

Please Pray For ...

Brenda Quicke, Chris Brown, Maureen Haynes, Alison Hudson, Sandi Rice-Berry, Darren Thompson, Roy Barron, Charlotte, Jimmy and baby Teddy Mowat, Olga and her family.

The families and friends of Richard Mumford, of Karen Bird and of Marina Mudkins.

- **Test Valley Men** and the **Visiting Team**
- Churches Together - **LifeSpring Community Church**
- **Good News for Everyone** - please pray for the Bible distribution at the Watercress Festival in Alresford
- The residents of **Woodlands, Oak Close** and **Sacher Road**
- **The Middle East** - for a cessation of hostilities, an immediate full ceasefire and successful negotiations.
- **Gaza and Lebanon** - for a genuine ceasefire.
- For safe passage for the aid agencies taking medicines and food to the displaced, sick and starving in **Gaza**.
- **Ukraine** - The war with Russia has caused immense suffering, with many civilians affected by violence and displacement. Pray for a lasting ceasefire and stability.
- **Sudan** - The country is experiencing severe violence and humanitarian crises. Pray for a ceasefire and compassion for those affected.
- **Myanmar** - Ongoing conflict and natural disasters have led to worsening food security and stability. Pray for peace and support for vulnerable communities.
- **Turkey** - Pray for stability following the recent election..

The Next Week at St Mary's

Tuesday 21st

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

Thursday 23rd

10:30 am - 12:00 pm Coffee and Chat
- in the White Hart
11:00 am - 1:00 pm Art Together
- in the Lower Church Rooms

Friday 25th

10:00 - 11:00 am Friday Friends
- in the Lower Church Rooms

Saturday 26th

8:20 - 9:00 am Breathing Space
- the meeting room, Overton Surgery

New to the village?

If you are new to the village or church, or know someone who is, Information Packs are available at the back of church. Please take one!

Andover Foodbank

Updated weekly
Urgently needed:



Long Life Milk. Tinned Fruit. Tinned Meat.
Savoury Biscuits (small packets). Coffee.
Chocolate Bars. Deodorant.
They have plenty of Pasta.



The Benefice Messenger

St Mary's Church Laverstoke and Overton

Striving for more of God in more of our lives

Sunday 19th April 2026
Easter 3

Verse of the Week

"They asked each other, 'Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?'"

Luke 24:32

St Mary the Virgin, Laverstoke

No service

St Mary's Overton

10:30 am Breakfast Church
Food served from 10:30

Readings Luke 24:13-35 (Pete Sweet)

Rector

Rev'd James Russell 01256 589614

revjames.overton@gmail.com

Administrator

Ruth Williams 07783 632859

admin@stmarysoverton.org.uk

Website: 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, Tel: 01489 587 052

www.hants.gov.uk/fostering

www.facebook.com/HampshireChildren/

www.instagram.com/hampshirechildren/

The Bells of St Mary's

The bells are back from repair and refurbishment and there was excitement as we heard them for the first time on Easter

Sunday. You can still 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.](#)



Children and Families Minister

We are looking for a part-time Children and Families Minister to help us achieve our aim of creating a church community where children feel valued and loved and are equipped and inspired in their walk with Jesus. Full details on the [church website](#).

Missed a service?

If you missed a service but would still like to listen to the sermon, recent sermons are available on the [church website](#). These include an audio recording of the Hallowing of the Bells service.

Pastoral Care

A reminder that we have a Pastoral Care Team at St Mary's. If you or someone you know would appreciate a visit from one or two of the team do get in touch.

If you would like to join the team, please contact Annabel Russell annabelrussell99@gmail.com

Budapest Cafe Orchestra

Budapest Cafe Orchestra will be in concert at St Mary's Church on Sat 9 May, supported by Imperial Balalaika Orchestra of Overton. Come and join us for an evening of beautiful music and a lot of fun!

Tickets from <https://www.tickettailor.com>

Anyone for Cricket?

Are you interested in going to the Hundred cricket match Southern Brave v Manchester Super Giants on Saturday 8th August at Southampton? (Women's match 2.30pm, Men at 6.00pm, tickets £5 for u-16s, adults from £15). If there is sufficient interest we will try to go as a group. If interested please let Paul Norris know (07719 321789).

Around the Benefice

Sunday 19th April - Easter 3

Holy Trinity & St Andrew's, Ashe

No service

All Saints', Deane

10:15 am Matins

St Mary the Virgin, Laverstoke

No service

St Michael's, North Waltham

9:30 am Morning Worship

St Mary's, Overton

10:30 am Breakfast Church

St Nicholas', Steventon

No service

Sunday 26th April - Easter 4

Holy Trinity & St Andrew's, Ashe

No service

All Saints', Deane

No service

St Mary the Virgin, Laverstoke

9:00 am Matins

St Michael's, North Waltham

9:30 am Holy Communion

St Mary's, Overton

10:30 am Holy Communion

St Nicholas', Steventon

11:15 am Matins