The Downs Benefice

We aspire to be a vibrant Christian Community with Jesus at the heart of our ministry - making a difference.
We aim to do this by being a relevant, welcoming, inclusive worshiping community, embracing all people, serving others and sharing the message of Jesus.
And we want to do this with humility, grace, love and **prayer**.

PRAYER LIST

October/November 2026

Prayer is like opening a door and slipping into the presence of God.

There in the stillness to listen to His voice

Perhaps to petition – or only to listen
It matters not;

Just to be there, in His presence, is prayer.

This leaflet is used for prayers in the church room at Littleton on Thursdays at **4.15 pm** each week, to which all are welcome, and can be used for your private prayers.

We hold before God all those for whom prayer has been requested.

To comply with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), individual names are not printed, but we believe that God knows who these dear people are, and His Holy Spirit will intercede on our behalf.

We also pray for anyone else on our hearts at this time and all those with temporary or long-term health problems and for the families and carers who support them.

We remember with compassion friends and relatives of the recently departed:

Neil Skinner Beryl May Jane Stewart

Dorothy Highfield Margaret Faulkner

We pray for our Ministry Team and administrator, Caroline:

For our Incumbent Kevin Rogers and the ministry team including Kate Fletcher our Anna Chaplain, Peter Lippiett, Alan Disher, Charlotte Nash, Andrew Kent, Sally Wesley, Alastair Barron and Carol Coleman.

We pray for and uphold Lorna Rogers as she begins her training as a Licensed Lay Minister

We pray for the young in our area.

We pray for all children and young people beginning a new stage in their education, be it starting school, moving to secondary school, sixth form college, other further and higher education colleges and universities.

We pray for our ministry to the very young and their carers through Littleton Toddler group and the twice monthly Bubble Church. We long to see families coming to know Jesus and joining our church families.

We pray for our benefice and the ministry of the five parishes. This month we focus on the five aspects that give expression to our vision and mission:

Worship (praising God in all we do)

Heavenly Father, You are holy, awesome, and worthy of all honour. Thank you for the gift of each new day and for your constant presence in our lives. Let our thoughts, our words, and our work each day be an act of praise to you as you open our eyes to see your goodness in the small, everyday moments. Amen.

Discipleship (growing and making disciples)

Heavenly Father, thank You for the incredible calling to follow Your Son and make disciples of all nations. Grant us wisdom, discernment, and patience as You lead us to the people around us whose hearts You are already preparing and drawing to Yourself. Amen

Leadership (identifying and growing new leaders)

Heavenly Father, we come asking that You pour out Your Spirit on our churches and provide the leaders we need. Open our eyes to see the faithful men and women already among us. Lead us to invest in those in whom You have placed the gift of leadership, even if they do not yet see it in themselves. Amen

Outreach (engaging with our wider communities)

Lord, give us hearts that break for the lost just as Yours does. Remove our comfort and self-centred thinking, and fill us with Your love for our neighbours who do not yet know You. Take away our fear of rejection and awkwardness. Amen

Communication (telling the story in an engaging way)

Heavenly Father, we pray that our churches communicate Your truth with clarity, grace, and love so that those who are far from You can clearly hear Your message. Give us creativity and boldness in our digital presence, our conversations, and our preaching, ensuring that the message of the Gospel shines brightly and authentically. Amen

We pray for our missionary contacts overseas working with MAF, OMF, the Brickworks and Karis Kids. This month we pray especially for the organisations supporting local causes in the Winchester, Andover and Test Valley areas, seeking to share the love of Jesus in very practical ways with those who are in need. And so, we uphold the work of Trinity Winchester, Winchester Beacon, Emmaus, Winchester Food and Basics Bank and Andover Foodbank, the Boaz Project.

We pray for the work of Tearfund and Christian Aid as they seek to respond to need, through local partners, wherever it may arise.

We uphold Christians who are persecuted for their faith and pray for those supporting them through Open Doors and similar organisations.

Pray for our wider world

Continue to pray for the people of Ukraine. Lift up all those impacted by the ongoing conflict, and pray for protection and strength. Pray for peace talks to resume, and for God to guide all leaders involved towards fair and just negotiations that will bring a decisive and lasting end to the conflict.

Pray for all those suffering the effects of climate change – Pray for all who have been impacted by the effects on our environment, with areas of drought resulting in failure of crops and famine, with other parts of the world devastated by floods, with loss of lives, homes and livelihoods.

Pray for those affected by ongoing violence and war – in the Middle East (Israel/Gaza, Iran, Lebanon and Yemen), in South Sudan, in Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), the Horn of Africa (Ethiopia), in Myanmar. Pray for peace and stability to return to these areas.

Requests for Prayers may be made through the Benefice Office or direct to Revd Kevin Rogers. (office@downsbenefice.org.uk; 01962 880845)