

## Winchester Basics Bank

The collection of items for the Basics Bank has now resumed.

Items can be delivered direct to **our sorting centre at Winchester Vineyard Church** on Tuesdays and Fridays between 10.00 am and 3.00pm. Alternatively, you can donate items at local supermarkets. **In addition, three drop-off points have been set up in Littleton: the church porch, inside the bus-shelter on Main Rd by the Hallway and inside the bus-shelter at the top of the village.**

**Our most urgent need is for:** General-purpose cleaning spray, washing-up liquid, UHT milk, tinned veg, tinned fruit, tinned potatoes/packet mash, pasta/curry sauces, rice (in bags and microwaveable pouches).

## Andover Food Bank

Three drop-off points have been established within the Benefice: **Outside Chilbolton Village Hall, outside Chilbolton Shop and inside Wherwell Bus Shelter.**

As you can imagine, demand on the foodbank is incredibly high and likely to remain so for many months, and so we are in need of your donations as much as ever. This week we are in need of the following items:-

**Food items:** Long life Fruit Juice, Long Life Milk, Tinned Fruit, Tinned Potatoes/Instant Mash, Tinned Meat; **Non-Food items:** Deodorant, Razors, Washing-up Liquid, Hand wash, Multi surface cleaner.

We are still hoping to be able to run our **annual Lake Run** starting at Charlton Sports Centre on **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> September**. Our first priority is the health, safety and well being of our runners, volunteers, officials and spectators. We are closely following the guidance from the UK government and UK running bodies and will adhere to such direction as it changes. To help support us you can sign up for the 10k individual and team event, the 5k individual and fun run Find out more information and sign up at <https://www.andoverlakerun.co.uk/>

## Coronavirus Community Support Groups

For contact details of Coronavirus Community Support groups please see the benefice website: [www.downsbenefice.org](http://www.downsbenefice.org).

Help is there if you need it – please get in touch.

Please send all items for Across the Downs to Carol Ward: email [carol.ward@daleclose.co.uk](mailto: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.

# Across the Downs

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

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2020**



Services for Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2020  
*The Seventh Sunday of Easter*

No services in our churches, but see over for  
4.00 pm (Li) Café Church



**In view of the current Covid-19 outbreak (coronavirus), Church services have sadly been cancelled in our Benefice and throughout the Diocese.**

Services for Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2020  
*Pentecost*

No services

## Prayer for the Week – *The Seventh Sunday of Easter*

O God the King of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Readings:** Acts 1: 6-14      1 Peter 4: 12-14; 5: 6-11      John 17:1-11  
Psalm 47



## Trinity Sunday

*Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June*

Following the guidance of the Prime Minister on 10<sup>th</sup> May, Revd Jax has decided, very sadly, to formally cancel the Trinity Sunday open-air service and Benefice picnic due to have taken place at Northwood Park on 7<sup>th</sup> June.

Revd Jax writes, “We are all very disappointed as this is a much-loved opportunity for our benefice to join together at the Lord’s Table and to share a delicious fellowship meal in spectacular surroundings.”

Revd Jax continues, “I am exploring the idea of creating a pre-recorded video service, incorporating all the guests we had invited to take part in the service and aim to be able to post this on our website.”

## Thy Kingdom Come, 21<sup>st</sup> May to 31<sup>st</sup> May

**Thy Kingdom Come** is a global prayer movement that calls all Christians to pray between Ascension and Pentecost for more people to know the love and peace of Jesus Christ. It has been heartening to see how people have shown love and kindness, serving and loving the most vulnerable, during this unprecedented time when we are constrained by the coronavirus pandemic. As a result, a new strand has been introduced to this year’s Thy Kingdom Come. As we pray for those we know and love to become followers of Jesus, how could we demonstrate this also in deed (in keeping with social distancing guidelines?)

Prayer and care resources are available on: [www.thykingdomcome.global](http://www.thykingdomcome.global)

In previous years, *Thy Kingdom Come* has culminated in a massive service from parishes all across our diocese in Winchester Cathedral. Since we are not able to gather together in worship for the special *Thy Kingdom Come* service in Winchester Cathedral, Jax has prepared a service for Ascension and TKC which we can use in our homes and share with our family and friends by email. This resource and many more are also available on The Downs Benefice website, [www.downsbenefice.org](http://www.downsbenefice.org). There you will find sermons from Archbishops Justin Welby and John Sentamu along with bright ideas to help families and young people pray together – including a brilliant Family Prayer Adventure Map!

## DIARY

**All regular meetings, groups and special events cancelled across the Benefice**

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> May**

9.30 am Morning Prayer (on Zoom, please see below)

The Benefice Office is closed to visitors until further notice due to the COVID-19 virus but is ‘open’ for all other business. Please contact Caroline McAulay on **01962 880 845** or on [office@downsbenefice.org.uk](mailto:office@downsbenefice.org.uk)

In event of an emergency, please call the Rector, **Revd Jax Machin**, on **07761 055 228**.

**Please do visit our website:** [www.downsbenefice.org](http://www.downsbenefice.org) where you can find streamed services, letters and reflections from Revd Jax, prayers, daily readings, Kids Corner and so much more – all updated daily.

**If you would like to receive Revd Jax’ letters and reflections directly, please ensure the Benefice Office has your email address.**

## Café Church

On the first Sunday of each month, St Catherine’s, Littleton, holds a café church at 4.00pm in the Church Room. This is a chance to meet together for worship, fellowship, tea and cake in a less formal setting.

Due to current restrictions on corporate worship we are unable to meet face-to-face but please join us for our second short on-line ‘service’ this Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> May; not a first Sunday I know, but an extra one! Looking at the ‘Resurrection of the Body’ it can be accessed, at whatever time suits you, at:

<https://www.facebook.com/littletoncafechurch/videos/719587162111735/> or the Downs Benefice website: [www.downsbenefice.org](http://www.downsbenefice.org)

## Benefice Morning Prayer

Benefice Morning Prayer, on Tuesdays at 9:30am on Zoom. Morning Prayer comes into your home. If you would like to join us for this short service please send an email to [charlotte@cjnash.com](mailto:charlotte@cjnash.com). Once I have your email address I will get in touch with you and send you a copy of the service and the link to Zoom.

*Charlotte Nash*