



Making Space

This summer has certainly given us plenty of sunshine. After weeks of long, hot days, there were times when the heat seemed to slow everything down. We had to change our routines, take things at a gentler pace and make space simply to stop and rest.

Now, as autumn approaches, the pace of life begins to change again. Holidays come to an end, children return to school, activities start up and diaries quickly begin to fill. It is so easy to move from one thing to the next without stopping to notice where the time has gone.

Perhaps that is why we have been thinking about the importance of making space.

We often think of space as something physical: an empty chair, a quiet room, a gap in our diary. But we also need to make space in our lives. A space to breathe, space to listen, space for the people around us and, perhaps most importantly, space for God.

The Bible is full of people who had to make space to hear God. Sometimes God met them in the middle of busy lives; sometimes he led them into quiet places. Jesus himself often withdrew from the crowds to pray. He knew that being constantly busy was not the same as being fruitful.

Making space does not necessarily mean doing more. Sometimes it means doing less. It might mean putting down the phone and enjoying a quiet cup of tea, taking time to really listen when someone wants to talk, or noticing the person who seems to be on their own. It might simply mean allowing ourselves a few quiet moments in which we can become aware of God's presence.

To help us to do this, Rev'd Catherine is planning another Quiet Day, offering us an opportunity to step away from the busyness of everyday life and make some space to be still, reflect and listen to God. Keep an eye out for more details soon.

Perhaps the slower pace of this summer has reminded us of something we easily forget: we are not machines, and life is not meant to be lived at full speed all the time. God invites us to receive the gift of rest, and to notice the people and moments that can so easily pass us by.

As we enter another autumn, perhaps we could ask ourselves: What space do we need to make?

Space for God. Space for another person. Space to rest. Space simply to be.

And when we make that space, we may discover that God has been there all along, quietly waiting to meet us.

With Every Blessing

The Ministry Team



Information

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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.

Amen.

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

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



Anna Chaplaincy Update

Our Anna Chaplaincy ministry continues to share God's love with older people in our community. Through visits to care homes, we offer friendship, a listening ear, prayer, and worship, reminding people that they remain valued members of God's family.

Our monthly Messy Vintage sessions are a great source of joy. Combining simple craft activities with Bible stories, favourite hymns, and prayer, they create a warm and welcoming space where everyone can join in. It is always a privilege to see memories rekindled through familiar words of faith and to witness the comfort and hope they bring, particularly for those living with dementia.

Recent sessions explored Jesus' miracles involving fish, with residents decorating colourful fish that were woven into a fishing net display. At another visit, we reflected on the reassuring message that we are all held safely in God's hands, making hand-themed crafts that reminded us of his constant love and care. Together, these simple activities, familiar hymns, and shared prayer encourage conversation, awaken memories, and gently nurture faith in a way that everyone can enjoy.

Thank you to everyone who supports this ministry through your prayers and encouragement. Please continue to pray for the residents we visit, their families, and the dedicated care home staff. If you would like to know more about Anna Chaplaincy or feel called to become involved in this rewarding ministry, I would be delighted to hear from you.

Every blessing, Jo-Anne





The Bereavement Journey – beginning Wednesday 16 September

We will be hosting **The Bereavement Journey**, a gentle series of six weekly sessions (with an optional seventh session) for anyone who has experienced the loss of a loved one.

Grief affects each of us differently and there is no timetable for bereavement. Whether a loss is recent or happened some time ago, these sessions offer a safe, welcoming, and supportive space to explore the many emotions that grief can bring. Through short films, personal stories and gentle discussion, participants are helped to understand their experience and discover that they are not alone. There is never any pressure to speak, and many people simply find it helpful to listen.

Perhaps God has already brought someone to mind as you have been reading this, whether a friend, neighbour, colleague, or family member who is living with the loss of someone they love.

If so, why not tell them about **The Bereavement Journey**? A personal invitation from someone they know, and trust can make all the difference.

The sessions begin on **Wednesday 16 September**, from **2.00–4.00 pm** at St Columba, and will be held weekly for six weeks, with an optional seventh session.

If you would like to know more or think these sessions might be helpful for you or someone you know, please speak to Jo-Anne or Sue Craft.

Every blessing

NetZero Muse by Mark

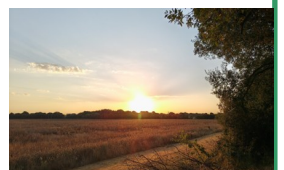
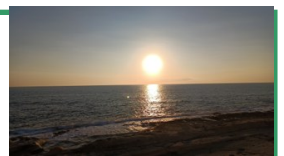
I am writing this muse on a cool day after several heatwaves. When I returned from Malta in early July, I was surprised to find it just as hot here.

This summer's heat has caused many wildfires and even closed part of the A31. Thankfully, the days are now beginning to cool, and the evenings are drawing in. As autumn begins, I hope we will take time to pray for the natural world as it recovers from the summer heat. During September, we will give thanks for God's creation and the many gifts we have received.

God of hope,
Bless all people and surround us with your abundant grace as we work together to heal the earth.

We pray for your wisdom, sympathy and creativity to take meaningful actions with a shared vision for the common good of all creation.

In the precious name of Jesus Christ, Amen.



**Net Zero
Carbon**





Little Fishes
Goes BIG



Wed 28th Oct 2026
Holy Trinity Hall
10.30am - 12.30pm

'Calling All Saints'

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



Cost: £2.50 per family.



TO BOOK, from 14th October 2026,
www.facebook.com/MessyChurchHolyTrinityFareham
Or email messychurch@htscf.org.uk

*Messy Church is part of the Bible Reading Fellowship (BRF)
a registered charity brf.org.uk*

A message from St Columba Church Council

From Fareham to Kyiv, via Lymington

Thanks to Margaret and Alison, a lot of Christmas china, which hadn't been used at St Columba for a number of years, is to find good homes in Ukraine. In August, place settings for 120 people were boxed up into sets of 10 plates, bowls etc. This was taken to a charity based in Lymington. The crockery will then be transported to Ukraine, along with other donations across the South of England. So our surplus dinnerware will find new homes with families who have lost everything in war-torn Ukraine. Such a joy to know that our church has reached out and helped our Ukraine neighbours in need.

Little Fishes...



Little Fishes Goes Big “Superheroes”

We had a SUPER morning at our 'SUPERHEROES' Little Fishes Goes Big in August .
In total there were 81 of us, which included the 43 mini heroes with their 24 carers
and 14 BIG helper heroes.

During the activities the children heard about bible heroes; David (with our own giant Goliath), Moses, Rahab and Noah and also made their own superheroes thinking of what strengths and powers they could have. They also thought about Jesus being the key to everything as they decorated their key biscuits! In church we went on a hunt for more superheroes and built puzzles to reveal the church and we celebrated the final power....
God!







Beginning on **September 27th at 4pm** at Holy Trinity, **At the Well** is our new monthly Service of Prayers for Healing.

Together we will pray for people, for communities and nations, for the earth, and for the hurts

within our own bodies, minds and hearts.

During this service we may name people, places and situations that have been brought for prayer. We do this because each one of us is known and loved by God.

There will also be a chance to come forward for the laying on of hands, either for yourself or on behalf of another person or situation.

This reminds us that healing is not only for a few people to offer. It is something we share as a Christian community.

The Ministry Team

An update from Clive

During my final year of studying at Sarum, prior to my licensing in June as an LLM I was undertaking some further discernment in my vocation.

Alongside my studies for my LLM course I was having some discussions with Reverend Sam and the Diocesan Director of Vocations and Ordinands.

Following a successful interview with Bishop Jonathan, he has decided that he will sponsor me for training on the Elizabeth Pathway as an Ordinand at Sarum College for a further two years starting in September.

I have my Stage 1 panel in early December and I would please ask you to keep me in your prayers as I journey towards the possibility of Ordination should I be successful.

Thank you for all being so supportive during my training.



An update on the garden at Holy Trinity

Some of you may have noticed the arrival of a small tree in the front lawn outside the church. This tree was donated by me as it needed a home where it could continue to grow in the ground and I had no space in my garden. It was grown on by me in a pot from a small cutting given to me by a friend. It is a Sweetgum Liquid Amber tree and should grow to a reasonable height all being well. It has lovely foliage in the autumn. It was planted just before all the heat waves started and it is a miracle it has survived! But the miracle is also down to Clive who has been brilliant at helping out with the watering – thank you Clive!

On another note, we have been grateful to receive help in the garden from a team from Dickson House who have been coming on a fortnightly basis to do some clearing and cutting back. We have reached a point where we could really do with some landscaping and planting advice as we move forward into the autumn.

Can anyone help with this?? It would be great to have a small team of gardeners who Mark and I could ask for advice from in the future. If you feel you could help please leave your name and contact details with the office rather than direct with me or Mark. That way you won't be forgotten! Right now we are looking for donations to buy bulbs and new shrubs once we have a clear planting plan in mind. Thankyou!

Lucy Docherty



A big thank you to those who sent in postcards for the Embracing Age Summer appeal. Our cards have been taken to Hartwell Lodge, Avenue Care and Cordelia House to help jog memories of past holidays.

Little Fishes and their older siblings coloured their own ones and were helped to write about what they had been doing over the summer.

Thanks, Sue Hall.





It was good to welcome Luca Johnstone to St Columba Church for his Baptism on 14th June.

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



In November we will welcome another Placement Student to the Parish

Hi my name is Rachel Houlberg. I am in the second year of Reader/LLM training at Sarum. My home church is St Peter and St Paul, Hambledon. I am looking forward to learning so much from you all, about church in a different setting. I look forward to meeting you in November.

To Rev Sam, the clergy, and the congregations of Holy Trinity and St Columba,

As my placement comes to an end, I would like to thank you all for the incredible warmth, grace, and hospitality you have extended to me. Coming from an Anglo-Catholic tradition, stepping into this parish meant experiencing a very different expression of church life than the one I am familiar with. Yet, you all welcomed me with open arms, and generosity making me feel part of the wider parish family from day one.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my experience here and have learnt so much. Standing alongside you in your diverse styles of worship and ministry has been an absolute privilege. The distinct spirits of Holy Trinity and St Columba have left a lasting impression on my approach to ministry and deepened my formation. Witnessing how you maintain your unique identities within a single parish has taught me invaluable lessons about leadership, flexibility and the beautiful breadth of the Church. This cross-tradition experience has truly enriched my faith.

As I move forward, please keep me in your prayers as I continue my journey toward ordination. I carry the experiences, lessons, practical skills, and rhythms of both congregations in my heart. Thank you all so much for investing in my growth and giving me such a vibrant space to learn and serve.

With my prayers and every blessing, Jo

ST COLUMBA FRIENDSHIP GROUP



With numbers increasing, it's been another busy few months at the Friendship Group. There has been music, quizzes, trips out for lunches, raffles, sales and even a "Wimbledon cream tea"

Every Tuesday over the last few weeks has got hotter and hotter. One of our trips was to the seaside for Fish & Chips, whilst it was very hot there was a very welcome breeze to keep us cool. We also visited a café near Wickham which has nice views over the new Welbourne Garden village under construction. I think most people were surprised at how much the landscape had changed. The takings from the raffles and Bric a Brac sale funded the Fish & Chips from the local take away!

Our music sessions proved once again to be a huge success, together with contributions from our members the Stokes Bay Strummers raised money for the ICANGO bus service and the Odd Wednesday Men raised funds for the Rowans hospice.

The quizzes tested everyone's knowledge but have also been great fun, especially the sensory quiz where they were asked to smell Lavender, Mint, Lemon Balm and Tomato leaves. The Tomato leaves proved to be a particularly difficult one to identify.

After much thought and soul searching, I have made the difficult decision to retire from the Friendship Group, my last session will be on Tuesday 29th September.

This has not been an easy decision to make as I have enjoyed the last 7 years leading this very happy and friendly group. There have been sad and challenging times but most of all it has been very enjoyable. The most amazing thing is that we have always been there for each other and everyone has contributed something different, whether this has been problem solving, sharing information or just having a chat and a good laugh.

I have made so many good friends and would especially like to thank Jenny for all her support and for putting up with ideas that have not always turned out as I expected. Roast dinner served at Holy Trinity on one of the hottest days of the year being one of them. I would also like to thank Pam for running the raffles and collecting the subs from our members, Jon and Neil as our bus drivers who always seemed to make us laugh even when things have gone wrong with the transport and to anyone who has helped with the refreshments.

Everyone's contribution has made the group successful and September looks to be a busy month to look forward to.

For more details contact office@htscf.org.uk

Finally a quote from AA Milne

"How lucky am I to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard?"

I will miss you all. My love to you all

Eve

Pictures from our recent Pet Services at Holy Trinity and St Columba





As Autumn Approaches: A Season of Harvest, Gratitude, and Service

As the days begin to shorten and the colours of autumn emerge around us, we look forward once again to celebrating Harvest. It is a wonderful opportunity to give thanks for God's abundant provision and generosity. The Harvest season reminds us that all we have comes from Him, and that we are called to be faithful stewards of the gifts, resources, and blessings entrusted to us.

Alongside our thanksgiving, autumn can also be a time for reflection. As members of Christ's church, we might ask ourselves: *What talents has God given me, and how am I using them in His service?* Each one of us has skills, experience, and gifts that can contribute to the life and mission of our church. Whether through practical help, administration, hospitality, pastoral care, worship, or prayer, every contribution is valuable and helps build God's kingdom in our community.

At this time, we have a particular and urgent need for a Church Treasurer. We are also seeking those with building, maintenance, and facilities skills who may be able to offer their time and expertise. These are important ministries that help sustain the work of our church and support our mission for the future.

Most importantly, we ask everyone to pray. Pray for our church, our congregation, our leaders, and our mission. Pray that God will guide us, raise up new volunteers, and show each of us how we can serve. As we celebrate His generosity this Harvest season, may we respond with generous hearts, willing hands, and a renewed commitment to God's work among us.

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." (1 Peter 4:10)

May God bless you all this Harvest season.

Mark

The Mayor of Fareham at the Civic Service on Sunday 6th September



Community Coffee Mornings at St Columba

The Community Coffee Mornings at St Columba are raising money for three Cancer Charities this Autumn.

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

Coffee Morning & Raffle

Friday 11th September 2026

LEUKEMIA BUSTERS

Coffee Morning & Raffle

Friday 9th October 2026

BREAST CANCER NOW

Coffee Morning & Raffle

Friday 13th November 2026

All of these start at 10:00am

Dates for your Diaries - Oct & Nov

Sunday 11th Oct, 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 11th Oct, 5pm at Holy Trinity Parish Hall - Open Table:
A welcoming Holy Communion Service hosted by LGBTQ+ Christians and friends. Theme: "God's Good Gifts" All are welcome.



Sunday TBC Nov, 4pm at Holy Trinity Church—All Souls Service

**Sunday 8th Nov: Fareham Civic Remembrance Service
(After the Service at the War Memorial)**



Sunday 8th Nov, 5pm at Holy Trinity Parish Hall - Open Table:
A Bring and Share meal hosted by LGBTQ+ Christians and friends. All are welcome. Theme: "Peace"



Sunday 8th Nov , 1pm at Holy Trinity Church Deaf Church:
A welcoming service of Holy Communion in British Sign Language, with an interpreter. All are welcome.



Saturday 14th Nov, 10am-1pm St Columba Christmas Fair

