

# Across the Downs

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

## **Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

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### **Services for Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> 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) Service of Peace and Wholeness
- 6.00 pm (Wh) Wherwell Meditation – Julian of Norwich



### **Services for Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

#### ***Sixth Sunday of Easter***

- 9.00 am (Wh) Holy Communion (BCP)
- 10.00 am (Li) Morning Worship, with Mark from Winchester Street Pastors
- 10.00 am (Sp) Morning Worship
- 4.00 pm (Ch) Bubble Church

#### **Prayer for the Week – *Fifth Sunday of Easter***

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ have overcome death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: grant that, as by your grace going before us you put into our minds good desires, so by your continual help we may bring them to good effect; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**Readings:** Acts 11: 1-18  
John 13: 31-35

Revelation 21: 1-6  
Psalm 148

# DIARY

## Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May

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

2.15 pm (Li) Flowerdown Holy Communion

4.00 pm (Cr) Crawley House Group. *Contact Office for details*

## Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May

7.30 pm Benefice Housegroup, 2 Valley Rd, Littleton

## Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May

## Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May

9.30 am (Ch) Chilbolton Home Group. *For details please contact Charlotte Nash, tel: 01264 860831*

3.00 pm (Wh) Interment of Ashes – Brenda Headley

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

## Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May

## Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> May

1.30 pm (Ch) Wedding – Mark Sargeson & Daisy Bradley

## Ascension Day Service and breakfast, Littleton

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:carol.ward@daleclose.co.uk)) by Monday 26<sup>th</sup> May.

## Christian Aid Week, 11<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> May 2025

Envelopes can be returned to church in Littleton at the service of Peace and Wholeness on 18<sup>th</sup> May or to Morning Worship on 25<sup>th</sup> May. Otherwise, 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

3rd Time of Reading

**Pentecost Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> June*) on the sheets at the back of each of the Churches.

**Thy Kingdom Come  
Light Up The World in Prayer  
29<sup>th</sup> May – 8<sup>th</sup> June 2025**

Thy Kingdom Come is a global ecumenical prayer movement that invites Christians to join together in prayer, that more people may come to know the life-changing love of Jesus. What started in 2016 as an invitation from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York to the Church of England has grown into an international and ecumenical call to prayer. Every person, household and church are encouraged to pray during the 11 days in their own way. In particular, we are each encouraged to pray for 5 people. Cards and prayer booklets (based on the Lord's Prayer) are available at the back of St Catherine's. See [www.thykingdomcome.global](http://www.thykingdomcome.global)

*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 Growing.

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> 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 7<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:carol.ward@daleclose.co.uk))

**Alresford Community Choir Concert**

**Saturday May 24<sup>th</sup>**, 7.30 pm

Harvey Hall Auditorium, St Swithun's School, Winchester

**Fauré Requiem Mass and Beethoven 9th Symphony - The Choral  
with The Hanover Band**

Tickets available from £12 to £35 at [www.ticketsource.co.uk/alresford-community-choir](http://www.ticketsource.co.uk/alresford-community-choir) or telephone: 01962 734858

Doors open at 6.30pm and refreshments are available before the concert and at the interval. Sally Wesley and several other parishioners from Sparsholt, Crawley and Littleton will be singing in this concert.

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.