

Across the Downs

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

Sunday 11th May 2025



Services for Sunday 11th May 2025

Fourth Sunday of Easter

10.00 am (Li) Christian Aid Family Communion
(see over)

10.00 am (Wh) Pet Service

4.00 pm (Ch) Bubble Church



Services for Sunday 18th May 2025

Fifth Sunday of Easter

9.00 am (Sp) Holy Communion (BCP)

10.00 am (Ch) Morning Prayer

10.00 am (Cr) Family Communion

4.00 pm (Ch) Bubble Church

6.00 pm (Li) Benefice service of Peace and Wholeness

6.00 pm (Wh) Wherwell Meditation – Julian of Norwich – see over



Prayer for the Week – *Fourth Sunday of Easter*

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ is the resurrection and the life: raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to the life of righteousness, that we may seek those things which are above, where he reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings: Acts 9: 36-end

John 10: 22-30

Revelation 7: 9-end

Psalm 23

DIARY

Monday 12th May

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

Tuesday 13th May

7.30 pm Benefice Housegroup, 2 Valley Rd, Littleton

Wednesday 14th May

Thursday 15th May

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

Friday 16th May

6.00 pm (Cr) Crawley APCM, in the Church Room

Saturday 17th May

12.30 pm (Sp) Wedding – Craig Tyrrell & Holly Nichols

Ascension Day Service and breakfast, Littleton

Thursday 29th May, 8.00 am

Do join us for our **Ascension Day** Holy Communion Service which will be followed by breakfast in the church room in Littleton. We'd love to welcome all from across the benefice. If you would like to stay for the breakfast it would help our preparations if you could inform Carol Ward (01962 883185; carol.ward@daleclose.co.uk) by Monday 26th May.

Christian Aid Week, 11th – 17th May 2025



In an increasingly bleak world, your gift through *Christian Aid* can make a real difference. There'll be envelopes for your donation at St Catherine's Littleton Café Church 1600 on Sunday 4 May, and at our **Christian Aid Week**

Communion 1000 on Sunday 11 May.

Please bring them back on Sunday 18 May or leave them at the Benefice Office or give digitally online via our digital envelope

[St Catherine's Littleton - Christian Aid Fundraise](#)

Please return by Saturday 31 May. ***THEN what we've raised up to £1000.00 will be match-funded!***

Peter & Maggie Lippiett 07376 929615 / 07972 555212

Banns of Marriage

(Li) John Pierson & Eloisa Clegg

2nd Time of Reading

Pentecost Sunday 8th June 2025



Do come and join us at **St Stephen's, Sparsholt**
for a special, Benefice-wide **Family Communion Service**
to launch our new

Benefice Vision and Strategy.

All are welcome.

Bishop Philip will be leading the service and Revd Kevin will launch the
Vision and Strategy.

The service starts at **11am** and is followed by a **lunch in Sparsholt
Memorial Hall.**

The Hall can seat 100 people so please could you sign up for the lunch (*by
Monday 2nd June*) on the sheets at the back of each of the Churches.

*We aspire to be a vibrant Christian Community with Jesus at the heart of
our ministry - making a difference. We aim to do this by being a
relevant, welcoming, inclusive worshipping community, embracing all people,
serving others and sharing the message of Jesus through worship, discipleship,
leadership and outreach. And we want to do this with humility, grace, love and
prayer.*

Chilbolton Church Spring Clean

Saturday 17th May, 10.00 am

Please come and help us clean our lovely church. Calling all regular cleaners and
any other volunteers to help. Just turn up on the day or give Mary a call on 01264
861142

Space in the City

Four Talks Reflecting on Walking the Wessex Way

30 April – 21 May, 12.30 pm, St Lawrence Church, Winchester

‘Space in the City’ are holding weekly talks reflecting on ‘Walking the Wessex Way’, Bishop Philip’s vision for our diocese of Serving, Loving, Learning and

Wednesday **14th May** Learning, with William Howard

Wednesday **21st May** Growing, with Peter Lippiett

No charge, but donations very welcome

Littleton Safari Supper 2025

Proceeds towards the work and upkeep of St Catherine’s Church

This year’s Littleton Safari Supper will take place on **Saturday 7th June**. You are invited to host for one course (starter, main or dessert) and will travel to two other homes for the other courses. The evening will end with coffee all together at a central location. Tickets are £17.50 each and naturally the more people willing to donate a course, the better. However, if you feel this is too much, please do claim a free ticket for the ‘hostess cook’ to help with expenses. For more details or to book your place contact Carol Ward (tel: 01962 883185; e-mail: carol.ward@daleclose.co.uk)

Meditations at Wherwell Church

This Spring and early Summer, we have decided to bring you a selection of the ‘best of’ some of our previous meditations. One big difference is that this year, at the kind invitation of Caroline Hervey-Bathurst, we will be holding the June mediation in All Saints, Little Somborne. The meditations begin at 6pm and run for just over half an hour, and are followed by refreshments and time to chat.

18 May **Julian of Norwich, anchoress and theologian.**

1343 – after 1416

15 June (at Little Somborne) **George Herbert, poet and priest. 1593 – 1633**

20 July **Dietrich Bonhoeffer, Lutheran pastor, theologian
and anti-Nazi dissident. 1906 – 1945**

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.**