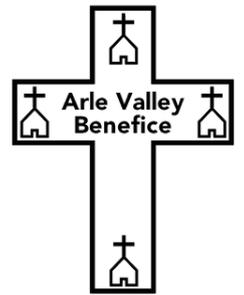


The Arle Valley Benefice



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

22nd March 2026 - 5th Sunday of 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:

Ezekiel 37.1–14

Romans 8.6–11

John 11.1–45

SUNDAY

St. John's

8am NO SERVICE

9.30am Celtic Service of the Word

4pm Tale of 3 Trees

St. Mary's

Services held in Old Alresford Place

9.30am Parish Communion (BCP)

All Saints

11am Parish Communion

NO 8AM SERVICE THIS SUNDAY

Please could you pass this message on to anyone who might normally attend this service.

Collect for Today

Most merciful God,
who by the death and resurrection of
your Son Jesus Christ
delivered and saved the world:
grant that by faith in him who suffered
on the cross
we may triumph in the power of his victory;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen

Post Communion Prayer

Lord Jesus Christ,
you have taught us
that what we do for the least of our
brothers and sisters
we do also for you:
give us the will to be the servant of others
as you were the servant of all,
and gave up your life and died for us,
but are alive and reign, now and for ever.

Amen

Live Streaming at St. John's

LIVE

The link for the live-streaming of services is:

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.

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
HERE**

THIS WEEK (23rd - 28th March)

Mon 23 rd	9am	All Saints	Morning Prayer
Tues 24 th	9am	St. John's	PAUSED - Morning Prayer
Wed 25 th	9am 10am 5pm	Vestry at St. Mary's St. John's Vestry in St. John's	Morning Prayer Wednesday Service of the Word Chill, Chat & Chomp
Thurs 26 th	9am 10am 4pm 7pm	St. Peter's John Pearson Hall St. John's Swan Hotel	Morning Prayer (PAUSED UNTIL MARCH) Chatterbox Soul Children Men's Supper Club for Widowers
Fri 27 th	10am	St. John's	Parish Prayer Meeting
Sat 28 th	9am	St. John's	Churchyard Cleanup @ St. John's

NEXT SUNDAY (29th March) - Palm Sunday

10am 4pm	St. Peter's St. John's	Benefice Palm Sunday Service Tale of 3 Trees Musical	
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PRAYERS FOR:

Mary G, Jenny W, Peter P, Gareth C, Peter C, Roderick O-E, Paul D, 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, 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:

Ken Richmond, Clive Earty and John Lynne

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.

Offers of Help?

It is that time of year when rotas are being created to help with the following on an occasional rota:

Welcomer to Chatterbox - Thursdays 10-11am;

Tech Rota for 9.30am service to help with either sound, live-streaming or clicking the overheads;

Helping to lock the church;

Monday Meet and Eat in term time to either make tea/coffee and wash up, play games with the children or help cook a meal/pudding.

If you would like to join one of these amazing teams, please contact Rosie on rosie@22rwg.co.uk or 07891 120662.



SAVE THE DATE!

EASTER CLEAN @ ST. JOHN'S

Thurs, 2nd April @ 9am
(yes...Maundy Thursday)

Bring your own dusters, mops etc.

Refreshments will be provided.

See you there...many hands make light work!



Let's make our Church sparkle again!
Thank you. Hefin.

Notices



ST. JOHN'S CHURCHYARD CLEAR UP
Saturday, 28th March
9am - 12 noon

It's that time again to clear up the churchyard!
Please bring your garden tools and gloves.
Refreshments will be provided.

For more details, please contact James Lees 01962 732574 or james@lees92.plus.com

LENT LUNCH AT ST. JOHN'S

**Frugal Lent Lunch at St John's:
Wednesday, 1st April at 12.15pm
in the John Pearson Hall**



Homemade soup, bread, cheese, chutneys. Raffle. Gluten free catered for. £5 per person. Sign up sheet at the back of church or email Pippa@chocolatecraft.co.uk to reserve your place!

ST JOHN'S CAFÉ at the Watercress Festival - Sunday 17th May



We need to start gathering our wonderful army of volunteers, whose help is vital to the success of this event.

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.

ELECTORAL ROLL NEWS:

ST MARY'S ELECTORAL ROLL

An updated version of the Church Electoral Roll for St Mary's is being prepared prior to the Annual Church Meeting on 19th April 2026.

Anyone eligible and wishing to be included on the Electoral Roll should request details from:

RICHARD GEOGHEGAN. t. 07963 707573; t. 01962 736485; email: richardgeoghegan5@gmail.com



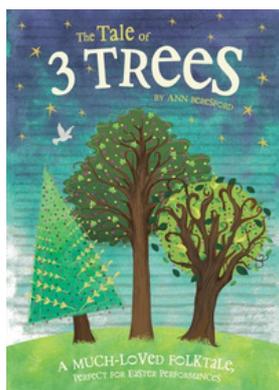
ST JOHN'S ELECTORAL ROLL

The Electoral Roll is revised every year prior to the APCM. In order to vote at the APCM, or to be elected to the PCC or any office, you must be on the Roll. If you are not on it yet and wish to be, please add your name now. Should you be unsure if you are already on the Roll, there is a copy in the Parish Office or you can ask our Electoral Roll Officer, Janet Pooley.

The closing date for entry on the Roll is Monday 13th April, after which no names may be added until the APCM has been held on Tuesday 28th April. You can download a form from the Arle Valley Benefice web site (look under 'Our Churches - 'Electoral Roll') or apply with a paper form available at the back of the church or direct from Janet.

**Completed St. John's forms should be left in the Parish Office or be sent to the address below:
Janet Pooley, 8 The Mulberries, Off Station Approach, Alresford SO24 9FL Tel 01962 732779**

THE TALE OF 3 TREES MUSICAL ON SUNDAY, 29TH MARCH AT 4PM IN ST. JOHN'S



You are invited to take part in or come & watch this short musical story.

This story is based on a Christian folk tale about three little trees growing up on the mountaintop who have big dreams of what they want to become, but one by one those hopes are dashed as they are chopped down and turned into seemingly insignificant things. However, God has an amazing plan for each tree – a plan that goes beyond any of their wildest dreams as they find themselves at the heart of the story of Jesus. **No tickets are needed to come and watch.**

Rehearsal 2.30 - 3.30pm, performance at 4pm (approx 30 mins).

Details: Rosie Waring Green: t. 07891 120662 or e.rosie@22rwg.co.uk

Notices

UPCOMING GROUPS AND EVENTS

COME AND SING COMMUNITY SINGING WORKSHOP

We're back for another session of uplifting singing. Join Tim at St. John's on Saturday, 21st March, 10am - 12pm to learn an upbeat song in three-part harmony. Tickets £10, events.gospelcollective.co.uk



MEN'S SUPPER CLUB (FOR WIDOWERS)

(Last Thursday of the month)

Our next meeting: Thursday, 26th March at 7pm in the Swan Hotel. A very pleasant evening meal to meet men in a similar situation with light-hearted chatter/banter.



Please contact Roger Whiffen on 01962 734045 for further details.

Hosanna!
Blessed is He who comes!

29 MARCH

PALM SUNDAY BENEFICE SERVICE

COMMUNION SERVICE
10AM

Come and worship with us as we celebrate Palm Sunday this year.

ST PETER'S CHURCH, OVINGTON SO24 0RB

A Note from St John's Flower Team...

Thank you to everyone who has sponsored flowers in church so far this year and for the promise of sponsorships for the rest of the year. The list for sponsoring flowers in St John's is now available at the back of Church.

If you would like to **remember a special birthday or a loved one by sponsoring a pedestal** then this is your chance. **Sponsorship is £30** and payment may be made directly into the following account: PCC of New Alresford Flower Fund, Sort Code: 51-61-09, Account Number 70002223 or alternatively drop cash in an envelope into the church office for Jane Parson's attention.



Speaking of church flowers, the flower team are thinking of Easter and, as in previous years, we invite anyone who would like to **sponsor an Easter lily (£3.00 per lily this year)** or make a donation for flowers for Easter Sunday to contact Maureen or drop your contribution into the office marked Easter Flowers. Very many thanks.



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@arlevallychurches.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. arlevallychurches@gmail.com

www.arlevallychurches.org.uk

Prayers for the coming week (22nd - 28th March)



*Jesu, lover of my soul, let me to thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high.*

Please pray for...

All affected by the meningitis outbreak in Kent, especially young people and students. Pray that those who are ill will recover and for parents concerned for their children. Pray for all who are sick, at home or in hospital and for all who care for them, health workers and families.

Our world. Pray for all in the Middle East, in Gaza, Iran, Lebanon and all countries affected by the current crisis. Pray for an end to the war between Ukraine and Russia. Give thanks for all aid agencies trying to alleviate the suffering of ordinary citizens who have lost everything. As we enjoy the sunshine pray that we learn to appreciate the beauty and fragility of nature and to take small steps to save our planet.

Our young people as so many find it difficult to find suitable jobs. As the exam season begins give thanks for all teachers who inspire their pupils to achieve more than they thought was possible. May they all enjoy the Easter break and return refreshed and optimistic for the future.

Our community, our town and villages as we welcome visitors. Give thanks for all who work here, shop keepers, refuse collectors, all who make this an attractive place to live. Pray that we may be good neighbours and care for those who are in need.

Our churches as we prepare for Easter. Help us to use Lent to deepen our faith through reading, alone or in study groups. Give thanks for all who lead services during this time of Vacancy and pray that God will be with those selecting our next Rector.

*Hide me, O my Saviour, hide, till the storm of life is past;
Safe into the haven guide, O receive my soul at last.*