**Parish Matters**

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**Welcome…**

to our weekly edition of Parish Matters – we hope you enjoy

catching up with news and prayers from the Parish

##### Sunday 21st March 2021 The Fifth Sunday of Lent

##### This week’s Collect Prayer

Gracious Father,

you gave up your Son

out of love for the world:

lead us to ponder the mysteries of his passion,

that we may know eternal peace

through the shedding of our Saviour’s blood,

Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

**Prayers**

**Prayers & Readings**: Monthly prayers and the daily lectionary readings are available in Sunrise and they are available on the parish website.

**Prayer Cascade**. If you need prayer for any reason please contact pray4potr@gmail.com. A prayer team will pray regularly for each request.

Please pray for each person by name.

**Those who are ill and require prayer:** Jane, Simon, Josh and Francesca (the family of Harry and Jean Arman) Helen Milns,Anne Cleaver,Gwen McGilvray, Sheila Trimming, Gail Bicknell**,** Margaret Conway, Bethan;

**Other prayer requests** for all those attending The Prayer Course on Thursday evenings; for the families who have been attending Church@4 online recently; for the country of Mynamar (one of our Diocesan companion partners) as they face unrest; for The Diocese of Winchester as plans are made and disseminated across Deaneries and Parishes; for our Bishops - Tim, David and Debbie and the rest of The Bishop’s Staff Team.

If you or someone you know would like to be included here would you please let Andrew (01420 88794) or Philippa Penfold know (potr.alton@btinternet.com)

**Every Saturday at 10am a Prayer Meeting** is held on Zoom. Do come along.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88678575981?pwd=UzFBb2ZqdTkwQlhsYW95T05TTUtDQT09>

**Meeting ID**: 886 7857 5981 **Passcode:** 014559

**Those who are bereaved – families and friends of:** Walter Davies, Carol Cunningham, Ivor Guy, Elizabeth Hamm, Brian Bicknell, Dennis Martin, Susan Leonard, Gordon Stewart, Jean Hewitt, Jean Bramfitt, Helena Williams, Helen Lockey, Harry Arman, Beryl Daborn

**Proclaiming the Risen Jesus, Steadfast in faith, Active in Service**

**This week’s Online Services**

* Church@4 Sunday 21st March at 4pm

**Meeting ID: 819 4137 1951 Passcode: POTR1234**

* Morning Prayer on Facebook Live everyday at 9am
* Compline (Night Prayer) on Facebook Live everyday at 8pm
* Sunday Worship service – on YouTube POTR Alton
* Afternoon tea – On Zoom Thursday 4pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85196760975?pwd=ZU9RYzA2MWFPYWpDRGlTRzFEUE5sQT09>

**Meeting ID:** 851 9676 0975 **Passcode:** 323046

**News & Notices**

**Update on the use of our church buildings**

From 29th March as the ‘Rule of Six’ is reintroduced we will open the church buildings for public worship ensuring all the social distancing and other public health guidelines are in place. From then on we will hold midweek and Sunday worship. We will need to take bookings as before.

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| **Holy Week 2021 - In Church Services in Parish of the Resurrection** |
|  | *All attendance at services will need booking through The Parish Office**There are a number of services across the four churches in the week so please be aware that we will not be able to accommodate everyone at every service so choose appropriately and do give The Office options**All social distancing and public health guidance will be followed - 2 metre rule, hand sanitising, face masks, no singing* |
|  | St Lawrence | St Peter’s  | Holy Rood | All Saints |
| **Tuesday 30th March** | 7pmCommunion |  |  |  |
| **Wednesday 31st March** |  |  |  | 9.30amCommunion |
| **Thursday 1st April** |  | 2pmMaundy Thursday communion |  |  |
| **Good Friday 2nd April** | 2.15pm Good Friday Service |  | 9.30am Good Friday Service | 12pmGood Friday Service |
| **Easter Sunday 4th April** | 10.30am Easter Communion | 9.15am Easter Communion | 9.30amEaster Communion | 10.30amEaster Communion |

All four churches are open for Individual Private Prayer. We follow the same pattern as before:

All Saints Church – Monday 2-4pm & Friday 10am-12noon

St Lawrence Church – Tuesday 2-4pm & Saturday 10am-12noon

Church of the Holy Rood – Wednesday 10am-12noon & Saturday 2-4pm

St Peter’s Church – Thursday 2-4pm

**Sunday Worship on BBC Radio 4. 21st March, Passion Sunday.** We wanted to let you know that Debbie Thrower, founder of Anna Chaplaincy, will lead this special service ‘The Lost Years’ from 8.10am to mark the anniversary of the first lockdown. Please join in and listen to Debbie. The service recognises the hard work and unflagging ministry of those involved with Anna Chaplaincy, and all ministry among older people, during these past twelve months.

**Church@4 Sunday 21st March at 4pm** Come along and join us for Church@4 on Zoom – everyone welcome! Our story will be The Feeding of the 5000. Martha, our Children, Youth and Families worker will lead the short 30-minute service with songs and worship. Church@4 will take place **every other Sunday**. Zoom details are:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81941371951?pwd=cTZiMWprRXV6ZkpYTjNjcWJsc3JQQT09>

**Meeting ID: 819 4137 1951 Passcode: POTR1234**

**Traidcraft**  The new spring [Traidcraft](https://www.traidcraftshop.co.uk/) catalogue in now available. Please contact Jo if you would like a copy.

Matt the Community Sales manager at Traidcraft set himself a Lent challenge of hosting 40 presentations in 40 days to local Fair trade communities. Such has been the demand that he has added a final presentation to his schedule open to anyone. Matt is a very interesting speaker and I’d encourage you to sign up to the event on **March 30th at 6.15pm**. He promises 40 ideas on how we can make small changes in our habits, that will have a positive impact on Trade Justice, Social justice and Environmental Justice the key principles that underpin the work of Traidcraft.

You will need to register in advance for this meeting, just follow the link below. It is a free event:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEpc-2hqz4rHdWeVXQSnY2r43VEcensZCkG>

Please do get in touch if you have any questions about this or the Traidcraft range. I look forward to hearing from you and hope we can meet in person again soon. Jo  jo@mcgregorfamily.org.uk

**Stewardship Giving to POTR** has been impacted during the Covid pandemic. The work of God’s church still carries on, though. Please remember our mission to ‘Proclaim the Risen Jesus, Steadfast in Faith and Active in Service’ and consider your response, which is partly your financial commitment. Donations may be sent to the vicarage, marked for the attention of the Stewardship Secretary (Tim Sturt). Tim can advise you on setting up regular and one-off donations through your bank or credit card and The Parish Giving Scheme. Please ask. T: 07949 006730 E: stewardship@potr-alton.co.uk. There is also information on the website. *Tim Sturt*

**Deanery Pastoral Reorganisation** The Winchester Diocese is responding to an ongoing financial situation which has been exacerbated by The COVID pandemic. Budget cuts have been made to central office provision, sale of property is taking place and there is to be a reduction in stipendiary (paid) clergy. These reductions are being made in every Deanery with a needed loss of 22 posts.

In the Alton Deanery we will lose two posts to retirement (Revd Ed Pruen & Revd Tony Pears) and therefore each parish/benefice is to be reorganised. The first part of the consultations for this is now taking place which means that PCCs are having meetings with Bishop David and The Archdeacon, Richard Brand. It is proposed that the Parish of the Resurrection is joined by the parishes of Bentworth, Lasham & Shalden. Every reorganisation will make new single parishes with one PCC. Our PCC meets with the Bishop and Archdeacon on Tuesday 23rd March. If anyone wants to make a comment to be considered at this meeting would you please send an email to the Parish Office titled ‘Parish Reorganisation’. We will then collate these. As the consultation process continues we promise to keep everyone informed. I hope that you understand that this needs to be undertaken with a deep commitment to prayer and under the guidance of The Holy Spirit. It also needs a missional approach rather simply an administrative or financial process. Please would you hold The PCC and Ministry Team in your prayers at this time.

**Lent Challenge** Why not join in our Lent Challenge? This week we are making Jesus Loves You cards. Why not make a card to send to a friend, neighbour or someone who lives on their own and show them Jesus’ Love?

**Enjoy knitting?** We are looking for some keen knitters to knit some basic small hearts for a parish project. During Holy Week leading up to Easter Sunday we would like to distribute them outside our churches. Philippa (potr.alton@btinternet.com) can provide the patterns. If you are interested and have some free time, please email the office.

**Alton Community Share** are continuing their Home Delivery Service for March 2021. For a choice of 2-3 free activities, to borrow whilst Covid-19 keeps us at home, please email your request to AltonCommunityShare@hotmail.com or text 07423 162654. Their volunteers will deliver on 27th March 2021. Puzzles, games and books available.

**Easy Fundraising** We are registered with easyfundraising, which means you can help us for FREE. Over 4,000 shops and sites will donate to us when you use easyfundraising to shop with them – at no extra cost to yourself! All you need to do is sign up and remember to use easyfundraising whenever you shop online. It’s easy and completely free! These donations really mount up, so please sign up to support us. [https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/parishoftheresurrection/?utm\_campaign=raise-more&utm\_content=en-n1](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/parishoftheresurrection/)

More information on all our activities can be found on the Parish website [www.potr-alton.co.uk](http://www.potr-alton.co.uk) or by visiting our **Facebook, Instagram and Twitter** pages. Please like and share our posts so we can spread the good news of our parish. All notices are also published on the website.

**The Ministry Team**

**Vicar:** Revd Andrew Micklefield andrewmicklefield@gmail.com 88794

**Associate Vicar:** Revd Gordon Randall gordon.randall@sky.com 549567

**Assistant Priest:** Revd Lynn Power revlynnpower@outlook.com 07850 232995

**Assistant Priest:** Revd Rachel Sturt rachelsturt@btinternet.com 07411 384496

**Assistant Priest:** Revd Martin East martineast@btinternet.com 549595

**Anna Chaplains:** Debbie Thrower & Rachel Sturt c/o The Parish Office 83234

**Youth/children/family worker:** Martha Lloyd martha@potr-alton.co.uk 07492 392246

**General Enquiries to the Parish Administrators** Philippa Penfold & Ellie Elder

potr.alton@btinternet.com

**Currently the Parish Office is closed but contact can be made by email**

Please send all news and notices to the Parish Administrators.