



Parish Matters

Welcome...

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

Sunday 2nd February 2025

Candlemas

This week's special prayers

The collect of the week

Lord Jesus Christ,
light of the nations and
glory of Israel:
make your home among
us, and present us pure
and holy to your heavenly
Father,
your God, and our God.
Amen

Eco Church Prayer for February

Grant us inspiration in waste
reclamation,
and in the reuse and recycling of
resources.
Bless those who work in the recycling
industry,
and those who work in charity shops.
Help us to find new homes for
unwanted items.
Amen.

Welcome to today's service ATC Service

Safeguarding is at the heart of everything we do in PoTR and we take very seriously the welfare and protection of all those involved in church activities. Safeguarding is every one's responsibility, but here it is overseen by Sally Kemp, Parish Safeguarding Officer: 07944 587597 or potr.safeguarding@gmail.com or via the Parish Office.

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, Sarah Broadbent, Sally Stoodley, Dennis Milns, Alex Cannon, Jill, Judith Shadey, Barry Edwards, Ingrid Owen-Jones, Faye Ellen Compton, Tony Marchant and Patrick Hounsham.

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 Judy Brown, Paddy Mendham, Doug Parkinson, Henry Kempster, Carole Swyer, Sarah Emery, James Goulding, John Bennigson, Colin Baxter and Maureen Brambley

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

This week's extra Services

- **Morning Prayer on Facebook** 9am Monday to Friday @potralton
- **Teddies** toddler group at St Lawrence Church 9.30am on Mondays
- **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.
- **Teddies** toddler group at Holybourne Church 9.45am on Wednesday
- **Holy Communion** at All Saints at 10am on Wednesday
- **Glow afterschool group** for children in years 3 to year 6 in St Lawrence Church at 3.15pm on Thursdays

News and notices

Anna Chaplain to Older People (closing date update) Following the resignation of Kate Powell, we are recruiting for a new Anna Chaplain. An ecumenical post promoting the spiritual and emotional welfare of older people, including those living in residential care homes, sheltered housing and the wider community of Alton, Hampshire. Full details of the post can be found on our website. 20hrs/week Salary range £14-£17 per hour. It is an occupational requirement for the person appointed to be a practising Christian, lay or ordained, in a church affiliated to the Council of Churches in England & Wales. Closing Date: Friday 21st February 2025 5.30pm. Application Pack from Mrs Liz George altonmethodist@hotmail.com Or Phone: 07703 648935

Quiz and Fish & Chips Holyrood Church Holybourne on **Saturday 15th February** 6.00 pm for a prompt start at 6.30 pm. The cost of the quiz is £13.50 per person. Fish and chips or chips and plain sausage or battered sausage and a glass of prosecco is included in the cost. If you have any dietary requirements that prevents you from eating any of the above,

please say so when you book in and we can look at alternatives. 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 What's App or Text Keith on 07769332985. On receiving your communication, you will be sent details of how to pay.

Alton Walking Church for Men Last year proved to be an excellent year for walking, talking and praying our way across the fields and through the woods of Hampshire. We start the first of walk of 2025 at the Sun Inn in Bentworth on **Monday 17th February**, meeting at 10.30am. There will be a brief talk and a prayer to set us on our way and develop a biblical perspective on the journey ahead. Each walk lasts about 1.5 to 2 hours and will end at the pub for refreshments. Please contact Robin to book 07957 653403 or email familykemp@tiscali.co.uk

Christians Against Poverty Debt Coaches Urgently Needed Would you like to help people in your local community to become debt free? CAP Debt Centres are run in partnership with local churches to offer practical support, companionship and hope to people struggling with debt – as well as an opportunity to hear the gospel. For over ten years, Alton CAP Debt Centre – in partnership with Harvest Church – has been supporting clients to become free from debt. We are experiencing an increase in client numbers, and urgently need to expand our team of Debt Coaches from within our local church community. Through home visits and ongoing support, Debt Coaches and Befrienders work alongside clients on their journey to becoming debt free.

If you would like to find out more, please contact: Steve Hannington, Alton Debt Centre Manager Mobile: 07501 914563

Email: stevehannington@capuk.org

Ukraine Warm Clothes Appeal The disruption of energy supplies in Ukraine has made it especially difficult for people to keep themselves and their homes warm. This has prompted our local Ukrainian friends to launch an urgent appeal for warm clothing. Alton's Community Cupboard will act as a collection hub for local donations, up to the end of February. If you have any of the following items you no longer need, in a clean and good condition, please drop them off in between 10.00am and 12.00 noon on Mon, Wed, Fri, or between 11.00am and 12.00 Sat.

Items needed: sweaters, warm trousers, pyjamas, thick socks, thermals, warm blankets (NOT duvets), walking boots. (For adults, children and babies). Please drop items off to: Alton Community Cupboard: - 73b High St, Alton GU34 1AA

Alton Foodbank Thank you for your help and support throughout the year. Alton Foodbank, with your help, fed 2433 people in 2024. If you would like to donate this January, they are in need of the following; tinned vegetables, tinned fruit, tinned meat, (e.g. hot dogs, stewing steak), long life sponge puddings, tinned fish, long life milk, long life fruit juice, tinned custard. We currently have good supplies of baked beans and tinned tomatoes.

**Next Sunday Services 9th February
Elijah – From death to life**

9.15am	Communion Service	St Peter's Church
9.30am	Morning Worship	Holybourne Church
10.30am	Communion Service	St Lawrence Church
3pm	Afternoon Worship	All Saints Church
6pm	Evening Prayer for Vacancy	St Lawrence Church
4pm	BLS Evensong with +Philip	St Mary's Church Bentworth

The Ministry Team

Vicar: Revd Canon Andrew Micklefield andrew@potr-alton.co.uk 01420 88794
Associate Vicar: Revd David Chattell david@potr-alton.co.uk 01420 513555
Assistant Priest: Revd Bruce Nicole revbrucenicole@gmail.com 07974 021764
Assistant Priest: Revd Peter Brown petelaine@btinternet.com 07890 067198
Assistant Priest: Revd Martin East martineast@btinternet.com 01420 549595
Assistant Priest: Revd Jon Rooke jonrooke@hotmail.co.uk 07519 046593
Assistant Priest: Revd Wendy Burnhams wendy@burnhamsfamily.co.uk
 07514280362

LLM: Elaine Brown 55elainebrown@gmail.com 07779 217053

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 will be open Monday to Friday
9am to 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!

