



# ARLE VALLEY BENEFICE

*St John's Church, New Alresford ♦ St Mary's Church, Old Alresford  
St Peter's Church, Ovington ♦ All Saints Church, Bighton*

## January 19th : Second Sunday of Epiphany

Welcome to our worship today. If you are a newcomer, please make yourself known to the Clergy or one of the Churchwardens after the service.

If you are hard of hearing, there is a hearing loop system in operation at St John's, St Peter's and St Mary's. If moving is difficult and you wish to have communion brought to you, please ask the Churchwarden on duty.

If you would like to use a Service booklet or hymn book, they are always available from the Sidespeople as you come into church.

We would encourage quiet time for 5 minutes before the start of each service.

You are welcome to take this pew sheet home with you.

### *Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 18th - 25th January*

#### **Services this Sunday:**

- 09.30: St John's:** Parish Communion (*Rev'd Heather*)  
**10.00: St Peter's:** Morning Praise (*Charlotte, Peter & Susan*)  
**11.00: St Mary's:** Parish Communion (*Rev'd Heather*)  
**11.00: All Saints:** Morning Prayer (*Ian Waring Green*)

#### **Services in the coming Week:**

##### **Monday January 20th**

09.00: *All Saints:* Morning Prayer (*Rev'd Heather*)

##### **Tuesday January 21st**

09.00: *St John's:* Morning Prayer (*Rev'd Heather*)

##### **Wednesday January 22nd**

09.00: *St Mary's:* Morning Prayer (*Rev'd Heather*)

10.00: *St John's:* Holy Communion (*Rev'd Heather*)

*followed by coffee in the John Pearson Hall.*

##### **Thursday January 23rd**

09.00: *St Peter's:* Morning Prayer (*Rev'd Heather*)

##### **Sunday January 26th: Third Sunday of Epiphany**

08.00: *St John's:* Holy Communion BCP (*Rev'd Heather*)

09.30: *St John's:* Celtic Service of the Word  
(*Jackie Connell & Angela Peel*)

09.30: *St Mary's:* Holy Communion BCP (*Rev'd Heather*)

11.00: *All Saints:* Parish Communion (*Rev'd Heather*)

*Unchanging God, make us open to change...*

## ***This week's notices...***

### ***What's on this week:***

#### ***Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 18th - 25th January***

***Prayer Meeting for the parish and our community*** - every Friday at 10-11am in St John's Vestry - *feel free to drop in.*

***Christian Unity Prayers*** - Saturday 18th January at 10am in Methodist Church.

***Solos Sunday Tea*** - Sunday 19th January at 2.30pm in JPH.

***Monday Meet and Eat*** - Monday 20th January at 3.30pm in JPH.

***MU Wave of Prayer Service*** - Tuesday 21st January 1 for 2.30pm in JPH.

***Wednesdays with Heather*** - Wednesday 22nd January at 10.45am in JPH.

***Chill Chat and Chomp!*** - Wednesday 22nd January at 5pm in St John's Vestry.

***Chatterbox*** - Thursday 23rd January at 10-11am in JPH.



### ***Flowers in St John's:***

The chancel flowers in St John's have been sponsored by **Victoria Mackintosh**  
"Remembering Ian with love"

### ***Live Streaming at St John's:***

The link for the live-streaming of services at St John's 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.

***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: [rosie@22rwg.co.uk](mailto:rosie@22rwg.co.uk) or 01962 733237. We of course always respect the confidentiality of your requests.



***Monday Meet and Eat*** returned last **Monday 13th January** in the JPH from 3.30pm to 5.15pm. We now have 8 families who drop in for fellowship and a meal and we would be very grateful for some more occasional help. Either to make tea/coffee and wash up or to play games with the children or to cook a first course or a pudding. *Please contact Rosie Waring Green [rosie@22rwg.co.uk](mailto:rosie@22rwg.co.uk) or 07891120662 if you are able to help in any way or to ask for more details. Many thanks.*

***Thanksgiving Service:*** There will be a Thanksgiving Service at St Mary's on **Thursday 30th January at 1pm** for Pam Hatch. All welcome.

***Please note*** that Heather's day off will generally be a Monday from now on.

## ***Blue week's notices...***

### ***Bishop David is to be the next Bishop of Truro!***

Bishop David is to be the next Bishop of Truro! He and Helen will be moving to Cornwall sometime in the early spring. Bishop David is well known and loved in our Benefice and by way of a farewell will be preaching at a special service at St John's on **Sunday 2nd February 2025, 9.30am**. There will be Brunch provided afterwards in the JPH. Please put the date in your diary.

Please keep Bishop David and Helen in your prayers as they prepare for this new chapter. *Revd. Heather.*

### ***Safeguarding:***

Recent events in the Church of England have highlighted the need for all of us to be vigilant when it comes to safeguarding and we are keen to ensure that all relevant people in the benefice have up to date DBS checks completed and have undertaken safeguarding training. We will be running drop-in sessions in the New Year in the JPH to ensure everyone who needs to be is up to date with both DBS checks and training and we will contact you directly in due course to let you know the dates of these sessions.

*Alison and Sarah, Benefice Safeguarding Officers.*

### ***St John's APCM:***

**Group reports are now being gathered in and need to be with Jo Whiteman by 26th January.** Most people will have received an individual email but if I have missed you or if new groups want to contribute please send your reports to me by the 26th at joanna\_whiteman@yahoo.co.uk. *Thank you.*

### ***Solos:***

Our Solos Tea is on the **19th January** in the John Pearson Hall from 2.30pm. Do hope to see you then for Tea, Sandwiches, Homemade cake and Scones, Friendship and Chat. *Margaret 01962 735185.*

### ***St John's Flower Sponsorship List for 2025:***

The list for sponsoring flowers in St John's for 2025 is now available at the back of Church and at the moment there are lots of spare dates. If you would like to remember a special birthday, anniversary or a loved one by sponsoring a pedestal then this is your chance. For information sponsorship of a pedestal is £30. Very many thanks to everyone who sponsored the flowers last year.

### ***Old Alresford Mothers' Union:***

Our next meeting is our **Wave of Prayer Service** on **Tuesday 21st January 2025, 2 for 2.30pm** in the John Pearson Hall, followed by our AGM. New members always welcome.

*Contact: Stephanie Durrant, Secretary, on 01962 732318.*

## ***This week's notices...***

### ***Alresford Community Cinema, Tuesday 4th February at 7pm:***

*Thelma* was Inspired by a real-life experience of director Josh Margolin's own grandmother, and shines the spotlight on an elderly grandmother as an unlikely action hero!

Strong-willed Thelma shows she is more than capable of taking care of things when she is scammed out of thousands - despite what her daughter Gail (Parker Posey), son-in-law Alan (Clark Gregg), or grandson Danny might believe -

Well regarded and described as *'fun and entertaining movie about the lives of elderly people, issues of scam calls and family with fun energy, good direction and a wonderful performance from Oscar-nominated actress June Squibb'*.

**Tickets £8. Card or cash on the door.**

**Bookings 01962 736282 or 07780 703543**

***Brought to you by the Friends of St John's***



### ***CTiA Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 18th-25th January:***

It is very important that we mark this week of prayer for Christian unity and so we are invited to the Methodist church for prayer **between 10 and 11am on Saturday 18th January**. This will be followed by coffee. Please do come and join us and pray for the work and future of Churches Together because we are a much stronger and more striking Christian witness on the occasions we come together.

### ***Breakfast Church:***

Due to the successful launch of this service at 9.30am on the second Sunday of each month we are looking for around 2 extra helpers. This informal service is sacred, worshipful and wonderful and seeks to demonstrate the love of Christ for everyone.

If you would like to help or have any questions please email ...

joanna\_whiteman@yahoo.co.uk or see me, most Sundays, at St John's. *Thanks Jo.*

#### **Please direct:**

- ▶ **Material for notices: please email Rob Attenborough at [notices@arleyvalleychurches.org.uk](mailto:notices@arleyvalleychurches.org.uk) Deadline: 3pm Thursday.**
- ▶ **Information about those in hospital to Jackie Connell 732056 or Patricia Todd 738408 or Keith Sweetland 735255.**
- ▶ **Information for Intercessions to the churchwardens.**

## ***This week's notices...***

Are you grieving the loss of a loved one, or struggling with the long-term effects of loss? A seven week course will soon be running in your area.



Friday mornings  
**10am - 12 noon,**  
**January 24th - 7th March**  
at The Alton Maltings Centre.

To book your place, email  
**[bereavement@potr-alton.co.uk](mailto:bereavement@potr-alton.co.uk)**  
or phone Wendy Burnhams  
on **07514 280 362**  
Suggested Voluntary contribution  
£20 for the whole course

**Topics include:** Attachment, separation and loss, Difficult feelings, Rites of passage, The impact and pain of bereavement, Coping with others, Coping with change, Moving forward, an optional session on Questions of Faith



## ***Collect and Readings for the Second Sunday of Epiphany***

### **Collect:**

Almighty God,  
in Christ you make all things new:  
transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace,  
and in the renewal of our lives  
make known your heavenly glory;  
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**

### **First Reading: Isaiah 62.1-5**

*To be announced as a Reading from the Book of Isaiah*

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,  
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,  
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,  
and her salvation like a burning torch.  
The nations shall see your vindication,  
and all the kings your glory;  
and you shall be called by a new name  
that the mouth of the LORD will give.  
You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,  
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.  
You shall no more be termed Forsaken,  
and your land shall no more be termed Desolate;  
but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her,  
and your land Married;  
for the LORD delights in you,  
and your land shall be married.  
For as a young man marries a young woman,  
so shall your builder marry you,  
and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride,  
so shall your God rejoice over you.

*At the end the reader will say: **This is the Word of the Lord**  
The response is: **Thanks be to God***



### **Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12.1-11**

*To be announced as a Reading from the First Epistle to the Corinthians*

Concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says 'Let Jesus be cursed!' and no one can say 'Jesus is Lord' except by the Holy Spirit.

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

*At the end the reader will say: **This is the Word of the Lord**  
The response is: **Thanks be to God***

## **Gospel: John 2.1-11**

*When the Gospel is announced we respond with:*

**Glory to you, O Lord**

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, 'They have no wine.' And Jesus said to her, 'Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.' His mother said to the servants, 'Do whatever he tells you.' Now standing there were six stone water-jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, 'Fill the jars with water.' And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, 'Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.' So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, 'Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.' Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

*At the end the reader will say:* This is the Gospel of the Lord

*The response is:* **Praise to you, O Christ**



## **Post Communion Prayer**

God of glory,  
you nourish us with your Word  
who is the bread of life:  
fill us with your Holy Spirit  
that through us the light of your glory  
may shine in all the world.  
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen**

### **Copyright Acknowledgement:**

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Post Communion (2nd of Epiphany) © 1985 General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada: The Book of  
Alternative Services

## For Prayer

### Please pray for:

- Those who are in **hospital**
- Those who are ill **at home** or recovering from being in hospital
- Those **receiving on-going care**
- Those in **Nursing and Rest Homes**
- **Home Communicants**
- **R.I.P.** Those who have recently died. We pray too for their families.

### Please pray for...

**The work of the Mothers' Union** in prisons, by acting as volunteers at family group sessions, and helping in other ways to keep families together.

**The World....** Bring before God the fragile situation between Israel and Gaza; the war in Ukraine and all places where there is injustice, fear and lack of hope. Pray that all world leaders may strive to do what is right and work for peace and the common good.

**Climate Change....** Pray that all will use the resources given us by God properly; that the sea is not over used, pollution is controlled and that we protect the natural resources. Bring before God all those suffering from the result of Climate Change remembering especially the people of USA who have lost everything because of the wild fires.

**The NHS...** Bring before God our health service which is working in very stressful circumstances at the moment. Pray for all those in hospital where beds are at a premium and for the staff caring for so many people. Pray also for all those being cared for at home where there is very little social care available.

**The Homeless....** Bring before God all those who through no fault of their own lose their homes, and are suffering in this cold weather. Pray for all the families who have no home to call their own. Give thanks for all organisations who seek to help the homeless.

**Our Benefice....** Pray for Heather and all the Ministry Team as they strive to lead us in the right way. Pray that everyone in the Benefice will use the gifts and talents, given them by God, for the benefit of others. May we all care for one another and show God's love to all we meet in the Town and villages.

*... And prepare us for challenge*