



# ARLE VALLEY BENEFICE

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

## **April 27th : Second Sunday of Easter**

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.

If you would like to use a Service booklet or hymn book, they are always available from the Sidespeople as you come into church. 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:*

- 08.00: St John's: Holy Communion BCP (Rev'd Heather)**  
**09.30: St John's: Celtic Service of the Word (Angela Peel)**  
**09.30: St Mary's: Holy Communion BCP (Rev'd Heather)**  
**11.00: All Saints: Parish Communion (Rev'd Heather)**  
**16.30: St John's: Evening Prayer (Peter, Susan & Charlotte)**

### *Services in the coming Week:*

#### **Monday April 28th**

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

#### **Tuesday April 29th**

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

#### **Wednesday April 30th**

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

10.00: *St John's:* Holy Communion (Rev'd Heather)  
*followed by coffee in the John Pearson Hall.*

#### **Thursday May 1st**

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

#### **Sunday May 4th: Third Sunday of Easter**

09.30: *St John's:* Parish Communion (Rev'd Heather)

11.00: *St Peter's:* Café Church (Minna Bruce)

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

11.00: *All Saints:* No service

16.00: *St John's:* Families at 4

*Father, we thank you for the gift of sight*

## **What's on this week:**

**Prayer Meeting for the parish and our community** - every Friday at 10-11am in St John's Church - *feel free to drop in.*

**Monday Meet and Eat** - Monday 28th April at 3.30pm in JPH.

**St Gregory's Soup & Pud Lunch** - Tuesday 29th April at 12.30pm (see [page 4](#)).

**St John's APCM** - Tuesday 29th April at 8pm in JPH (see [page 3](#)).

**Wednesdays with Heather** - Wednesday 30th April at 10.45am in JPH.

**Chill Chat and Chomp!** - Wednesday 30th April at 5pm in St John's Vestry.

**Chatterbox** - Thursday 1st May at 10-11am in JPH.

## **St John's Flowers:**

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

### **• Patricia Walker:**

Remembering Graham her late husband and also her late Brother-in-Law



## **Live Streaming at St John's:**

The link for the live-streaming of services at St John's is:

[www.youtube.com/@thearlevalleybenefice5720/streams](http://www.youtube.com/@thearlevalleybenefice5720/streams)

It will come up under a Live heading with a green oblong with a small round picture of St John's underneath. Click on the oblong and it will open the live stream.

**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](mailto:rosie@22rwg.co.uk) or 01962 733237. We of course always respect the confidentiality of your requests.



**Thanksgiving Service:** Anne Hanson's thanksgiving service will be at St John's on Friday 16th May at 11.30am. All welcome.

## **Change to the Weekly Notices:**

After many years of producing the weekly notices, Rob is retiring! Penny will be looking after them from now on so please email her with items to go in the notices. Please still use the same email address of [notices@arlevalleychurches.org.uk](mailto:notices@arlevalleychurches.org.uk).

*Note the new deadline from now on is **12pm on Wednesdays**, and anything after that time will go in the following week's notices.*

**Rector: Rev'd Heather Brearey Email: [arlevalleyrector@gmail.com](mailto:arlevalleyrector@gmail.com) Tel: 01962 732105**  
**Benefice website: [www.arlevalleychurches.org.uk](http://www.arlevalleychurches.org.uk)**

## ***This week's notices...***

**Alpha Course:** There will be a new Alpha course starting on Thursday lunchtimes from **12 noon to 2pm from April 24th**. This is a 12 week course for new Christians, those exploring their faith and those who have been Christians for a long time who would like to refresh the basics. It is designed to be a safe place where you can ask questions, participate or just listen and reflect. A light lunch will be provided each week, this is followed by a short video and discussion time.

*Please contact Rosie Waring Green to sign up or for any further details...  
rosie@22rwg.co.uk or 07891120662.*

**Solos:** Unfortunately we were unable to meet in April as it was Easter Sunday nor can we in May as that is the Watercress festival. So our next Afternoon Tea will be **Sunday 15th June** at the usual time of 2.30pm when we look forward to seeing you all again. *Margaret and team.*

**St John's Chair Plan:** Please note that there is a slight chair plan change and there are new master copies of the layout at the back of the church and on the piano / organ. This is information for those who kindly move the chairs around for any reason. Thank you.

**St John's Annual Parochial Church Meeting-- Tuesday April 29th 8pm in JPH:** You are invited to attend this Annual Parochial Church Meeting. At the meeting, we will be electing or re-electing Churchwardens, and PCC members to serve from 2025, as well as the normal reporting functions of the annual meeting. To be eligible to stand for election, candidates must be aged 16 or over (21 for Churchwardens), be actual communicants, have been registered on the Electoral Roll for the previous 6 months, and have indicated a willingness to stand. Other considerations are contained in the Church Representational Rules. Nomination forms for election to all roles are available at the rear of the church. If you would like further information on what is involved in any of these roles, or to volunteer to stand for election, please speak to the Rector or the Churchwardens. The Annual Report and Financial Statements for 2024 will again be distributed by email this year. For those on the Electoral Roll who are not on email, printed (named and addressed) copies will be available at the rear of the church, from where they can be collected. *Thank you.*

**The St John's APCM on Tuesday 29th April at 8pm will be live streamed using this usual link** [www.youtube.com/@thearlevalleybenefice5720/streams](http://www.youtube.com/@thearlevalleybenefice5720/streams).

### **Please direct:**

- ▶ **Material for notices:** please email Penny Forbes at [notices@arlevalleychurches.org.uk](mailto:notices@arlevalleychurches.org.uk) **Deadline: 12pm Wednesday.**
- ▶ **Information about those in hospital** to Jackie Connell 732056 or Patricia Todd 738408 or Keith Sweetland 735255.
- ▶ **Information for Intercessions to the churchwardens.**

## **ST JOHN'S CAFÉ at the Watercress Festival on Sunday 18th May.**



We need to start gathering our wonderful army of volunteers who make this, our biggest fundraiser, the success it has always been in the past. Sign up sheets are now at the back of the Church.

There are many ways in which to help, so please have a look and add your name to one or maybe more of the boxes.

Encourage your friends to join us - many hands make light work!

**The organising team look forward to sharing this exciting day with you.**

**It is important that all volunteers are risk aware. So please take a risk assessment sheet and tick the red box beside your name on the sign up sheet to indicate that you have one.**

# **SOUP & PUD LUNCH**

## **In Aid of the BOAZ Project**

Who help adults with learning difficulties at  
their farm based near Sutton Scotney



**Donations  
welcome**

**Tuesday, 29th April '25**  
**12.30 -2.00PM**  
**St Gregory's Church Hall**

**ALL WELCOME - Come and enjoy our delicious  
homemade soups and puds**



A promotional poster for the film 'Paddington in Peru'. The central image shows Paddington Bear, a small brown bear wearing a red hat and a blue duffle coat, parachuting over a vast, mountainous landscape. He is holding a brown umbrella in his right paw and a brown suitcase in his left. The background features steep, green mountains under a blue sky with scattered white clouds. Text is overlaid on the image in various white boxes with black borders.

# Alresford Community Cinema

# PADDINGTON IN PERU

**Tickets £10**

**Card or cash on the door**

**Licensed bar**

**Community Centre**

**Tuesday 6th May**

**7.00pm start**

**Bookings 01962 736282 or 07780 703543**

**Please note: Booked seats will, in future, be reserved until 6.45pm but then released for general sale**

**Brought to you by the Friends of St John's**

Paddington has received a letter from the Home for Retired Bears in Peru, informing him that Aunt Lucy deeply misses him and is acting strangely. So Paddington and the Brown family decide to travel to Peru to visit her. On arrival, though, they learn from the Reverend Mother that Aunt Lucy has gone missing in the jungle ...!

*Please note that booked seats will, in future, be reserved until 6.45pm but then released for general sale.*



## Collect and Readings for the Second Sunday of Easter

### Collect:

Almighty Father,  
you have given your only Son to die for our sins  
and to rise again for our justification:  
grant us so to put away the leaven of malice and wickedness  
that we may always serve you  
in pureness of living and truth;  
through the merits of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**



### First Reading: Acts 5.27-32

*To be announced as a Reading from the Acts of the Apostles*

When the temple police had brought the apostles, they made them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, 'We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us.' But Peter and the apostles answered, 'We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.'

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

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



### Second Reading: Revelation 1.4-8

*To be announced as a Reading from the Book of Revelation*

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him;

and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

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

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

## **Gospel: John 20.19-31**

*When the Gospel is announced we respond with:*

**Glory to you, O Lord**

When it was evening on the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

*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**

Lord God our Father,  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ  
you have assured your children of eternal life  
and in baptism have made us one with him:  
deliver us from the death of sin  
and raise us to new life in your love,  
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Amen**

### **Copyright Acknowledgement:**

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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...**

**CMS.....** Please pray for Simon and Sarah Cawdell in Gulu, Uganda, coming alongside local Christians, helping them to grow in their faith, teaching theology to local leaders and building sustainability.

**The World.....** Bring before God all World Leaders at this difficult time. Pray that they may all be given the gifts of discernment and integrity; clear away all self-centred ambitions so that they may learn to serve instead of dictate. Pray that all those caught up in war may feel God's peace and know that they are being prayed for.

**Heather and all who serve the church.....** Pray for Heather and all Ministers in their demanding ministry. Pray they will all be given the support, grace and wisdom to work to God's glory. After the demands of Easter may they all enjoy some rest.

**Give thanks for the life of Pope Francis.....** As the world mourns the death of Pope Francis let us give thanks for his teaching. May we all learn his lessons concerning the poor and marginalised. Pray that The Conclave may be inspired by the Holy Spirit when meeting to choose his successor.

**Our Young people and Social Media.....** Bring before God all our young people, especially those who are so influenced by Social Media. Pray that the new laws concerning how Social Media operates will be successful in stopping more young people committing suicide.

**The sick and those in pain.....** Pray that those who are unwell, especially those with a life threatening illness may be aware of God's love. Pray that medicines will be available to help with pain; that hospices will be able to continue because all added costs at the moment and give thanks for all the help we receive from our surgery.

**Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

***Help us always to see with eyes of faith, love & honesty***