



Parish Matters

Welcome...

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

Sunday 25th February

The second Sunday of Lent

This week's special prayers

The collect of the week

Almighty God,
by the prayer and discipline of
Lent
may we enter into the mystery of
Christ's sufferings,
and by following in his Way
come to share in his glory;
through 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

Lent Sermon Series

Last Words - Today you will be with me in paradise

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 Gerald Peters, Gwen Pettigrew, Barry Williamson, Robin Haw, Audrey Heffernan, Patricia Wood, Jacqueline Joyce, Beryl Faulkner and Patricia Christmas.

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 after school group** for children in years 3 to 6, 3.15pm Thursday in the Galilee Chapel in St Lawrence Church
- **Lighthouse** groups for children. Sundays in the Parish Centre 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

Please note the Parish Office will be closed the week of 4th March. We will be responding to emails. We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Informal Evening Service this Sunday 25th February 6pm in St Lawrence Church. The service will be following the theme of 'Seeking the Lord'. Everyone is welcome.

Lent Lunches The Holybourne Lent lunches started this week with many people enjoying a selection of delicious soups and cake. The lunches continue for the next four weeks so why not come and enjoy some lovely soup and good company this **Wednesday**? No need to book in, just come along at 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.

Lent Course 2024 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.

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 this week 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

St Lawrence Church Monthly Coffee Morning Come and join Carol, Jane and Mo for a cup of tea, coffee and cake. **Friday 1st March at 10.30am**. A lovely time to catch up with friends and meet new ones.

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.

Gill Cocks Gill, a faithful member of The Butts Church, died recently. Her family are aware that she was known across the churches of Alton and would like us to be aware that there will be a Service of Thanksgiving at 2pm **on Friday 1st March** in The Alton Maltings. Everyone is very welcome to attend.

St Lawrence Monthly Market Come along on **Saturday 2nd March at 9am** in the Parish Centre. Plenty of books, puzzles, toys and bric-a-brac for sale with refreshments including bacon sandwiches.

Meet and Eat - women's group for Fun and Fellowship - Monday 4th March starting at 7 pm in Holy Rood Church. Demonstration how to make a spring arrangement. We will then have the opportunity to make one. For further details and to book a place please email Lyn Baines meetandeat@btinternet.com. Please do chat to Kathy Norkett at All Saints, Sarah Neish at Beech, Gill Tull at Holy Rood, Elspeth Mackeggie Gurney and Alison Parr at St. Lawrence about the group.

Alton Organ Society Concert at St Lawrence Church This month's concert takes place on **Tuesday 5th March at 8pm** (refreshments from 7.30pm. Joshua Stephens from Winchester Cathedral will be performing. Admission: £10 on the door.

Plant Based Diet If you are interested in finding out more about following a plant based diet and the benefits to the environment, ACAN are organising a film and discussion evening on **Thursday 29th February** at the Community Centre, 7.30pm. Why not come along and find out more.

Luminosa Chamber Voices 'Choral Reflections' concert 9th March 2024 at 6.30pm at All Saints Church, Alton. 'Choral Reflections' will celebrate much-loved works, including Thomas Tallis' If Ye Love Me and Lotti Crucifixus. These will be sung alongside their modern counterparts, including 'Locus iste' by local composer Will Todd and a host of other historical and contemporary pairings. Tickets, priced at £5, are only available on the door. Early arrival is advised as the last four concerts have been standing room only! There will be a bar available throughout the evening and a retiring collection in aid of Parish of the Resurrection.

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 3rd March

Last Words - My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

8am	BCP Communion Service	St Lawrence Church
10.30am	POTR Altogether Service	St Lawrence Church
10am	Communion Service	St Peter & St Paul, Shalden
10am	Communion Service	St Mary's, Lasham

The Ministry Team

Vicar: Revd Canon Andrew Micklefield andrew@potr-alton.co.uk 88794
Assistant Priest: Revd Bruce Nicole revbrucenicole@gmail.com 07974 021764
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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!

