

ARLE VALLEY BENEFICE

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

February 16th **Third Sunday before Lent**

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.

Services this Sunday:

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

Services in the coming Week:

Monday February 17th

09.00: *All Saints:* Morning Prayer

Tuesday February 18th

09.00: *St John's:* Morning Prayer

Wednesday February 19th

09.00: *St Mary's:* Morning Prayer

10.00: *St John's:* Holy Communion (*Charlotte & Susan by extension*)
followed by coffee in the John Pearson Hall.

Thursday February 20th

09.00: *St Peter's:* Morning Prayer

Sunday February 23rd: Second Sunday before Lent

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*)

*Enfold us, Lord, in your love, surround us with your peace,
encircle us with your power.*

This week's notices...

What's on this week:

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

Solos Sunday Tea - Sunday 16th February at 2.30pm in JPH.

Coffee, Cake & Chat - Tuesday 18th February at 10am in JPH.

Mothers' Union Meeting - Tuesday 18th February 2 for 2.30pm in JPH.

Table Talk - Friday 21st February at 12 noon in JPH.



Flowers in St John's:

The chancel flowers in St John's have been sponsored by

Roger Whiffen

"Remembering Anita 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

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 or 01962 733237. We of course always respect the confidentiality of your requests.



Monday Meet and Eat: We now have 11 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 or 07891120662 if you are able to help in any way or to ask for more details. Many thanks.

Please note...

- Heather's day off will generally be a Monday from now on.
- Penny's new day off will be on Monday. The benefice office will be open as usual.
- Heather will be on holiday from Wednesday evening 5th to Saturday 22nd Feb so won't be taking Morning Prayer anywhere although this will still happen. Please contact the Office, or Rosie for St John's, for anything urgent while she is away.
- Please would you respect Penny's space at church if you see her on a Sunday. She has come to worship and be still and NOT to be asked lots of admin questions.

Rector: Rev'd Heather Brearey Email: arlevalleyrector@gmail.com Tel: 01962 732105
Benefice website: www.arlevalleychurches.org.uk

This week's notices...

Solos:

We will meet on **Sunday 16th February** in the John Pearson Hall at 2.30pm for Tea, Sandwiches, Scones and Homemade cake. Do hope to see you then for conversation and fellowship.

Information: Marion 733921 Roger 734045 Margaret 735185

Friday 28th February 1.30pm:

There is a large funeral at St John's on the above date with 300+ people expected. Parking in the town will be challenging that day. The wake is also in Alresford after the service.

Old Alresford Mothers' Union:

Our next meeting on **Tuesday 18 February 2025, 2 for 2.30pm**, in the John Pearson Hall, is a knit and crochet session. Come along to learn or share your expertise! New members always welcome. *Contact: Stephanie Durrant on 07905006957.*

Table Talk:

On **Friday 21st February** we shall be showing the film '**The Way**' which is our chosen study for Lent this year. The award winning film follows one man's journey, along with his fellow pilgrims, as they walk the Camino de Santiago. We shall start as usual at 12pm in the John Pearson Hall with a bring and share lunch and then watch the film, from about 12:20. It lasts for 123 minutes. You are very welcome to come and watch the film even if you do not intend to join the Lent discussion group.

Safeguarding:

We are running a safeguarding training session (basic) this **Saturday 15th February 10am-12.30pm in JPH** for anyone who needs to do this (anyone who has not done it since January 2022 or who can't complete this online). If you are able to do this online please email arlevalleysafeguarding@gmail.com and we will send details of how to do this. There will be a repeat session on **Saturday March 15th** at 10am in JPH. These courses are required for anyone who has a DBS in order that we can feel confident in the Arle Valley Benefice that we are being rigorous in our approach to safeguarding in our churches. Please treat our amazing safeguarding volunteers who run these courses and who check our DBS certificates with respect.

The West Room in the JPH is being decorated beginning on **Tuesday 17th or Wednesday 18th next week**. This will take approximately 6 days. Please only enter the West Room if you need to go through to the kitchen for anything. *Thank you.*

Please direct:

- ▶ **Material for notices: please email Rob Attenborough at notices@arlevalleychurches.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...

Alresford Community Cinema - Tuesday 4th March at 7pm:

Alresford Community Cinema

Community Centre

Tuesday 4th March

7.00pm start



Licensed bar

Card or cash on

the door

Tickets £8

Bookings 01962 736282 or 07780 703543

Brought to you by the Friends of St John's

Set against the backdrop of pre-war London, "The Critic" is about the use and abuse of power, ambition, blackmail and intolerance in the 1930s. Sir Ian McKellen is the titular critic, a manipulative figure whose sharp tongue and keen insights mask a dark agenda. His approval can make or break careers.

It's interesting and entertaining, often funny and McKellen gives a great performance. It also provides fabulous Art Deco sets and music.

Collect and Readings for the Third Sunday before Lent

Collect:

Almighty God,
who alone can bring order
to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity:
give your people grace
so to love what you command
and to desire what you promise,
that, among the many changes of this world,
our hearts may surely there be fixed
where true joys are to be found;
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: Jeremiah 17.5-10

To be announced as a Reading from the Book of Jeremiah

Thus says the LORD:

Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals
and make mere flesh their strength,
whose hearts turn away from the LORD.

They shall be like a shrub in the desert,
and shall not see when relief comes.

They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,
in an uninhabited salt land.

Blessed are those who trust in the LORD,
whose trust is the LORD.

They shall be like a tree planted by water,
sending out its roots by the stream.

It shall not fear when heat comes,
and its leaves shall stay green;
in the year of drought it is not anxious,
and it does not cease to bear fruit.

The heart is devious above all else;
it is perverse –
who can understand it?

I the LORD test the mind
and search the heart,
to give to all according to their ways,
according to the fruit of their doings.

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

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 15.12-20

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

If Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ – whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

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



Gospel: Luke 6.17-26

When the Gospel is announced we respond with:

Glory to you, O Lord

He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

'Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

'Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you will be filled.

'Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

'Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

'But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

'Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

'Woe to you who are laughing now,
for you will mourn and weep.

'Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

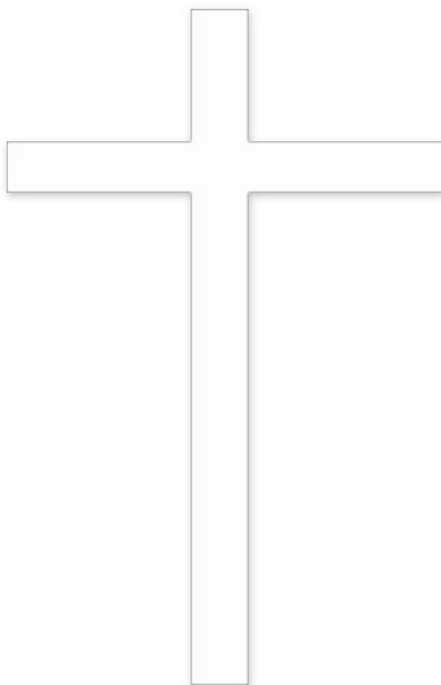
At the end the reader will say: This is the Gospel of the Lord
*The response is: **Praise to you, O Christ***



Post Communion Prayer

Merciful Father,
who gave Jesus Christ to be for us the bread of life,
that those who come to him should never hunger:
draw us to the Lord in faith and love,
that we may eat and drink with him
at his table in the kingdom,
where he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

Amen



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Collect (3rd before Lent) © The Crown/Cambridge University Press: The Book of Common Prayer (1662)

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...

Abuna Elias Chacour, the staff and students of the Mar Elias Educational Institutions, Ibillin, Israel. With the fragile peace agreement in place it is “our dream of being ambassadors for reconciliation since this is the message of our school, have courage, God is good, he is in control”.

Countries in the world where life is dominated by war. Pray for peace between Ukraine and Russia and a continuation of the ceasefire between Israel and Hamas in Gaza. Pray for all whose lives have been changed by conflict, all who have lost homes, loved ones, everything they value. Pray for world leaders as they try to negotiate peace deals, praying that they have wisdom, humility and compassion in all their dealings.

Those seriously injured by the car attack in Munich, Germany. Pray for all affected by the actions of extremists of any persuasion, throughout the world, especially children who have been killed or harmed. Pray for all concerned about climate change, that we may make necessary small changes to preserve our planet.

Our community and neighbourhood, that we may be aware of the needs around us and where we can serve. As our town faces various challenges, pray that we may strive to be a loving, caring, welcoming place to live.

Our NHS as it struggles under considerable pressure including bed blocking due to a shortage of carers for those due to be discharged from hospital. Pray for all in our community who are awaiting treatment or receiving ongoing treatment, all who are lonely or anxious and all who grieve.

Heather as she enjoys her holiday, praying that she returns refreshed and relaxed. Pray for Rosie, all church wardens and all the LLMs as they take more responsibility in the church. Pray for Bishop David and Helen as they prepare to move to Truro.

Be not afraid. I go before you always. Come follow me, and I will give you rest.