



ARLE VALLEY BENEFICE

*St John's Church, New Alresford ♦ St Mary's Church, Old Alresford
St Peter's Church, Ovington ♦ All Saints Church, Bighton*

August 7th : Eighth Sunday after Trinity

Welcome to our worship today. If you are a newcomer, please make yourself known to the Clergy or one of the Churchwardens after the service.

If you are hard of hearing, there is a hearing loop system in operation at St John's, St Peter's and St Mary's. If moving is difficult and you wish to have communion brought to you, please ask the Churchwarden on duty.

We would encourage quiet time for 5 minutes before the start of each service.

You are welcome to take this pew sheet home with you.

Services this Sunday:

09:30: St John's: Parish Communion (Rev'd Heather)

11:00: St Mary's: Patronal Morning Praise (Sue Armstrong)



*May your unfailing love rest upon us, O Lord,
even as we put our hope in you [from Psalm 33]*

Services this week:

Monday August 8th

09.00: *All Saints:* Morning Prayer (*Rev'd Heather*)

Tuesday August 9th

09.00: *St John's:* Morning Prayer (*Rev'd Heather*)

Wednesday August 10th

09.00: *St Mary's:* Morning Prayer (*Rev'd Heather*)

10.00: *St John's:* Holy Communion (*Rev'd Heather*)

Thursday August 11th

09.00: *St Peter's:* Morning Prayer (*Rev'd Heather*)

Sunday August 14th: Ninth Sunday after Trinity

09.30: *St John's:* Second Sunday (*Rev'd Heather & Rosie*)

11.00: *St Mary's:* Morning Praise (*Sue Armstrong*)

11.00: *St Peter's:* Parish Communion (*Rev'd Heather*)

11.00: *All Saints:* Morning Prayer (*Ian Waring Green*)

The Holy Communion service on Wednesday will be followed by coffee in the John Pearson Hall.

What's on this week:

Old Alresford Mothers' Union meeting and service on 9th August:

Please see the notice on [page 4](#) for details.

Alresford Ladies Group On 11th August:

Details on [page 4](#).

Michael Project Bridge to Bezi Cycle Ride 8th-12th August.

Please support this - information on [page 3](#).

Please direct:

- ▶ Material for notices: please email Rob Attenborough on notices@arlevalleychurches.org.uk **Deadline: 3pm Thursday.**
- ▶ Information about those in hospital to Sue Greenway 732406 or Patricia Todd 738408 or Keith Sweetland 735255.
- ▶ Information for Intercessions to the churchwardens.

Rector: Rev'd Heather Brearey
Email: arlevalleyrector@gmail.com Tel: 01962 732105
Benefice website: www.arlevalleychurches.org.uk

This week's notices...

Flowers in St John's:



The chancel flowers in St. John's have been sponsored by

Olive Kennedy

"Remembering her brother Clive and her parents"

All Sundays are now sponsored up to the end of 2022.

Many thanks to you all.

Michael Project:

Bridge to Bezi Cycle ride is taking place from **8th August to the 12th August**, they are raising money for School Fees for the Children at Shalom Home. You can donate on line at <https://smarturl.it/bridgetobezi> or through Margaret Stewart making cheques out to The Michael Project and left in the church office, if you would like to support them. As always many thanks for your interest.



Prayer requests: If you would like the Prayer team to pray for you, your family, friends or any other situation, please contact Rosie Waring Green: rosie@22rwg.co.uk or 01962 733237. We of course always respect the confidentiality of your requests.



Giving at St John's: If you would like to make a contribution to church funds with a debit or credit card, this can usually be done at the back of the church after the main services, or phone David Griffiths on 734408.

Solos: On Sunday **21st August** we will be serving Tea and Homemade cakes in the John Pearson Hall 2pm-4pm. Please come and join us for conversation and friendship. Hope to see you then.

Information Marion 733921 Margaret 735185

St John's mission team:

We are looking for people to join our mission team. This is a small group which will report to the PCC to look at and discern our mission in the parish. Meetings will be bi-monthly with a time and day to suit those in the team.

If you have a heart for mission and outreach please consider joining us.

Email, call or speak to the Rector. Thanks



Save the Date - performance of ***Daniel*** from the Summer Fun Team on **Friday 26th August** at 6pm. All invited. *More details next week.*

This week's notices...

Our Place is BACK!! The Youth Group for Years 6 upwards is returning after a break of 2 years...

We will be meeting in the Upper Room of Alresford Methodist Church on the **1st and 3rd Sundays of the month from 6pm - 8pm starting on Sunday 18th September.**

We have a small core of helpers but would love some more to help spread the load. If you love having fun with young people and would like to come along and help fortnightly, monthly or occasionally, *please get in touch with Rosie Waring Green* rosie@22rwg.co.uk or 07891120662.



We would like to thank Penny and her husband Andrew for their hard work creating the Welcome and Mission area in the porch of St John's. Penny will be replenishing the booklets and leaflets as and when they are needed. Please do not display anything else without speaking to Penny first. *Thank you. Jane and Rosie.*

Notelets for Sale: *Notelets have been produced depicting St John's and they are for sale at the back of the Church.*

They are blank inside for your own message and together with an envelope cost £1 – all proceeds to Church funds. If you wish to purchase, please put the money in the wall safe. They are also available free from Penny should you wish to use them for Church purposes.

Old Alresford Mothers' Union:

Our next meeting is the Mary Sumner day on **Tuesday 9 August** at 2pm. There will be a service at St. Mary's Old Alresford followed by tea and cake at The Christy Hall, Old Alresford. New members always welcome. *Contact: Stephanie Durrant, Secretary, 732318.*

Jane and Rosie would like you to pray about whether you or anyone you know would be able to help us - mostly Jane! - with the simpler tasks involved in the weekly finances of St John's. Jon, our Treasurer, deals with all the complicated finance reports etc but we need one or maybe two people to take this task from the Churchwardens. Please contact Jane to talk about what is involved. *Thank you.*

Alresford Ladies Group: On **11th August** Jean Frost will give a talk on *Bee Keeping*. The meeting will take place in the John Pearson Hall at 7.30pm and new members are always very welcome. *Enquiries to Beverly Terrill, 01962 733112.*

This week's notices...

Did you see the Orchids next to the war memorial ?



There were 30 flowering spikes this year. Jon, who lives locally and works with the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Amphibian & Reptile Group, was responsible for marking and highlighting them. He is advising the Creation Care Team on nurturing the biodiversity of the Churchyard. His ultimate goal is to maintain the orchids in this area and to increase the numbers to over 100 flowering spikes to make an impressive display each summer for churchyard visitors to enjoy. Caring for this area involves hand pulling the longer grass to mimic grazing animals and cutting the grassland in the late summer once the orchids have set their spores. Orchids have also emerged towards the railway and there are other plant species coming through. *This is all very exciting and the Creation Care Team is very grateful to Jon for his help and advice.*

SUNDAY@6 on the SECOND Sunday of the month

6pm Sunday 14th August at St John's



We would love you to join everyone for a service with a reflective informal contemporary feel.

Worship, Readings, Prayer and a Talk.

Time to chat with tea and cake from 5.45pm

The theme for the next few months will be the **Lord's Prayer**. This is a real opportunity to reflect on the prayer Jesus gave us as a model and find ways of deepening and enhancing our prayer life - individually and corporately.



Collect and Readings: Eighth Sunday after Trinity

Collect:

Almighty Lord and everlasting God,
we beseech you to direct, sanctify and govern both our hearts and bodies
in the ways of your laws and the works of your commandments;
that through your most mighty protection, both here and ever,
we may be preserved in body and soul;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen

First Reading: Genesis 15.1-6

To be announced as a Reading from the Book of Genesis

The word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, 'Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.' But Abram said, 'O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?' And Abram said, 'You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.' But the word of the LORD came to him, 'This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.' He brought him outside and said, 'Look towards heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your descendants be.' And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

*At the end the reader will say: **This is the Word of the Lord***

*The response is: **Thanks be to God***



Second Reading: Hebrews 11.1-3,8-16

To be announced as a Reading from the Epistle to the Hebrews

Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old – and Sarah herself was barren – because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, 'as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.'

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

*At the end the reader will say: **This is the Word of the Lord***

*The response is: **Thanks be to God***

Gospel: Luke 12.32-40

When the Gospel is announced we respond with:

Glory to you, O Lord

Jesus said to his disciples, 'Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.'

*At the end the reader will say: **This is the Gospel of the Lord***

*The response is: **Praise to you, O Christ***



Post Communion Prayer

Strengthen for service, Lord,
the hands that have taken holy things;
may the ears which have heard your word
be deaf to clamour and dispute;
may the tongues which have sung your praise
be free from deceit;
may the eyes which have seen the tokens of your love
shine with the light of hope;
and may the bodies which have been fed with your body
be refreshed with the fullness of your life;
glory to you for ever.

Amen



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For Prayer

Please pray for:

- Those who are in **hospital**
- Those who are ill **at home** or recovering from being in hospital
- Those **receiving on-going care**
- Those in **Nursing and Rest Homes**
- **Home Communicants**
- **R.I.P.** Those who have recently died. We pray too for their families.

Please pray for...

Our troubled world. Bring to God all the tensions in his world causing pain to so many people. Pray for the peoples of China and Taiwan; Russia and Ukraine; the Lebanon; Afghanistan and wherever else there is conflict and tension. Ask for healing for what is past and which still corrodes the future.

The affects of Climate Change. Pray for all those suffering from floods, fires and drought causing starvation, all being the result of Climate Change. Ask God to speak to all of us about the care of the planet and help us find ways of cutting carbon emissions. Pray for our farmers as they are trying to cope with no rain and harvest time is upon us.

The rising cost of living. Pray for all those who are finding it hard to manage to put food on the table and pay their rent. Pray that the rise in interest rates will not cause people to have to give up their homes because of higher mortgage payments.

The way we live our lives. Ask God to be present in our everyday living; in our homes; our workplaces and all our relationships. Pray that we may all be more trustworthy in our friendships and be more resolved to live our faith by our actions.

Our young people. Pray for all on holiday from school, college or university. Pray that they may find rest and comfort after the academic year and that if they have anxieties they may find the right people to talk to.

Christian Aid and particularly for the people it is working with in East Africa, where the worst drought in 40 years, caused by four failed back-to-back rainy seasons, is threatening famine. We pray for our own efforts to reduce the effects of climate change, which is causing so much suffering in poorer countries.

*Give thanks for the extraordinary generosity of God's love for us,
which lasts beyond death into the whole of eternity.*