

## Please Pray For ...

**Brenda Quicke, Richard Mumford, Chris Brown, Maureen Haynes, Alison Hudson Sandi Rice-Berry, Darren Thompson, Karen Bird and Roy Barron.**

- Our churches, in particular for **Friday Friends** and our **Children & Families** work
- Churches Together - the **Catholic Church**
- **A Rocha UK & ECO Church**
- The residents of **Hill Meadow** and **Hilltop**
- Please continue to pray for the people in areas of conflict, including Lebanon, Burkina Faso, Myanmar, Haiti, Mali, Somalia, South Sudan, Gaza and Israel, Ethiopia, Cameroon and other troubled areas.
- A ceasefire in the devastating conflict in **Sudan**, for the ensuing famine and disease, and the millions displaced.
- A genuine ceasefire in **Gaza**.
- The aid agencies taking medicines and food to the displace, sick and starving in **Gaza**.
- All those affected by the typhoon in the **Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam**, and by the earthquake in **Turkey**
- **Ethiopia**, where several areas face malnutrition and food insecurity due to conflict and drought.
- **Madagascar**, where cyclone Genzani has left tens of thousands without homes.
- **Peace in Europe**, particularly in **Ukraine** and **Russia**, for negotiations that bring a genuine, stable and lasting peace.

**Lord, give us your heart for your world**

## The Next Week at St Mary's

### Tuesday 3rd

9:00 am Prayer meeting - *in the Upper Church Room - all welcome.*

### Thursday 5th

10:30am - 12:00 pm Coffee and Chat

- *in the White Hart*

11:00 am - 1:00 pm Art Together

- *in the Lower Church Rooms*

7:30 pm Test Valley Men - *the Red Lion*

7:30 pm Alpha course **see inside**

### Friday 6th

10:00 - 11:30 am Friday Friends

- *in the Lower Church Rooms*

2:30 - 3:45 pm Meeting Point

- *in the Upper Church Room*

### Saturday 7th

8:20 - 9:00 am Breathing Space

- *the meeting room, Overton Surgery*

## Carbon Fast for Lent

Details of the Carbon Fast along with weekly themes, calendars and information to help are available on the [church website](#).

## Andover Foodbank

### Updated weekly

Urgently needed:



Tinned Tomatoes. Tinned Soup. Rice Sachets. Long Life Milk. Cleaning Spray. Washing Up Liquid. Dish Cloths. Deodorant. Shampoo. Soap. Toilet Rolls.

They have plenty of Pot Noodles.



# The Benefice Messenger

## St Mary's Church Laverstoke and Overton

Striving for more of God in more of our lives

### Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2026 Lent 2

#### Verse of the Week

*"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."*

John 3:17

#### St Mary the Virgin, Laverstoke

9:00 am Holy Communion BCP

#### St Mary's Overton

10:30 am	Sunday Celebration
Readings	Romans 4:1-5, 13-17 (Hannah Smith) John 3:1-17 (Paul Trotman)
Intercessions	Ann Barker
5:00 pm	Evensong BCP
Readings	Numbers 21:4-7 (Adrian Lewis) Luke 14: 27-33 (TBC)
Intercession	Pauline Wooster

#### Rector

Rev'd James Russell 01256 589614

[revjames.overton@gmail.com](mailto:revjames.overton@gmail.com)

#### Administrator

Ruth Williams 07783 632859

[admin@stmarysoverton.org.uk](mailto:admin@stmarysoverton.org.uk)

Website: [www.overtonbenefice.org.uk](http://www.overtonbenefice.org.uk)

## Could you foster a Hampshire child?

**Hampshire County Council Fostering Service**, part of Hampshire County Council, is made up of a community of over 450 fostering households and 60 staff members. Based within Children's Services, we find and assess new foster carers for the children of Hampshire as well as support our current foster carers.

Rated 'Outstanding' by Ofsted, Hampshire County Council provides ground-breaking support, quality training and competitive allowances through flexible and robust fostering opportunities for its community.

If you would like to find out more about fostering opportunities, contact our friendly foster carer recruitment team:

Email: [fostering@hants.gov.uk](mailto:fostering@hants.gov.uk), Tel: 01489 587 052

[www.hants.gov.uk/fostering](http://www.hants.gov.uk/fostering)

[www.facebook.com/HampshireChildren/](https://www.facebook.com/HampshireChildren/)

[www.instagram.com/hampshirechildren/](https://www.instagram.com/hampshirechildren/)

## The Bells of St Mary's .....

The bells here in St Mary's are now out for repair and refurbishment. Can you be part of this once in a lifetime event?

If you would like to donate to this project, please use this [Parish Giving Link](#) or the QR code.

[More on the church website.](#)



## Overton Benefice: Prayer Meeting

During February and March as part of our 'Year of Connection' we are focusing on PRAYER.

With that in mind, please do join us from 7pm until 8pm in the Lower Church Room at St. Mary's on **Thursday, March 12th** to pray together for our Benefice, our churches and our communities. Everybody is welcome. **James**

## Alpha Course

**LifeSpring**  
COMMUNITY CHURCH

**A different kind of hope.**

Alpha is an introduction to the Christian faith. Each Thursday night there's coffee/cake and nibbles along with conversation, video and discussion. You can ask questions and meet new friends. Alpha starts on 26<sup>th</sup> Feb and runs till the middle of May.

Try Alpha.

Scan Me



**Stanley's Cafe: High St. Overton**  
**Thursday Evenings 7:30**  
**Register with code or @**  
**LifeSpringCommunityChurch.org**

## World Day of Prayer - 6th March

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March at 3.30pm in St Mary's upper Church Rooms. Readings, prayer, singing and a short PowerPoint presentation about Nigeria.

Refreshments before the service.

For more details contact Heather Oram:  
07941 401635 / [horam@gmail.com](mailto:horam@gmail.com)



## Around the Benefice

### Sunday 1st March - Lent 2

**Holy Trinity & St Andrew's, Ashe**

No service

**All Saints', Deane**

10:15 am      Matins

**St Mary the Virgin, Laverstoke**

9:00 am      Holy Communion BCP

**St Michael's, North Waltham**

No service

**St Mary's, Overton**

10:30 am      Sunday Celebration

5:00 pm      Evensong BCP

**St Nicholas', Steventon**

No service

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### Sunday 8th March - Lent 3

**Holy Trinity & St Andrew's, Ashe**

11:00 am      Holy Communion

**All Saints', Deane**

No service

**St Mary the Virgin, Laverstoke**

9:00 am      Holy Communion BCP

**St Michael's, North Waltham**

No service

**St Mary's, Overton**

10:30 am      Holy Communion

**St Nicholas', Steventon**

11:15 am      Holy Communion