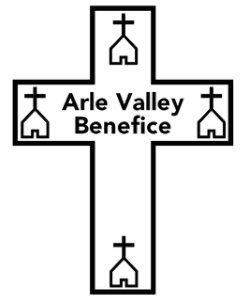


The Arle Valley Benefice



[St. John's Church, New Alresford](#) + [St. Peter's Church, Ovington](#)
[St. Mary's Church, Old Alresford](#) + [All Saints Church, Bighton](#)

3rd May 2026 - 5th Sunday of Easter

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:

[1 Peter 2.2-10](#)

[John 14.1-14](#)

SUNDAY

St. John's

9.30am Parish Communion

9.30am Baptism - Indie Holloway

St. Mary's

11am Village Family Praise

St. Peter's

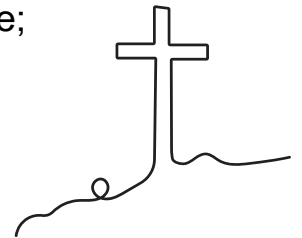
11am Café Church

Collect for Today

Almighty God,
who through your only-begotten
Son Jesus Christ
have overcome death and opened
to us the gate of everlasting life:
grant that, as by your grace going
before us
you put into our minds good desires,
so by your continual help
we may bring them to good effect;
through Jesus Christ our risen 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

Eternal God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way,
the truth, and the life:
grant us to walk in his way,
to rejoice in his truth,
and to share his risen life;
who is alive and reigns,
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.



THIS WEEK (4th - 8th May)

Mon 4 th	9am 3.30pm	All Saints John Pearson Hall	Morning Prayer Monday Meet & Eat
Tues 5 th	9am 7pm	St. John's John Pearson Hall	PAUSED - Morning Prayer Pastoral Visitors Group Meeting
Wed 6 th	9am 10am 2pm 5pm	St. Mary's St. John's Alresford Library Vestry at St. John's	Morning Prayer Wednesday Midweek Communion Befriend the End Chill, Chat and Chomp
Thurs 7 th	9am 10am 4pm	St. Peter's John Pearson Hall St. John's	PAUSED - Morning Prayer Chatterbox Soul Children
Fri 8 th	10am	Prayer Space - St. John's	Parish Prayer Meeting

NEXT SUNDAY (10th May) - 6th Sunday of Easter

9.30am	St. John's	Breakfast Church
9.30am	St. Mary's	Morning Praise
11am	St. Peter's	Parish Communion
11am	All Saints	Morning Prayer
6pm	St. John's	Sundays @ Six

PRAYERS FOR:

Audrey B, Jenny W, 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:

Mary Gray, Peter Pooley, Ken Richmond and Clive Earthy

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. 07891 120662.

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

RECTOR APPOINTMENT UPDATE

Advertising from 24 April for 4 weeks, close 21 May

Shortlist 27 May at 7.30pm / Interview 16 June (tours on 15th)

Please keep this whole process in your prayers and don't forget to use the booklet of prayers given out in January. More available at the back of church.



Notices

ST JOHN'S FLOWERS

The chancel flowers in St. John's have been sponsored by:
Liz Le Feuvre: Remembering Paul with love



INTERMENT

Clive Earthy
St. John's on Friday, 1st May at 2.30pm

THANKSGIVING SERVICE

Peter Pooley
St. John's on Friday, 29th May at 2.30pm

BAPTISM

Please pray for **Indie Rose Christina Holloway** who will be baptised at St. John's on **Sunday, 3rd May at 9.30am** and her parents, **James and Rosella**.



CAFÉ CHURCH @ ST. PETER'S, OVINGTON - THIS SUNDAY (3RD MAY)



11am - 1st Sunday every *other* month.

Join us for good conversation about faith and life in a friendly, informal setting at St. Peter's, Ovington. **Coffee, tea + homemade treats! + The Book Nook for quality 2nd hand books!**



UPCOMING GROUPS - MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

CORRECTION! OLD ALRESFORD MONDAYS AT 10.00

Because it's a Bank Holiday, there's **NO** Old Alresford Monday in the Christy Hall on 4th May! Instead, we will be holding it on the **following Monday, 11th May, *IN ST MARY'S CHURCH***, at the usual time, 10am – 12noon.



If you would like a lift to the church, please contact Sue Armstrong on 01962 734542.

Normal time and venue resumed in June – 1st June 10am – 12 noon in the Christy Hall.



BEFRIEND THE END

Wednesday, 6th May at 2pm in the Alresford Library

Are you curious? Do you have questions about death and dying?

If so, come along to our informal afternoons and meet like - minded people to share and discover more about living well and dying well over a cuppa and a slice of cake.

At the Alresford Library on the 1st Wednesday of every month at 2 - 3pm.

For further information email: contact@befriendtheend.co.uk

COFFEE, CAKE & CHAT @ ST. JOHN'S

Tuesday, 12th May (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!



Notices

**FAMILIES AT 4PM
RETURNS ON 7TH JUNE!**



4pm - 1st Sunday of the month.
We gather together in St. John's for fun interactive **storytelling, songs, a great craft session and a cuppa.** We have babies and toddlers to teens and all in between.

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.

SUNDAY SERVICES - 10TH MAY - SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

BREAKFAST CHURCH @ ST. JOHN'S

9.30am - 2nd Sunday every month.

Our lively all age service with a delicious new twist - breakfast!

Arrive and help yourself to a range of breakfast goodies - sausage sandwiches, brioche, toast, fruit, spreads along with tea coffee & juice. Many dietary options available.



ST. MARY'S MORNING PRAISE

9.30am - 2nd Sunday every month.

A simple morning prayer service with traditional hymns, a bible reading, a sermon and prayers.

MORNING PRAYER @ ALL SAINTS

11am on the 2nd Sunday of every month. A service with readings from the Bible, a talk & prayers.

PARISH COMMUNION @ ST. PETER'S

11am on the 2nd Sunday every month. Our main church service which follows Common Worship with Lectionary readings each week.

SUNDAYS @ SIX @ ST. JOHN'S

Our **6pm service** with a reflective informal contemporary feel. Worship, Readings, Prayer and a Talk. **Time to chat with tea and cake from 5.45pm.**



Nearly 70,000 people across the UK took part – were you one of them? If you were please add your initials to the sheet at the back of the Church (this will help towards our Eco-Silver award).



1.5 million pieces of plastic were counted, this equates to an estimated 82 billion pieces of plastic packaging thrown away by UK households every year! So where does it all go: 59% is burned in the UK, 16% shipped overseas, 9% is buried and only 16% is recycled. For more information and how to add your voice to the campaign see the website [Results 2026 \(Home Page\)](#) | [The Big Plastic Count](#)



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 t. 01962 732056 or
Patricia Todd t. 07810 723973

**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 (3rd - 9th May)



**When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain;
Thy touch can call us back to life again.**

Please pray for.....

The world. Pray for all countries torn apart by war, especially the Middle East and Ukraine. As the King's visit to the USA draws to a close give thanks for all who seek diplomatic solutions to conflict. Pray for world leaders, that they may act with humility and wisdom for the good of all. Give thanks for those who risk or lose their lives trying to save or protect others.

Our community, for all who live or work in our town, for all who give their time freely for the benefit of others. Pray for our young people as they prepare for exams, and for those who are anxious about their future prospects. Pray that they may all feel loved and valued as individuals.

All who care for those in need, for all medical staff in the surgery or in hospitals and for all paramedics and first responders as they help people in crisis. Pray for all who are sick in hospital or recovering at home and all who care for them. Pray for all awaiting treatment, for all who await diagnosis.

Our church, for a good response and applications for the post of Rector to this benefice. Pray that God will inspire the right person to apply for this job. Give thanks for all who support the work of our churches during the Vacancy, church wardens, LLMs and Lay Pastoral Assistants. Pray that we reflect the love of our risen Lord in all we say and do.

***Fields of our hearts, that dead and bare have been,
Love is come again like wheat that springeth green.***