 pm (Li) Benefice Service of Peace and Wholeness



Prayer for the Week – *The Baptism of Christ*

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus revealed him to be your Son, anointing him with the Holy Spirit: grant to us, who are born again by water and the Spirit, that we may be faithful to our calling as your adopted children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings:

Isaiah 43: 1-7

Acts 8: 14-17

Luke 3: 15-17; 21-22

Psalm 29

DIARY

Monday 13th January

10.00–11.30am (Li) St Catherine's Toddler Group. *Contact Carol Coleman, 01962 881886*

2.30 – 4.30 pm (Sp) Bellringers Guild practice and quarter peal

Tuesday 14th January

Wednesday 15th January

Thursday 16th January

2.15 pm (Li) Prayers for those on the Benefice Prayer List, in the Church Room

Friday 17th January

4.00 pm (Li) Julian of Norwich Meditation Meeting – new members always welcome. *Contact Sheila Trussler, 01962 881089*

Saturday 18th January

The Vine Trust Bookshop – Volunteers needed

The Vine Trust is an independent Christian charity that runs a bookshop on Bridge Street Andover. We are currently looking for more volunteers to help run the store, we especially need help on Wednesday afternoons and Saturdays.

We operate two shifts per day (10 am to 1 pm and 1pm to 4pm Tuesday to Friday and 9:30am to 12 noon and 12 noon to 2:30pm on Saturday). We have two volunteers helping in each shift. All our volunteers get full training on working at the shop.

If you are interested in joining us, you can collect an application form from the shop or we can send you one electronically (email: vinetrustandover@gmail.com).

Tea at Three, Winchester Cathedral

3.00 pm, 20th January

You are warmly invited to join our monthly gatherings in the Undercroft Building, especially for older people and those living alone, for tea, cake and companionship. No booking required.

Service of Peace and Wholeness – Reminder

The contemplative service of Peace and Wholeness held at St Catherine's, Littleton at 6.00 pm on the 3rd Sunday of the month is restarting this month. The first of these services will be on **Sunday 19th January**.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

Saturday 18th January – Saturday 25th January

Each year, in January the church sets aside a week for Christians from local churches to come together to pray for Christian Unity. As this year sees 1700 years since the council of Nicaea it seems timely to remember that many of our services have at their heart, the Nicene Creed. Reflecting this, the scripture readings for the Week of Prayer this year focus on belief.

We are invited to reflect on the story of Martha's confession of faith in Jesus as narrated in John 11: 17-27. Each of us is called to sit with Jesus' provocative question to Martha: "Do you believe this?"

<http://www.ctbi.org.uk/weekofprayer>

Church Times Festival of Faith and Literature

28 February – 2 March 2025

Come along to this festival to be encouraged in how a love of literature relates to our faith. This year it takes place entirely at Winchester Cathedral – an inspiring location for a literature festival, especially during the year we're marking the 250th birthday of Jane Austen.

Hear from inspiring speakers including Diarmid McCulloch, Stephen Cottrell, Rachel Mann, Edward Stourton, Malcolm Guite, Chine McDonald, Cathy Rentzenbrink and Francis Spufford.

See <https://faithandliterature.hymnsam.co.uk> to see the programme and book tickets.

Boaz Wild West Barn Dance

Saturday 8th February, Littleton Memorial Hall

Featuring the fabulous 'Fiddler on the Hoof' live band, great hot food, fancy dress with a 'Wild West' theme, free parking on site and bring your own booze.

6.30 pm - Food on arrival; 9.30 pm - Leave happy!

www.boazproject.co.uk

Christian Aid Week (CAW)

Ann and David Naylor have been organising Christian Aid week at St Catherine's for the past 22 years. At 90 and 87 this year they have decided to retire and hope to pass the job onto someone else. They have had the satisfaction of raising in the region of £30,000 for the poor and needy and would like to pass on this task to someone else.

In the past when house to house collections were allowed the task was no small undertaking. Now the task simply involves ordering envelopes, distributing them to the congregation on the first Sunday of Christian Aid Week (CAW) and collecting them on the last Sunday.

Please contact Ann and David on 882232 to grasp this wonderful opportunity!

Ann and David Naylor

Trinity Winchester Big Sleep Out 2025

Friday 19th May

Registrations are opening this month for the 2025 Big Sleep Out, a major fundraising event for Trinity Winchester, raising awareness as well as much needed funds for helping with homelessness.

Andover Food Bank

The Andover foodbank would like to thank everyone who has donated to us in recent weeks. We are, as always, incredibly grateful. These donations will help us to continue to support those in need in our local community.

Please find listed below the food and non-food items that are currently needed:-
Tinned Meat, Tinned Veg, Longlife Milk, Rice Pudding, Jam, Coffee,
Cleaning Spray, Laundry Pods

Thank you from The Beacon, Winchester

Thank you to everyone who showed kindness and generosity to our residents this Christmas. Thanks to your support, each of our 22 residents had a gift to open on Christmas Day and a Christmas lunch cooked and served by staff and volunteers.

Please send all items for Across the Downs to Carol Ward: email carol.ward@daleclose.co.uk, or telephone 01962 883185, by 12.00 noon Thursday at the latest. **If you would like to receive future editions of the newsletter by email, please contact me on the above address.** Thank you.