Across the Downs

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

Sunday 1st November 2026

Services for Sunday 1st November

All Saints' Day

10.00 am	Holy Communion with REME in Chilbolton
10.00 am	All Saints' Service in Crawley
4.00 pm	All Saints' Service in Littleton
6.00 pm	All Saints' Service in Sparsholt

Services for Sunday 8th November

Remembrance Sunday

10.50 am	Remembrance Service, in Chilbolton church
10.55 am	Remembrance service, at the War Memorial in Crawley
10.55 am	Remembrance service, at the War Memorial in Sparsholt, moving to the church
4.00 pm	Bubble Church, in Chilbolton

Prayer for the Week – *All Saints' Day*

Almighty God, you have knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: grant us grace so to follow your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that we may come to those inexpressible joys that you have prepared for those who truly love you; 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: Revelation 7: 9-end 1 John 3: 1-3
Matthew 5: 1-12 Psalm 34: 1-10

DIARY

Monday 2nd November

10.00–11.30 am	St Catherine's Toddler Group in the Church Room. *Contact Carol Coleman, 01962 881886*

Tuesday 3rd November

2.30 pm	Parish Safeguarding Officers' meeting, in the Rectory
3.00 pm (Sp)	Interment of Ashes – Margaret Seed
7.30 pm	Littleton house group. *Contact Carol Coleman, 01962 881886*

Wednesday 4th November

2.00 pm	Wherwell Prayer Meeting – *Dancing Ledge*

Thursday 5th November

9.30 am	Chilbolton Morning Home Group. *Contact Charlotte Nash, 01264 860831*
2.15 pm	Prayers for those on the Benefice Prayer List, in Littleton Church Room *(please note change of time)*

Friday 6th November

12.30 pm (Li)	Littleton Lunch Club, in the Church Room

Benefice Service of Peace and Wholeness

Please note the change to winter timing from **Sunday November 15th**. The service will move to 3.00 pm, still in St Catherine's Church, Littleton.

St Catherine's Patronal Festival

Our Patronal Festival is on **Sunday, 22nd November**. The service starts at 11.15 am and is followed by a 'Bring and Share' lunch in the Church Room. This is a wonderful opportunity to invite friends and the community to join us in celebrating all aspects of our church life at St Catherine's and within the benefice. It would help us with catering if you could let us know that you are coming and whether you are bringing a plate of savoury or sweet food to share. Please email or telephone Carol Ward (carol.ward@daleclose.co.uk; 01962 883185)

This year we are hoping to put together an exhibition of photographs taken in or by St Catherine's church over the decades. Do you have snaps of church or mission events over the years? Please contact Kate, our Anna Chaplain by email to annachaplain@downsbenefice.org.uk or drop them into the benefice office.

Remembrance Sunday Services

Sunday 8th November

This year there will be no Drumhead Service at Sir John Moore Barracks in Littleton, as the base has now closed. All are invited to attend one of the other services within the Benefice on Remembrance Sunday:

10.50 am in **Chilbolton**

10.55 am at the War Memorial in **Crawley** (or in the village hall if wet)

10.55 am at the War Memorial in **Sparsholt**, moving on into the Church

There will also be a short Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial in Littleton churchyard at 10.55am on Wednesday 11th November.

Both Sparsholt and Wherwell will also be holding Acts of Remembrance (with the respective schools) at their War Memorials at 10.50am on 11th November.

Christmas Tree Festival, Chilbolton

Saturday 5th - Sunday 6th December

Village organisations and individual families are invited to take part in our 2nd Christmas Tree Festival. The theme this year is "Christmas Carols". Choose a Carol and decorate your tree in any way you wish. As before, please limit the size of your tree to no more than 60cm. Please let me know if you would like to take part and I will send you further details, Jenny Seddon, Pj_seddon@hotmail.co.uk 01264 861164

Help sought - I am looking for volunteers from the church community to help in different ways. I need people to be in the church to welcome visitors etc. There is a rota with hourly slots for both days. I also require cakes (various) to serve to people attending this event. Please contact me on 01264 861164 or 07305 622243 if you can help in any way. Thank you, Jenny Seddon

Parish Magazine Deadline

A reminder that copy for the December and January edition of the Crawley, Littleton and Sparsholt Parish Magazine should be submitted by **12 noon, Friday 6th November** at the latest. Details of where to send your article or information can be found at the back of the current magazine.

Charity Gift Fair,

Sat 21 November, 10.30 - 16.30 hrs, Crawley Village Hall

The ever popular Charity Gift Fair will be back this November and once again the Village Hall will be packed with beautiful handmade artisan crafts, art work and arty gifts, cards, home produce and more. If you've time, you could even stop for a slice of homemade cake with a cup of tea or fresh coffee, or even enjoy a tasty light lunch. Admission £1 (adults).

Funds raised by the Fair are donated to charities nominated by the stallholders which this year include amongst others Prostate Cancer UK, Dementia UK, Coeliac UK, RNIB, Winchester Hospice, Young Lives v Cancer, St Marys Church and Crawley Village Hall. For more information, visit the Fair's Facebook page www.facebook/CrawleyCharityGiftFair

The Orchestra Session - The First Movement

Saturday 21 November 2026 at 7.30pm,Chapel, Hospital of St Cross

The programme includes music by Bach, Pachelbel, Vivaldi, Mendelssohn and Dvořák. The Orchestra Session brings together professional string musicians to perform together and be properly paid for their work. Supporting music education is also an important part of the project, with a fixed proportion of every ticket sold going to music-education charities.

Tickets £23 (£12 concessions) www.theorchestrasession.com

Trinity Winchester AGM

Tuesday 24th November, 7.00 pm, Hope Church Winchester

As we reach our 40th anniversary supporters, partners and community members are invited to attend an evening of reflection and celebration. Alongside the formal business of the AGM, there will be presentations from staff and clients sharing their experiences and the difference Trinity's services make across the community. We hope you will join us as we continue working together to build a kinder, more inclusive and stronger Winchester together.

Book your place at https://trinitywinchester.org.uk/

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.