

Parish Matters

Welcome to the Parish of the Resurrection. If you are new to the parish or worshipping with us for the first time then please do make yourself known to either a member of the clergy or a church-warden. We are a welcoming church family spread throughout the town of Alton, Holybourne and Beech and our aim is to offer worship which deepens our faith, common life and our relationship with Jesus Christ. This information sheet gives some words that will be needed in today's services and notices about the life of our church communities. Please take it home with you.

**2nd December
Advent Sunday**

Today's Services

8.00am

Holy Communion - St Lawrence

Led by Revd Giles Hill

Holy Communion - All Saints

Led by Revd Joy Windsor

9.15am

Morning Worship - St Peter's

Led by Revd Lynn Power

9.30am

Parish Communion - Holy Rood

Led by Revd Martin East

10.30am

Parish Communion - All Saints

Led by Revd Joy Windsor

4.00pm

Church @ 4 - St Lawrence

Led by Revd Andrew Micklefield

6.30pm

GAP Advent Carol Service - St Lawrence

Led by Revd Andrew Micklefield

Collect Prayer

Almighty God,
as your kingdom dawns,
turn us from the darkness of sin to
The light of holiness,
that we may be ready to meet you
in our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.
Amen

Today's Readings

***The Carols of Christmas:
While shepherds Watched their
flocks by night***

Jeremiah 33: 14-16 (Page 645)

Luke 2: 8-20 (Page 833)

Also at All Saints & Holy Rood:

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 (Page 960)



**Proclaiming the Risen Jesus
Steadfast in faith
Active in service**

*Come and worship with us or find out about the
Christian faith - we are a vibrant community of
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**We are part of the Church of England, Diocese of Winchester and in covenant
partnership with Alton Methodist Church.**

Dear Reader

Today is Advent Sunday, but this isn't simply a season just to countdown to Christmas. It is set aside as a period of time when we reflect on the coming of Jesus Christ into the world and what that means for everyone. As we light our Advent Wreath candles we will think of the patriarchs, the prophets, John the Baptist and Mary which help to bring into focus God's big picture of salvation through the whole of the Biblical story. Sometimes we say the candles stand for love, joy, hope and peace which are other good, healthy themes to bring to mind and heart through the season. Whatever the reason for Advent is to set ourselves ready to receive the Good News of Christmas which is that God sends his Son to live with us - Emmanuel - bringing us eternal life and back into relationship with Him.

We start our Advent Season with the Advent Carol Service this evening at 6.30pm in St Lawrence Church when we join with our friends from Alton Methodist Church to worship together.

We are looking forward to our Christmas Tree Festival in St Lawrence Church next weekend open 10am-4pm on Saturday and 12pm-4pm on Sunday. Also the Christmas Fair in the Parish Centre on Saturday, 10am-4pm.

Please take a Christmas Services postcard for yourselves and deliver them as well. We are running out already of the Christmas Hope magazines but do deliver those with the postcards if you can. We are looking forward to welcoming lots of people over the Christmas period as we celebrate Jesus coming into the world.

Andrew



Please remember to support our local food bank. The Alton Foodbank is starting to get ready for Christmas. The warehouse is full of all essential foods thanks to the generosity of the town. We are now collecting some more special Christmas items such as mince pies, Christmas cake, box of biscuits, children's selection box, box of chocolates, large chocolate bars (150/200g), snacks and nibbles, Christmas crackers, sugar, UHT milk, fruit juice, shampoo, deodorant. ***“Don't come to church empty handed”***
All donations to be placed in the Foodbank basket in church.

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A better way to encourage giving in your church

Parish Giving Scheme The Parish is reliant on the generosity of its worshipping community for all of our ministry and mission. We are grateful to those who contribute financially. If you wish to give more or become a regular giver then please speak to Elizabeth Dain on 01420 89062 or dainbs@btinternet.com, and she will talk to you about the Parish Giving Scheme. If you are a tax payer then please do make sure your donation is gift aided and the government will give us 25% more at no extra cost to you. There are envelopes available for one-off gifts.

Bible Readings for the week

taken from the Church of England lectionary – readings to use daily

Monday 3rd	Psalm 50	Isaiah 42.18-end	Revelation 19
Tuesday 4th	Psalm 80	Isaiah 43.1-13	Revelation 20
Weds 5th	Psalm 7	Isaiah 43.14-end	Revelation 21.1-8
Thurs 6th	Psalm 42	Isaiah 44.1-8	Revelation 21.9-21
Friday 7th	Psalm 25	Isaiah 44.9-23	Revelation 21.22-22.5
Saturday 8th	Psalm 9	Isaiah 44.24-45.13	Revelation 22.6-end
Sunday 9th		Philippians 1.3-11	Luke 1.26-38

Also at All Saints and Holy Rood:

Malachi 3.1-4

Discipleship Groups

There are a number of discipleship groups meeting across the parish. They are open for anyone to attend - it doesn't matter which church you normally attend or where you live, simply contact the leader before turning up. If you would like to host or lead another one, then please contact Andrew.

Monday; Oasis (formerly Young Mum's Home Group.) Meeting every other Monday at Sally Kemp's house, 44 Vicarage Hill, Alton. For further info please contact Ellie Elder on 07736666650 or email: ellieelder@gmail.com

Tuesday: New Housegroup (name to be decided). Meeting bi-monthly at Pilgrim Cottage, 44 Vicarage Hill at 9.30am. **The next meeting will be on the 4th December.**

Wednesday; Pilgrim Group at All Saints - 3rd Wednesday of each month after the communion service, from 10.15am until 11.15am.

Wednesday Housegroup are looking at The Ten Commandments. We meet at 7.45 for 8pm start usually at 62 Anstey Road. For more information call Margaret and Peter on 86063 or Robin and Sally on 769802.

Thursday; Bible Society LYFE at Liz & Trev's, at 2 The Lamports, led by Liz Griffiths. For more information. Please contact Liz via email: lizmgriff@hotmail.com



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Praying in December 2018

During Advent we pray for our preparation for the coming of Jesus Christ. Please pray for the work involved in The Christmas Tree Festival & Christmas Fair (8/9th December); pray for the Christingle Service being held at St Lawrence Church (9th December, 4.30pm); pray for the musicians and choirs practising for special services; pray for those who will lead and preach over the coming weeks.

We pray for those who will come to the Carol and Crib services over Christmas. We name five people we know who we would like to encounter Jesus this Christmas and come to faith in Him. Pray that people will read our Christmas postcards and the Christmas Hope Magazine.

Advent and Christmas can be such a lonely time for some people. We pray for those who are not able to with their families because of long distances or the inability to travel. We pray for those who this Christmas will be the first without a loved one. We pray for the Christmas Day lunch being held in held in The Parish Centre being organised by Derek and Elspeth Gurney and others.

We pray for all those who serve our local community as our Alton town councillors and especially for the Mayor, Cllr Derek Gardner.

Over the recent months we have supported a number of charities and we pray for their work - for Alton Foodbank, for the charities engaged with The Disasters Emergency Committee work with those in Indonesia, for our link with the Diocese of Karamoja. During December we will be collecting goods for the Refuge here in Alton - please pray for their vital work.

We continue to pray for our diocese, this month praying for those who work in the Finance Team and who spend time faithfully ensuring the smooth running of the precious resources we share. We pray for our own generosity to fund the ongoing work of mission and ministry here in the Parish and Diocese.

We pray for our continuing partnership with Alton Methodist Church in The Greater Alton Project. Pray for unity, fellowship, commitment and our shared mission.



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The call to prayer is in three simple ways

Daily, weekly, monthly

Every day there is a prayer for the beginning of the day, for the middle of the day and for the end of the day. Please find a suitable time to use these prayers which are printed here.

For the beginning of the day
- The Community Prayer

Living God,
you have called us to be
the Body of Christ.
May our parish be a sign of hope
in our community of
Holybourne, Beech and Alton.
May all we do,
and all we are becoming,
bring praise to your name
and draw others to your love.
We ask these things
in the name of Jesus,
who came to serve and bring us
fullness of life.
Amen.

For the middle of the day
- The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass
against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.

For the end of the day
- The Caleb Prayer

O High King of heaven,
have mercy on our land.
Revive your Church;
send the Holy Spirit
for the sake of the children.
May your kingdom come
to our nation.
In Jesus' mighty name.
Amen.

We should pray for each person by name;

Those who are sick or require prayer:

Julia Poole, Joan Hedges, Barbara Turk, Joan Cheeseman, Jeremy, Barbara Small, Tony Ludlow, Ben Stonehill, Neil, Imogen and family, Ian Toombs, Jacob and Joshua (twins)

Those who are bereaved, Families of :

Andrew George, Angela Collins, Jean Mann, Geraldine Harrington, Susan Thorne, Simon May, Reginald Aldhous, David Savage, Grace Hammond, David Hurley, Margaret Morley, Jill Frampton, Jennifer Blackman, Sally Garner, Helen Bradley,

Those preparing for Marriage:

George Harding and Georgina Caddy
John Cornell and Hannah Lucas

Prayer Cascade. Need Prayer for any reason? Just email, in confidence to pray4potr@gmail.com or complete a prayer request card available in all our churches. A prayer team from this parish will pray regularly for each request for up to a month.

Diary for the week

Morning Prayer is said at 8.45am Monday - Friday in St Lawrence, excluding Thursday when Prayers are said in Holybourne Church at 8.30am.

Monday	9.30am	Teddies Group	St Lawrence Church
	1.30pm	Funeral of Jean Mann	All Saints Church
	2.00pm	Organ Practice	St Lawrence Church
	7.00pm	Meet and Eat Group	The Swan Hotel
	7.30pm	Choir Practice for Christmas	Holy Rood Church
Tuesday	8.00pm	Cantique Rehearsal	St Lawrence Church
	9.00-12.00	Tuesday Café	Holy Rood Church
	9.00-12.00	School activities for Christmas	St Lawrence Church
	10.45am	Communion	Borovere
	11.00am	Funeral of Angela Collins	All Saints Church
	12.00-5.00	Organ Rehearsal	St Lawrence Church
	2.30pm	Communion	Brendoncare
	7.00pm	Mettle Youth Group	44 Vicarage Hill
	7.30pm	Bell Ringing Practice	All Saints Church
Wednesday	8.00pm	Alton Organ Society Concert	St Lawrence Church
	9.30am	Parish Midweek Communion	All Saints Church
	10.30am	Communion	The Lawn
	1.00pm	Funeral of Andrew George	St Lawrence Church
Thursday	5.00pm	Organ Practice	St Lawrence Church
	9.30am	Teddies Group	Holy Rood Church
	10.30am	Communion	Mary Rose Mews
	12.30-6.30pm	Alton College Christmas Rehearsal	St Lawrence Church
Friday	7.30pm	Alton College Christmas Concert	St Lawrence Church
	10.30am	Communion	Willow Court
	2.30pm	Funeral of Susan Thorne	All Saints Church
	5.00pm	Covenant Training Choir Practice	St Lawrence Church
	6.15pm	Covenant Youth Choir Practice	St Lawrence Church
Saturday	7.30pm	Choir Practice	St Lawrence Church
	9.45am	Prayer Group	St Lawrence Church
	10am-4pm	Christmas Market	Parish Centre
	10am-4pm	Christmas Tree Festival	St Lawrence Church
Sunday	5.00pm	Evening Prayer	All Saints Church
	8.00am	BCP Communion	St Lawrence Church
	9.15am	Parish Communion	St Peter's Church
	9.30am	Parish Communion with Baptism	Holy Rood Church
	10.30am	Parish Communion	St Lawrence Church
	10.30am	High Mass	All Saints Church
	12.00-4pm	Christmas Tree Festival	St Lawrence Church
	4.30pm	Christingle Service	St Lawrence Church
6.30pm	Evening Worship	St Lawrence Church	
	6.30pm	FROG Youth Group (10-13 yrs)	Parish Centre

For more information please go to our web site www.potr-alton.co.uk

Notices

Christmas Tree Festival Saturday and Sunday 8th and 9th December and Christmas Market in The Parish Centre, Saturday 8th December

MAKERS AND BAKERS.....Calling all makers and bakers of Christmas gifts, decorations and produce for The Market. Please prepare what you can, jams, chutneys, cakes sweets, table decorations (all clearly labelled with ingredients).We look forward to receiving your kind offerings on Saturday morning from 8.15 am, and if not convenient we will collect from your house on the Friday .

TOMBOLA.....If you can donate new items (including anything chocolate) for the Tombola at the Christmas Tree Festival, please leave them in the Parish Office, or hand to Elaine Cook or Jenny Thompson.Thank you.

HELPERS PLEASE for our Christmas Weekendif you have a two hour slot on Saturday between 10am and 4pm to help with the market in the Parish Centre or the Christmas Tree Festival in The Church, also on Sunday 12-4 pm in the church, please contact Elaine or Sarah. Elaine Cook 01420 83495 and Sarah Neish 07761033031 or 01420 565696

Traidcraft stall— There will be a Traidcraft stall after the 10.30am service at St Lawrence Church on **Sunday 9th December**.This is your last opportunity before Christmas to buy treats and gifts.There will be no Traidcraft stall in January, the next chance to buy goodies will Sunday 10th February, so come along on the 9th December and stock up. Thank you to all of you who've support Traidcraft in 2018 and let's hope 2019 will see the business rise out of adversity to celebrate its 40th year. Many thanks Jo

'Come and Join Us' preschool children's group— **Wednesday 12th December** from 10.15am (after the 9.30am service) at All Saints Church.

Christmas Jumper Day—the Parish Office will be raising some money for Save the Children on **Friday 14th December**.Why not pop into the office between 9.30am and 2.30pm and enjoy a mince whilst wearing your best Christmas jumper! All Christmas jumper wearers are invited to donate £2 to Save the Children (the mince pie is free). Prize for the best jumper of the day!

'Celebration of Christmas in Song and Word' on **Sunday 16th December** at 6.30pm at Holy Rood, Holybourne. Please contact Karen Pepper for further details: Email: karen.pepper2@btinternet.com

Covenant Youth Choir with the Covenant Training Choir present their '**Giant Christmas Music Fest**' at St Lawrence Church on **Saturday 22nd December** at 6pm (doors open at 5.45pm).Adults: £5; Senior Citizens £3; Children under 16: £2.Available from POTR Office; Eventbrite & cymcalton@gmail.com.

CYC QUIZ - the ever inventive Sue Dell has come up with a quiz to raise funds for the choir. Buy a copy for £2.50 from Joy or Sue and have a chance of winning chocolate in January, just as the Christmas supply runs out....if you would like to take part and cannot contact us at church, email Joy on revjoywindsor@gmail.com and one will wing its way to you.

Anna Chaplain Vacancy for the Benefice of Bentley, Binsted and Froyle. 8 hrs per week. For further information, please contact Hannah Dubreuil, St Mary's Church, Church Lane, Bentley, GU10 5NA or email: admin@benbinfro.org. Closing date: 7th Jan 2019

Notices

**Please provide all notices for next weeks Parish Matters
by 12noon on Wednesday . Thank you**

Payments to the Parish If you would like to make a payment or donation to the Parish, please contact the Parish office for the Parish bank account details or make cheques payable to 'Parish of the Resurrection, Alton'. Gift Aid white envelopes can be found in each of the churches. *Thank you*

The Lighthouse.....



Come and join at The Lighthouse
Every Sunday (Term Time)
9.15am at Church of the Holy Rood
10.30am at St Lawrence Parish Centre
10.30am at Alton Methodist Church
**Games, crafts, singing, prayers
everyone is welcome.**

Teddy Bear Service.....

Come to the Teddy Bears Service
Mondays
9:30am until 10:30am
St Lawrence Church
Thursdays (Term Time)
9:30am until 10:30am
Church of the Holy Rood Holybourne
For stories, crafts, singing, prayers



Ministry Team

Vicar: *Revd Andrew Micklefield*
Email: andrewmicklefield@gmail.com
Tel. 88794 Day off: Friday

Curate: *Revd Joy Windsor*
Email: revjoywindsor@gmail.com
Tel: 07730 168291 (Wed, Sat & Sun)

Assistant Priest: *Revd Lynn Power (Treloar Chaplain)*
Email: revlynnpower@outlook.com
Tel. 07850232995

Assistant Priest: *Revd Ian Toombs*
Email: toombsian@googlemail.com
Tel. 88130

Assistant Priest: *Revd Martin East*
Email: martineast@btinternet.com
Tel: 549595

Licensed Lay Ministers: *Margaret Bell*
Email: mbellnco@talktalk.net
Tel. 86063

Anna Chaplains: *Debbie Thrower and Revd Rachel Sturt (Assistant Priest)* Tel. 83234

Youth Worker: *Ali Wright,*
Email: aliwrightyouthminister@gmail.com
Tel. 07399937839

Pastoral Visiting:
c/o Revd Andrew Micklefield Tel: 88794

Getting in touch

For enquiries please be in touch with the Parish Administrator on
01420 83234 or potr.alton@btinternet.com
Prayer Cascade email: pray4potr@gmail.com
The office is open Monday to Friday 9.30am - 12.30pm