

Across the Downs

Church News Sheet for the Downs Parishes of
Chilbolton, Crawley, Littleton, Sparsholt and Wetherwell
Rector: Revd Jax Machin 01962 880845

Sunday 26th July 2020



Services for Sunday 26th July 2020

The Seventh Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am (Sp) Holy Communion



Coronavirus Update

Opening of our churches for private prayer and also for services – please see over



Services for Sunday 2nd August 2020

The Eighth Sunday after Trinity

10.00 am (Ch) Holy Communion

Café Church (on-line)



Prayer for the Week – *The Seventh Sunday after Trinity*

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: graft in our hearts the love of your name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and of your great mercy keep us in the same; 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: 1 Kings 3: 5-12 Romans 8: 26-39
 Matthew 13: 31-33; 44-52 Psalm 75

Opening of Churches

The Churches in The Downs Benefice are currently open for individual prayer at the following times:

- St Mary the Less, Chilbolton 9 am – 4pm, Sundays
- St Mary's, Crawley 10am – 4pm, Wed and Sunday
- St Catherine's, Littleton 10am – 4pm, Wed and Saturday,
apart from 29th July when closed after service of Holy Communion
- St Stephen's Sparsholt 10am – 4pm, Wed and Sunday
- St Peter & Holy Cross, Wherwell tbc

We are delighted that Sunday services have begun to resume in our Benefice. There will be one service in the benefice each week, for the next six weeks, taking us up to 30th August.

Short-Term Schedule for the reintroduction of Sunday services in The Downs Benefice

26th July 2020 to 23rd August 2020

	26 th July	29 th July	2 nd Aug	9 th Aug	16 th Aug	23 rd Aug
Chilbolton			HC		MP	
Crawley						
Littleton		HC				HC
Sparsholt	HC		closed	MP		
Wherwell						closed

All seats must be booked via the Benefice Office: 01962 880845

Key:

- **MP** Morning Prayer
- **HC** Holy Communion
- **Closed** denotes a church is closed for cleaning following a wedding the previous day.
- All services begin at 10.00 am – Please arrive in good time to sanitise and be seated.

Please note – Benefice Office Closure

Please note that the Benefice Office will be closed from **Monday 20th July** for one week, to accommodate annual leave, and will 'reopen' **Monday 27th July**. In the event of an emergency please call Revd Jax Machin (see opposite).

DIARY

All regular meetings, groups and special events remain cancelled across the Benefice

Tuesday 28th July

9.30 am Benefice Morning Prayer (on Zoom, please contact Charlotte Nash: charlotte@cjnash.com)

Wednesday 29th July

10.00 am (Li) Holy Communion

Thursday 30th July

12 noon (Wh) Interment of Ashes – Denis Harding

Friday 31st July

11.30 am (Li) Interment of Ashes – David Langton

Saturday 1st August

3.00 pm (Sp) Wedding – Gus Morse & Katie Armstrong

The Benefice Office is closed to visitors until further notice due to the COVID-19 virus but is 'open' for all other business. Please contact Caroline McAulay on 01962 880 845 or on office@downsbenefice.org.uk

In event of an emergency, please call the Rector, Revd Jax Machin, on 07761 055 228.

Please do visit our website: www.downsbenefice.org where you can find streamed services, letters and reflections from Revd Jax, prayers, daily readings, Kids Corner and so much more – all updated daily.

If you would like to receive Revd Jax' letters and reflections directly, please ensure the Benefice Office has your email address.

Andover Food Bank

We are delighted that the government will be providing support for families who usually receive free school meals over the summer holiday. However, we know that some will struggle to provide treats and entertainment across the holiday, especially those who have had their income impacted due to the coronavirus. The foodbank is planning to issue additional food bags to families over the summer to help keep children entertained. The bags will include meal kits containing the ingredients and recipes for certain meals and also some treats. Thus, we would welcome donations of: ice-pops, cake/cookie or pancake mixes, plain flour (500g), small bottles cooking oil, tinned hotdogs, puzzle and colouring books.

New Wine - United Breaks Out

30 July – 3 August 2020

For the past 18 years, members of the Downs Benefice have attended the annual New Wine conference, either staying for the week or just visiting for the day. This year, New Wine has moved online, so you can enjoy the morning and evening teaching, worship and prayer ministry, afternoon TED-style seminars, sofa sessions, Q&As and webinars, all from the comfort of your home. Separate sessions are available for children and youth.

For more information, visit <https://new-wine.org/breaksout> or the YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/newwineengland>

New Art Installation at Winchester Cathedral

A new colourful installation by Revd Gill Sakakini: 'Held in a Burst of Colour', can be seen at Winchester Cathedral throughout the summer. Visit www.winchester-cathedral.org.uk for visiting information and opening times.

An update from Winchester Churches Nightshelter

Residents and staff at Winchester Churches Nightshelter would like to thank you for your support over the past few months. They have been challenging and uncertain times for us all, which makes it even more touching that people have taken a moment to think of the Nightshelter and our residents. Loyal support has continued despite the difficulties, from donations of food and money to people giving their time to volunteer and fundraise.

It has been particularly heart-warming to receive so much support from young people determined to do something positive with their time in lockdown. From the family of four siblings bouncing on their trampoline for 24 hours non-stop and raising over £1,113 to the moving email from a ten-year old girl desperate to help in some way. We have certainly felt our community behind us.

Emerging from lockdown positively

Our aim is to inspire hope and transform lives. This continues whether there is a pandemic or not and our staff are busy working closely with residents to help them plan and make positive steps forward.

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.