

# Across the Downs

Church News Sheet for the Downs Parishes of  
Chilbolton, Crawley, Littleton, Sparsholt and Wherwell

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2023**



## Services for Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2023

### *Christ the King*

8.00 am (Wh) Holy Communion (BCP)

10.00 am (Sp) Morning Worship

11.15 am (Li) Patronal Festival, followed by 'Bring and Share' lunch in the Church Room (see over)



## Services for Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023

### *First Sunday of Advent*

10.00 am (Ch) Morning Prayer

10.00 am (Cr) Holy Communion

10.00 am (Li) Posada Service

5.30 pm (Wh) Advent Carol Service

### **Prayer for the Week – *Christ the King***

Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord and King: keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet; who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

<b>Readings:</b>	Ezekiel 34: 11-16; 20-24	Ephesians 1: 15-end
	Matthew 25: 31-end	Psalms 95: 1-7

# DIARY

## **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November**

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

## **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November**

## **Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> November**

## **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November**

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

4.15 pm (Li) Prayers for those on the Benefice prayer list, Littleton Church Room

## **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December**

1.00 pm (Li) Funeral and Burial – Noel Blatchford

4.00 pm (Li) Julian of Norwich Meditation Meeting – new members always welcome. *Contact Sheila Trussler, 01962 881089*

## **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December**

### **Wherwell Christmas Fayre and Advent Carol Service**

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December, 3-5pm, Wherwell Village Hall**

There will be Father Christmas, mulled wine, waffles, cakes, tombola, gifts and children's Lantern making, with Christmas lights in Church St. Please bring cash – no card payments.

The Christmas Fayre is followed by the children's lantern procession to the church for the 5.30 pm Advent Carol Service by Candlelight. Children are encouraged to dress up in Nativity costumes for the Procession and Service

### **Ben and Esther Brown**

A St Catherine's Mission-link family working with MAF (Mission Aviation Fellowship) in Arnhem Land, Northern Australia, Ben and Esther and their two young sons Barny and Reuben have now been in Arnhem land for over six months. Many of our Church family will remember meeting them at a Morning Worship service at St Catherine's a year ago.

Recently Ben sent a video link to update supporters and link churches on their progress. You can access this video here [Video Link](#) Do take a look!

### **Karis Kids Christmas Party**

This year's Christmas party for our link families in Kampala will take place on Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December. This is always a joyous occasion, with hundreds attending from the six member churches – for details of last year's party, visit <https://bit.ly/3u6VVSd>

The cost of hosting the party, with food, music, cake and a gift for each family, sometimes the only Christmas gift they will receive, is £37.50 (or £30 plus Gift Aid). If you feel you would like to contribute towards this cost for our link families, please visit <https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/18848> before the end of November.

Let's give our amazing families a Christmas to remember!

For more details about Karis Kids, please visit <https://www.kariskids.org/downs>, or speak to Carol Coleman (Littleton), Downs Benefice Co-ordinator

### **Autumn Meditations at Wherwell Church**

Do come along to our final meditation of this year and hear about the life of Leonard Cheshire. The meditation will be held at 6 pm in the church, lasting for around thirty minutes, and will be followed by refreshments.

**10 December** Leonard Cheshire: decorated RAF pilot, philanthropist, 1917 - 1992

### **Advent Procession Winchester Cathedral**

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 6.30 pm**

Everyone is welcome to attend the first Advent service of the year. A spectacular service of darkness and light, music and the spoken word, mirroring the journey of the human race from the darkness of sorrow and death into the light of Christ's dawning kingdom.

The music will include the plainsong Advent Prose sung in candlelit procession, with other music by Sir John Tavener and Sir Michael Tippett along with favourite Advent hymns. No booking necessary.

### **Winchester Hospice Light Up a Life Service**

You are invited to join us at a service of remembrance where we will come together to honour and cherish the memories of loved ones who are no longer with us. Our service will take place on **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December** at Christchurch Winchester at 6 pm. It is completely free to attend. You are invited to make a 'dedication' to 'light up' the life of someone you'd like to remember, to be included in a book of remembrance. See <https://winchesterhospice.com/light-up-a-life-2023>

### **Waynflete Singers St Nicholas Concert**

Winchester Cathedral, **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December** at 7.30 pm

The Waynflete Singers return to the cathedral for their ever-popular Christmas concert. They are joined by the English Chamber Orchestra, on this occasion with a timely double billing of St Nicholas. The concert will open with Haydn's Symphony No 30, nicknamed the 'Alleluia' Symphony, followed by Haydn's St Nicholas Mass. The second half features Benjamin Britten's St Nicolas Cantata  
<https://www.winchester-cathedral.org.uk/event/waynflete-singers/>

### **Boaz Nativity**

The Boaz Project's popular outdoor nativity service will be in a barn at Hill Farm in Sutton Scotney with real donkeys and sheep plus the Andover Salvation Army Band. It will be held on **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December**, starting at 7 pm. Members will tell the story of the birth of Jesus from the perspective of a curious sheep. Everyone is welcome but booking is essential via Eventbrite:  
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/boaz-carol-service-nativity-2023-tickets-602466432317>

### **Christmas with Southern Voices**

**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> December**, 7.30 pm

Annual Christmas Concert in the Chapel of St Cross

Tickets £18. Online at [www.southernvoices.co.uk](http://www.southernvoices.co.uk) or telephone 0333 666 3366 (booking fees apply). Or at the door

### **A Merry Little Christmas**

**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December** at 7.00 pm

The beautiful Winchester College is the setting for a festive programme of close harmony carols, performed by Cantores Episcopi in the candlelit chapel, in aid of the Trinity Centre. [www.trinitywinchester.org.uk](http://www.trinitywinchester.org.uk). Tickets from £20.

Enjoy your favourite Christmas carols followed by mince pies and mulled wine in College Hall. An evening that guarantees to get you into the Christmas spirit!

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.