

NURSLING & ROWNHAMS
Twin Spires News

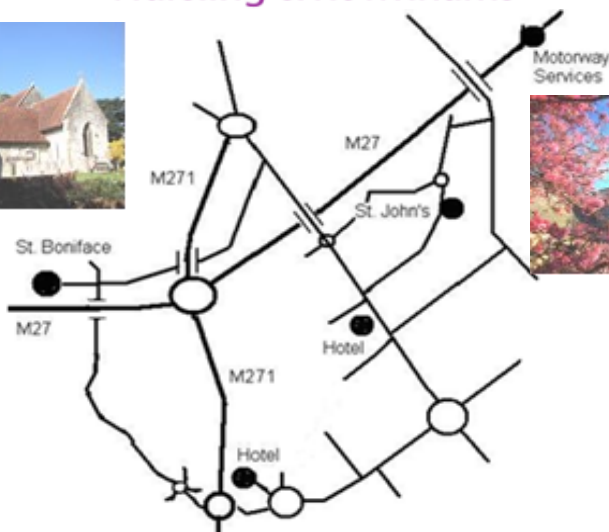
Web Edition

JUNE 2025



twinspires

St Boniface St John's
Nursling & Rownhams



St John's Church (SO16 8AH) is in Horns Drove, Rownhams.

St Boniface Church (SO16 0YB) is in Church Lane, Nursling.

The Parish Office is usually staffed Monday to Friday 9.30am to 11.30am (excluding public holidays) and it is sometimes staffed remotely, so please do not call into the office in person, except by arrangement.

However, the answer machine and email are checked regularly.

Telephone: 023 8073 8293. Email: office@twinspires.org.uk

Our website is www.twinspires.org.uk

This magazine is available to read on our website. If you would like to have your own printed copy of Twin Spires News, it is available from either of our church buildings, price 60p per copy or £6 for 1 year (Jan to Dec). Copies may be delivered free within the area, by arrangement.

There are a number of ways you can donate to church funds (outlined on page 24). Bank Transfer is the preferred method. More information on 'giving' is available from the Office and the church website.

Donate

There is also a [link](#) which offers a very simple option for any one-off on-line gifts. Look for the donate button on our website, or use the QR code.



Registered Charity Number 1130927



Verse of the Month

...The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. (Galatians 5:22-23 NRSVA)



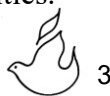
Dear Friends,

As the days lengthen and the weather warms up with sunnier skies, we find ourselves living in a very particular space in the Church calendar: the days between the Ascension and Pentecost. Jesus has risen from the grave. He has appeared to His disciples, eaten with them, taught them, and then He ascended. It can feel like a pause in the story. But it's not a gap: it's a preparation. In this season between Ascension and Pentecost, the early disciples gathered in prayer, waiting for the Spirit. They weren't just standing still - they were preparing their hearts.

So, let me gently ask: How are you preparing your heart in this season?

Discipleship is not about perfection - it's about direction. Are we moving closer to Jesus? Are we growing in trust, in prayer, in courage? Whether you've been following Jesus for decades or are just beginning to explore faith, there's a next step for you. Maybe it's joining a home group. Maybe it's making space each day for quiet prayer. Maybe it's saying yes to serving in a new way. Discipleship is not a burden - it's a joyful journey with the one who knows us best and loves us most.

It's easy to think of the Ascension as a kind of farewell scene. Jesus disappears into the clouds, and we're left behind. But that's not what's really happening. The Ascension is not Jesus leaving us; it's Jesus lifting us. The risen Christ now sits at the right hand of the Father, yes, but He also promises to send the Holy Spirit. His presence is no longer limited by time or place. He is now with us always, even to the end of the age. And so, rather than ending the story, the Ascension opens the next chapter, the Church's chapter. Our chapter: "You will be my witnesses," Jesus says. That calling hasn't changed. We are still His witnesses - here, now, in our families, our workplaces, our neighbourhoods, and our communities.



And what does it look like to be witnesses of Jesus today? It might look



like the person who leads a toddler group each week, offering welcome and warmth to tired parents and joyful children. It might be the youth leader encouraging a teenager who's questioning their place in the world. It might be the team preparing meals for Alpha, setting out chairs, washing up, or quietly praying for the person sitting two rows in front of them on Sunday. It might be you - and the way you listen, love, invite, or simply show up. Every act of service, every word of kindness, every cup of tea poured in Jesus' name is a sign of His kingdom breaking in.

We're especially excited to have launched our in-person Alpha course in May: something we've not done in a while. Alpha is such a beautiful ministry, because it's all about hospitality, listening, and community. There's food, of course - because so much of Jesus' ministry happened around the table. But more importantly, there's room. Room for questions, room for doubts, room for honest conversation and authentic friendship.

We've already seen how powerful it can be when someone feels heard and welcomed, perhaps for the first time in a church setting. Alpha is not about having all the answers. It's about making space. Please pray for our Alpha guests - and if you know someone who might be curious about faith, it's never too late to invite them along. You can always say: "Come and see."

Our children's and youth ministries continue to be a bright and joyful part of church life. From toddlers to teens, we see the Holy Spirit at work in young lives, shaping them with love, laughter, and truth. Thank you to everyone who gives time, energy, and prayer to support this work; it's not always easy, but it is deeply valuable. These young people are not just "the future of the Church" - they are the Church now. And every smile, story, and craft completed is part of the kingdom coming.



The days between Ascension and Pentecost remind us that we are a people living between two worlds: earth and heaven. Our feet are planted firmly in the everyday realities of life, but our hearts are lifted toward heaven's promise. And in that space, we are called to live with courage, with joy, and with purpose.



That's why it matters that we come to church. We don't gather just out of habit or obligation. We come to be formed, to be reminded of who God is, and who we are. We come to worship, to learn, to belong, and to be sent out again, renewed. Church is not an event we attend. It is a family we are part of. And in this fractured and lonely world, belonging matters more than ever.

So, let me ask again: What is your next step? Maybe it's supporting our next Alpha course. Maybe it's offering to serve once a month. Maybe it's attending regularly after a time away. Maybe it's praying daily for our young people or inviting a neighbour to church. Whatever it is, know this: You are not alone. Jesus goes ahead of you. The Spirit empowers you. And this church community is walking with you.

As we wait, like the first disciples, between Ascension and Pentecost, may we prepare not just events - but hearts. Hearts open to the Spirit. Hearts full of hope. Hearts ready to say yes again to the One who calls us friend.

Come, Holy Spirit. Fill your Church. Kindle in us the fire of your love.

With joy and gratitude

Rev Graeme

Ladies' Get Together

We meet on the third Saturday morning of each month, for a catch up over a cuppa in St John's Church Hall.



The next ladies' gathering is on:

Saturday 21st June from 9.30 - 11.00am

For more information, please call Tracey on 07904 502214.

Hope to see you there!

Tracey Jones



St Boniface Church News June 2025

Easter

The joy of Easter was celebrated with a special service. It was wonderful to fill the church with spring flowers after the period of Lent. Thank you Pat Wootten and John Sofrin for the easter eggs given to members of the congregation after the service.

VE Day

On Sunday the 4th of May, to commemorate VE Day, the church was decorated with Union Jack drapes and arrangements of red, white and blue flowers in the windows.



During the service led by Tony Wingett, we remembered the sacrifices made by the many who did not return from WW2. Some of our Grove Place congregation remember vividly that very special day of 8th May 1945

Avis Wood, with many thanks to Angela Wright for the photos

The Prayer of St Boniface

(Remembering St Boniface Day on 5th June)

O God the eternal, the refuge and help of all your children, in our weakness you are our strength, in our darkness you are our light, in our sorrow you are comfort and peace. (We cannot number your blessings, we cannot declare your love.) For all your goodness we bless you. May we ever live as in your presence, and love the things you love, and serve you with the service of our daily lives; through Jesus Christ your Son, our Lord. Amen.



Boniface Bike Ride: from Hook van Holland to Fulda, Germany

This summer, a small group of slightly intrepid cyclists from our parish – Andy Ball, Jacob Ball, Mike Bunce, and David Thompson – will embark on revisiting the most challenging leg of the Boniface rides from Hook van Holland to Fulda in Germany.

It was on this same journey in 2012 we heard the immortal line from the owner of our accommodation “If you go to Winterberg you will die,” – referring to the need to cycle over a mountain to get to the next town on our journey.

Our journey will culminate at the cathedral in Fulda where St Boniface was laid to rest. St Boniface is the patron saint of Germany, who notably trained at the site of our very own St Boniface church.

Inspired by St Boniface's mission to share the Christian message, the group is cycling the 550 km ride raising funds for the Church Missionary Society (CMS), who like St Boniface, are dedicated to bringing the message of Christ to those who have yet to hear it.

CMS has had, and continues to have, a vital role in the world. Dear to the heart of many in our parish, not least Jim and Edith Stanley Smith who worked for CMS in Africa, as did Jim's parents. As a parish we have supported several missionaries in CMS too over the years.

For over 220 years, since its founding in Aldersgate Street, London, on April 12, 1799, CMS has been at the forefront of mission. Its early supporters included influential figures like William Wilberforce, John Venn, and John Newton, who together championed the abolition of the slave trade, fought for the rights of the oppressed, and bravely ventured overseas to share the Gospel.

Just as St Boniface fearlessly carried the Good news of Jesus Christ to various parts of Europe, CMS has a strong tradition of pioneering mission, reaching the unreached and adapting the Gospel expression to new situations and cultures both at home and abroad.

The need for mission remains as critical as ever, and CMS possesses the extensive experience and capability to effectively deliver it.

Please sponsor us as you are able, it will help us up the mountain 😊. You can sign up on the sponsorship forms in the churches or on the giving webpage (details to follow). Any questions just ask any of the cyclists about this adventure.



Andy Ball.

NURSING MEN'S SHED

IN CONJUNCTION WITH ST BONIFACE CHURCH
St Boniface Hall, Church Lane, Nursling, SO16 0YB
SUMMER OPEN DAY Sat 7th June 10am to 2pm



Come and meet our members
Display of what we have done this year
A range of garden and gift items for sale
Nursling & Rownhams Community Band
Tea, Coffee & Cakes available

Below are some recent photos from the Men's Shed:

- The Words of Jesus from the cross
- Commemorating VE Day



Welcome to the Streets (from Street Pastors May Newsletter)

Once again, our Street Pastor volunteer numbers have grown...Our 13 new Street Pastors have each uniquely heard the Lord calling them to go to the streets. A mix of ages from 18 to 71, comprising 9 men and 4 women, joining us from 9 different churches. They include a married couple, 2 students, a member of door staff, a GP, and our first Columbian! We are praying they will all enjoy many fruitful encounters, freely helping those in need and lovingly sharing their faith.

The good news of Jesus Christ was declared in the Guildhall square on Good Friday, with hundreds of people gathered to hear the Easter story. Worshipers from all over the city gathered to listen to songs of praise at a special outdoor service. Street Pastors were at the site to speak with those who attended.



We Need Your Help Again



Every year, during the second week of June, churches are encouraged to record the wildlife in their churchyards and report this to the National Biodiversity Network. Churchyards are often seen as a crucial haven for wildlife. This provides useful data on what is happening to wildlife and enables decisions to be made on what actions can best be taken to help recovery.

We would love your help in recording the animals and plants that inhabit St John's Churchyard. We hope this can be a fun activity for all the family.

If you would like to take part it would be really helpful if you first downloaded the iNaturalist App on your phone and then 'joined' the Beautiful Burial Grounds project. This means that you can photograph an object you have observed and with a few more clicks you can submit it straight to the project. This enables the experts to verify more accurately what you have seen.

We would like to make this a family occasion and have chosen the time for our count as: **Sunday 8th June 12-2.30 pm.**

Do bring a picnic lunch and we will start by eating together in St John's Church Hall.

There is no need to register – just turn up to St John's Church Hall, Rownhams Lane.

CHURCHES COUNT ON NATURE

SUNDAY 8TH JUNE

12-2:30PM

ST JOHN'S CHURCH HALL

BRING A PACKED LUNCH!

Twinspires Churches



We recommend that you wear gloves and stout footwear. We would ask that all children are accompanied and supervised by a responsible adult. Hope to see you there.

Sophie Ross, Claire Thompson & Angela Jones



Highlights from Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

Thank you to all those who attended our Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 30th April 2025. The Parochial Church Council (PCC) are the trustees of the church and work with Rev Graeme to promote the mission of the church; pastoral, evangelistic, social and ecumenical.

Rev Graeme Dixon opened the meeting with a short time of prayer. For those who unable to be there in person, some highlights are below. Full Minutes will be displayed at both our churches and published on our website.

Our Churchwardens remain the same: John Sofrin at St Boniface Church; with Ann Laird and Peter Myerscough-Jackopson at St John's Church. Simon Harris was elected as Deputy Churchwarden. Thank you to Clive Jones and Fiona Skidmore who have completed their service on the PCC. The full list of PCC members until April 2026 are:

Kevan Abernethy	Christine Owen (PCC Secretary)
Sarah Beak	John Pennells
Lynn Black (ex-officio)	Sarah Phelps
Ewan Brown (co-opted)	Linda Purkess (Treasurer)
Glennis Gould	John Sofrin (Churchwarden)
Simon Harris (Deputy Churchwarden)	Katrina Stout
Angela Jones	Crawford White (Deanery Synod Rep.)
Ann Laird (Churchwarden)	Angela Wright
Peter Myerscough-Jackopson (Churchwarden)	Sue Muldowney (Safeguarding Officer and Electoral Roll Officer)
Randell McKay	

Electoral Roll - There are 120 people on the Electoral Roll, which has been fully refreshed this year. The meeting stood as Sue Muldowney read out the list of those who have died since April 2024:

- ♥ **Colin Jones**
- ♥ **Margaret Bigglestone (Peggy)**
- ♥ **Audrey Newport**
- ♥ **Bernard Butcher**
- ♥ **Liz Jones**

Pews to Chairs at St John's Church - The Chancellor has granted our Faculty but stipulated all-timber chairs. These are expensive; difficult to stack & store; and we could only fit 4 chairs to a row, thereby losing seating capacity. There was a selection of 5 smaller, wooden laminate chairs, with metal frames, for those attending the APCM to try, and indicate their preference. The majority vote was for the 'Durham' chair (£155 each). The PCC subsequently agreed we would seek permission from the Chancellor to purchase these, instead of all-timber chairs.

Christine Owen, PCC Secretary



Graeme's APCM Report (Abridged)

'A heartfelt thank you for your continued prayers, service, and support over the past year. It has been another year of change, growth, and faithful commitment to our calling, as the body of Christ in this community. I am constantly amazed by the ways God is at work among us, through quiet acts of care, joyful worship, and bold new steps into mission.

New Life Among the Young - Exciting signs of new life have been *Ignite*, our new children's group, and our **Young Adults** group. Children's ministry is about planting seeds of faith, helping children know they are loved and part of God's family. I am deeply grateful to the leaders and volunteers whose dedication makes this possible.

Deepening Discipleship: 2 new home groups launched this year, creating precious midweek spaces for deeper connection. Home groups are more than Bible study, they are places of belonging, prayer, and spiritual growth. If you aren't part of one yet, I encourage you to consider it.

Safeguarding: At the Heart of All We Do - A special thanks to Sue and the safeguarding team. Safeguarding is much more than policy; it's a culture of care, dignity, and trust which ensures that everyone - especially the most vulnerable - finds safety and respect in our church.

Buildings with Open Doors - Permission to remove pews at **St John's** is a step towards a more flexible, welcoming, creative space for worship, hospitality and community events. We are exploring how to develop St John's church hall. At **St Boniface**, preparations are underway for internal decoration and steeple restoration.

The Men's Shed: Building More than Just Woodwork - Our growing relationship with the *Men's Shed* at St Boniface, has been an unexpected blessing. This group offers more than practical skills, it offers friendship, purpose, and a safe space for men to find community and care.

Vision & Values - At the heart of these developments is our vision: **Loving Jesus, loving one another, loving our community**. A core principle emerging is building a community where **no one is left behind**. We want everyone to find a place of belonging, service, and purpose here. Are we truly inclusive? Are we making space for everyone's gifts? Are we reaching out to the forgotten?

Looking Ahead with Hope - We remain a church in transition: discerning, learning, growing. We are moving forward steadily, with faith and trust in God's leading. In the year ahead, I believe God is calling us to deepen our discipleship through prayer, widen our welcome, and step out more boldly in mission. I invite you to be part of this journey, to bring your prayers, your gifts, your ideas, your presence. **Christ has called us together for such a time as this.**

Thank you for your faithfulness, courage and grace over the past year. Let us keep walking together, trusting that the One who began this good work among us will surely carry it to completion.'

With love in Christ, Rev Graeme





TWINSPIRES
BARBECUE
PARTY

FOOD • MUSIC • FUN

ST JOHN'S CHURCH HALL

& THE GLEBE

SATURDAY 21ST JUNE, TIME TBC

FUN, FAMILY EVENT - ALL ARE WELCOME!

OFFICE@TWINSPIRES.ORG.UK

02380738293

May's Marvellous Litter Pick

It was great to see so many new faces at this month's litter pick. I counted 17 of us, which is an amazing turnout this bank holiday weekend.

Some picked around Tanglewood Lake, a beautiful, tranquil little lake, tucked away off Bakers Drove. Others tackled Bakers Drove, from Fairway Gardens up to the school. It was encouraging to find very little litter around the lake itself. I couldn't safely reach a ball floating on some pond weed! By the end of the hour we had collected 3 bags of general rubbish and 3 of recyclables, down from previous picks and so really encouraging to see.

A gentle reminder for everyone to carefully assess whether it's safe to go into brambles to pick. Also, please wear suitable clothing and gloves to protect yourselves and stay with at least one other person in case of emergency. Do let me know if you have any injuries during the litter pick. I have a first aid kit and am first aid trained.

After some discussions about where to meet for next month's litter pick, I think we shall meet Saturday 7th June at 10am at the end of Redbridge Lane, by the T-junction of Frogmore Lane and Yewtree Lane. There are a few parking spaces there. I look forward to seeing as many of you there as possible!

I'm afraid there aren't any photos of the pickers this month – I was too busy chatting!

Sophie Ross

Recycling the items below via St John's Church mini-recycling centre can generate funds for various charities:



- used postage stamps, ideally with a 1cm margin
- old spectacles, (not cases or contact lenses).
- used printer cartridges and new unopened printer cartridges (not laser or toner cartridges)

We are no longer able to recycle used plastic pens and felt tips. And, for the time being, we cannot accept milk bottle tops. However Test Valley will now accept bottle tops in your kerbside recycling bin, if they are put back on the plastic bottle after it has been squashed.



Thanks to everyone who helps us recycle. The ink cartridge recycling not only means that waste is kept out of landfill, it also raises money for our churches. The last batch sent off raised £19.50. So far, we have raised about **£460** since we started collecting them.



Church Services in June His Spirit is with us

Our livestreamed worship is primarily via our [YouTube](#) channel. Tea and coffee are served after the 10am service. There is a crèche area available during services at St John's Church. We hope to provide Prayer Ministry at 10am services.

St John's Church, Rownhams

Sunday 1st June - Easter 7 (Sunday after Ascension Day)

10am All Age Worship
6.30pm Holy Communion

Sunday 8th June - Pentecost

10am Holy Communion
6.30pm Evening Prayer

Sunday 15th June - Trinity Sunday

10am Morning Prayer
4pm **LEGO** Church (Rownhams School)
6.30pm Monthly Prayer Meeting

Sunday 22nd June - Trinity 1

10am Immerse
6.30pm Evening Prayer

Sunday 29th June - Trinity 2

10am Morning Prayer
6.30pm Evening Prayer

PENTECOST 



LEGO CHURCH

Our Vision: As a Church Community We Seek to:

Encourage	Be open	Bear Witness	Strive
everyone to grow to be more like Jesus, following Him at all stages of their lives;	to being church in new ways and new places, while affirming and strengthening the old where it is still serving us well;	to the God in whom we believe by serving in our working, social and community lives, following the example of Jesus;	to make the best use of all that God has given us to build up His Kingdom.

St Boniface Church, Nursling

Sunday 1st June - Easter 7 (Sunday after Ascension Day)

11am Morning Prayer

Sunday 8th June - Pentecost

11am Morning Prayer

Sunday 15th June - Trinity Sunday

11am Holy Communion

Sunday 22nd June - Trinity 1

11am Morning Prayer

Sunday 29th June - Trinity 2

11am Morning Prayer



Our Retiring Collection in June is for A Rocha



A Rocha UK is a Christian charity working to protect and restore the natural world and committed to equipping Christians and churches in the UK to care for the environment.

To find out more, visit: <https://arocha.org.uk/>

What we do



**Eco
Church**



**Partners
in Action**



**Wild
Christian**



Events

What's on During the Week

For the latest news, online links, videos of services and service sheets, please visit www.twinspires.org.uk. To receive direct emails about news and events for our Churches, please contact the office to be added to our 'big distribution list' (023 8073 8293 or office@twinspires.org.uk). Our administrator is in the office on Tues, Weds & Friday mornings. We have various mid-week homegroups (see p2). Our youth groups meet regularly **during school term time**, in addition to one-off events. Please contact youth@twinspires.org.uk or the office for details.

Weekday Morning Prayer:

Online via [Zoom](#) at **9am** on **Mondays**

Online via [Zoom](#) at **9.30am** on **Tuesdays**

Visit www.twinspires.org.uk for the [Morning Prayer Zoom Link](#)

Meeting ID: 112 879 792 Password: 107871

Online via **Facebook Live** at **10am** on **Thursdays** (recording available all week) <https://www.facebook.com/NurslingAndRownhams/live/>

Wednesdays 7am Early Prayer Time in St John's Church

Fridays 8.30am Morning Prayer in St Boniface Church

Mondays 9.30-11am Tots Café in Horns Drove Community Centre (see p18)

Mondays 7-8.15pm MORE for ages 11-16 in St John's Church Hall

Wednesdays 7-8.30pm BEACON Group (ages 11-16) in St John's Church

Wednesdays 7.30pm Alpha Course in St John's Church Hall. Contact the office for more details, or to join the prayer groups praying for Alpha

Thursdays 1-4pm Ladies' Shed Group (see p19)

Thursdays 2.15-3.45pm Nursling & Rownhams Friendship Club (See p19)

Fridays 4.30-5.30 IGNITE Youth Group
for school years Reception – 2 in St John's Church Hall

Fridays 6 - 7.30pm NET for school years 3-6 in St John's Church Hall

Mid-week Bible Study Home Groups (See p2)

First Tuesdays 7.30pm Craft Group 3rd June in St John's Church Hall

First Wednesdays 8-9pm CONNECT! on [Zoom](#) **4th June** (for new Christians)

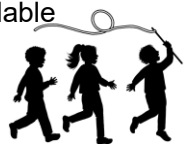
First & Third Thursdays 10am – midday Coffee Break 5th & 19th June in Horns Drove Community Centre (see p18)

First & Third Fridays 2.15pm NEW Prayer meeting 6th June at Andy Ball's home & **20th June** at Dorothy Stratford's home (contact the office for details)

Sat 7th June 10-11am Litter Pick meet at the end of Redbridge Lane, by the T-junction of Frogmore Lane and Yewtree Lane (see p13)

Sat 14th June 8.30am Men's Breakfast – contact Randell McKay

Sat 21st June 9.30-11am Ladies' Get Together, St John's Church Hall (see p5)



Dates for Your Diary:



- + Contributions for Next Month's Magazine by 6pm, Sunday 8th June**
Preferably by email to twinspiresnews@live.co.uk
or, alternatively, to: Mary Carter, 12 Horsebridge Way (paper copy).
Please check you receive an acknowledgement of your email.
- + Thurs 5th June St Boniface Day** (see p6)
- + Sat 7th June 10am-2pm Men's Shed Open Day** in St Boniface Church Hall (see p8)
- + Sun 8th June 12-2.30pm Churches Count on Nature** at St John's Church Hall (see p9)
- + Sat 21st June BBQ** at St John's Church Hall (time TBC, see p12)
- + Sat 5th July 10-11am Litter Pick** (venue tbc)
- + Sat 12th July 8.30am Men's Breakfast** contact Chris Bird
- + Sat 19th July 9.30-11am Ladies' Get Together** in St John's Church Hall
- + Fri 25th July 2025 Friday Friends Afternoon Tea** (see below)
- + Sat 16th August Flower & Garden Show** at St John's Church, more details TBC (see p22)

Come and join us at

Friday Friends

+twinspires

St. Boniface & St. John's

The Pastoral team invites you for an

'Afternoon Tea'

Friday, 25 July 2025

St. John's Church Hall starting at 2.00 pm.

A time for space, quiet reflection and prayer and
for the opportunity to meet people and share
memories of a loved one.

If you would like to come along, please contact the Parish Office.

Tel: (023) 8073 8293 or email: office@twinspires.org.uk

We look forward to seeing you.





Coffee Break is a friendly place for you to drop in for a chat, over coffee and cake, to take time out to meet with neighbours, catch up with friends and bring others along to. It's a great way to bring a wide variety of local residents together in our community.

As ever, all are very welcome: we look forward to meeting old friends and welcoming new ones to Coffee Break. If you need a lift to Coffee Break, please contact Glennis via the Parish Office: 023 80 738293, or by email to office@twinspires.org.uk.

We usually meet In the Community Centre in Horns Drove, on the first and third Thursdays of the month.

In June, we meet on Thursday 5th and 19th between 10am & midday.

The Coffee Break Team

TwinSpires Churches

WEEKLY TOTS CAFÉ

If you're a parent, grandparent, or carer, looking after pre-school children, you are invited to our weekly 'Carers and Tots' Café.

We meet during school term time, in the Community Centre, Horns Drove

MONDAYS 9.30 - 11AM

Come and make new friends and join in the fun with games, activities and toys. Drinks and snacks are provided too.

Entry is free, although voluntary contributions are always welcome.

Ladies' Shed

Ladies, would you like to try something new?

How about joining the Ladies' Shed Group?

We meet in the Men's Shed,
next to St Boniface Church
on **Thursday afternoons 1 - 4pm**

To find out more, contact:

Sandi O'Donnell: 02380 199558 or 07886 775864

or **Mike Bunce:** 02380 738960 or 07742 957858



Nursling & Rownhams Friendship Club



The Nursling & Rownhams Friendship Club meets on Thursdays between 2.15 and 4.00pm in the Village Hall in Nursling Street.

The cost is £3.00 per week plus an annual membership fee of £20 to enable the club to continue with a small membership.

All meetings have a prize draw and include free tea/coffee and biscuits. There is ample free parking next to the Social Club during building works at the Village Hall. Your first visit is free, and we would love to welcome new members at these events: **don't be shy - give us a try.**

We have a mixture of visiting entertainers and quizzes. The following is our proposed programme for June 2025.

5th June Quiz afternoon, time for a cuppa & a chat

12th June Marlene, singer, singalong, raconteur & humour

19th June Quiz afternoon, time for a cuppa and a chat

26th June Nursling and Rownhams Community Band, looking forward to their first visit to the club.

For further information, please ring Joyce on 02380 735086, or Mike on 02380 733245.

Mike Ward



If you wish to visit Winchester Cathedral, the Parish Office has six passes allowing free entry. These may be borrowed by any member of our Church family. Please contact: office@twinspires.org.uk



Pope Francis & Pope Leo XIV

(statements from the Archbishop of York)

“Let us walk together, work together, pray together.”

These are the words Pope Francis said to me when we met in 2023. They sum up his vision for the church.

Francis’s whole life and ministry was centred on Jesus who comes among us, not to be served, but to serve. We saw that in Francis’s service of the poor, his love of neighbour especially the displaced, migrant, the asylum seeker, his deep compassion for the well-being of the earth and his desire to build the church in new ways. Francis showed us how to follow Jesus, and encouraged us to go and do likewise.

His encyclicals and teachings were supported by his deeds and actions. His whole life was instantly recognisable as those of one who followed Jesus. Pope Francis was acutely aware of the divisions between our churches, and I remember the powerful work he did with the then Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, and the Moderator of the Church of Scotland in promoting peacebuilding in South Sudan.

I remember, in the brief times I spent with him, how this holy man of God was also witty, lively, good to be with, and the warmth of his personality and interest in others shone out from him. May he rest in peace and rise in glory.

I share in the great joy of our Roman Catholic sisters and brothers in welcoming His Holiness Pope Leo XIV as the Bishop of Rome. With Christians around the world, I will be praying for the new Pope as he takes on the enormous challenges and responsibilities of the Petrine ministry.

Pope Leo XIV’s many years of pastoral experience, his commitment to justice, and his deep spirituality are an example of life lived in service to Jesus Christ. As Anglicans we give thanks for his call to Christians to be bridge-builders across the divisions of our world, and the divisions that continue to exist between churches. This is something Jesus asks of us. He prays that the church will be one.

This evening, the new Pope spoke of a Church that seeks peace and remains close to those who suffer. Our wounded world needs the justice, healing and hope of Jesus Christ, and we look forward to working with Pope Leo XIV and Roman Catholics in every place to share that love with those in need.’

I pray that God’s sustaining Spirit will uphold the new Pope in his service of Christ.’

The Archbishop of York



The Night Light Café will Officially Start this June

The Night Light Café will be a friendly environment to relax, have a drink and feel safe. A warm, welcoming space with free tea, coffee, toast and snacks.

The Café will be free and run by the team from the Winter Beds Project at City Life Church. Everyone welcome!

This is a wonderful opportunity to serve our community by providing a warm, welcoming space for those in need.

We'd love your support - any help you can offer would be greatly appreciated! If you're interested in volunteering at the cafe, please visit: <https://www.citylife.org.uk/>



Thank God for Farmers!

Open Farm Sunday is on 8th June, when Christians are asked to remember farmers.

Cabbages come in polythene bags, devoid of hidden insects and other creepy crawlies. Potatoes are mud free and ready for the oven. Meat is presented in sterile packs whilst milk is pasteurised and semi skimmed in conveniently shaped containers that fit in the fridge.

It's all a million miles from where the story began, and the world of those who should tell it. Those who prepare the land, plough it and cultivate it; sow it and plant it, weed it and spray it, irrigate it and harvest it, and sort and transport the crop that's produced.



Those who calve the cow, stay with it and tend it; feed it and milk it, help with the birth and watch the calf grow. Who tag it and protect it, nurture it and feed it, until it's ready for market as a strong healthy beast. So many hours and so much skill.

Generations of experience, tending the land and caring for stock. So much effort, so many risks, the weather, disease, the whim of the market all to put food on my plate.


Lord, I thank You for those who produce the food I eat, for their commitment and effort, their knowledge, their skills. And forgive me, I pray, that I take them for granted, forget what they do and ignore what I owe.

May I value their work and all it produces, May I give them the respect and the appreciation they deserve. And may I give You the glory, as Creator Provider, the giver of all that I now thank You for. Amen.

The Arthur Rank Centre (ARC)

ARC is a charity which supports the rural community and its churches through a programme of community and social projects, resourcing and training





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August

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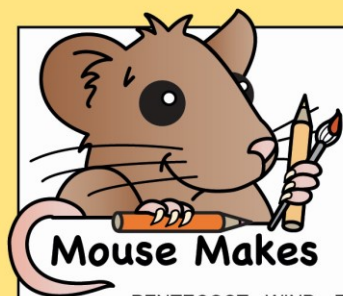
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READ
 Acts
 2:1-41

P H Y R P
 Y R Y P
 P G E
 W I N D
 H A T L
 J E W S
 G C H P
 A O E H J
 L S A E U
 C I T R G P
 P A L I B Y A J
 L G R E E K P R E
 L A N G U A G E T T R
 I C R E T A N S O R H U
 A C U J C L A S I A T I S
 L R G R P A M P H Y L I A A
 H A J E M P P H Y L F O N L
 S M E S O P O T A M I A S E
 H P A R T H A N S G L R O P M
 O I I J E E D T C Y R E N E
 L R C U D L O U H E B R E W
 Y I A D O A C S W B G O D
 L T D E B M I A E E K M
 A A R A B I A N S E J E
 G Y N O T O N G U E S
 M E D E S Y P A R
 E S S H M

It was fifty days since **Passover**, and Jews from many countries had come to **Jerusalem** to celebrate Passover. As the **Apostles** were gathered together the **Holy Spirit** came upon them and they began to speak in other **languages**

as the Spirit enabled them. The crowd that were listening were amazed as they heard about God in their own language.

How many people heard, believed and were baptised that day?

DID YOU KNOW?

The Bible or parts of the Bible have now been translated into over 3,000 different languages since it was first written in Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek.

Regular giving through one of the available schemes is encouraged, as this helps the PCC fund its mission and ministry. Please consider using the Parish Giving Scheme www.parishgiving.org.uk. This is a direct debit system that reduces the administrative burden locally but still ensures that all of your donation, together with any gift aid recoverable, reaches this parish.



The dedicated telephone number is **0333 002 1271**. Donors will need their parish's PGS Code which is: **PGS Parish Code 416012141** The Parish of Nursling with Rownhams in the Diocese of Winchester.

Donate

More information on 'giving' is available from the Office and the Church website. There is also a [link](#) for one-off donations. Look for the donate button on our website, or use the QR code here.



Please Support Nursling and Rownhams PCC on #easyfundraising

You can raise FREE donations for us when you shop online with over 7,000 brands. It's simple and only takes 2 minutes to sign up and this will make a BIG difference to us. So far we have raised over **£647** since we started.



We have a QR code (here) that supporters can scan to go to the easyfundraising page for Nursling and Rownhams PCC. Alternatively, please visit:

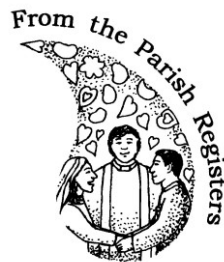
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PCC Legacy Policy Nursling and Rownhams PCC welcomes gifts in wills, however large or small. We will use such gifts to make a difference to the work of the Church (eg by funding development projects in the parish, whether buildings, equipment or staff). We will consult with the executors to identify the sorts of projects the donor would have liked.





From the Registers



Baptisms

11 May

'One Lord, one faith, one baptism'

Olive Lily Pinsent

(Ephesians 4:5)

St John's

Funerals

30 April

6 May

14 May

'Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep' (1 Cor 15:20)

Bernard George Butcher (80)

Colin (78) and Wendy (80) Best

Elizabeth Ann Buckell (84)

Interred at St John's

Interred at St John's

Interred at St Boniface

Prayer for June 2025

Dear Lord,

June is the loveliest month, with long days and the beauty of summer all around us.

Thank you that, in the church's year this month, we remember one of the loveliest of your followers, Barnabas, known as the Son of Encouragement. He encouraged the believers in Antioch to *remain true to the Lord* with all their hearts. Through his ministry of encouragement, a great number of people were brought to know you.

Lord, we all thrive when we are encouraged. And we, your people, so need to be encouraged today in this world which can seem so confusing and discouraging. So, thank you for those who have encouraged us in the past, and for those who encourage us now.

Help us to read your living unchanging Word and to remain true to you with all our hearts. Help us to be a *Barnabas* to those we know who might be struggling. May we bear fruit in our discipleship.

In Jesus' name.

Amen



Daphne Kitching



Suggestions for Your Prayers



Continue praying for peace where there is conflict. Pray for protection of civilians. Pray for wisdom for all those trying to find peaceful solutions and that the perpetrators would come to desire an end to conflict too. Pray for the victims of war; that they might have the aid they need and healing from the trauma they have suffered.

Give thanks for the congregation at St Boniface Church. Give thanks too for the work of the Friday gang, looking after the building and churchyard and preparing flowers. Pray for John, the warden, and all those who support the church.

Pray for the A Rocha project, Wolf Fields, in Southall. Give thanks that the nature reserve, formerly a rubbish dump, is now the centre of community activities and events. Pray that as local people come and enjoy being in nature they would come to see the love of God through His creation. Pray for those referred by local GPs to take part in activities that can improve their health, wellbeing and social welfare. Remember too A Rocha's schools work, inspiring and educating young people as they engage with nature.

Pray for safety and good health for those on a cycling pilgrimage towards the end of the month from Hook of Holland to Fulda where St Boniface was buried. They plan to cycle the 364 miles over 6.5 days.

Give thanks for the Men's Shed in Nursling and all who attend. Pray for those who have health problems. Pray too for the open day this month. Ask that the Shed will be a place where men can give and find support. Pray that they will have the resources they need and for safety for all.

Pray that God will inspire fathers everywhere to be a good example to their children and others who look to them for leadership. Pray that they might have wisdom and live lives of integrity, righteousness, truth and courage.

As climate scientists despair at the lack of action from governments, please pray that governments will take the threat of biodiversity loss and climate change seriously. Pray for success for those working on green technologies and for those working on re-wilding. Pray too for climate justice for those living in countries who are suffering the most but who have contributed the least to these issues.

We are happy to receive foreign currency (notes and coins) and 'out of circulation' UK notes and coins, which we are able to convert into funds for our Churches. Periodically we send off 'our stash' for conversion. Our most recent batch raised **£196.85! Thank you!** Look out for the 'Funny Money' Box in Church.



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