

Across the Downs

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

Sunday 9th March 2025



Services for Sunday 9th March 2025

First Sunday of Lent

10.00 am (Li) Family Communion

10.00 am (Wh) Morning Prayer

4.00 pm (Ch) Bubble Church



Services for Sunday 16th March 2025

Second Sunday of Lent

09.00 am (Sp) Holy Communion (BCP)

10.00 am (Ch) Holy Communion

10.00 am (Cr) Morning Worship

4.00 pm (Ch) Bubble Church

6.00 pm (Li) Benefice Service of Peace and Wholeness

Prayer for the Week – First Sunday of Lent

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness, and was tempted as we are, yet without sin: give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit; and, as you know our weakness, so may we know your power to save; 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: Deuteronomy 26: 1-11 Romans 10: 8b-13
Luke 4: 1-13 Psalm 91: 1-2; 9-end

DIARY

Monday 10th March

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

Tuesday 11th March

Wednesday 12th March

Thursday 13th March

2.15pm (Li) Westholme Holy Communion
2.15 pm (Li) Prayers for those on the Benefice Prayer List, in the Church Room

Friday 14th March

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

Saturday 15th March



Sparsholt will be holding a **Churchyard Clean Up** on **Saturday 29th March** from **10.00am to 1.00pm** with refreshments and lunch provided.

Please come along and help, the more the merrier, bringing garden tools and garden waste bags.

Any questions, please contact Sally Wesley on sally.wesley@btinternet.com or 01962 776476.



Mothering Sunday

The Downs Benefice will be holding special Mothering Sunday services in all the churches at 10.00 am on **Sunday 30th March**.

Everyone is most welcome to come. Perhaps you could invite a neighbour?

Banns of Marriage

(Sp) Craig Tyrrell & Holly Nichols

2nd Time of Reading

Lent Groups – The Book of Ruth

Starting the week commencing **2nd March for 6 consecutive weeks.**
Meeting every week in 5 different locations across the Benefice to look at the book of Ruth. The groups are following the same material.

Host/ Hostess	Day	Time	Address	Contact details
Michael & Carol Coleman	Tuesday evening	7.30 pm	Littleton	Carolcoleman123@hotmail.com 01962 881886
Susan Ansell	Monday	2.30 pm	Wherwell	Via the Benefice Office – 01962 880 845 – office@downsbenefice.org.uk
Jemma Mack & Mark Himbury	Tuesday	7.00 pm	Sparsholt	jemmamack@hotmail.com mark@markhimburydesign.co.uk 07956 371433
Charlotte Nash	Thursday	9.30 am	Chilbolton	Via the Benefice Office – 01962 880 845 – office@downsbenefice.org.uk
Felicity Gillibrand	Monday	4.00 pm	Crawley	Via the Benefice Office – 01962 880 845 – office@downsbenefice.org.uk

Please contact the leader of the group you would like to join for the 6 weeks for catering and planning purposes. *If you are unable to attend your chosen group for a particular week, you are encouraged to attend another group for that week, so you don't miss out.*

See you there! It's not too late to join in!

Revision of Electoral Rolls

Please note that the Electoral Rolls have to be revised this year prior to the APCMs. This means that all names must be removed from the existing roll and new application forms must be submitted by everyone who wishes to remain on the roll. Being a member of the Electoral Roll allows you to attend and vote at the Annual Meeting.

Sparsholt - For further details and application forms please contact Sally Wesley on 01962 776476; sally.wesley@btinternet.com

Wherwell - Application forms are available either at the Church porch or from tanya.waters@hotmail.com The closing date for returning the forms back to Tanya is Sunday 16 March 2025.

Our Churches' Annual Parochial Church Meetings (APCMs)

All church members are invited to attend their APCM to hear reports of the year completed, to elect church wardens, PCC members and Deanery Synod representatives and to discuss issues of importance to our church families.

Date	Day	Time	Parish	Venue
23 rd March	Sunday	11.15am	Littleton	Church Room
4 th April	Friday	7pm	Sparsholt	Church
9 th April	Wednesday	7pm	Chilbolton	Church
10 th April	Thursday	7.30pm	Wherwell	Church
16 th May	Friday	6pm	Crawley	Church Room

Southern Voices

Hope, Faith, Life, Love

7.30 pm, Saturday 29th March

Holy Trinity Church, Winchester. Director: Jamal Sutton.

Frank Martin – Mass for Double Choir; Eric Whitacre – Three Songs of Faith; Bach, Harris, Holtz and more.

Tickets £18; aged 21 and under £10. www.southernvoices.co.uk

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.