

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 February 2026



Services for Sunday 1st February

Fourth Sunday of Epiphany

10.00 am (Ch) Holy Communion

10.00 am (Cr) Morning Worship

4.00 pm (Li) Cafe Church, in the Church Room



Services for Sunday 8th February

Second Sunday before Lent

10.00 am (Ch) Morning Worship (*in place of
Morning Prayer at Wherwell*)

10.00 am (Li) Family Communion

4.00 pm (Ch) Bubble Church



Prayer for the Week – *Fourth Sunday of Epiphany*

God our creator, who in the beginning commanded the light to shine out of darkness: we pray that the light of the glorious gospel of Christ may dispel the darkness of ignorance and unbelief, shine into the hearts of all your people, and reveal the knowledge of your glory in the face of 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: 1 Kings 17: 8-16 1 Corinthians 1: 18-end
 John 2: 1-11 Psalm 36: 5-10

DIARY

Monday 2nd February 2026

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

2.30 pm (Sp) Sparsholt School Welcome Worship, in the Church
(private, school only)

Tuesday 3rd February

6.30 pm (Ch) Chilbolton evening Home Group. *Contact Andrew Kent for further details 01264 860584.*

7.00 pm (Sp) Sparsholt House Group. *Contact Jemma Mack for further details (jemmamack@hotmail.com)*

Wednesday 4th February

3.30–4.15 pm (Wh) Wherwell Prayer Meeting, at Dancing Edge, Fullerton Rd, Wherwell

Thursday 5th February

9.30 am (Ch) Chilbolton Home Group. *Contact Charlotte on 01264 860831 for further details*

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

Friday 6th February

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

Saturday 7th February

The Power of Love

Fundraising concert sung by the Lay Clerks of Winchester Cathedral

Friday 13th February, 7.30 pm, Pilgrims' Hall

In May 2026, the Winchester Cathedral Choir — made up of 18 Boy Choristers and 12 Lay Clerks — is planning a special tour to our sister institution, Fleury Abbey in France. But for this meaningful trip to go ahead, we need your help. Funds must be raised to support the tour, to make it possible.

£18 per ticket, to include a welcome drink.

<https://www.winchester-cathedral.org.uk/event/the-power-of-love-fundraising-concert/>

Downs Benefice Prayer Chain

The Prayer Chain is a crisis hot-line for anyone in need in an emergency. Members of the chain contact each other immediately so that confidential prayer support can be offered without delay.

Are you a praying person, believing in the power of prayer? Do you feel you could offer this ministry by joining our prayer chain team? For further details or to join in this very special ministry please contact the Benefice Office 01962 880845.

Winchester Prayer Event

Monday 2nd February at 8pm

Christ Church, Christchurch Rd, Winchester

Similarly to last term, we'll be gathering with congregations from across the city to share & pray into what God is doing locally. We will be sharing contributions from The Refugee Group and the Prison Chaplaincy.

Littleton Lunch Club

The Littleton Lunch Club meets in the Church Room on the first Friday of the month at 12.30 pm. There are currently a few vacant spaces, so if you know of anyone in the parish who might like to be invited to join, please contact Deirdre Wratten on 01962 880462. We would love to reach out to any in the community who would value the friendship offered, as well as a good home-cooked meal! Transport can be provided for those living within the parish.

Talks at St Lawrence Church, Winchester

A series of talks by Professor Jerry La Sala will take place at 11.00 am, following the 10.00 am coffee mornings on the first Friday of the month.

6th February Mysteries of the Calendar

6th March The Antikythera Mechanism: A 2000-year-old
Astronomical Computer

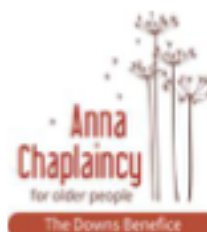
NEW! For 2026.

Littleton Lounge will be held in the church room at St Catherine's on the third Tuesday of the month. A drop-in session for chat, a warm drink and companionship. No need to book.

Join me at some point between 10am and 12 noon.

The first one is on **17th February**.

I look forward to seeing you. Kate Fletcher



BUBBLE CHURCH

A service for all young families

Dates for January & February



11th January
25th January
8th February
22nd February

Starting at 4pm @ St Mary's
the Less, Chilbolton

Winchester & District Young
Carers

Rock Choir

21st March, 5-7.15 pm, United
Church, Jewry St, Winchester

An evening of entertainment with
Rock Choir, raising awareness and
funds for WDYC.

Complimentary soft drinks and
cake. Raffle – draw in the interval,
tickets on the night.

events@winchesteryoungcarers.org
[.uk](http://www.winchesteryoungcarers.org)

St Matthew Passion - Romsey Abbey

Looking forward to Easter... local choirs: Kingsgate Voices and Southern Voices will join forces with a host of famous soloists and first-class orchestra to perform JS Bach's *St Matthew Passion* on **21 March** at 6.30pm (NB: early start time). Katharine Fuge, Malachy Frame, Jessica Gillingwater & Gareth Brynmor John will be joined by rising stars including Sebastian Hill accompanied on period instruments by London Baroque Sinfonia with Andrew Hayman conducting and Winchester Cathedral Girls Choir.

Tickets £38, £28, £18 (concessions available):

ticketsource.co.uk/musicinromsey (0333 666 4466) and from Oasis Bookshop,
25 Church Street, Romsey (01794 512194)

Lost property – a waterproof has been left in Littleton Church Room lobby, possibly since the Combined Benefice Service was held in Littleton back last year. If you are missing one, please contact the office, describe it and claim it!

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.