Across the Downs

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

Sunday 4th October 2026

Services for Sunday 4th October

Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am	Holy Communion at Chilbolton
10.00 am	Harvest Festival, in Crawley
4.00 pm	Café Church, in Littleton Church Room

Services for Sunday 11th October

Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am	Family Communion at Littleton
10.00 am	Harvest Festival, in Sparsholt
10.00 am	Harvest festival in Wherwell
4.00 pm	Bubble Church in Chilbolton

Prayer for the Week – *Eighteenth Sunday after Trinity*

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us your gift of faith that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to that which is before, we may run the way of your commandments and win the crown of everlasting joy; 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: Isaiah 5: 1-7 Philippians 3: 4b-14
Matthew 21: 33-end Psalm 80: 9-17

DIARY

Monday 5th October

10.00–11.30 am	St Catherine's Toddler Group in the Church Room. *Contact Carol Coleman, 01962 881886*
2.30 pm	Sparsholt School Welcome Worship, in Sparsholt Church

Tuesday 6th October

7.30 pm	Littleton house group. *Contact Carol Coleman, 01962 881886*

Wednesday 7th October

2.00 pm	Wherwell Prayer Meeting – *Dancing Ledge*

Thursday 8th October

9.30 am	Chilbolton Morning Home Group. *Contact Charlotte Nash, 01264 860831*
4.15 pm	Prayers for those on the Benefice Prayer List, in Littleton Church Room

Friday 9th October

Saturday 10th October

10.00 - noon	St Catherine's Autumn Sale, Littleton Church room
7.30 pm	Sparsholt Harvest Supper (see over)

Soup Lunch in Chilbolton Village Hall

Mondays from 5th October to 7th December, from Midday. Homemade soup, freshly made bread, tea and biscuits. Local lifts available.

Contact Jayne on 07976 249632 for further information.

Everyone welcome – an opportunity to enjoy lunch and socialise in the community!

Soup makers always welcome to join the current team.

Littleton Lunch Club

Littleton Lunch Club still needs a few volunteer drivers to collect guests and take them home afterwards, or to act as a reserve driver. Please contact the Benefice Office if you are able to help.

The lunch club is held at 12.30pm on the 1st Friday of the month (except in September when it is the 2nd), in Littleton Church Room.

Banns of Marriage

(Ch) Daren Salmon & Eloise Yard 1st Time of Reading

Andover Food Bank

So far this year the Foodbank has supported 4700 people in our community with over 40,000 meals and other essential items. As we leave summer behind and autumn fast approaches, we're asking you to support Andover Foodbank. Harvest is an important time for us as we build our stock levels ahead of the busy winter period, and your donations make a real difference to the families and individuals in our community who are struggling to afford food and other essentials.

Harvest list: Tinned meat meals, tinned/instant potatoes, tinned spaghetti/soups, tinned fruit/veg, rice, pasta sauce, rice pudding/custard, breakfast cereals, biscuits.

All donations can be made at our office/warehouse in Alexandra Road, Andover SP10 3AD and our opening hours are Monday to Friday 09.30 to 12.30 or can be put in the collection boxes at all the local supermarkets.

St Catherine's Autumn Sale

Saturday 10th October, from 10 – 12 noon

Littleton Church Room

Once again, we will be holding our Autumn Bazaar this October, selling plants, cakes, jams and chutneys, so do come along!! And spread the word! We will also be running a stall selling pre-loved children's toys, games and books.

Donations of jams, jellies, marmalade or chutneys together with plants, homemade cakes or biscuits will be much appreciated so that we have a bounteous array of goods to sell on the day.

We will be raffling a 'luxury hamper' during the sale and so, if baking, making preserves or gardening is not your prowess then please consider a donation of a food item for the hamper.

To donate (or promise) items or help on the day, please contact Peggy Ormston: peggy.ormston@gmail.com; 01962 883682, or Clive Thompsett for hamper donations: clive.thompsett@icloud.com; 01962 885039.

Harvest in the Downs Benefice

Crawley Harvest Festival taking place **TODAY**!

Sparsholt Harvest Festival will be held on **Sunday 11th October** at 10.00am. Donations will go to The Winchester Beacon. A list of goods that they would like/consider necessary will be posted in Church and outside the Village Shop in due course. The Harvest Supper will take place at Sparsholt Memorial Hall on Saturday 10th October at 7pm for 7.30pm. Tickets are now available to buy at the Village Shop.

Wherwell's Harvest Festival is on **Sunday, 11th October** at 10am with a collection in aid of Andover Food Bank.

Chilbolton and Littleton have already held their Harvest Festivals

Christian Aid Harvest Appeal 2026

As we celebrate our harvests with giving to such excellent local causes, may we spare a thought (or more?) for the struggling farmers of South Sudan who are the object of this year's Christian Aid Harvest Appeal?

https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-appeals/harvest-appeal

Trinity Winchester

Concert by Nick Ferretti, winner of Germany's Got Talent Live

Friday 16th October, 7 pm, The Pumphouse Winchester

Enjoy an evening of outstanding live music with Nick Ferretti. Renowned for soulful performances and exceptional musicianship, Nick will perform in support of Trinity, with all funds raised helping us to continue our work with people experiencing homelessness and vulnerability.

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.