

Views from the Manger

An evening of carols and poems with Andover Chamber Choir

7pm, **Saturday 20th December**

St Mary's Church, Andover

Tickets £18 on the door, £15 in advance, under 16s free. Refreshments included. Available at The Lights Andover (in person and on-line) and through choir members. Proceeds in aid of Andover Food Bank

www.andoverchamberchoir.org.uk

Young Lives vs Cancer Quiz Night

Friday 30th January 7-10 pm

Crawley Village Hall

Come and enjoy a fun quiz and a Ploughman's Supper. Licensed bar. Raffle Tickets £20. Seating will be in tables of 6, but no need to book a full table.

To book your tickets and for more details, please email

amandabayford@gmail.com 07887 618656

Christian Aid Christmas Donation



As we celebrate the birth of Jesus, the Prince of Peace, let's not forget communities affected by conflict.

Christian Aid is working with trusted local partners to deliver a financial assistance programme, which offers immediate emergency aid to families who've fled their homes – supporting mothers to protect their children from hunger, malnutrition, disease and pain. For millions of people caught in conflict worldwide, it's another silent night. Not because peace has come. But because the world isn't listening. We must act today.

Please give generously to Christian Aid – thank you.

www.caid.org.uk/ChristmasDonation

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 Kevin Rogers 01962 880845*

Sunday 14th December 2025



Services for Sunday 14th December 2025

Third Sunday of Advent

10.00 am (Li) Family Communion

4.00 pm (Ch) Carol Service

6.00 pm (Cr) Carol Service

6.00 pm (Sp) Carol Service



Services for Sunday 21st December 2025

Fourth Sunday of Advent

9.00 am (Sp) Holy Communion (BCP)

10.00 am (Ch) Morning Worship

10.00 am (Cr) Holy Communion

6.00 pm (Li) Carol Service



Prayer for the Week – Third Sunday of Advent

O Lord Jesus Christ, who at your first coming sent your messenger to prepare your way before you: grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise so prepare and make ready your way by turning the hearts of the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world we may be found an acceptable people in your sight; for you are alive and reign with the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Readings: Isaiah 35: 1-10

James 5: 7-10

Matthew 11: 2-11

Psalms 146: 4-10

Christmas Services in the Downs Benefice

Day	Date	Time	Place	Service
Third Week of Advent				
Sunday	14 th	4pm	Chilbolton	Carol Service (<i>With Wherwell</i>)
Sunday	14 th	6pm	Crawley	Carol Service
Sunday	14 th	6pm	Sparsholt	Carol Service
Monday	15 th	2pm	Sparsholt	School Kaleidoscope
Thursday	18 th	6pm	Wherwell	School Carol Service
Fourth Week of Advent				
Sunday	21 st	6pm	Littleton	Carol Service
CHRISTMAS EVE				
Wednesday	24 th	4pm	Chilbolton	Crib Service (<i>with Wherwell</i>)
Wednesday	24 th	4pm	Littleton	Crib Service
Wednesday	24 th	4pm	Sparsholt	Crib Service
Wednesday	24 th	11.30pm	Sparsholt	Midnight Service
CHRISTMAS DAY				
Thursday	25 th	10am	Chilbolton	Family Christmas Service
Thursday	25 th	10am	Crawley	Family Christmas Service
Thursday	25 th	10am	Littleton	Family Christmas Service
Thursday	25 th	10am	Sparsholt	Family Christmas Service
Thursday	25 th	10am	Wherwell	Family Christmas Service
Sunday	28 th	10am	Sparsholt	Patronal Festival (<i>Sung Holy Communion, BCP</i>)

Getting to Know You

December looks very busy on the “getting together” front, so "Getting to know you" will take time out now until **January 18th**, when, if you would like to have a chat and a cup of tea, as there is no other gathering in Littleton on that day, do please join us in the Church room at 10.am.

Gemma and Tony Wootten.

DIARY

Monday 15th December

10.00–11.30am (Li) St Catherine’s Toddler Group Nativity and Christmas Party. *Contact Carol Coleman, 01962 881886*

2.15 pm (Sp) Sparsholt School KS2 Christmas Kaleidoscope

Tuesday 16th December

11.00 am (Cr) Interment of Ashes – Patricia Harrison

2.15 pm (Li) Flowerdown Christmas Holy Communion

7.30 pm (Li) Littleton House Group. *Contact Carol Coleman for further details (01962 881886)*

Wednesday 17th December

1.30 pm (Li) Funeral and Burial – Betty Allen

4.00 pm (Cr) Crawley House Group. *Contact Felicity Gillibrand for further details (fgillibrand@btinternet.com)*

Thursday 18th December

9.30 am (Ch) Chilbolton Home Group. *Contact Charlotte on 01264 860831 for further details*

2.15 pm (Li) Prayers for those on the Benefice Prayer List, in the Church Room.

6.00 pm (Wh) Wherwell School Christmas Service

Friday 19th December

Saturday 20th December

Benefice Office Christmas hours

Please note that the office will be closed for the Christmas holidays - last day Friday 19th December and re-opening on Tuesday 6th January.

Peace and Wholeness service, 3rd Sunday of the month, Littleton

During the winter months, the services due to be held on January 18th and February 15th will take place at 3.00 pm instead of 6 pm. We hope you will be able to join us for this contemplative service.