

Winchester Basics Bank

The collection of items for the Basics Bank has now resumed. Three drop-off points have been set up in Littleton: the church porch, inside the bus-shelter on Main Rd by the Hallway and inside the bus-shelter at the top of the village. Our most urgent need is for: tinned carrots and mixed veg, tinned fruit, tinned rice pudding, custard.

Andover Food Bank

Three drop-off points have been established within the Benefice - outside Chilbolton Village Hall, outside Chilbolton Shop and inside Wherwell Bus Shelter. This week we are in need of the following items: Long life Fruit Juice, Long Life Milk, Tinned Fruit, Tinned Potatoes/Instant Mash, Tinned Meat.

Generous June

Generous June is a collaborative initiative between the Diocese of Sheffield and the Diocese of Winchester. We know that this year, June is going to look very different. We want to take this opportunity to reflect on what generosity can mean in the most challenging of times, but also look forward to what our generosity might look like in the future, as our communities come back together.

Join us by listening to the daily reflections throughout June. There will be voices from across the UK; contemplations and reflections to get involved with, plus other resources that we have been developing. This is your chance to delve deeper and explore generosity. <https://www.generousjune.co.uk/>

Rydal Hall Benefice Holiday



Finally, commiserations to those of you who should have been at the Benefice holiday at **Rydal** this past week. However, we have rearranged the Rydal holiday to now take place from **16th to 23rd April 2021**; our first Spring visit. There will be a few vacancies, though most of this year's attendees have rolled their booking forward. Contact Clive Thompsett 01962 885039

Please send all items for Across the Downs to Carol Ward: email carol.ward@daleclose.co.uk, or telephone 01962 883185, by 12.00 noon Thursday at the latest. **If you would like to receive future editions of the newsletter by email, please contact me on the above address.** Thank you.

Across the Downs

Church News Sheet for the Downs Parishes of
Chilbolton, Crawley, Littleton, Sparsholt and Wherwell
Rector: Revd Jax Machin 01962 880845

Sunday 7th June 2020



Services for Sunday 7th June 2020
Trinity Sunday

No services in church (but please see over page for on-line recorded service)



In view of the current Covid-19 outbreak (coronavirus), Church services have sadly been cancelled in our Benefice and throughout the Diocese.

Services for Sunday 14th June 2020
The First Sunday after Trinity
Café Church (online)

Prayer for the Week – *Trinity Sunday*

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity and in the power of the divine majesty to worship the Unity: keep us steadfast in this faith, that we may evermore be defended from all adversities; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings: Isaiah 40: 12-17; 27-end Acts 4: 32-37 Matthew 28: 16-20
Psalm 93



Trinity Sunday Sunday 7th June

Revd Jax writes, “We are all very disappointed that the Northwood Park annual service and picnic have had to be cancelled as this is a much-loved opportunity for our benefice to join together at the Lord’s Table and to share a delicious fellowship meal in spectacular surroundings.”

However, Revd Jax has worked with others in the benefice to produce a service for us to join in with in our own homes. It will be an outdoor Holy Communion Service with contributions from our Ministry Team, Sparsholt School and even a sermon from the Archdeacon!

The service will be posted on the benefice website, along with a downloadable copy of the liturgy and hymns for people to follow at home.

www.downsbenefice.org

Tearfund Reboot Campaign

The coronavirus crisis has changed the way we see the world. It’s forced us to pause and reflect. It’s reminded us of the fragility of life and exposed inequalities in society. But it’s also brought communities together and given us the chance to reimagine what life could be like. **We have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to be part of rebuilding a society which reflects God’s kingdom values.**

As Christians, we can play a vital role by living differently and calling for change as we move forward. Christians have often been central at moments of social renewal and justice – from the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade to the civil rights struggle.

And now, we can urge our leaders to prioritise **loving our neighbours near and far, protecting the most vulnerable, and caring for God’s creation.** Here is an easy way you can take action today with our *Reboot Campaign*.

You can **join us in urging the UK government to reboot the economy in a way that prioritises the poorest** and creates a better world for everyone. We have limited time to influence our leaders as they respond to the current crisis. **Add your voice by sending a ‘reboot message’ to the prime minister using the link below.** You’ll find easy instructions to send an email or write a letter.

[Send a reboot message](#)

DIARY

All regular meetings, groups and special events cancelled across the Benefice

Tuesday 9th June

9.30 am Benefice Morning Prayer (on Zoom, please contact Charlotte Nash: charlotte@cjnash.com)

Wednesday 10th June

12.00 noon (Li) Graveside Funeral and Interment of Ashes – Hilda Van de Lagemaat

The Benefice Office is closed to visitors until further notice due to the COVID-19 virus but is ‘open’ for all other business. Please contact Caroline McAulay on **01962 880 845** or on office@downsbenefice.org.uk

In event of an emergency, please call the Rector, **Revd Jax Machin**, on **07761 055 228**.

Please do visit our website: www.downsbenefice.org where you can find streamed services, letters and reflections from Revd Jax, prayers, daily readings, Kids Corner and so much more – all updated daily.

If you would like to receive Revd Jax’ letters and reflections directly, please ensure the Benefice Office has your email address.

National Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast

Tuesday 30th June, 8.30 – 9.00 am

The National Parliamentary Prayer Breakfast is to be livestreamed this year, so you are able to take part. The theme is ‘Hope and peace in a time of fear and suffering’ and the event will include prayers led by parliamentarians, hymns led by special guest singers and a keynote address by the Bishop of Kensington, the Rt Revd Dr Graham Tomlin. The event is free, but you must [register via Eventbrite](#) in order to receive access. For more information [visit the website here](#).

Downs Parish Magazine for June and July

Please note that the summer edition of the magazine will not be delivered as widely as usual, but an extended, *Lockdown* version can be viewed on and downloaded from the COMMUNICATION section of the benefice website: www.downsbenefice.org