



Parish Matters

Welcome...

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

Sunday 11th February

The Sunday next before Lent

This week's special prayers

The collect of the week

Holy God,
you know the disorder of our
sinful lives:
set straight our crooked hearts,
and bend our wills to love your
goodness and your glory
in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen

Eco Church Prayer for February

In this time of abstinence and
reflection, help us to confront our
weaknesses in the wilderness
and perceive our place in your
great universe. We give thanks for
the green shoots of your presence
in the waste places of the world.
May we learn new habits of holy
living in our relationship with the
earth. Amen

Welcome to today's service

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, Jill, Jenny Lawrence, Judith Shadey, Ben, David, Barry Edwards and Wendy Smith.

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 Roger Tibble, Leo Hill, George Littlewood, Gerald Peters, Gwen Pettigrew, Barry Williamson, Robin Haw, Audrey Heffernan, Patricia Wood, Jacqueline Joyce and Beryl Faulkner.

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

This week's extra Services

- **Facebook Live Morning Prayer** Monday to Friday 9am @POTRAAlton
- **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 Road.
- **Holybourne Teddies** in Holybourne Church on Wednesday 9.45am
- **Holy Communion** at All Saints at 10am on Wednesday
- **No Lighthouse during Half Term**

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

Time of Prayer Come and join us to pray for the parish, our community and the world. This evening **Sunday 11th February in St Lawrence Church at 6pm.** Everybody is welcome.

Ash Wednesday 14th February This day marks the beginning of Lent and our turning towards the great celebration of Easter. It is traditionally a day to repent and pray. There will be two opportunities to join together for communion and the imposition of ashes – **10am at All Saints Church** led by Revd Wendy Burnhams – this will be a said service with no hymns – and at **7.30pm in St Lawrence Church** led by Revd Bruce Nicole – this will include hymns.

Parish of the Resurrection Quiz at Holyrood Church, Holybourne on **Friday 16th February 6.00 pm** for a prompt start at 6.30 pm. The cost of the quiz is £12.50 per person. A fish and Chip supper and a glass of prosecco is included in the cost. You can have up to 8 people in your team. Last year's quiz with quiz master Rosemary (back by popular demand) was well supported and proved to be a resounding success. To sign up please email Keith Arrowsmith-Oliver keithnorman@btinternet.com or call 01420 542135

Repair Café The next Repair Café takes place on **Saturday 17th February** in the Alton Community Centre from 10.00 to 12.30. Do bring along your items for repair and save them from going to landfill. We will give it a try or even just advise you as to what to do next. Household items such as textiles, ceramics, jewellery, electrical and mechanical (small) or bikes and furniture. RE-USE, REPAIR, NOT REPLACE! Altonrepaircafe21@gmail.com

Lent is coming During Lent Christians come together from our different churches in Alton to share in worship and fellowship whilst exploring different themes within the Christian faith. This year the five-week Lent Course will be based on Acts 2.42-47 under the heading: **The Early Church Shaping Us Today**. Bishop Philip will be our first speaker. Other speakers will be Andrew Lawrence, Revd Philip Simpkins, Bishop David and Jason Clark. The Lent Course is held at The Maltings (Harvest Church) starting on **Thursday 29th February**. Arrive at 7.15 for refreshments, and a start at 7.30pm. We will finish each of the evenings before 9pm.

Lent Lunches The Lent Lunches which are held annually at Holybourne Church will commence on **Wednesday 21st February** and will go on through Lent for five weeks. No need to book in, just come along and enjoy good food and good company. Time: 12.30 pm to 2.00 pm. For each lunch 3 soups will be available, and they are served with a bread roll and soft drinks and afterwards tea or coffee and cake and/or fruit. Donations are welcome as all proceeds go to Karamoja, Uganda to provide ministry support in Karamoja Diocese.

Eco Church – Carbon Fasting for Lent 2024 Lent is traditionally a time for fasting or foregoing food we enjoy. Why not try fasting from carbon this Lent for a change! The aim is to increase understanding of our carbon footprint and how we can reduce it.

Climate Stewards (part of the A Rocha family) has a Carbon Fast programme for Lent 2024 which can be found using this link

<https://www.climatestewards.org/resources/carbon-fast/>

The Eco Church Team would love to hear how you get on if you decide to try the programme.

Alton Walking Church for Men the new timetable for 2024 is now available. They have new pubs and areas to explore this year. The first one is on **Wednesday 28th February at 10.30am** at the Flower Pots in Cheriton. Each walk will take about 90 minutes with time to pray and reflect followed by a light bite in the pub. Contact Robin on 07957 653403 or email him on familykemp@tiscali.co.uk

World Day of Prayer Service - Friday 1st March This year's service will be held at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Alton on **Friday 1st March at 2pm**. It has been prepared by Christian women of Palestine, so it's particularly poignant at the moment with all that's happening there. Do come along and be a part of this service which will be followed around the world on this day. All are welcome and there will be chance for further fellowship over a cup of tea afterwards.

Confirmation Service Bishop David 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.

Alton Foodbank Thank you for your continuing support. If you would like to donate this January, they are in need of the following tinned meat (pies, stewing steak, hot dogs etc.), tinned vegetables, tinned custard, long life sponge puddings, tinned or instant potato, rice, pasta, jars of pasta sauce and baked beans. Thank you so much.

Next Sunday Service 18th February Lent – Father Forgive Them

9.30am	Communion Service	Holy Rood Church
10.30am	Morning Worship	St Lawrence Church
10.30am	Communion Service	All Saints Church
4pm	Church@4	Parish Centre
6pm	Choral Evensong	St Lawrence Church
10am	Communion Service	St Mary's, Lasham
6pm	Evensong	St Peter & St Paul's, Shalden

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
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Anna Chaplain Kate Powell annachaplainalton@gmail.com 07539 026546
Anna Chaplain Pioneer & LLM: 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!

