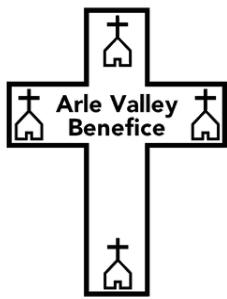


The Arle Valley Benefice

St. John's Church, New Alresford + St. Peter's Church, Ovington
St. Mary's Church, Old Alresford + All Saints Church, Bighton



8th February 2026 - 2nd Sunday before Lent

Welcome to our worship today. Good to have you with us.

Please make yourself known to the Clergy or one of the Churchwardens after the service.

Services this Sunday:

This morning's Bible Readings:

[Genesis 1.1-2.3](#)

[Romas 8.18-25](#)

[Matthew 6.25-end](#)

St. John's

9.30am Breakfast Church

6pm Sundays @ Six

St. Mary's

Services will held in Old Alresford Place during the renovation.

9.30am Morning Praise

St. Peter's

11am Parish Communion

All Saints

11am Morning Prayer

Live Streaming at St. John's

LIVE

The link for the live-streaming of services is:

www.youtube.com/@thearlevalleybenefice5720streams

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.

Collect for Today

Almighty God,
you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever.

Amen

Post Communion Prayer

God our creator,
by your gift
the tree of life was set at the heart of
the earthly paradise,
and the bread of life at the heart of your Church:
may we who have been nourished at your table
on earth be transformed by the glory of the
Saviour's cross
and enjoy the delights of eternity;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

**Have a look at our
new and updated
Benefice website!**

www.arlevalleychurches.org.uk

NEW!

We have updated our Benefice website
with a fresh new look. We hope you like it!

Children are welcome at all services here.

A hearing aid 'loop' system operates at St. John's, St. Peter's & St. Mary's.

If moving is difficult and you wish to have communion brought to you, please ask the Churchwarden on duty.

If you require a gluten-free wafer, please inform us before the service begins.

Know of anyone who'd appreciate reading this notice sheet?
Please feel free to forward it to them.



All are welcome!

THIS WEEK (9th - 13th February)

Mon 9 th	9am 11.30am 3.30pm	All Saints St. John's John Pearson Hall	Morning Prayer Interment - David Carr Monday Meet & Eat (Families)
Tues 10 th	9am	St. John's	PAUSED - Morning Prayer
Wed 11 th	9am 10am 5pm	Vestry at St. Mary's St. John's John Pearson Hall	Morning Prayer Midweek Communion Chill, Chat & Chomp (Youth Group)
Thurs 12 th	9am 10am	St. Peter's John Pearson Hall	Morning Prayer (PAUSED UNTIL MARCH) Chatterbox Baby and Toddler Group
Fri 13 th	10am	St. John's - Prayer Space	Parish Prayer Meeting

NEXT SUNDAY (15th February) - Sunday Next Before Lent

9.30am 10am 11am 11am	St. John's St. Peter's Old Alresford Place (St. Mary's) All Saints	Parish Communion Morning Praise Parish Communion Morning Prayer
--------------------------------	--	--

PRAYERS FOR:

Peter P, Gareth C, Peter C, Roderick O-E, Paul D, Sue C, Janet P, Audrey S, Marion M, Shirley W, Margaret Se, Barbara G, Audrey C, Les W, Rosemary F, Hazel G, Val L, Tony H, Ian V, Jilly C, Sarah G, Dennis, David O, Robina S, Meg R, Roger and Jocelyn F, Monica D, Moira J, Audrey S, Joy F and those who attend worship at Wayfarer's Place, Bailey House and Makins Court

Those who have recently died:

John Lynne and Sylvia Percival

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:
e. rosie@22rwg.co.uk
or t. 01962 733237.

*We, of course,
always respect the
confidentiality of
your requests.*



BREAKFAST CHURCH

Breakfast church has gone from strength to strength and I would like to increase the number of volunteers so that the same people, if they choose, are not committed every month.

We usually set up at 5pm on Saturday which takes no longer than a half hour and then it is helping at the service and clearing up afterwards.



If you could volunteer for a Saturday set up

or a Sunday or both, I would love to hear from you.

Please email me and I will be in contact.

joanna_whiteman@yahoo.co.uk. Thanks Jo

CAN YOU HELP?

ACCOMMODATION FOR A PILGRIM MONDAY, 2ND MARCH

A place to rest needed (one night) for a male pilgrim from St. Andrew's Church, Landford walking the Pilgrim's Way.

If you can help, email the office: arlevalleychurches@gmail.com or t. 01962 733545.



Notices

RECTOR VACANCY UPDATE

You are invited to come into any of our churches to **collect a booklet in order to pray specifically for the advert for the new Rector of the Arle Valley Benefice.**

The advert for the post of Rector of the Arle Valley Benefice **is now live on the Diocese of Winchester Vacancies page.**

Please click this link **Rector Vacancy** on our website to take you to our helpful prayer booklet, Benefice Profile and the advert. 'Rector Vacancy' can also be accessed on our website under the 'About Us' tab.



St John's Lent Lunch

Wednesday, 1st April at 12.15pm

John Pearson Hall

£5 per person payable on the door or reserve your place in advance by emailing: pippa@chocolatecraft.co.uk or signing the list at the back of St. John's.

Homemade soup, bread, cheese and chutneys. Raffle £1 strip.



SAVE THE DATE:

Tuesday, 28th April at 8pm

ST. JOHN'S APCM

John Pearson Hall



UPCOMING GROUPS - MARK YOUR CALENDARS...



COFFEE, CAKE & CHAT @ ST. JOHN'S

Tuesday, 10th February (10 - 11.30am) in the John Pearson Hall

Come and join us on the 2nd Tuesday of each month for tea, coffee & delicious homemade cakes! ***This is for everyone across the local community.***

We'd love to see you. Feel free to invite friends, family and neighbours as well... the more the merrier!

SOLOS @ ST. JOHN'S

Looking forward to seeing you on Sunday 15th February from 2.30pm in the John Pearson Hall for sandwiches, tea and homemade cakes, conversation and friendship. ***For more information: t. 01962 733545.***



For Lent the Creation Care Team would like to encourage everyone to register for the Big Plastic Count.

[Sign up | The Big Plastic Count Sign up](#)

March 9th –15th

Join the UK's biggest people-powered investigation into plastic waste.

For one week in March, thousands of us will count our plastic waste to reveal the true scale of the UK's plastic problem.

Together, we'll call for a fair future that's free from the impacts of the plastics crisis.

**THE BIG
PLASTIC
COUNT
9-15 MARCH**

SIGN UP TODAY

Notices



Churches Together in Alresford 2026 Lent Studies - Two Opportunities for Study

1) The Joy of the Gospel by Paula Gooder

This six-part course for parishes and Lent groups is based on Pope Francis' much acclaimed reflections on mission and evangelism, published as *Evangelii Gaudium* ('The Joy of the Gospel'). Widely recognised as offering wisdom and vision for all Christians in a culture that is often hostile to the church, *Evangelii Gaudium* offers a positive and realistic approach to sharing faith in the modern world.

There is a course book (one per person is recommended) available for around £9.00: please contact your course leader for a copy.

Here in Alresford, in order to give maximum opportunity for taking part, the full course will be available in three different venues, as follows:

Alresford Methodist Church at 2.30pm on Wednesday 18 February and then at the same time on the next five **Wednesdays (25 February and 4, 11, 18 & 25 March)**: and led by Jonathan Hughes, Local Lay Pastor at Alresford Methodist Church: contact 07858 528379 or dandjhughes79@virginmedia.com

Alresford Methodist Church at 7.00 pm on Tuesday, 24 February and then at the same time on the next five **Tuesdays (3, 10, 17, 24 & 31 March)** and led by Susan Armstrong, Licensed Lay Minister; 01962 734542 or susanarmstrong50@icloud.com

12 Hawthorn Close, Alresford SO24 9LE, beginning at **3.00pm on Thursday 19 February** and then at the same time on the next five **Thursdays (26 February and 5, 12, 19 & 26 March)** and led by Kathryn and Roger Lockyer: contact 01962 809078 or lockerkathryn@gmail.com

Anyone wishing to enrol for one of the courses is invited to contact the course leader by telephone or email. **Should you wish to take part please apply asap to your chosen course leader, and preferably by Sunday 15 February.**

2) Table Talk

We will be running the usual Lenten Table talk: this year we are showing the film *Wicked* in the John Pearson Hall on **Friday 20 February, then on the subsequent four Fridays (27 February and 6, 13 & 20 March)**: we will be discussing themes and ideas coming out of the film.

Table Talk begins at 12.00 noon with a bring-and-share lunch, then discussions in small groups.

If you would like to take part please call Jackie Connell on 01962 732056 or jackie.connell@btinternet.com preferably before Sunday 15 February.



Our Facebook page
Our Instagram page

<https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsAlresford>
[the_alresford_area_churches](https://www.instagram.com/the_alresford_area_churches)

Material for notices:

please email Penny Forbes at
notices@arlevalleychurches.org.uk

Deadline: 12pm Wednesday

Information about those in hospital to:

Jackie Connell 01962 732056 or
Patricia Todd 01962 738408

**Urgent information for Intercessions
to the churchwardens.**

Rector: Position Vacant

Benefice Office

Open Monday - Friday 9 - 11am
t. 01962 733545
e. arlevalleychurches@gmail.com
www.arlevalleychurches.org.uk

Prayers for the coming week (8th - 14th February)



Please pray for.....

Pray for the weak and vulnerable in our world, those who have no voice.

Remember before God those who are starving, sick, injured or suffering from hypothermia because of on-going war or aggression in their country. Pray that world leaders will come to see the futility of war and work towards peace through negotiation rather than fighting.

Pray for our government and all politicians. May they be filled with wisdom, integrity and compassion. Pray that those who serve their community and country in this way will fully understand the trust that is placed upon them and act responsibly and justly.

Pray for those who were involved in last week's accident in West Street remembering especially those recovering from their injuries. Bring before God the staff and patients at Southampton General hospital who were affected by the fire last Sunday. Pray for those who are having to have to reorganise buildings and patient care as a result of the fire.

Pray for all who have been affected by the extreme rain of recent weeks.

Hold before God those whose home has been flooded, those unable to leave their home because of flooding and farmers who have lost crops or livestock. Pray that these extreme weather conditions will help us all to become more vigilant in our efforts to protect the environment and its natural resources.

Pray that the advert for a new Rector, which is appearing in this week's Church Times, will be seen by the person God is calling to this role.

Pray that we will take time to stop and listen to God and, as Lent approaches, consider how we might use this season to help us to know Him better.

*Brother, sister let me serve you, let me be as Christ to you,
Pray that I will have the grace to let you be my servant too.*