



Parish Matters

Welcome...

to our weekly edition of Parish Matters – we hope you enjoy catching up with news and prayers from the Parish.

Sunday 7th January

Epiphany

This week's special prayers

The collect of the week

Creator of the heavens,
who led the Magi by a star
to worship the Christ-child:
guide and sustain us,
that we may find our journey's
end in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Eco Church Prayer for January

In the manifestation of Christ, you
use the things of the earth to reveal
your glory.
As we take gold from the ground,
make frankincense and myrrh
from the gum of trees,
and turn grapes and water into
wine, grant us wisdom to use the
resources of the earth for the good
of all creation. Amen

Welcome to today's service New Sermon Series – New Year - Remember

Prayers

Prayers & Readings: Monthly prayers and the daily lectionary readings are available in Sunrise and on the parish website. www.potr-alton.co.uk

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: Bethan, Charlotte, Jenny Thompson, Sarah Broadbent, Sally Stoodley, Dennis Milns, Alex Cannon, Paddy Mendham, Jennifer Arnold, Jill, Jenny Lawrence, Judith Shadey, Ben, David and Barry Edwards.

If you or someone you know would like to be included here please let Philippa Penfold know (office@potr-alton.co.uk)

Those who are bereaved – families and friends of Elizabeth Crow, Carol Murrell, Pearl Dorey, Roger Tibble, Leo Hill, George Littlewood, Gwen Pettigrew and Barry Williamson

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

This week's extra Services

- **Facebook Live Morning Prayer** Monday to Friday 9am @POTRALton
- **St Lawrence Teddies** Monday morning 9.30am in St Lawrence Church
- **GAP Traidcraft Coffee Morning**, every Tuesday from 10-12 at Alton Methodist Church
- **Holybourne Coffee morning** followed by Prayers on Tuesday 10am-11.45am (Prayers 11:45 am to 12 noon) at Church of the Holy Rood.
- **Holybourne Teddies** in Holybourne Church on Wednesday 9.45am
- **Holy Communion** at All Saints at 10am on Wednesday
- **Glow** afterschool group for children in years 3 to 6. St Lawrence Church Thursdays at 3.15pm
- **Lighthouse** Sunday mornings for children aged 0 – 11 in the Parish Centre at 10.30am

Please see our website www.potr-alton.co.uk for a full list of church services, news and events for this month.

News and notices

Curious about Faith? We have a new Alpha course starting on **Monday 8th January** at Alton Maltings brought to you by Alton Churches. The evening will start at 7pm with a free meal, followed by a video and chance to chat and ask questions about faith. It's free of charge so why not come and check it out? For more information email altonplusalpha@gmail.com

Associate Vicar Appointment We will be making an announcement on Sunday 7th January. Bishop Philip will lead the licensing service on the evening of Monday 18th March. We are very much looking forward to having a new member of the team!

St Lawrence Organ Society Concert in St Lawrence Church. The first 2024 organ concert takes place on Tuesday 9th January when David Price (Portsmouth Cathedral) makes a return visit to Alton. Admission £10. Refreshments available from 7.30pm

Christmas Afternoon Tea 2023 A big thank you to Sue Dell for organising this wonderful event and for her big team of volunteers who helped with baking,

setting up, entertaining, washing up and all the other tasks. All the guests thoroughly enjoyed themselves, were well fed and entertained.

Confirmation Service Bishop Philip will be coming to the POTR service at 10.30am on Sunday 3rd March to baptise and confirm. There are already some names to go forward but if you or someone you know would like to be confirmed then do please speak to Andrew. It is always very good to celebrate people's faith and commitment to Jesus.

GLOW After School Club Every Thursday during term time between 3.15 and 4.30pm we run an after school club for Keystage 2 (7-11 year olds) in St Lawrence Church. We have a number of regular attenders and others who would like to join. To make this possible we need some more people to help out. It doesn't have to be every week but to join the rota. If you would like to then please speak to Robin or Sally Kemp - familykemp@tiscali.co.uk

Lent is coming It only just seems we have celebrated Christmas! We will be running our Alton Churches Lent Sessions again on Thursday evenings starting on **29th February**. Bishop Philip will be our first guest speaker. The theme for this year is '**The Early Church Shaping Us Today**'. Please put this into your diaries now.

Gwen Pettigrew Many of the St Lawrence congregation will remember Gwen who worshipped with us for many years. She recently died aged 103 at The Lawn Care Home. A Service of Thanksgiving for her life will be held on Monday **15th January at 12.30pm in St Lawrence Church**. Everyone is welcome.

The Bereavement Journey Are you grieving the death of a loved one or struggling with the long-term effects of loss? The Bereavement Journey is a seven week series of short videos and focussed conversations. 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; and an optional session on questions of faith. **Tuesday mornings, 10am-12 noon, January 16th - February 27th** at The Alton Maltings Centre. Suggested voluntary contribution £20. To book your place, or to find out more about it, please email bereavement@potr-alton.co.uk or phone Wendy Burnhams 07514280362

Alton Foodbank Thank you for all your donations in 2023. If you would like to donate this January, they are in need of the following tinned meat (pies, stewing steak, hot dogs etc.), tinned fruit, tinned vegetables, tinned custard, long life sponge puddings, tinned or instant potato and tinned rice pudding. They currently have good supplies of soup and pasta.

**Next Sunday Service 14th January.
New Year - Refocus**

9.15am	Communion Service	St Peter's Church
9.30am	Communion Service	Holybourne Church
10.30am	Communion Service	St Lawrence Church
3pm	Afternoon Worship	All Saints Church
10am	Communion Service	St Mary's, Bentworth

The Ministry Team

Vicar: Revd Canon Andrew Micklefield andrew@potr-alton.co.uk 88794
Assistant Priest: Revd Bruce Nicole revbrucenicole@gmail.com 07974 021764
Assistant Priest: Revd Peter Brown petelaine@btinternet.com 01420 549943
Assistant Priest: Revd Lynn Power revlynnpower@outlook.com 07850 232995
Assistant Priest: Revd Martin East martineast@btinternet.com 549595
Assistant Priest: Revd Jon Rooke jonrooke@hotmail.co.uk 07519 046593
Curate: Revd Wendy Burnhams wendy@burnhamsfamily.co.uk 07514 280362
Anna Chaplain Kate Powell annachaplainalton@gmail.com 07539 026546
Anna Chaplain Pioneer: Canon Debbie Thrower
debbie.annachaplain@hotmail.com

General Enquiries to the Parish Administrators Philippa Penfold & Ellie Elder
Office email address office@potr-alton.co.uk **01420 513881**

**The Parish Office (in All Saints Church Hall) will be open Monday to Friday
between 9am – 12pm.**

QR CODE! Your donation helps sustain our buildings, ministry, youth work and much more. Your donation can also be gift aided. Why not give it a go using this QR code. Thank you!



Happy New Year