

# Across the Downs

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

**Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2026**

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**Services for Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March**

***Third Sunday of Lent***

10.00 am (Li) Family Communion

10.00 am (Wh) Morning Prayer

4.00 pm (Ch) Bubble Church



**Services for Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March**

***Mothering Sunday***

10.00 am (Ch) Mothering Sunday Service

10.00 am (Cr) Mothering Sunday Holy Communion  
Service

10.00 am (Li) Mothering Sunday Service

10.00 am (Sp) Mothering Sunday Service

10.00 am (Wh) Mothering Sunday Service



## **Prayer for the Week – *Third Sunday of Lent***

Almighty God, whose most dear Son went not up to joy but first he suffered pain, and entered not into glory before he was crucified: mercifully grant that we, walking in the way of the cross, may find it none other than the way of life and peace; 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:** Exodus 17: 1-7

Romans 5: 1-11

John 4: 5-42

Psalm 95

# DIARY

## Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March

- 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)*
- 2.30 pm (Wh) Wherwell House Group - *Contact Susan Ansell for further details (01264 860775)*
- 7.30 pm (Ch) Chilbolton evening Home Group. *Contact Andrew Kent for further details 01264 860584.*

## Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> March

- 7.00 pm (Sp) Sparsholt House Group. *Contact Jemma Mack for further details ([jemmamack@hotmail.com](mailto:jemmamack@hotmail.com))*
- 7.30 pm (Li) Littleton Lenten House Group, 2 Valley Road. *Contact Carol Coleman, 01962 881886*

## Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March

- 3.00 pm (Cr) Crawley Homegroup, *Contact Felicity Gillibrand [fgillibrand@btinternet.com](mailto:fgillibrand@btinternet.com)*
- 1.30 pm (Wh) Wherwell Prayer Meeting, at Dancing Ledge, Fullerton Rd, Wherwell
- 7.00 pm (Ch/Wh) Chilbolton and Wherwell PCC meeting, Dancing Ledge

## Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March

- 10 – 12 noon (Li) Spring Café and Crafts, Littleton Memorial Hall (see opposite)
- 2.15 pm (Li) Prayers for those on the Benefice Prayer List, in the Church Room.

## Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March

## Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March

### Palm Sunday Benefice Communion

**March 29<sup>th</sup>, 11.00 am**

This year Palm Sunday falls on the fifth Sunday in March and so we will be holding a joint benefice Family Communion service in Littleton at 11.00 am, to be followed by a 'Bring and Share' lunch in the Church Room. Do put the date in your diaries.

## ***Banns of Marriage***

(Sp) Thomas Butler & Lauren Bewsey-Lord

1st Time of Reading



## **Mothering Sunday**

The Downs Benefice will be holding special Mothering Sunday services in all the churches at 10.00 am on **Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March**. All the services will offer small posies and be followed by coffee.

In Littleton, the service will be preceded by a children's craft activity in the church room from 9.00 am.

Everyone is most welcome to come. Perhaps you could invite a neighbour, or a family you know with young children?



## **Spring Cafe and Crafts**

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March, 10 am – 12 noon**

Littleton Memorial Hall



Our Spring Café is the perfect place to come and have a coffee and cake, meet friends and even exercise your artistic skills to make a little something to take home if you wish. Cash donations welcome.

Email for more details: [annachaplain@downsbenefice.org.uk](mailto:annachaplain@downsbenefice.org.uk)

**Do come and join us! Everyone, all ages, welcome!**

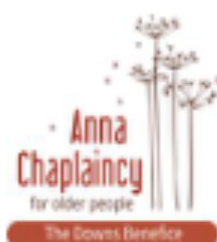
## **Littleton Lounge**

**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 next one is on **17<sup>th</sup> March**.

I look forward to seeing you. Kate Fletcher



### **Andover Chamber Choir**

St Michael and All Angels Church,  
Andover

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> April, 7.30 pm**

Choral favourites for an Eastertide Celebration – “Thine be the Glory”. Tickets £12 in advance, £15 on the door, under 16s free. Refreshments included. Available at the Lights Andover (on-line or in person). Proceeds in aid of Andover Young Carers.

[www.andoverchamberchoir.org.uk](http://www.andoverchamberchoir.org.uk)

### **Sparsholt C of E Primary School Help Needed! For our 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebrations!**

We are hoping to create a timeline of Sparsholt over the last 150 years and need your help. Do you, or anyone you know, have: memorabilia, memories to share or historical artefacts?

If you are able to help, please do get in touch:

[adminoffice@sparsholt.hants.sch.uk](mailto:adminoffice@sparsholt.hants.sch.uk) or ring 01962 776264



### **Christian Aid**

*Christian Aid* is the British Churches' own aid agency – it's also our development agency. This year's *Christian Aid Week* (May 10-16) focus is on Urban Farming.

Launch date – **Saturday 14 March, 10.30-13.00**. Join us at St John's Waterloo? Or join live link at St Mark's Oliver's Battery.

*Maggie (07972555212) & Peter (07376929615) Lippiett*

### **Andover Food Bank - Easter 2026**

Easter is fast approaching! If you would like to donate Easter Eggs to the Andover Foodbank, we will be distributing them to local schools and our partner agencies. All eggs can be brought to our office/warehouse in Alexandra Road, Andover SP10 3AD, between 9.30 am and 12.30 pm.

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.