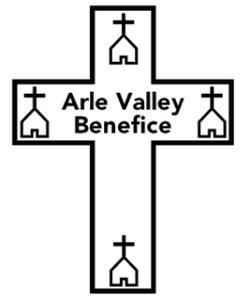


The Arle Valley Benefice



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

29th March 2026 - Palm Sunday

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:

[Zechariah 9.9-10](#)

[Matthew 21.1-11](#)



Please note below that the Palm Sunday Benefice Service will be at **11am** not 10am.

*Hosanna!
Blessed is He who comes!*

29 MARCH

**PALM
SUNDAY
BENEFICE
SERVICE**

**COMMUNION SERVICE
11AM**

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

ST PETER'S CHURCH, OVINGTON SO24 0RB

PALM SUNDAY - if you would like a lift to St Peter's Ovington for the 11am Palm Sunday service, contact Rosie: 07891 120662 or rosie@22rwg.co.uk or James Lees: 07795 613604.

Palm Sunday crosses will be blessed at the service and will be left at the back of St John's for those unable to get to Ovington.

Collect for Today

Almighty and everlasting God,
who in your tender love towards the human race
sent your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ
to take upon him our flesh
and to suffer death upon the cross:
grant that we may follow the example of his
patience and humility,
and also be made partakers of his resurrection;
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 humbled yourself in taking the
form of a servant,
and in obedience died on the cross
for our salvation:
give us the mind to follow you
and to proclaim you as Lord and King,
to the glory of God the Father.

Amen

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 (30th March - 3rd April)

Mon 30 th	9am 7pm	All Saints St. John's	Morning Prayer Holy Week Compline
Tues 31 st	9am 7pm	St. John's St. John's	PAUSED - Morning Prayer Holy Week Compline
Wed 1 st	9am 10am 12.15pm 2pm 7pm	Vestry at St. Mary's St. John's St. John's Alresford Library St. John's	Morning Prayer Mid Week Holy Communion Lent Lunch Befriend the End Holy Week Compline
Thurs 2 nd Maundy Thursday	9am 7.30pm	St. John's St. John's	Church Spring Clean Maundy Thursday Communion + Washing of Feet
Fri 3 rd Good Friday	10am 11am 2pm	St. John's Alresford Methodist St. John's	Parish Prayer Meeting CTiA Walk of Witness An Hour at the Cross

NEXT SUNDAY (5th April) - Easter Sunday

8am	St. John's	Easter Communion
9.30am	St. John's	Easter Service of Holy Communion
11am	St. Peter's	Easter Service of Holy Communion
11am	St. Mary's	Easter Service of Parish Communion
11am	All Saints	Easter Service of Parish Communion

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 Earthy 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@22rwc.co.uk or t. 01962 733237.

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

ADVANCE WARNING:

There is no Families@4 on Easter Sunday at St John's.

We will resume on May 3rd at 4pm as usual.



LENT LUNCH AT ST. JOHN'S Wed, 1st April at 12.15pm - JP 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!

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



MEN'S SUPPER CLUB (FOR WIDOWERS)

(Last Thursday of the month)

DON'T MISS IT: 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.

Contact Roger Whiffen on 01962 734045.



SAVE THE DATE!

EASTER CLEAN @ ST. JOHN'S

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

Bring your own dusters, mops etc.

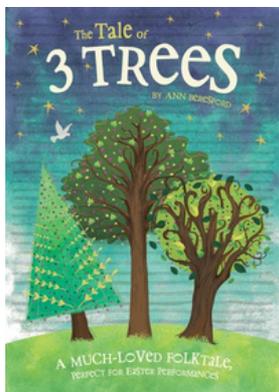
Refreshments will be provided.

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



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

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

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.

Notices

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 [here](#) or visit the Arle Valley Benefice website (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**

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.

BENEFICE OFFICE CLOSURE



Please note that the office will be closed on the following dates:

**Friday, 27th March
Tuesday, 31st March**



BEFRIEND THE END - ALRESFORD LIBRARY

Wed, 1st April at 2pm (1st Wednesday of each month)

Do you have questions about death and dying?

A small group of people – both medical and non-medical – has been set up in the belief that acknowledgement of the reality of death we equip ourselves better to engage with “Life”.



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 (29th March - 4th April)



*He comes the broken hearts to heal, the prisoners to free.
The deaf shall hear, the lame shall dance, the blind shall see.*

Please pray for

Our world at this time of uncertainty. Pray for all in the Middle East, Iran, Lebanon, Gaza and Israel as the conflict continues, for all who have lost their homes, their loved ones, their lives. Pray for Ukraine and Russia as that war continues to destroy lives. Pray for World leaders, for wisdom and diplomacy as they search for peaceful solutions.

Our community, our families, friends and neighbours and all who visit our town. Pray for our young people as the Easter break begins and for teachers that this may be a time of re-creation. Give thanks for all who work here, in shops, pharmacy, surgery or hospitality.

All who are anxious about the future, all frightened by the news of war, destruction and possible financial hardship. Pray for all who are sick, at home or in hospital or hospice, and those who sit and wait with them. Pray that we may give them the support they need with respect and love. Remember all who grieve, all who find public holidays difficult to manage. Pray for all suffering with mental health issues, all who have invisible illnesses.

As signs of Spring are all around us, give thanks for renewal and rebirth. Pray that we may value our planet by reducing our use of plastics and caring for and appreciating our chalk streams.

Our churches as we remember Palm Sunday in a benefice service at St Peter's Ovington. As we pray together for a new Rector pray that we may use Holy Week and Easter to reflect on our faith and the person chosen by God to lead us. Give thanks for those who will clean and decorate our churches with flowers for the Easter services.

***Make way! Make way for the King of kings!
Make way! Make way and let his kingdom in!***