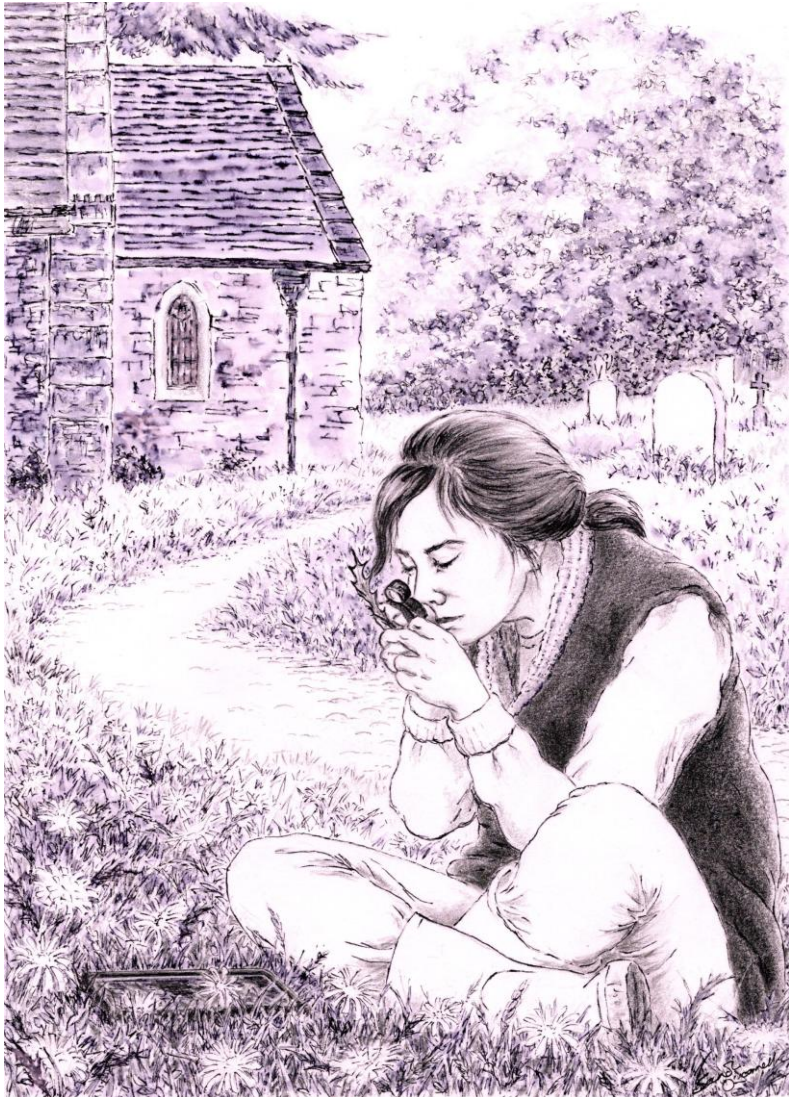


NURSLING & ROWNHAMS  
**Twin Spires News**

*Web Edition*

*June 2026*



# 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](mailto:office@twinspires.org.uk)

Our website is [www.twinspires.org.uk](http://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 23). 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

Cover Image: by Sandi O'Donnell

## Verse of the Month



For as the soil makes the sprout come up and a garden causes seeds to grow, so the Sovereign Lord will make righteousness and praise spring up before all nations **Isaiah 61:11 (NIV)**

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Dear friends,

As we move through May and begin to approach the close of the Easter season, I find myself reflecting with gratitude on all that God has been doing among us. Easter is not simply a single day in the Church calendar; it is a season that reminds us continually that resurrection is real, hope is alive, and Christ walks with us still. The joy of Easter gradually carries us toward Ascension and Pentecost, where we celebrate both the risen Christ reigning in glory and the gift of the Holy Spirit poured out upon the Church and upon all God's people.

Ascension is sometimes overlooked, yet it is one of the most important moments in the Christian story. When Jesus ascended to the Father, it was not about absence, but presence in a new and deeper way. Christ is not distant from us. Through the Holy Spirit, he remains with his people always, guiding, strengthening, comforting, and interceding for us whatever challenges we face. The Ascension reminds us that Jesus reigns over all things and continually draws us into the life of God.



This is especially important when life feels uncertain or difficult. Some among us carry burdens that others may never fully see — concerns about health, family struggles, loneliness, grief, financial worries, or anxiety about the future. As a church too, there are many things before us: practical challenges, important decisions, hopes for the future, and responsibilities that can sometimes feel daunting. Whether it is electrical works, re-ordering projects, church hall challenges, or the many unseen tasks that come with caring for our church community, it can at times feel overwhelming.

Yet Scripture reminds us that the work of the Church is ultimately God's work before it is ours. We are called to be faithful, but we are never called to carry everything alone.

The Lord walks with us and carries us even when the road ahead feels demanding.

As St Paul writes:

“Christ Jesus who died — more than that, who was raised to life — is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us.” Romans 8:34

What a profound comfort that is. Even in moments when we struggle to find words for prayer ourselves, Christ intercedes for us. We are never abandoned, never forgotten, and never beyond the reach of God’s grace.

As our church continues to reflect on vision and values, I believe God is calling us ever deeper into being a community marked by love and fellowship. In many ways, it is not simply the challenges we face that matter most, but how we journey through them together. The way we support one another, encourage one another, and care for one another speaks powerfully of God’s love at work among us.

Over the coming months we hope to encourage this more intentionally through shared lunches and opportunities for hospitality, where people can gather informally, build friendships, and grow together in faith and fellowship. Sharing meals, opening our homes, listening to one another’s stories, and supporting each other through difficult times are all part of what it means to live as the family of God.



Jesus said:

“By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.” John 13:35

The way we love and care for one another becomes part of our witness to the wider world. When people

encounter communities marked by kindness, grace, generosity, patience, and forgiveness, they begin to glimpse something of Christ himself. We show God’s love for us by the way we love one another.

The coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost reminds us that God equips ordinary people for extraordinary grace. The disciples themselves were frightened and uncertain, yet God breathed courage into them and sent them out in love. The same Spirit still strengthens and guides the Church today.



In Romans we read:

“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” Romans 15:13



What a striking prayer for us as a church community. In a society often marked by division, fear, and loneliness, the Church is called to be a place where people encounter welcome, kindness, forgiveness, and the living presence of God.

As we continue the journey ahead together, may we hold onto the truth that in all things God is good. He is faithful in every season, and through the power of the Holy Spirit he continues to lead, strengthen, and sustain his people.

With every blessing

*Graeme*

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## St Boniface Church News June 2026

On Sunday May 3<sup>rd</sup> we welcomed 28 visitors from the Fulda area of Germany. Their very skilful driver managed to negotiate the potholes of Upton Lane and the St Boniface Church car park.

Following their service with their vicar Alexander they looked around the church and showed great interest in its history, Our Churchwarden John Sofrin presented Alexander with a framed photograph of St Boniface Church. Every visitor received a commemorative key ring (made by Nursling Men’s Shed). They left for a tour of London before returning to Germany the next day.



**Open Day** St Boniface Church will be open between 10 am and 2 pm on June 6<sup>th</sup>. The church will be decorated to portray the life of St Boniface, whose day is celebrated on June 5

***Avis Wood with many thanks to Peter Wood for the photo***

## Highlights from Annual Parochial Church Meeting (APCM)

Thank you to all those who attended our Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 29 April 2026.

Rev Graeme Dixon welcomed everyone, and the meeting opened with a reading from Acts 12:24-13:5, followed by a short time of open prayer. Graeme reminded everyone that we may live in changing times, but God's work continues, we must listen and be sent. For those who were unable to be there in person, some highlights are below. The full Minutes will be displayed at both our churches and published on our website.

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.

John Sofrin has stood down as Churchwarden for St Boniface Church. Graeme thanked John for all his hard work over the past six years. There is currently no replacement warden, and we will have to manage the situation as best as we can. John will continue as a member of the PCC.

Ann Laird and Peter Myerscough-Jackopson were re-elected as Churchwardens for St John's Church. Grateful thanks go to: Glennis Gould who has stepped down from the PCC; Sue Muldowney who has stepped down from the PCC and from her roles as Safeguarding Officer and Electoral Roll Officer; Simon Harris who has completed his service on the PCC and role as Deputy Churchwarden.

The full list of PCC members until April 2027 are:

Rev Graeme Dixon (Chairman)	Ewan Brown (co-opted)
Kevan Abernethy	Christine Owen (PCC Secretary)
Sarah Beak	John Pennells
Lynn Black (co-opted)	Sarah Phelps
Peter Myerscough-Jackopson (Churchwarden)	Linda Purkess (Treasurer/Deanery Synod Rep)
Angela Jones	John Sofrin
Ann Laird (Churchwarden)	Katrina Stout
Randell McKay	Crawford White

## Electoral Roll

There are 123 people on the Electoral Roll. People can join the Electoral Roll at any point in the year. The meeting stood as Sue Muldowney read out the list of those deceased since April 2025:

### ♥ *David Rowbotham*

The roles of Electoral Roll Officer and Safeguarding Officer are currently vacant. In the interim Lynn Black will oversee Safeguarding in the Parish, supported by Graeme and Ewan Brown.

Sarah Phelps offered thanks on behalf of the two local Primary Schools, for the great work being done by the Church team there. We also do work in Mountbatten School.

Church members were encouraged to be welcoming and inclusive towards new families coming into church, especially those with very young children.

Graeme confirmed that any change in political local government boundaries would not affect our parochial boundaries.

***Christine Owen, PCC Secretary***

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## Art Group

Third Tuesday of each month, 7.30 pm Church Hall (although on occasions may be in the Church).

The art group is friendly and informal. People are welcome to bring along their own projects or follow a group activity. Current members have been working on drawing and are now considering using watercolours.

If you would like to come & have not attended before, feel welcome to bring your own artwork to continue. Or if not, please bring pencils & paper along with something you would enjoy drawing.

For more information contact Sandi O'Donnell

Email: [s.b.odonnell@btopenworld.com](mailto:s.b.odonnell@btopenworld.com). Tel: 02380 199558 or 07886 77586



## **Graeme's APCM Report (Abridged)**

As we reflect on the past year, there is much for which we can give thanks. Our vision remains: **loving Jesus, one another, and our neighbours.**

At the heart of our life together is the steady weekly rhythm of worship, prayer, Scripture, sacrament and fellowship, and we are grateful for signs of encouragement. St Boniface Church has seen growth and new attendees settling in; St John's Church has remained broadly steady, which reminds us that growth is rarely straightforward and that we must be intentional about welcome—especially to families with young children.

**Alpha** has been a particular encouragement: fourteen completed the course this year, and our new Alpha has begun with six guests.

**Home groups** continue to provide pastoral support, learning and Christian friendship, alongside new opportunities for prayer.

**Our worshipping** life has broadened through third Sunday contemporary worship (now led by the youth band), All Age Worship and Lego Church, while Roots and Beacons, Tots and Carers, Holiday Club and strengthened school engagement continue to shape our ministry with children and families.

This has also been a significant year for our buildings: electrical works at St Boniface Church are complete; re-ordering at St John's Church is progressing, including work on audio-visual provision; and the Church Hall roof remains a major challenge requiring wise planning and stewardship.

We are thankful for our presence in the community through key outreach events, for the joy of weddings and baptisms, and for those we have accompanied through bereavement. We also give thanks for signs of God's calling within our church family.

Twinspires Churches continue to maintain a strong and visible presence within the local community.

Our principal outreach events include the Good Friday event, Craft Fayre, Summer Fayre, Light Party, Christmas Fayre and the Holiday Club continue to draw healthy engagement from the wider community.

We celebrated St John's Church 170th anniversary (Flower Festival, Parish Fete, and a Confirmation service led by Bishop Geoff), alongside two weddings, seven baptisms, and, sadly, many funerals and interments of ashes.

We give thanks for God's calling among us—especially Lynn Black (to be ordained priest next year) and Steve Beak as his Permission To Officiate nears completion—and for the faithful service of so many, including those

stepping down from roles, with particular thanks to Sue Muldowney for her tireless work in Safeguarding and on the Electoral Roll.

I am deeply grateful to Ewan, our Churchwardens and PCC, our teams and organisers, and all who serve in visible and unseen ways. As one Churchwarden steps down, we mark this with our sincere thanks.

We are sustained not by activity, buildings, or tradition, but by Jesus Christ—the centre of our common life, and the one who leads us onward.

***Revd Graeme Dixon, Vicar***

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## **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 20<sup>th</sup> June from 9.30–11.00am**

For more information, please call Tracey on 07904 502214.

Hope to see you there!

***Tracey Jones***



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## **Art Exhibition at Rownhams House**

### **By local artist Marina Stuart**

#### ***'ONCE UPON A TIME IN NURSING'***

A chance to view a private collection of art. Healing through creativity, the story so far! Some original art, prints and cards available for sale

**Open to the public 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> June 2pm – 8.30pm**

**Also at Rownhams House:**

- Pizza evenings see - <https://order.storekit.com/catch-a-fire/menu>
- Rownhams House Picnic with live music – 7<sup>th</sup> June  
<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/rownhams/2148262>

**Rownhams House, Southampton, SO16 8LF**

**Marina Stuart [marina@studeoart.co.uk](mailto:marina@studeoart.co.uk)**

**[www.studeoart.co.uk](http://www.studeoart.co.uk)**

## May's litter pick

Thank you to all the lovely people who turned out on a Bank Holiday weekend to check the Horns Drove area for rubbish. Despite the area's reputation as a litter hot spot, we found less than usual, leaving us to wonder if local councils had had a spring clear out. Nevertheless, we found food packaging, dog poo bags and recyclable bottles and cans, including the obligatory Red Bull can! As there was less than usual at the end of the session, we shared the bags between ourselves for onward disposal in the correct waste streams.



Thankfully we enjoyed a pleasant spring morning for our venture, before rain set in during the afternoon. Let's hope for equally good conditions for our June collection at 10am on Saturday June 6th, when we will start out from near The Four Horseshoes, Nursling Street. As we haven't started from there for quite a while, there may well be much more for us to find. Children are, as ever, very welcome, but will need to be accompanied by an adult.

*Mary Carter and Sophie Ross*

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A very helpful and challenging poem, which I have had on my desk for years, since my mother gave it to me in the 1950's.

My **Yesterday** was Christ upon the tree,  
who bore the condemnation due to me.

**Today** I journey on, and He shall lead. He knows  
my pathway and He knows the need.

**Tomorrow** is not, but His wisdom plans.

I leave my **Future** in His loving hands.



*Shared by Rev Jim Stanley-Smith*

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### **Could you help deliver the Twin Spires magazine to Winifrith Way**

We have two subscribers and we are looking for someone who lives nearby to deliver them.

They can be collected from St John's Church or St Boniface Church.

If you might be able to help, please speak to one of the **FREDS** (Mary Carter, Marion Swinerd or Shelley Mabey) or contact the **church office**. We'd also be glad to hear from anyone who could help with the bundling of the magazine once ready for distribution.



## May Fair 4<sup>th</sup> May

**The prayer tent** was kindly supported by King's Church, Highfield Church, Monty's in Sholing, St John's Church, Rowhams and the Community Church, Southampton.

Thank you to everyone who prayed for the prayer tent. The lovely weather was a blessing. Also, thank you to everyone behind the scenes who helped.

God Bless you all,

**Thelma Lodge**

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Many thanks to all those who supported the **Street Pastors 'cafe'** at the May Fair by supplying cakes. We had a wonderful selection of cakes to offer customers.



It was great to have Street Pastors Phoebe Ross and Christina Pritchard from other churches come and help our local Street Pastors and volunteers run the cafe. Thanks to Mike and Maria Bunce, David Edes, Christine Hartley, Mick Muldowney and Dawn Sibley. A profit of £477-92 was made for Street Pastors.

**Mike Bunce**

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The TwinSpires tent was full of cake, crafts and history. It was a lovely day helped by the kind weather.

We were blessed with a generous number of home-made cakes, so a heartfelt thank you to our church family, friends and relatives who baked for us. Your contributions were very much appreciated.

A special thank you also goes to Louise Cowdery, Linda Purkess, Judith Hammond and John Sofrin for their wonderful company and support throughout the day.

Thanks to all our customers, we raised £145 which goes to the church funds.

**Shelley Mabey**



CHURCHES  
COUNT ON  
*Nature*



## CHURCHES COUNT ON NATURE

Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2-3.30pm, St John's Church,  
27 Horns Drove, Rownhams SO16 8AH.

[office.twinspires@gmail.com](mailto:office.twinspires@gmail.com).

We'd love you to come and help us record the wildlife in our churchyard. No need to book, just turn up but it will be really helpful if you have downloaded the iNaturalist App to your phone.

Please wear stout shoes as there are snakes in the churchyard and you may find gardening gloves useful too if you have them. Children must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

## Churches Count on Nature - 6<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> June

During Love your Burial Ground Week/Churches Count on Nature, hundreds of church communities across the country take part in a week-long nature count to monitor and celebrate the biodiversity in their churchyards, which this year takes place from Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June to Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June.

In 2025 there were 8,668 records of nature spotted, that were submitted by over 6,000 participants.

This initiative is jointly run by the conservation charities Caring for God's Acre and A Rocha UK, together with the Church of England and the Church in Wales.

If you can join this year, you will find plenty of helpful resources and comprehensive FAQs, including information on downloading and using the iNaturalist app to record your nature spotting on the [Caring for God's Acre website](#).

There is also a link to a map showing where events have been registered, if you are looking for a churchyard to visit. Individuals and groups are encouraged to register their event on the Caring for God's Acre website.

As part of Churches Count on Nature 2026, the Church of England together with Caring for God's Acre will be repeating its popular lunchtime webinar series on different aspects of land and nature. All the sessions start at midday and are held on Zoom.

This year's webinars are as below:

[Tuesday 26 May, Beginner's Guide to iNaturalist – why record?](#)

[Monday 8 June, Sharing Stories to Grow Hope](#)

[Tuesday 9 June, Churchyards for children](#)

[Wednesday 10 June, Making our Burial grounds a home for butterflies](#)

[Thursday 11 June, Lichens in churchyards](#)

[Friday 12 June, God's Green Spaces](#)



**Parish Pump**

# Church Services in June

## St John's Church, Rownhams

Our livestreamed worship is primarily via our [YouTube](#) channel. We will make every effort to livestream our 10am services, but there are not enough volunteers to cover every service. **If this is in your skill set, please get in touch.** 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.

### Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June – Trinity Sunday

**10am All Age Worship** – An informal service, suitable for families

Led by Rev Graeme Dixon.

**6.30pm Holy Communion** – A quiet service, based on Common Worship

Led by Rev Graeme Dixon, with Andy Ball.

### Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June – Trinity Sunday 1

**10am Holy Communion** – A service based on Common Worship

Led by Rev Graeme Dixon.

**6.30pm Evening Prayer** – An informal service of prayer and praise

Led by Marion Swinerd BCM, with Lynn Black

### Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June – Trinity Sunday 2 and Father's Day

**10am Contemporary Service** – A modern service of prayer and praise

Led by Claire Thompson BCM with Ewan Brown

**4pm LEGO Church** (in St John's Church)



**6.30pm Prayer Meeting** – a short meeting for prayer

In place of 6.30pm service

### Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June – Trinity Sunday 3

**10am Immerse** – A modern service diving deeper into following Jesus one issue at a time.

Led by Steve Beak

**6.30pm Evening Prayer** – An informal service of prayer and praise

Led by Claire Thompson BCM

# *St Boniface Church, Nursling*

Services in St Boniface Church use the Book of Common Prayer

## **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June – Trinity Sunday**

### **11am Morning Prayer**

Led by Claire Thompson BCM with Tony Wingett

## **Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June – Trinity Sunday 1**

### **11am Morning Prayer**

Led by Linda Klein

## **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June – Trinity Sunday 2 and Father's Day**

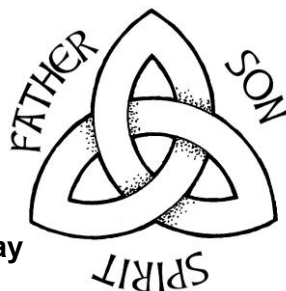
### **11am Morning Prayer**

Led by Linda Klein with Ewan Brown

## **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June – Trinity Sunday 3**

### **11am Holy Communion**

Led by – to be confirmed



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## **Other Opportunities for Prayer and Worship:**

Each week:

**Mondays** – Morning Prayer 9am on [Zoom](#)

**Tuesdays** – Morning Prayer 9.30am on [Zoom](#)

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

Meeting ID: 112 879 792 Password: 107871

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

**Thursdays** – Morning Prayer 10am on Facebook Live

<https://www.facebook.com/NurslingAndRownhams/live/>

**Fridays** – Morning Prayer 8.30am in St Boniface Church

**Friday 5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> June 2.15pm** (first & third Fridays each month) Prayer Meeting at Dorothy Stratford's home.

Please contact the office for the address.



There are various small home groups meeting on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, along with many groups for children, teenagers and young adults. See page 2 of the magazine for details or contact the office.

**Please note the details provided here are accurate at the time of printing, but are subject to change**

## What's on During the Week

For the latest news, online links, videos of services and service sheets, please visit [www.twinspires.org.uk](http://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](mailto:office@twinspires.org.uk)). Our administrator is generally 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](mailto:youth@twinspires.org.uk) or the office for details.

**Mondays 9.30–11am Tots Café** in St John's Church (see p18)

**Mondays 6–7pm ROOTS Group** (ages 11+) in St John's Church Hall

**Tuesdays & Wednesdays Bible Study Home Groups** (See p2)

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

**Wednesdays 7.30pm Alpha** The Vicarage. For more details 023 8073 8293 or [office@twinspires.org.uk](mailto:office@twinspires.org.uk)

**Thursdays 1–4pm Ladies' Shed Group** (venue: Nursling Men's Shed)

**Thursdays 2.15–3.45pm Nursling & Rowhams Friendship Club** (See p19)

**Fridays 4.30–5.30pm 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

**First Tuesdays 7.30pm Craft Group** in St John's Church Hall

**First Wednesdays 8–9pm CONNECT!** on [Zoom](https://zoom.us) (for new Christians)

**Third Tuesday 7.30pm Art Group** – in St John's Church Hall (See p7)

**First & Third Thursdays 10am – midday Coffee Break 4<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> June** in Horns Drove Community Centre (see p18)

**First & Third Fridays 2.15pm Prayer meeting 5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> June** (see p15)

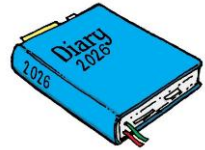
**Sat 6<sup>th</sup> June 10–11am Litter Pick** meet at The Four Horseshoes, Nursling Street (see p10)

**Sat 13<sup>th</sup> June 8.30am Men's Breakfast** – contact John Pennells

**Sat 20<sup>th</sup> June 9.30–11am Ladies' Get Together**, St John's Church Hall (see p9)



## Dates for Your Diary:



- +** **Contributions for Next Month's Magazine by 6pm, Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> June**  
Preferably by email to [twinspiresnews@live.co.uk](mailto:twinspiresnews@live.co.uk)  
or, alternatively, to: Mary Carter, 12 Horsebridge Way (paper copy).  
Please check you receive an acknowledgement of your email
- +** **June – Garden Party in the Vicarage – details to be confirmed**
- +** **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June 10am – 2pm** St Boniface open Day (see p5)
- +** **Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June 10am – 2pm** Men's Shed Open Day (see p19)
- +** **Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June Churches Count on Nature 2026 2-3.30pm**  
(See p12)
- +** **Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July 10-11am** Litter Pick (See p10) venue tbc
- +** **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July 8.30am** Men's Breakfast. To join in, please contact Chris Bird
- +** **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July 9.30-11am** Ladies Get Together in St John's Church Hall (see p9)
- +** **Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> July – Family Garden Party** in and around St John's Church
- +** **Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2pm** Friday Friends Afternoon Tea in St John's Church Hall (see below)



Come and join us at  
**Friday Friends**



The Pastoral team invites you for an  
**'Afternoon Tea' Friday, 24 July 2026**

St. John's Church Hall starting at 2.00 pm.  
A time for space, quiet reflection and prayer  
and for an opportunity to meet people and  
share memories of a loved one.



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

We look forward to seeing you.

**twinspires**  
St. Boniface & St. John's  
Nursling & Rownhams





# Coffee Break



Thanks to our lovely volunteers, we have enjoyed meeting with friends and welcoming many new faces to 'Coffee Break'. It's a friendly place for you to drop in for a chat, over coffee and cake, to take time out and meet with others in the community.

We usually meet in the Community Centre on Horns Drove, on the first and third Thursdays of each month, between 10am & midday.

## **The Coffee Break Team**

(If you need a lift to Coffee Break, please contact Glennis via the Parish Office, on: 023 80 738293, or by email to: [office@twinspires.org.uk](mailto:office@twinspires.org.uk)).



## 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 St John's Church, Rownhams. SO16 8AH**

**MONDAYS 9.30 - 11AM**

Connect with other parents and bring your little one  
for play, crafts, friendships, nursery rhymes and Bible stories

**Refreshments provided**

Entry is free, although voluntary contributions are always welcome.



## 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 annual membership 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. Below is our proposed programme for June:

**4<sup>th</sup>** – Chris Walker, musician and broadcaster, talking about and showing music from “The Great American Songbook”.

**11<sup>th</sup>**–Quiz afternoon, time for a cuppa and a chat.

**18<sup>th</sup>**–John Pitman - A talk about “Life on the Stage”.

**25<sup>th</sup>**–Serendipity Duo - Singing Duo with a wide range of songs, singalong with them.

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

**Mike Ward**

### NURSLING MEN'S SHED

St Boniface Hall, Church Lane, Nursling, SO16 0YB

#### OPEN DAY

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> June

10am to 1pm

Come and meet our members

Examples and display of what we have done this year

A range of items for Sale

(including some gift ideas for gardens this summer)

Tea, Coffee and Cakes available

Music by Nursling & Rownhams Community Band

## A Version of the Lord's Prayer Read at the Agapé service on 3<sup>rd</sup> May

Our Father in heaven, please help us.  
We, Your children, learn slowly.

So often we say nothing when Your name  
is mis-used.

Often our lives do not reflect Your ways,  
Mostly we do what we want on earth,  
And this can make heaven unimaginable.

We expect so much more  
than we actually need each day.

Sometimes we think we don't need forgiveness,  
Sometimes we think we are unforgivable,  
And we forget that other people make these same errors of thinking.

When it comes to temptation, we find our own ways,

We are confused about what is and is not evil,  
We are confused about deliverance,  
We are confused

And here is the wonder, the grace and the mystery,  
That You know us completely,  
Our failings, our secrets,  
And love us forever and ever,  
Amen.



***Daphne Kitching of Parish Pump***



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](mailto:office@twinspires.org.uk)

## Giving thanks for fathers

There is no finer sound in the world than your child calling you 'daddy', or 'dad'. I love it!

And as I look around our neighbourhood, dads today are far more involved in their children's lives than

when I was a child. Pushing prams, holding hands while out on a walk, bathing, playing games. Dads are in all these activities and more. I see the dads on either side of our house, and they obviously love their kids with all their hearts.



Unfortunately, too many kids grow up without a stable and involved male figure in their lives over the whole of their childhood and beyond. And no prizes for guessing the outcome; when they reach fatherhood, their kids often grow up without a stable and involved male figure in their lives.

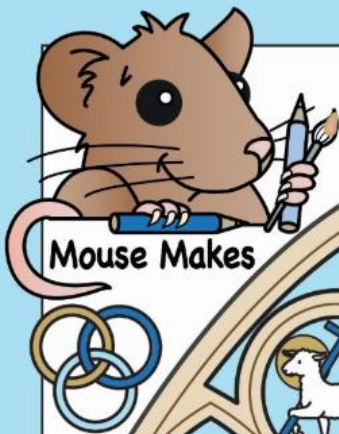
The month of June brings Fathers' Day - this year on the 21<sup>st</sup> June. May all dads reading this be pampered like never before! If it's a fine day, it may be a case of 'Stand back everyone- dad's going to bar-b-q'. But before we get carried away, let's spare a thought for those who for one reason or another couldn't be dads, or whose dads fell far short of the high expectations we invest in them, or who lost a dad at a crucial time in life and feel a permanent ache where 'Dad' should be.

Our Christian faith teaches us to look at God as 'Father'- we address Him as such in the opening words of the Lord's Prayer, and it was Jesus' custom to talk to God as 'Father'. Maybe, taking into account those who have had a very mixed experience, or a bad experience of fathers, we should qualify what we say of God and call Him 'the Good Father', or 'our Good Father'.

Because that is the experience countless Christians would testify to; that God is a good father. I think of the picture Jesus paints in the parable of the Prodigal Son; the father on the look-out for his wayward son day after day, and when he sees him in the distance runs all the way to him to embrace him. Now in Jesus' time, in that culture, fathers did NOT run, least of all to welcome returning no-goods who had wasted half the father's fortune. Fathers were people of dignity. Run? Never!

Jesus has turned that on its head. We can be sure that a welcome awaits us; we turn to God, or return to God, and find that He's already half-way towards us, coming at speed to embrace us.




***Revd Roy Shaw, Parish Pump***



"May the grace of the Lord  
**JESUS CHRIST** and the  
 love of **GOD** and the  
 fellowship of the  
**HOLY SPIRIT** be  
 with you all."

2 Corinthians  
 13:14



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

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 SON • SAVIOUR • LORD  
 EMMANUEL • MESSIAH  
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 TRUTH • LIFE • DOOR  
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 VINE • ALPHA • OMEGA

**GOD • FATHER**  
 ABBA • LORD • JEHOVAH  
 YAHWEH • ALMIGHTY  
 HOLY ONE • SAVIOUR  
 ETERNAL • CREATOR  
 KING • MAJESTY • JUDGE  
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**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](http://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 our 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.



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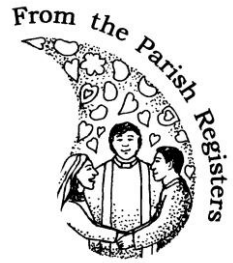
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**This has helped us raise over £800**



## From the Registers



### **Baptisms**

31 May

‘One Lord, one faith, one baptism’

Martin Reed

*(Ephesians 4:5)*

*St John’s Church*

### **Funerals**

31 May

‘Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep’

Ian Stuart Harrison (61)

*(1 Cor 15:20)*

*Burial of Ashes  
at St Boniface Church*

## Prayer for June

Father,

Here we are in June – a beautiful month and a month when we remember a beautiful follower of Yours, Barnabas. He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith and he encouraged Your people to remain true to You in what must have been dangerous times.

Lord, in these dangerous days, when so much seems alien and out of control, how we all need to be encouraged to be steadfast in our faith and in our lives.

How we need to remember that You are our faithful, sovereign Lord; that You never change; that in Jesus You have won the victory over sin and death. If we put our trust in Jesus, we are secure for all eternity.



Thank You for the example of Barnabas. Help us to be encouraged and to encourage others. May we enjoy June in all its beauty, knowing that nothing can separate us from You.

In Jesus’ name.

Amen.

***Daphne Kitching***

## Suggestions for Your Prayers



**SUNDAY** Continue praying for peace where there is conflict. Pray for the 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 conflicts too. Pray for the victims of war; that they might have the aid they need, and healing from the trauma they have suffered.

**MONDAY** Give thanks for the congregation at St Boniface Church. Give thanks too for the work of the Friday gang, looking after the building and the churchyard and preparing flowers. Pray for all those who contribute to the church services.

**TUESDAY** Give thanks for the Men's Shed in Nursling and all who attend. Pray for those who have health problems. 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.

**WEDNESDAY** Pray for Churches Count on Nature (St John's Church 7 June) and the Great Big Green Week (6 – 14 June), that they will provide opportunities to engage communities in caring for creation. Pray also for Clean Air Day (18 June) and for the protection and restoration of forests, wetlands and oceans to improve air quality.

**THURSDAY** Pray for the A Rocha UK project, our retiring collection charity this month, celebrating 25 years of service. Give thanks for all that has been achieved in mobilising Christians to care for creation. Pray for continued guidance, provision and faithfulness in the years ahead, and for all staff, trustees, volunteers, partners, and supporters.

**FRIDAY** Pray that God will encourage and inspire fathers everywhere to be a good example to their children. Pray that they might have wisdom, and that they might live lives of integrity, righteousness, truth and courage. (Fathers' Day 21 June)

**SATURDAY** Pray for our local councils as they manage all the changes that the elections have brought. Pray for guidance in their decision making, and for a fair distribution of the limited resources. Pray for the new Mayors and senior officials.

**Safeguarding** We are committed to creating a safe and welcoming environment for everyone. Please scan the QR code for information about safeguarding and how to raise any concerns.



**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.

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