



## **Our Parish vision for **new life****

Since the last publication of The Muse we have known sorrow in the Parish with the passing of some beautiful friends, amongst them Jenny Hellyer, Reba Bakewell and Joan Goddard.

As we honour and mourn them and all our loved ones, at the same time God calls us on into the future, inviting us to play our part in God's mission in our Parish.

Whilst our two church buildings and congregations may be different, our Vision for the future is the same. What all of us want to see is **new life** - in ourselves, in our churches, and pouring out into the world around us in a way that is **inclusive, safe and nurturing**.

Green shoots are already appearing as we begin to set up courses for those new to faith and to make provision for children and families at our Sunday services.

As we travel through Lent and draw closer to Easter, we are reminded that Jesus died and rose again so that we can have life in all its fullness. It is this life in Christ that we can experience and want to share with others. It is this life that transforms and renews.

**New life** is our destination but there is no *one* magic person who radiates God and who can take us to that place. As the body of Christ, the Spirit of God dwells in each of us and we all have gifts and talents to contribute. It is as we pray and work together that we can move in this new direction. And as we seek to draw closer to God, we can discern how we each might play our part in being a **safe, inclusive and nurturing** place that welcomes others in.

Lent is a natural time for reflection and prayer, so I am inviting you to do three things:

Will you pray daily for **new life** at St Columba and Holy Trinity?

Will you seek to **draw near to Christ yourself** and commit to taking up one thing to deepen your own faith journey?

Will you **bring someone new to church** this Lent or Easter and talk to them about your faith?

It will be a new adventure and we don't yet know where God will lead, but we can trust that the Holy Spirit will guide us as we seek to step out in faith.

In Christ,

Revd Sam and the Ministry Team.

## Information

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**Parish Website** [www.htscf.org.uk](http://www.htscf.org.uk)

### THE ANNA CHAPLAINCY PRAYER

Faithful God,

you have promised, in Christ to be with us to the end of time.

Come close to those who have lived long and experienced much.

Help them to continue to be faithful and, within the all-age kingdom of  
God,

to find ways to go on giving and receiving your grace, day by day.

For your glory and your kingdom.



**For information about Anna Chaplaincy, please speak  
to Revd Jo-Anne, or see the website:**

**<https://www.annachaplaincy.org.uk/>**



# GREEN CHRISTIANS

# PRAYER WALK

## ON EASTER SATURDAY

## 4TH APRIL AT 10AM



**Meeting Point: Holy Trinity Fareham Car Park**



### **A reminder that we hold a midweek Holy Communion Service**

There is a midweek Said Holy Communion service on a Thursday at Holy Trinity Church. If you would like to join us, the service commences at 10am and there is the opportunity for coffee and chat afterwards.

*Revd Sam*



### **Deaf Church @ Holy Trinity**

It's just been over a year since Deaf Church moved to Holy Trinity but we feel very much at home! We regularly have over 20 members joining us each month and have been known to get as big as 30, when the Revd Neil Robinson, a deaf priest from Salisbury Diocese, is leading! The congregation members love worshipping here with light coming through the large windows, enabling everyone to see clearly: something important if you are relying on sight and not sound. Naturally worship is important for them all, but Deaf Church also provides them with an opportunity to catch up on personal joys and sorrows as well as community news through the bring and share lunch we hold after the service. Sadly most of the Deaf Groups have stopped meeting now, which has resulted in much isolation within the community, so your hall provides a little oasis each month for them.

This is a picture from our January service where we all renewed our baptismal vows. It was particularly special for one of our original members, Sid, as he was baptised in Holy Trinity church some 80 years ago.

Thank you for your welcome and support, thank you to Mark who helps set up each month and provides tech support when needed and thank you for enabling Deaf Church to flourish in our Diocese.

Rev Canon Amanda Collinson

Diocesan Disability Adviser and Chaplain to the Deaf



## News from St Columba School

### St Columba School-SIAMS Inspection



When inspected by OFSTED, Church Schools are not subject to the same level of scrutiny regarding their delivery of religious education and ethos. Instead, Anglican & Methodist schools undergo a SIAMS Inspection.

(Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools)

At the end of 2025 St Columba underwent a SIAMS inspection to sit alongside their OFSTED 2024 visit and assessment.

See below an excerpt of a letter sent to Parents from the Headteacher.

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am very pleased to share the wonderful news that our recent SIAMS inspection at the end of 2025, recognised St Columba as a school that is truly living up to its foundation as a Church school and enabling both pupils and adults to flourish. This is a significant achievement for our whole school community, and I want to thank you for the part you play in supporting our school each day.

The Inspector highlighted many strengths that make St Columba's a special place for children to learn and grow. These include:

1. Our Christian vision of Love, Hope and Respect shaping our culture of the school and the way we treat one another. The vision was drafted with significant input from the parish.
2. Inspirational collective worship that brings our community together and helps pupils reflect on their values and the world around them.
3. A strong commitment to wellbeing, with staff creating a nurturing and supportive environment for children and families.
4. A well planned, engaging Religious Education curriculum that helps pupils understand different faiths and worldviews.
5. Excellent partnerships with our local church and the Diocese of Chichester Academy Trust, which enrich learning and strengthen our Christian distinctiveness.

We are also pleased that the Inspector recognised the kindness, respect and sense of community that shines through the daily life of our school. This is a real credit to our pupils, staff and families.

I want to thank our dedicated staff team for their incredible work and commitment, and I want to thank you for your ongoing support, trust and encouragement. St Columba's continues to be a place of growth, belonging and hope for every child, and this outcome reflects our shared journey.

Warm regards



## Splash: A new group for children on Sundays at Holy Trinity Church

### Session 1: Follow me

On Sunday 1 February, we joyfully launched our new children's group, Splash. The session began with an energetic game of Follow the Leader, leading into a lively retelling of Jesus calling his first disciples. The children reflected on what it might have felt like to be chosen by Jesus, and how each of us—no matter our age—can choose to follow Christ today. After a round of Go Fish, the children used their fish cards to piece together the memory verse:

**“Jesus said, ‘Come, follow me. I will make you fishers of people.’” Matthew 4:19**

Splash will meet during the service on the 1st, 2nd, and 4th Sundays of the month at Holy Trinity. All children aged 3 and above are warmly invited to join.

For more information, please contact Debbie [messychurch@htscf.org.uk](mailto:messychurch@htscf.org.uk)



## SPLASH – A New Group for Children on Sunday

Children need space in church where they can discover faith in ways that feel natural, joyful, and truly their own. When we invest in them, we're not simply filling time on a Sunday—we're nurturing the next generation of disciples, helping them grow in confidence, belonging, and a sense that God's story includes them. A church that makes room for its children is a church that believes in its future.

Our new Sunday group, *Splash*, gives them that room. It offers a place where children can explore big questions safely, build friendships, and experience worship in ways that speak to their age and imagination. Through play, creativity, and conversation, they learn the rhythms of faith without feeling lost in an adult-centred service. It also supports parents and carers, reassuring them that their children are being welcomed, taught well, and cared for as an essential part of the church family.

Children begin the service in church with their parent or carer and leave after the first hymn, rejoining the congregation in time for communion. Recent sessions have explored themes such as *Follow Me*—the story of the first disciples leaving their nets to follow Jesus—and *The Lord's Prayer*, where the children listened to Scripture to discover when Jesus first taught this prayer. Each session follows a theme and begins with an active warm up before a Bible story. Children then take part in a follow up activity to explore the theme further, with prayers bringing the session to a close.

Most importantly, this group affirms something vital: our children are not an afterthought. They are valued, seen, and central to our ministry. By giving them a dedicated space, we are planting seeds of faith, community, and purpose that can grow throughout their lives.

All children aged 3 and above are warmly welcome to attend on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays. The service starts at 10:00 a.m.

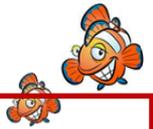
For further information, please contact:

Debbie: [messychurch@htscf.org.uk](mailto:messychurch@htscf.org.uk)

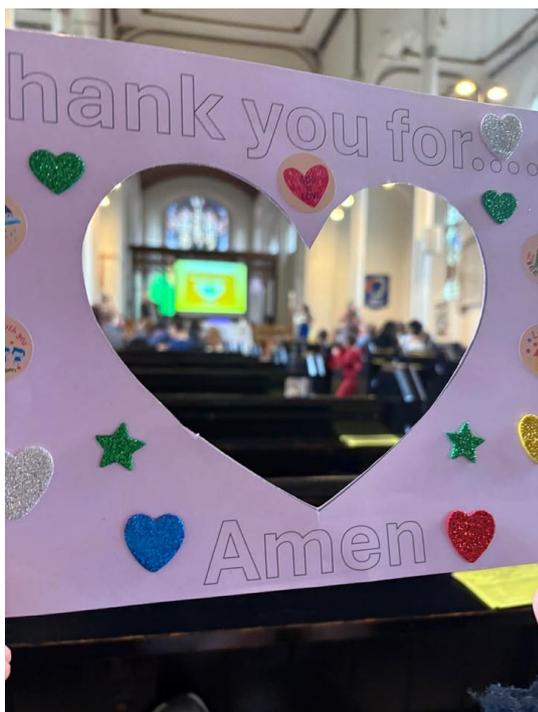
Donna: [donna.irving@htscf.org.uk](mailto:donna.irving@htscf.org.uk)



# Little Fishes...



Little Fishes and Messy Church have had a busy start to 2026 and have enjoyed welcoming many new families. The LFGB on Ash Wednesday included over 50 children as they started their 2026 Lent journeys together. During the session they made charcoal cross pictures representing the following of Jesus, planted seeds to nurture and grow, created pictures on pancakes, planned what they would be doing this Lent in a flip book and we set ourselves the challenge to do an act of kindness for each of the 40 days which will be added to a kindness jar. They also made a BIG sand art to display in church to remind everyone to make time for Lent.



[www.facebook.com/MessyChurchHolyTrinityFareham](http://www.facebook.com/MessyChurchHolyTrinityFareham)  
Email - [messychurch@htscf.org.uk](mailto:messychurch@htscf.org.uk)



Holy Trinity  
Church, Fareham  
**2026**



### **Wed 18th February - LFGB: "Time for Lent?"**

*Lent is time of 'preparation and growing' and begins today! Come and join us for some messy fun as we start the 40 days till Easter.*

### **Wed 1st April - LFGB: "Messy Easter"**

*We are in the middle of Holy Week so we find out why this week is special and look forward to Easter Sunday.*

### **Wed 27th May - LFGB: "Trinity Fun "**

*We get ready for this coming Trinity Sunday and count in 3's!*

### **Wed 12th Aug- LFGB " Superheroes"**

*There are many Superheroes in the bible but can you be one too?*

### **Wed 28th October - LFGB: "Calling all Saints"**

*It is 'All Saints day' this week, so we find out about some Saints and what it takes to be one.*

### **Friday 26th Nov - MC "Christingle"**

*Make a Christingle and find out what it represents.*

**Messy Church on Friday** is 4 - 6pm including hot dinner.  
**Little Fishes Go BIG** is on **Wednesdays** 10.30am - 12.30pm  
and includes light lunch.



## 'Curious About Faith' – how did it go?



When preparing for the Carols by Candlelight service at Holy Trinity in December, we felt prompted to offer a way for people to explore faith. At the carol service a large number of people are there who only come at Christmas and we wanted to provide a way for them to bring their questions and explore further. We decided to run three evenings in January called 'Curious About Faith'. The details went in the service sheet and we invited people at the end of the service. We all prayed – thank you to everyone for praying. We did not know who - if anyone - would turn up but it felt right.

It was lovely to welcome six people on our first evening – a few who already attend Holy Trinity, friends of friends and one person who heard about it at the carol service and wanted to come! We had a great time exploring one topic per week: the first night on who God is, the second on Jesus and the last one on the Holy Spirit. Using a mixture of scripture passages and reflections, we shared our questions and thoughts and dug deeper into what faith means.

Here's what some participants said about it:

*"I heard about these meetings from the order of service at the carol service. Why did I go? As a non-church goer, I felt a bit guilty only going for weddings, funerals etc, but when things are hard and bad in my life I always pray, so I thought I might find out if you have to go to church to be a Christian." Graham*

*"The 'Curious about faith' evenings were such a great experience - meeting up with like-minded people, being open and discussing their experiences with faith. It was nice as you could share in confidence as little or as much as you wanted and I made some great new friends.  
P.S. Catherine makes a great variety of cake and Mark makes an awesome coffee!" Rob*

*"One of the most striking discoveries of attending this course was learning about the spiritual quests and experiences of people who weren't regular churchgoers. It was clear we were all searching for the same understanding but in different languages. As the course progressed, we could see how all these languages expressed the same search for good, love and God. For me, the loveliest part of the course was our exploration of the sense, power and presence of the Holy Spirit. The idea of the Holy Spirit is so amorphous yet the presence feels so real, and was certainly felt in the discussions of our group." Dale*

It was very encouraging and wonderful to see how God is moving in people's lives. We are now thinking and praying about what to do next. We'd like to run a longer course, perhaps later this year, and certainly next January, which would need more of us to help make it happen. Please keep praying. It feels exciting. Let's see how the Holy Spirit leads us.

**Revd Catherine**



I'm writing this just as a little break in the clouds appears, a welcome pause after the steady rain that has followed us through January and into February.

As the season gently leans toward spring, the days are growing a little longer, and the skylarks are beginning to share their cheerful mating calls. Daffodils, crocuses, and snowdrops are starting to brighten our footpaths and parks, reminding us that new life is on its way.

This month also marks the launch of the energy efficiency tool. I'd like to extend a warm thank-you to our treasurer for carefully tracking our energy use each month. We've noticed that Holy Trinity church has used more energy this year, largely because the building is being used more during the week, which is a wonderful sign of our growing community life. It's also encouraging to see that the automatic opening link door at Holy Trinity is helping keep the church warmer during Sunday services. Over time, this should help bring our energy use down.

As we welcome the signs of spring and enjoy the lengthening days, may we give thanks to God for the beauty and renewal found in His creation. Thanks **Mark**

### Paul & Lucy in Rome



## A Jubilee Pilgrimage!

Visiting Rome is always an experience. Doing it in the cold and wet of January means that it can also be a bit of a physical ordeal – especially if you count in that the city was exceptionally busy as it was the end of the Jubilee year announced by Pope Francis last January and there were thousands of pilgrims there to see Pope Leo close the Holy Door in St Peter's on the Feast of Epiphany. We were two of those pilgrims, swept along in a tide of people queuing to go through the door – in the pouring rain, which made it difficult to see anything or to pray coherently! But we got there! Inside the vast space of St Peter's, a Mass was just beginning, and we were able to sit down and join in with hundreds of other pilgrims who had also made it through the rain. It was a wonderful experience, and we were able to understand almost all the Mass as it was in Latin, English, and French! Passing through the Holy Door gave us the opportunity to pray for ourselves, as well as for friends, family and both our parishes back in Fareham. This had been a Jubilee year of Hope and for us personally, praying for hope is so important as Paul continues to receive treatment for his cancer.

This trip to Rome had always been about going through the Holy Door, but we also crammed in a lot of other things, some other highlights - visiting the Vatican Museum and spending time staring with awe at the Sistine chapel ceiling and the beautiful Villa Borghese and the Forum. We honoured our two-church tradition by visiting the two churches named in honour of St Paul, one within the walls (Anglican) and the Basilica outside the city walls (RC). In the latter is the tomb of St Paul, and we prayed there together at the saint's tomb. Also in the Basilica is the "Ut Unum Sint" ("That they may be one" ) chair given by Pope Leo to King Charles when they came to pray there together when the King visited Rome last November. Jesus prayed these words in the Garden of Gethsemane before his death. It is a beautiful piece of furniture and will be worth going to look at it when it is taken to St George's Chapel in Windsor sometime this year.

Of course, there were also some trips to Trattorias to eat delicious fresh pasta and tiramisu and best of all, cups of delicious velvety hot chocolate to help warm us up after all the rain!

We then went by train to Venice – a good way to see the country and we left the rain behind and passed through snow, and sunshine to eventually a cold, clear, frosty and quite beautiful Venice. The highlight for me was a concert one evening when we listened to Vivaldi's Four Seasons played on original instruments in the church where he had held the post of organist, and then walking back to our hotel over the bridges and canals and watching the moon rise in the sky. But there was also St Mark's, glistening and golden in the sunshine, and stunning paintings in the Doge's Palace, as well as Murano where we watched highly skilled artisans make beautiful glass. There is so much history hidden in Venice in plain sight if one is fortunate enough to have a good guide and strong walking legs!

And finally, of course – more beautiful Venetian hot chocolate! **Lucy & Paul**



## Mothers' Union

We began the New Year by learning about a few of the fruit and flowers which appear in the Bible. It seemed logical to begin with the first fruit mentioned – that of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil which the serpent persuaded Eve to try, even though God had forbidden it. People often say that the fruit was an apple but it's actually thought to be an apricot, as apricot trees have been cultivated in the Middle East since time immemorial. Imagine picking a ripe apricot and eating its warm, perfumed, sweet flesh. No wonder Eve yielded to the temptation.

Moving on to the New Testament, we looked at the parable of the Prodigal Son. After the son had fallen on hard times and was having to look after a herd of pigs, he was so hungry that he wanted to eat the pods fed to the pigs. These pods were almost certainly those of the Carob tree. As we read, the pods were fed to animals, but the beans in the pods were eaten by people. They were also known as the locust bean or St John's bread. This traditional name may indicate that John the Baptist didn't eat honey and locusts in the desert, but rather honey and locust beans. Probably much more appetising and easier to collect than trying to catch locusts!

We talked about superstitions, especially those surrounding the mandrake, mentioned in Genesis, and concluded with a reading from Luke. The one in which Jesus talks about 'the lilies of the field', but experts aren't sure exactly which flower he meant. Some translations of the Bible say 'wild flowers' rather than 'lilies', so they could have actually been lilies or possibly wild irises, lupins or even cyclamen. Whichever they were, they must have been very beautiful - more beautiful than Solomon in all his finery, thus endorsing Jesus' meaning about God's greater care for us.

February was the month of our AGM. Led by Revd Sam we heard about the activities of the previous year and our finances. The Treasurer reported that we'd been able to donate over £100 to the Mothers' Union Overseas Fund. This particular fund is used to enable members throughout the world help the families in their communities. We also gave £50 to our Diocesan MU for projects within the Diocese, the principal one being AFIA holidays, which enables families to get away together. Many of these families have never been able to have a holiday before, so you can understand how much they are needed and enjoyed.

We then went on to talk about the future of the branch. There was much concern about the age of our members, especially on the part of Revd Sam. It was only after a lengthy and full discussion that we took the difficult decision to close the branch in July. However until then our meetings will continue as planned.

Although our branch is closing, the work of Mothers' Union will carry on, so that 'united in prayer and worship' we will reach out to families around the world.



## Recycling

With the imminent arrival of a food waste collection in the borough, maybe many of us are thinking of rubbish and recycling.

In the parish we have had a long history of collecting tin foil and milk bottle tops, but I suspect, like me, most of you have little idea what has happened to them!

Jenny Hellyer for many years moved these along the chain as part of the [Christians Together in Fareham \(CTiF\) scheme](#) and following her sad passing, the bins were overflowing so I have been researching the chain. Jenny and her husband, Brian, had been sorting donations and moving both tin foil and milk bottle tops to their respective collecting bins at the Sacred Heart church where they were then moved on by John and Esme Vivian for recycling. The Vivians are backing down from this valuable task after many faithful years of service and new volunteers are sought if you feel called to help. We also need people in our parish who could take over Jenny's role in moving donations from our two churches to the Sacred Heart.

I thought it might be useful to have a guide of what can / can't be recycled through our churches as I am now aware that 'illegal' items are being added to our bins!

Candles can be passed on to the Nutty Knitters at St Columba via Tricia King (SC) or Alison Jacobs (HT)

Item	Points to note	DO NOT include	Where they go	Who they help
Foil	Clean. Must be able to be scrunched up into a ball and stay there!	Pill packets, crisp packets (even if they are silver coloured).	QEII Activity Centre, Hamble Country Park	Disabled
Milk bottle tops	Clean – must state 2 or 4 within the recycling sign. Any colour.	Any foil / plastic remnants from the seal Other bottle tops	GHS Recycling, Hilsea	Multiple Sclerosis charities
Terracycle -eg biscuit wrappers	Check extensive lists on our notice boards <a href="#">or here</a>	Anything else!	Methodist Church, Fareham – bin is outside the church	A way of recycling to avoid landfill
Candles	Stubs or unwanted candles	Metal containers eg from tea lights	The charity 'New Forest for Ukraine' via St Columba	Melted to make trench candles for Ukraine
Aluminium cans	Rinsed out drinks cans made from aluminium.	Any other metal tins	H&S Metals (Collected by Wynton Way)	Projects at Wynton Way Horticultural site

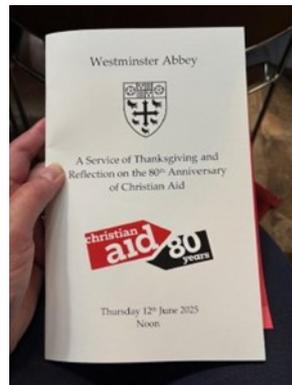
Fareham Borough Council have a [useful A – Z list](#) on their website for other items. Also note that supermarkets eg Sainsbury's and Aldi, have bins for recycling soft plastics. **Sue Hall.**



## Christian Aid

Our parish actively supports the work of Christian Aid, meeting with representatives from other local churches through Churches Together in Fareham four times a year. Christian Aid is also one of our PCC nominated charities, receiving additional financial support as part of our commitment to its mission.

Last year marked Christian Aid's 80th anniversary, and I was fortunate to attend the special service held at Westminster Abbey. It was a deeply inspiring occasion, with every aspect of the charity's work represented in a vibrant procession of banners. Standing alongside hundreds of fellow supporters was both uplifting and encouraging, a powerful reminder of the hope and change that Christian Aid continues to bring to communities around the world.



Over the year there are several opportunities for members of the parish to get involved in supporting Christian Aid.

**Lent Lunches:** These take place on Thursdays at 12 noon at the URC. All donations from the lunches will go directly to Christian Aid.

**Changemakers Conference 2026:** This event marks the official launch of Christian Aid Week. Participants can join a regional watch party or attend in person in London on Saturday 14th March. Further details are available on the Christian Aid website.

**Christian Aid Week:** This year it runs from 10th–16th May. We will be hosting a stand in the shopping precinct from Monday 11th to Saturday 16th May. If you can spare any time to help, please let me know. I will be looking after the stall on Wednesday—do come and say hello.

**Christian Aid Quiz:** Our much loved annual quiz will take place on Saturday 14th November at St John's Church Hall. Please save the date and start gathering your team. It's always a fun evening, with an excellent quiz written by Jeremy Hicks, and everyone brings their own snacks and drinks.

**A final note:** Maurice at St Columba will be stepping down as church representative. If anyone would be interested in joining me in representing our parish, I would be delighted to hear from you. We are very grateful to Maurice for his many years of dedicated support for Christian Aid.

**Donna Irving**

### LLM Training Update

At the time of writing this I have just finished my placement at St Alban's Church in West Leigh. Only two modules are left to study and not the least of which is "Christian Doctrine and Church History"

Plenty to keep me busy. A special thanks to my Local Learning Group who have shared this journey with me. Thank you for giving up your valuable time and your support which is greatly appreciated.

My licensing date of 20th June is now fast approaching.

It has been the most amazing experience and I am truly privileged to have been given this opportunity.



**Thank you Clive**



### **Christians Together in Fareham (CTiF)**

At the recent AGM, Rachel Hicks ended her 3 year stint as Chair with a lovely summary of what has been achieved by us all working together through projects such as Holiday Club, CMA Connect, Love & Cherish, Christingle Making, and through shared services and outreach events like the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity and Christmas Carols at the Podium. Revd Sam has been elected as the new [Chair](#) and will hold the position for the next three years – thank you and well done for volunteering.

### Things to do together this Spring

Lent Groups – commence week beginning 23<sup>rd</sup> February

Lent Lunch – Thursdays for 5 weeks from 26<sup>th</sup> February at Fareham URC (see posters)

World Day of Prayer services – 6<sup>th</sup> March 2pm and 7:30pm at St John's. (see posters)

Service of Witness – Good Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 10:30am at the Podium

Christian Aid Week – 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> May. Stall in Precinct

Next CTiF meeting – 20<sup>th</sup> May, 7:30pm at Holy Trinity

## ST COLUMBA FRIENDSHIP GROUP



January always seems such a long month and the start of 2026 has been no exception, snow, strong winds and so much rain but on a rare dry morning when I took my dog Nell for a walk, the sun making an appearance through the clouds I stood for a few minutes (much to the annoyance of Nell) and listened to the bird song, a blackbird in the tree was singing away and another was making a noise like a “wolf whistle” a robin was darting in and out of the bushes and for those few minutes I thought Spring is on its way and then a few cars came along and spoilt the moment, however daffodils, crocus and snowdrops are gradually returning in gardens another sign of the Spring.

“The day the Lord created hope was probably the same day He created Spring.”

*Bernard Williams, Philosopher*



Tuesdays are always bright and cheerful at the Friendship group, once you step into St Columba church you are guaranteed a smile on your face whatever the weather outside.

The quiz on the 6<sup>th</sup> Jan was rather taxing and really did test everyone’s knowledge on all manner of subjects, the winners table was rewarded with a chocolate treat and then on the 13<sup>th</sup> a quiz/game with a difference and really inspiring results. Members that wanted to take part were given a sheet with a picture on the top, they then had to remember the picture as the results were judged anonymously, each sheet had three questions;

### **The best advice I’ve ever been given?**

**“Don’t trust anyone until they earn your trust”**

**“Always be truthful”**

**“Try to be kind to others”**

**“If you can’t say anything nice don’t say anything at all”**

**“Don’t be afraid to speak up for yourself and trust your gut instinct”**

**“Always listen to advice from your Dad”**

## What I would tell my younger self?

**“Be happy in whatever you do in life, if happiness doesn’t find you then look for it and treasure it”**

**“Don’t be afraid to speak up for yourself and trust your gut instinct”**

**“Be yourself, don’t try to be someone you’re not”**

**“Happiness is not about getting all you want, it’s about enjoying all you have”**

**“We are always going to make a lot of mistakes in life, use them to learn and improve next time”**

**“Always listen to advice from your Dad” (Repeated as it’s important!)**

## Did you have a nick name at school?

**Smiffy**

**The Maltese girl.**

**Beanpole.**

**Speckles.**

**Bubbles head.**

**Professor Smith.**

The responses were not only inspirational but really moving I have listed some of them, with thanks to Jenny and Neil for judging they choose 3 from the entrants, Linda, Pam and Anne, all 3 were given a plant to take home.

Fish and chips at Mother Kelly’s was very enjoyable on the 20<sup>th</sup>

The “Odd Wednesday Men” joined us on the 27<sup>th</sup> singing musical hall favourites and a couple of sea shanties with some familiar songs for everyone to join in, a brilliant way to end January at the Friendship group.



**And thinking of brighter things to come why not join us at the Friendship group, the one thing that is evident in everything we do is to share kindness and fun, laughter is guaranteed.**

**Please contact Eve or Jenny on : 07307 890840**

## Saintly Gardeners

### Join Our Church Garden Team This Spring!

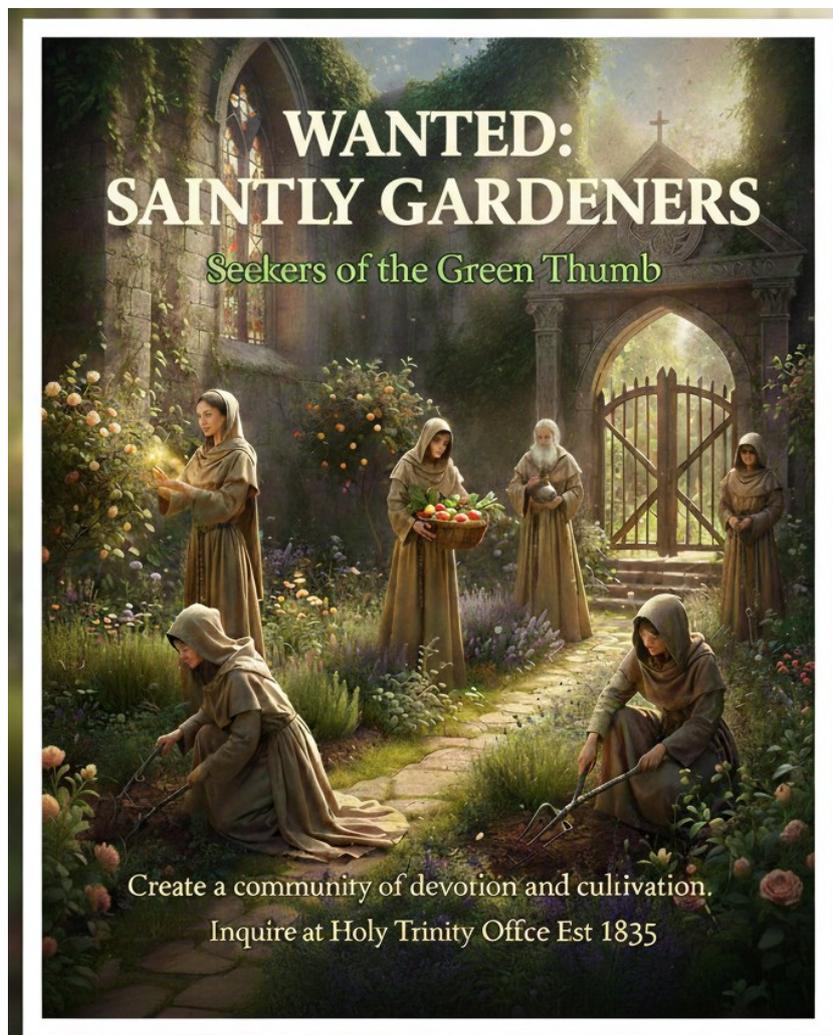
As spring approaches and everything begins to grow again, so does the need to keep our church grounds looking welcoming and well-cared-for.

At Holy Trinity, we're blessed with a small and faithful group of volunteers who help maintain our gardens—but this year, we're hoping to *grow the team*.

If you enjoy fresh air, gentle exercise, good company, or simply want to help care for the beautiful space God has entrusted to us, we would love to have you join us. Whether you can give an hour a month or a morning now and then, every bit of help makes a real difference.

Together, we can share the load and keep our church grounds a place of beauty, peace, and welcome for all who visit.

**If you're interested in helping, please contact the office or the church wardens.**



## News from the PCC

I am writing this in the last week of January, our APCM on the 26th of April is now on the horizon. This year will find some major church leadership roles falling vacant as some who currently have those roles are now stepping down; for the church to run smoothly, these roles will need to be filled.

Discussions will continue over the coming months with members within our congregation.

I know the thought of being asked to take up these roles is daunting, yet the experience has also brought about an increase in my faith and trust in the Holy Spirit. The Spirit moved me to apply to be a Deanery Synod member and helped to enable me to become a member of the Diocesan Synod. While completing the Energy Efficiency tool, the Spirit helped me to realize that the request to stand as Church Warden had been the right one, and I put myself forward for the role.

I pray that the Spirit will move those who can help fill our soon to be vacant leadership roles.

Thank you, Mark

### **Stop Press: From St Columba School Circus Skills Spectacular!**

We were thrilled to welcome a visiting circus team to our school for a fantastic circus skills workshop. Pupils had the chance to try their hand at:

- Juggling
- Plate spinning
- Balancing skills
- Hula hooping



There were smiles, laughter and lots of determination as everyone challenged themselves to learn something new. It was wonderful to see pupils building confidence, resilience and teamwork skills — and discovering talents they never knew they had!

The hall was filled with excitement as children practised their tricks and cheered each other on. Who knows? We may have some future circus stars in our midst!

### **Gold Medal Inspiration with Kelly Simm**

We were also incredibly lucky to be visited by **Kelly Simm**, Commonwealth Games gold medalist! Kelly led an energetic circuit training session with our pupils, putting us through our paces with a series of fun but challenging activities. From star jumps to strength exercises, everyone gave 100% effort. After the workout, Kelly spoke to us about:

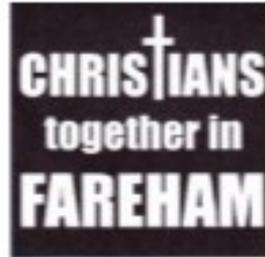
- The importance of perseverance
- Setting goals
- Staying active and healthy
- Believing in yourself



Her visit was truly inspiring, and our pupils asked some fantastic questions about life as an elite athlete. We are so grateful for the motivation and encouragement she shared with us.

**Abi**





# LENT LUNCHESES

Five Thursdays

starting

26<sup>th</sup> February 2026

12.15 to 1.00pm

at Fareham United Reformed  
Church, Osborn Road South

Homemade soup, bread, fruit, tea and coffee

donations to



We believe in life before death

## Your Archivist Needs You....



I'm on the lookout for any documents you may have at home that could be added to our archive.

At the moment, I'm in the process of scanning everything we already hold so it can be preserved in digital form.

To be more specific, I'm currently working my way through the magazines.

Although we have a good number of these, some copies have definitely seen better days, and others are missing altogether. You may have some tucked away at home that you'd be willing to donate.

I'm particularly interested in magazines from 1988 and earlier. If you think you can help, please have a word with me in church or send an email to [steve.ellis@htscf.org.uk](mailto:steve.ellis@htscf.org.uk)

I'd also be very interested in any other paper documents you may have, such as orders of service, dedication or remembrance materials, or photographs. If you'd prefer to keep the original photos, that's absolutely fine. I'm very happy to return them once they've been scanned.

Photos showing the inside or outside of either of our churches would be especially welcome, particularly if you know when they were taken.

Thank you. **Steve Ellis Parish Archivist**

## Dates for your Diaries - March, April & May

Thursday 5th March, 12:15pm HT hosting the Lent Lunch at URC

Sunday 8th March, 12 noon at Holy Trinity Church - Deaf Church:  
A welcoming service of Holy Communion in British Sign Language,  
with an interpreter. All are welcome.



Sunday 8th March, 5pm at Holy Trinity Parish Hall - Open Table:  
A welcoming Holy Communion Service hosted by LGBTQ+ Christians  
and friends. Theme: "Desert Days" All are welcome.



Mon 30th Mar– Weds 1st April Compline at 7pm in HT Chancel

Weds 1st April 10:30 LFGB "Messy Easter" HT Parish Centre



Maundy Thursday 2nd April at 7pm "Bring & Share" Meal at St Columba

Good Friday "Walk of Witness" 10:30am Fareham Band Stand  
2pm Holy Trinity and also at St Columba Liturgy of the Cross

Sunday 12th April, 5pm at Holy Trinity Parish Hall - Open Table:  
A welcoming Holy Communion service hosted by LGBTQ+ Christians  
and friends. Theme: "He is Risen"



Sunday 12th April, 12 noon at Holy Trinity Church - Deaf Church:  
A welcoming service of Holy Communion in British Sign Language,  
with an interpreter. All are welcome.



Sunday 26th April Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM) St Columba Church

Sunday 10th May, 5pm at Holy Trinity Parish Hall—Open Table:  
"Bring & Share Meal" Theme: Joy!



Sunday 10th May, 12:00 at Holy Trinity Church—Deaf Church:  
A welcoming service of Holy Communion in British Sign Language,  
with an interpreter. All are welcome.



Thursday 14th May 7pm Ascension Day service at Holy Trinity Church

Wednesday 27th May LFGB "Trinity Fun" HT Parish Centre



Sunday 31st May Trinity Sunday 10am Joint Parish Service at Holy Trinity Church