

The Benefice of
St Mary the Less, Chilbolton
St Mary's Crawley
St Catherine's Littleton
St Stephen's Sparsholt
St Peter and Holy Cross, Wherwell

PRAYER LIST

March 2025

*Prayer is like opening a door and slipping into
the presence of God.*

There in the stillness to listen to His voice

Perhaps to petition – or only to listen

It matters not;

Just to be there, in His presence, is prayer.

O Christ for whom we search,
our help when help has failed:
give us courage to expose our need,
and ask to be made whole
in your healing love;
That being touched by you,
we may be raised to new life,
in the power of your holy name. Amen.

This leaflet is used for prayers in the church room at Littleton on Thursdays at 2.15 pm each week, to which all are welcome, and can be used for your private prayers.

We hold before God all those for whom prayer has been requested.

To comply with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), individual names are not printed, but we believe that God knows who these dear people are, and His Holy Spirit will intercede on our behalf.

We also pray for anyone else on our hearts at this time and all those with temporary or long-term health problems and for the families and carers who support them.

We pray for those in residential care and the housebound.

We give thanks for those who are recovering from illness.

We remember with compassion friends and relatives of the recently departed:

Peter Haddon

Sandra Ormston

Doreen Cannings

John Maskill

Debbie Richardson

We pray for all our ministry team and the work of all five churches in our Benefice

For our Incumbent: Kevin Rogers, and his wife Lorna.

For the Ministry Team: Bruce Kington, Alan Disher, Charlotte Nash, Andrew Kent, Sally Wesley, Alastair Barron and Carol Coleman.

Our Benefice administrator: Caroline.

All Parish Visitors and the support and time they give in the Benefice.

Anna Chaplaincy: for the successful appointment of a new Anna Chaplain based at St Catherine's, with interviews taking place this month.

We give thanks for our Benefice and pray for a spirit of unity in the ministry we all share.

This month we travel together through Lent. We pray for the Lent groups meeting in each of our parishes, for those leading and hosting the groups, and for all who take part, that, through looking at the book of Ruth we may learn something which will help us on our individual faith journeys.

We pray for the young in our area.

For nurseries, schools, colleges and the university and for those who seek to work with young families in our churches.

We pray for the weekly Toddler Group which meets in Littleton Church Room on Monday mornings and also for Bubble Church, our new service in Chilbolton reaching out to young families.

We pray for our local community

For establishments with a caring outreach, their users and residents, their families, staff, pastors and administrators.

- For all Nursing and Care Homes in the area.
- The Lookout, Naomi House and jacksplace
- Andover, Basingstoke and Winchester Hospitals, Hospices and GP practices.

For groups which give aid and support to the community

- The Boaz Project
- The Prison and the Footprints Project, Street Reach
- The Emergency Services: Fire, Police and Ambulance,
- First Responders, Community Care Groups, Street and School Pastors
- Friends of the Family, Home Start, the Live at Home Scheme

We pray for the poor, homeless and hungry, and the on-going support given through the Trinity Centre, Winchester Beacon, the Basics Bank, Andover Food Bank and the Emmaus centre.

We pray for the Church of England and wider Anglican communion. At a time of turmoil over safeguarding and issues of abuse and harassment, we pray for all affected and suffering hurt and loss of trust. We pray for wisdom and guidance for those charged with appointing a new Archbishop.

Within our diocese of Winchester, we pray for Bishop Philip and Bishop Rhiannon (Suffragan Bishop of Southampton). We pray for Bishop David (current Suffragan Bishop of Basingstoke) as he and his wife Helen prepare to move to take up the position of Bishop of Truro and for the recruitment process for his replacement.

The continuing problems in Ukraine, with disagreement between various leaders of Europe and US as to the way to achieve peace, must be so disheartening for the Ukrainian population. We pray for them, and that leaders will find a way forward which is acceptable to all parties and which can bring about a lasting peace and hope for the future.

Christian Aid with Tearfund and other Christian groups are encouraging our government to face climate justice and phase out fossil fuels in the UK. We pray for progress in reducing our carbon emissions and that our leaders will listen and act.

We pray for missionaries: Ben and Esther Brown (with Barny, Reuben and new-born Jesse), serving with MAF in Arnhem Land; Chris and Kesia Pain in Japan with OMF; for Bishop Crisanto in Northern Argentina supported by CMS; and The Brickworks supporting projects in South Sudan; for others known to, and supported by, individuals in our parishes. We pray for the ongoing work of Karis Kids in Kampala, praying for our link church, St Pauls in Okuvu, and the eight families supported by the Downs Benefice. We give thanks that one of the families previously supported has 'Finished Well' and now left the project, having become self-supporting.

Requests for Prayers may be made through the Benefice Office or direct to Revd Kevin Rogers. (office@downsbenefice.org.uk; 01962 880845)