



# ARLE VALLEY BENEFICE

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

## **April 6th : Fifth Sunday of 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 Heather*)  
**11.00: St Mary's:** Village Family Praise (*Sue Armstrong*)  
**16.00: St John's:** Families at 4

### *Services in the coming Week:*

#### **Monday April 7th**

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

#### **Tuesday April 8th**

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

#### **Wednesday April 9th**

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 April 10th**

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

#### **Sunday April 13th: Palm Sunday**

09.30: *St John's:* Breakfast Church with Procession  
*(Rev'd Heather & Rosie)*

09.30: *St Mary's:* Morning Praise (*Sue Armstrong*)

11.00: *St Peter's:* Parish Communion (*Rev'd Heather*)

11.00: *All Saints:* Morning Prayer (*Ian Waring Green*)

18.00: *St John's:* Sunday @ 6 (*Peter Colquhoun*)

*Loving God, breathe your life into the Church*

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

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

***Lentwise Courses - final week***

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

***Old Alresford Mondays at 10.00*** - Monday 7th April 10-12 in the Christy Hall.

***Coffee, Cake & Chat*** - Tuesday 8th April at 10am in JPH.

***Wednesdays with Heather*** - Wednesday 9th April at 10.45am in JPH.

***Lent Table Talk*** - Friday 11th April at midday in JPH.

### ***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.



### ***Thanksgiving Services:***

Anne Hanson's thanksgiving service will be at St John's on Friday 16th May at 11.30am. All welcome.

***Thank you so much to the Churchyard Clear Up Team*** for a wonderful job done last Saturday at St John's. Several people have stopped and said how well cared for the churchyard is looking - Well Done!!



**SUNDAY@6 on the SECOND Sunday of the month**

**6pm Sunday 13th April at St John's**

We would love you to join everyone for a service with a reflective informal contemporary feel.

***Worship, Readings, Prayer and a Talk.***

**Time to chat with tea and cake from 5.45pm**

***An evening of reflection on the readings for today and time to worship***

**Rector: Rev'd Heather Brearey Email: [arlevalleyrector@gmail.com](mailto:arlevalleyrector@gmail.com) Tel: 01962 732105  
Benefice website: [www.arlevalleychurches.org.uk](http://www.arlevalleychurches.org.uk)**

**Electoral Roll: \*\*\* important \*\*\***

The Electoral Roll is revised every year prior to the Annual Meeting. In order to vote at the APCM, or to be elected to the PCC or any office, you must be on the Roll. **Every six years the Roll has to undergo a complete revision and this means that, this year, 2025, all those currently on the Roll as well as anyone wishing to apply for the first time will need to complete a new application form.**

• **St John's:**

**IMPORTANT – EVERYONE WHO IS ALREADY ON THE ELECTORAL ROLL WILL NEED TO RENEW THEIR REGISTRATION BY TUESDAY 8TH APRIL.** The Roll will then be revised. Application forms are at the back of the Church or can be downloaded from the benefice website [www.arlevalleychurches.org.uk](http://www.arlevalleychurches.org.uk) (look under 'Our Churches – Electoral Roll, or use this [link](#)). Completed forms may be signed, scanned and returned to [arlevalleychurches@gmail.com](mailto:arlevalleychurches@gmail.com), to the Parish Office or to Janet Pooley at 8 The Mulberries, off Station Approach, SO24 9FL.

• **St Mary's:**

**The closing date for entry on the St Mary's Roll is Monday 21st April, after which no names may be added until the APCM has been held on Sunday 11th May.**

Forms will be enclosed with a letter sent to all those listed on the current Electoral Roll and once completed may be sent to the Electoral Roll Officer, Colin Pope, Meadow Cottage, 7a Southdowns, Old Alresford, SO24 9UR or can be scanned or photographed on a Smartphone and emailed to [colin.pope29@btinternet.com](mailto:colin.pope29@btinternet.com). Alternatively, you may place the completed and signed form in the box on the table inside the church. Anyone not currently on the Roll is welcome to apply by collecting a form from the table in the church, taking note of the qualifying conditions and completing and signing the form and placing it in the box as outlined above. *Colin Pope 07802 361384.*

**St John's Annual Parochial Church Meeting-- Tuesday April 29th 8pm in JPH:**

You are invited to attend this Annual Parochial Church Meeting. At the meeting, we will be electing or re-electing Churchwardens, and PCC members to serve from 2025, as well as the normal reporting functions of the annual meeting. To be eligible to stand for election, candidates must be aged 16 or over (21 for Churchwardens), be actual communicants, have been registered on the Electoral Roll for the previous 6 months, and have indicated a willingness to stand. Other considerations are contained in the Church Representational Rules. Nomination forms for election to all roles are available at the rear of the church. If you would like further information on what is involved in any of these roles, or to volunteer to stand for election, please speak to the Rector or the Churchwardens. The Annual Report and Financial Statements for 2024 will again be distributed by email this year. For those on the Electoral Roll who are not on email, printed (named and addressed) copies will be available at the rear of the church, from where they can be collected. *Thank you.*

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

**Alpha Course:** There will be a new Alpha course starting on Thursday lunchtimes from **12 noon to 2pm from April 24th**. This is a 12 week course for new Christians, those exploring their faith and those who have been Christians for a long time who would like to refresh the basics. It is designed to be a safe place where you can ask questions, participate or just listen and reflect. A light lunch will be provided each week, this is followed by a short video and discussion time.

*Please contact Rosie Waring Green to sign up or for any further details...  
rosie@22rwg.co.uk or 07891120662.*

**The Tale of 3 Trees:** You are invited to take part in or come and 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. **Saturday 19th April in St John's Church**, Rehearsal 2-3.30pm followed by the performance at 3.30pm (approx 30 mins). Tea and cake in the Hall afterwards. No tickets are needed to come and watch. **To take part and receive the song pack in advance (4 songs) details from Rosie Waring Green t.07891120662 or e.rosie@22rwg.co.uk.**

### ***Volunteers needed for Church Spring Clean at St. John's Saturday, 12th April at 9am***

Please come and help to dust, Hoover, polish and sweep in the church. Come for as long as you like or an hour or two would be lovely. Diann Adam will co-ordinate activities inside. Refreshments will be served to keep us going.

*No previous experience is required: just a bit of elbow grease and a willingness to get your hands dirty!*

**Old Alresford Mothers' Union:** Our next meeting is on Tuesday 15 April 2025, 2 for 2.30pm in the John Pearson Hall. Our speaker is Caroline Scull, who will be telling us about the MU literacy programme. New members always welcome.

*Contact Heather Galley on 01962 732326.*

### ***Recycling:***

Sadly, the outlet we had for used pens at Rymans has closed. Rymans are currently seeking a new outlet, but for the time being please don't bring anymore into the office.

Boots now have a recycling scheme for a huge number of hard to recycle items from toothpaste tubes to pill blister packs (they don't need to have come from Boots). In addition they reward you with Boots Advantage Card points. It is quite easy to use once you get the hang of it. Start by downloading their app "Recycle at Boots" and follow the instructions. *Call Kathryn (809078) if you need help to get started.*

## **Services in Holy Week:**

### **Palm Sunday 13th April**

- 9.30am Breakfast Church with Procession (St. John's)
- 9.30am Morning Praise (St. Mary's)
- 11.00am Parish Communion (St. Peter's)
- 11.00am Morning Prayer (All Saints)
- 6.00pm Sundays @ Six (St. John's)

### **Monday 14th April**

- 9.00pm Holy Week Compline by Zoom  
*Compline together as a Benefice using Zoom. A twenty minute time of peace and prayer.*

### **Tuesday 15th April**

- 9.00pm Holy Week Compline by Zoom

### **Wednesday 16th April**

- 10.00am Midweek Holy Communion (St. John's)
- 9.00pm Holy Week Compline by Zoom

### **Maundy Thursday 17th April**

- 7.00pm Maundy Thursday Service + Communion + Vigil (St. John's)  
*A Communion service to recall the day when Jesus shared the 'Last Supper' with his friends and then watch with Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane in the Lady Chapel. There will be an opportunity for foot washing for those who would like it.*

### **Good Friday 18th April**

- 11.00am Walk of Witness starting at Alresford Methodist Church  
*The Walk of Witness is an event held each year on Good Friday designed to bring people from all the Churches of Alresford together to remember the Easter message.*
- 12.00pm Reflective Service (All Saints)
- 2.00pm Hour at the Cross (St. John's)  
*Please join us as we examine the events of Good Friday through scripture and hymns.*

### **Easter Sunday 20th April**

- 8.00am Easter Holy Communion (St. John's)
- 9.30am Easter Service of Parish Communion (St. John's)
- 10.00am Easter Service of Parish Communion (St. Mary's)
- 11.00am Easter Service of Parish Communion (All Saints)
- 11.15am Easter Service of Parish Communion (St. Peter's)

#### **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.**

## Collect and Readings for the Fifth Sunday of Lent

### Collect:

Most merciful God,  
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ  
delivered and saved the world:  
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross  
we may triumph in the power of his victory;  
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**



### Epistle: Philippians 3.4b-14

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

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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

*The response is: **Thanks be to God***



## **Gospel: John 12.1-8**

*When the Gospel is announced we respond with:*

**Glory to you, O Lord**

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, 'Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?' (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, 'Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.'

*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**

Lord Jesus Christ,  
you have taught us  
that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters  
we do also for you:  
give us the will to be the servant of others  
as you were the servant of all,  
and gave up your life and died for us,  
but are alive and reign, now and for ever.

**Amen**

### **Copyright Acknowledgement:**

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## ***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 children and staff in Pannai Family Village Farm in South India.** St John's supports the charity, providing a safe environment and education for needy children in a Christian environment and gives freedom to a brighter future.

**God's World.....** Bring before God all the situations in the world causing fear, hate, hardship and death due to war, disasters and climate change. Pray especially for the peoples of Gaza, Ukraine, Turkey, Sudan and Myanmar. Ask God to in still peace into the hearts of all world leaders that they be sensitive to their people's needs and differences.

**Our Town.....** Pray that our shops continue to give a warm welcome to all customers despite the economic difficulties we are living through. May Alresford continue to be the friendly town it is and give a good experience to all visitors.

**The sick.....** Bring before God all those known to be sick or suffering at this time; may the message of Easter bring them hope and comfort. Give thanks for our surgery and all who work in Winchester Hospital.

**Those struggling with finances.....** Bring before God all those who will now find life more difficult due to the price rises of utilities, food and general living. Ask that we may be more sympathetic to people's needs and help wherever we can.

**Heather and all who minister to us.....** Give thanks that we are blessed with those who minister to us. Ask God to help us listen with open hearts and minds to the message of The Passion and get ready for the wonderful message of the resurrection.

***May we speak your love to the world***