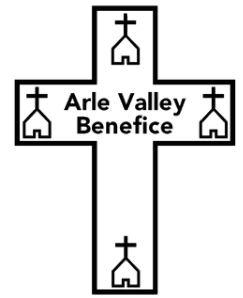


# The Arle Valley Benefice



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

17<sup>th</sup> May 2026 - 7<sup>th</sup> 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:

[Acts 1.1-11](#)

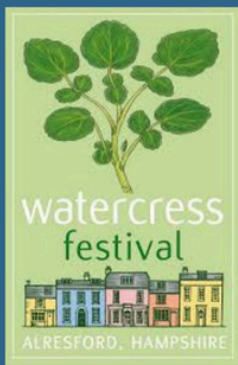
[Luke 24.44-end](#)

## Watercress Festival Communion Service

*St. John's Church, New Alresford*

Sunday, 17<sup>th</sup> May  
8.30am

Please join us as all four churches  
meet at St. John's at 8.30am,  
to celebrate a service  
of Holy Communion.



## Collect for Today

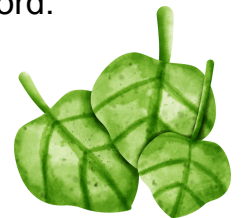
O God the King of glory,  
you have exalted your only Son  
Jesus Christ  
with great triumph to your kingdom  
in heaven:  
we beseech you, leave us  
not comfortless,  
but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen  
us and exalt us to the place where our  
Saviour Christ is gone before,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**Amen**

## Post Communion Prayer

Eternal God, giver of love and power,  
your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into  
all the world  
to preach the gospel of his kingdom:  
confirm us in this mission,  
and help us to live the good news  
we proclaim;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**



## Live Streaming at St. John's

**LIVE**

The link for the live-streaming of services 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.

**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** & 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 (18<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup> May)

Mon 18 <sup>th</sup>	9am 3.30pm	All Saints John Pearson Hall	Morning Prayer Monday Meet & Eat
Tues 19 <sup>th</sup>	2pm 7pm	John Pearson Hall John Pearson Hall	<b>Mothers' Union Meeting</b> <b>Alresford Community Cinema:</b> <b>'The Shepherd and the Bear'</b>
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup>	9am 10am 5pm	St. Mary's St. John's Vestry at St. John's	Morning Prayer Wednesday Midweek Communion Chill, Chat and Chomp
Thurs 21 <sup>st</sup>	10am	John Pearson Hall	Chatterbox
Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup>	10am 10.30am	Prayer Space @ St. John's St. John's	Parish Prayer Meeting <b>Interment - Jacqueline Bunce</b>



## NEXT SUNDAY - 24<sup>th</sup> May (Pentecost)

8am	St. John's	Holy Communion (BCP)	
9.30am	St. John's	Celtic Service of the Word	
9.30am	St. Mary's	Parish Communion (BCP)	
11am	All Saints	Parish Communion	

### 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, 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:

Robi Swann, Mary Gray and Peter Pooley

## 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](mailto: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:  
**Jenny Doel: *In loving memory of my dear Sister Joyce***



**Jacqueline Bunce** - Interment at St. John's on Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 10.30am

**Peter Pooley** - Thanksgiving Service at St. John's on Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> May at 2.30pm

**Mary Gray** - Funeral service on 8<sup>th</sup> June in Northampton at 11.30am.

*Please contact Maureen Mackrell for further details.*



### CAKES

A very warm thank you to everyone who has offered to make cakes for the Cafe at St John's on Sunday.

**DELIVERY TO JPH** - It would be very helpful if they could be brought to the JPH between 4-6pm on Saturday and placed on the trolley outside the office. If that is not possible then early Sunday morning would be the next best.

**Please make it clear if they have been frozen.**

Many thanks – The Co-ordinating Team

### PARKING PASS FOR THE WATERCRESS FESTIVAL 8.30AM SUNDAY SERVICE (17<sup>TH</sup> MAY)



If you need to bring your car into Alresford for the 8.30am service at St. John's, you will need a parking pass.

Passes available from the Benefice office.

## UPCOMING GROUPS - MARK YOUR CALENDARS...

### TABLE TALK

**Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> May at 12pm in the John Pearson Hall**

Table Talk will start at noon with a bring and share lunch (or bring your own if on a special diet), followed by a discussion on a topical subject and is open to everyone from any church community or none.



### OLD ALRESFORD MOTHERS' UNION MEETING - TUESDAY, 19<sup>TH</sup> MAY

Our next meeting is on **Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> May, 2 for 2.30pm at the John Pearson Hall.**

Join us for tea, cake and natters. ***New members always welcome.***

Contact Heather Galley on t. 01962 732326.

**Thy Kingdom Come** is a global prayer movement that invites Christians around the world to pray between **Ascension Day (14<sup>th</sup> May) and Pentecost (24<sup>th</sup> May)** for more people to ***come to know the love, hope and peace found in Christ is at the heart of Thy Kingdom Come.***

**St. John's** will have a number of resources for you **take and use** for the **Thy Kingdom Come 'Novena Ten Days of Prayer'** from Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May to Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May.

More details can be found at:

<https://www.thykingdomcome.global/>



# Notices

## SOLOS:

We will meet (very informally!) on 17<sup>th</sup> May during the Watercross Festival.

Solos meet again on Sun 21<sup>st</sup> June in the John Pearson Hall at 2.30pm for something special - St. John's Patronal Festival Cream Tea!

Details: Margaret 01962 735185  
Roger 01962 734045



## HELP NEEDED FOR PETER POOLEY'S THANKSGIVING TEA

2.30pm on Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> May

Large team needed (many hands please as this will be a big service) with setting up before and/or helping after the service serving drinks/wine in both the church and JPH? Thank you.

Please contact Rosie: [rosie@22rwg.co.uk](mailto:rosie@22rwg.co.uk) or t. 07891 120662

## Alresford Community Cinema - 'The Shepherd and the Bear'

Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm in the John Pearson Hall

Tickets £10 (card/cash on the door). Licensed Bar

Bookings t. 01962 736282 or t. 07780 703543

Set high in the majestic French Pyrenees, The Shepherd and the Bear explores a conflict provoked by the reintroduction of brown bears in the midst of a traditional shepherding community. The film follows an aging shepherd who struggles to find a successor as bears prey on his flock, and a teenage boy who becomes obsessed with tracking the bears. The Shepherd and the Bear is a modern folktale about tradition, community and humanity's relationship with a vanishing natural world.

Brought to you by the Friends of St. John's (FOSJ)



## SAVE THE DATE! FUNDRAISING CONCERT FOR ST. MARY'S

Sunday, 5<sup>th</sup> July / 6 to 8pm. Tickets £20

Pinglestone Barn, Old Alresford SO24 9TB



**FRIARY BRASS BAND** formed in Guildford in 1983 and now based in Chertsey has competed at the highest level and qualified for the National Finals at the Royal Albert Hall no fewer than nine times since 2013. The band has earned a reputation for entertainment and is regarded as one of the leading bands in the south.

**MURIELE** is a talented French singer known for her captivating performances of retro, jazz and wartime songs, drawing from the rich tradition of French chanson.

TICKETS:  
TWO Options:

SCAN ME



or visit:  
[www.friarybrassband.com](http://www.friarybrassband.com)



Our Facebook page  
Our Instagram page

[https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsAlresford\\_the\\_alresford\\_area\\_churches](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsAlresford_the_alresford_area_churches)

### Material for notices:

please email Penny Forbes at [notices@arlevallychurches.org.uk](mailto:notices@arlevallychurches.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. [arlevallychurches@gmail.com](mailto:arlevallychurches@gmail.com)

[www.arlevallychurches.org.uk](http://www.arlevallychurches.org.uk)



## **PRAYER FOR ASCENSION DAY**

**Giving and loving God, on this special day we remember your loving actions. Help us to witness your presence in a world that needs your love. Strengthen us with your spirit and let your light shine through us. Amen.**

**Please pray for.....**

**The world so in need of peace and love, especially those countries involved in war and conflict.** Pray for the Holy land, Lebanon, Iran and Ukraine and Russia. Pray for all displaced people, all refugees and give thanks for those with the courage and determination to help them. Pray for all our politicians as tough decisions are made.

**Our community.** Give thanks for all who work in our town, shopkeepers, hospitality staff, teachers and all who work in our schools. As we approach the summer season pray for all who care for the open spaces in our town and for the Alresford pigs who provide and care for the flower displays.

**All who are sick, all who are in hospital, awaiting an operation or recovering at home.** Pray for all who grieve, especially those who have lost a loved one due to a road or other accident. Give thanks for our NHS, for our surgery and for all carers who help vulnerable people to retain their independence.

**Our churches, for all our church wardens and LLMs and all involved in the selection process for a new Rector.** Pray that all who visit during the Watercress festival enjoy our hospitality. Give thanks for all volunteers who will be working to make the festival a success by welcoming in the church, serving cakes and teas or clearing up afterwards.

**Risen Christ, help us to seek and serve you, that we may join you at the Father's side, where you reign with the Spirit in glory, now and forever. Amen**